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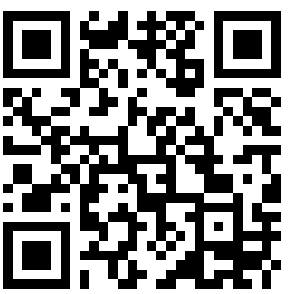

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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London and China Telegraph.

新聞紙

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 160.] LONDON, TUESDAY, JAN. 3, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

BIBLIOTHECA REGIA MONACENSIS

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Aug. 26	Oct. 17	Nov. 8
Nagasaki			„ 18
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			„ 5
Tien-tsin			
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	Sept. 26	Nov. 16	„ 20
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	„ 27	„ 10	„ 26
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila			
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			„ 29
SIAM— Bangkok			„ 22
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			„ 24
JAVA—			
Batavia			
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Oct. 26	Dec. 1	Dec. 3
Penang	„ 26	„ 30	

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, Jan. 4, 1865, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. Manger, Commander Round, R.N., Mr. J. A. Bromley, Mrs. Bird, Mr. F. D. Wakeford, Mr. Glasse, Major Blamire, Mr. Tudor, R.N., Commander Menzies, R.N. To Shanghai: Mr. H. H. Carter. To Ceylon: Miss Wodehouse, Mr. Thompson, Mrs. C. Morrison, Messrs. Hope and Davis, Miss Rothwell, Mr. B. L. Armitage, Mr. and Mrs. Byrde and three daughters.

From Marseilles, Jan. 12, 1865.—To Hong Hong: Mr. and Mrs. A. Hancock, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Bush. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Morgan, Mr. Jas. MacKenzie. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Faviell, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Byrde.

Per P. and O. steamer Poonah, Jan. 20, from Southampton.—To Singapore: Mrs. Scott, Mr. E. Hill. To Hong Kong: Mrs A. Boardman, Miss Winkworth, Mr. J. S. Southey, R.N., Mr. J. Pittis, R.N., Mr. Turner, R.N., Sub-Lieuts. Joliffe, D. M. Smith, C. A. Tucker, and F. W. C. Hall. To Shanghai: Mr. J. A. Fraser, Mr. T. F. Hughes. To Ceylon: Mrs. Tranchell and two children, Mr. R. A. King, Mrs. Clark.

From Marseilles, Jan. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Emsden, Mr. J. W. Escherich. To Singapore: Lieut. Hatchell. To Shanghai: Mr. C. Simpson, Mr. Whittaker, Mr. F. H. Bell.

Per P. and O. steamer from Marseilles, Feb. 13.—To Hong Kong: Mr. McDonald.

Summary of News from the Far East.

CHINA.

PEKING.

Our Peking advices reach to the 5th of November. There is little to note, with the exception of a rifle meeting held there on the 27th of October, a report of which is appended. The Chinese disciplined troops, to the number of two thousand, are still under drill, and make very satisfactory progress. These men have been gradually embodied, Captain Coney's force having been taken as the nucleus. About five hundred were reviewed some short time ago by Colonel Yonge, 67th Regiment, and received very flattering notices from that officer as to their steadiness and proficiency.

The foreign residents have started an amateur theatrical company, and lately gave a most successful representation before the foreign Ministers and the other residents. The pieces played were the popular burlesque of "Vilikins and his Dinah," and "Twenty Minutes with a Tiger." The acting was allowed on all hands to rival anything of the kind ever seen on any boards, in Peking or elsewhere, and the orchestra (an harmonium), under the direction of a talented musical amateur, gave universal satisfaction. As to the rifle meeting, the day was all that could have been wished, the Chinese authorities lent their parade ground for the occasion, and the natives mustered in vast crowds to witness the proficiency of the foreign marksmen. All the foreign residents turned out in full strength, and their Excellencies Chung Lun and Hêng-ki, of the Foreign-office, likewise put in an appearance. The ground was kept clear by bodies of drilled Chinese, and an excellent tiffin was provided for the invited guests.

The Ministers' Cup was shot for by Messrs. Murray and Man, and won by the former gentleman, who made a centre at one hundred yards, Mr. Man making an outer at the same distance. The meeting terminated without accident of any kind, and besides giving all concerned in it a very pleasant day's amusement, proved that the foreigners in Peking are not only on the best possible terms one with another, but that they are determined to keep up European pursuits even in the midst of the Chinese capital. The Shanghai settlers can no longer boast of being the sole representatives of English civilisation and the sole supporters of English sport in the Far East. The few lonely residents in Peking are determined to emulate all our efforts, and gain a well-founded reputation for securing enjoyment under the most unfavourable circumstances.

KIU-KIANG.

The first cricket match which has taken place between the Hankow and Kiu-kiang communities resulted in the victory of Kiu-kiang by 22 runs. It is hoped that it will now become a half-yearly meeting. Hankow was unable to send down two of of its best cricketers, or perhaps the result of the game might have been a different one. However, a pleasanter match or weather more propitious to the contest could not have been had.

From the minutes of a meeting held at Kiu-kiang, published in the *North China Daily News*, we observe the British residents at that port have agreed to apply to the Home Government for the appointment of a chaplain; which step is found necessary owing to the growing numbers of English residents. A salary was guaranteed of £350 per annum; and another resolution empowered a committee to take immediate steps "for raising a fund for the purpose of defraying the cost of erecting a church and parsonage;" and in the meantime to procure temporary accommodation till such church and parsonage should be completed.

CHEFOO.

The following account of the loss of H.M.S. *Racehorse* is from the *North China Daily News*:—

"We regret to have to report the total loss of H.B.M. despatch-boat *Racehorse*, which occurred on the evening, of the 4th prox. in the bay of Lung-mun, about twelve miles to the east of Chefoo. At 8 o'clock on the above evenings the weather being at the time extremely thick and hazy, it was thought that the vessel was entering Chefoo harbour, to which Lung-mun

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bay bears a great resemblance. Similar accidents have occurred on previous occasions, as, for instance, in the case of the British barque *Homer*, which was totally wrecked there during last winter, and the steamer, *Swatow* which, under exactly similar circumstances, was indebted to a mere accident for preservation from destruction. As soon as the *Racehorse* went ashore, the masts were cut away and every attempt made to lighten her and get her off. These efforts were, however, unsuccessful, as a gale, which had been threatening for some time before, set in with terrific violence, and prevented the men from either working at the ship or launching the boats. Nothing remained, then, for the crew to do but to fasten themselves down as best they could. Enormous seas continued to sweep over the deck so that next morning, out of a total strength of one hundred and eight officers and men only nine survivors were found, the rest having perished of cold and exhaustion or having been swept off the decks. The survivors are the commander, the paymaster, boatswain, and six sailors who saved themselves by taking to the last remaining boat, and drifting about for thirty-six hours, when they were picked up by a junk. On the morning after the wreck H.M.'s gunboat *Insolent*, accompanied by a French despatch vessel, cruized for a considerable time in the neighbourhood, but did not succeed in picking up any others of the crew."

SHANGHAI.

The following provision for the conveyance of subjects sentenced to deportation has been made :—

Whereas by Articles XX. and XXI. of an order of Her Majesty in Council, dated June 13th, 1853, it is provided that British subjects sentenced before any of Her Majesty's Consuls to be sent out of the dominions of the Emperor of China to Hong Kong, shall be embarked on board any of Her Majesty's ships of war or any British vessel bound to Hong Kong, and whereas at certain of the ports of China opened by treaties or conventions negotiated since the date of Her Majesty's Order in Council, it has been found difficult to embark persons so sentenced in vessels bound to Hong Kong, the undersigned, in pursuance and in execution of the authority vested in him by Art. III. of the same Order in Council, as Her Majesty's Chief Superintendent of Trade for the time being, hereby makes the following rule :—

Until the pleasure of Her Majesty's Government shall be farther declared, it shall be in the power of any Consul or consular officer acting as Consul at any port in China, to send any British subject duly sentenced to deportation as above, to whatever intermediate port shall appear to him to possess the greatest facilities for the transmission of the persons sentenced to Kong Kong; and it shall be lawful for the commander or master of any British vessel bound to such intermediate port, to receive any such person on board, under the usual warrant addressed to the Chief Magistrate of Police of the Colony of Hong Kong, and to convey him in custody to the port to which the vessel is bound, and on arrival to deliver him with the warrant to the Consul or consular officer acting as such at the said port: and the Consul or consular officer aforesaid shall grant him a receipt for his prisoner and for the warrant, and shall detain the prisoner in custody until a suitable opportunity for sending him to Hong Kong shall present itself, and shall then forward him thither in the manner pointed out in Article XX. of the Order in Council before cited. And this provisional rule shall apply to all cases wherein British subjects may be sentenced by Her Majesty's Consuls to imprisonment at Hong Kong, as provided by Article XXV. of the same Order in Council.

(Signed) THOMAS F. WADE.

Chargé d'Affaires and Acting Chief Superintendent of Trade.

The *North China Herald* comments on this :—"The new provisional rule for the conveyance to Hong Kong of British subjects deported from places which possess no direct communication with the south, will, when carried out, prove a very great boon to the Yangtsze and northern ports. Hitherto the number of European settlers at the smaller places open to trade has been so limited, that it has very seldom been found necessary to inflict the punishment of deportation. But now that the disbandment of the disciplined forces has cast a large number of unemployed Europeans into the midst of the foreign communities, any difficulty which might possibly arise in getting rid of such as may prove objectionable should be carefully guarded against. We need only take a short stroll through the settlements in order to prove most satisfactorily that a very large body of destitute foreigners is in existence, and that no adequate means of employment is at hand to afford it relief. Up to six months ago, such a sight was never seen in Shanghai as a foreigner begging his bread, but now unfortunately it has become only too common. Men with misery inscribed on every lineament sue for alms, and relate heart-rending tales of destitution and hardship. Want is so often the exciting cause of crime, that we need not be surprised if the poor fellows who throng our streets are compelled to resort to violence in order to obtain food. To many of them perhaps this mode of subsistence would not be new. Amongst the destitute class now residing here, there is doubtless a strong desperado element. But there are also many who would be glad to obtain a respectable subsistence, did any means of so doing present itself. This section of the distressed class claims our most active sympathy, and imposes a heavy responsibility upon us. It is not necessary for us to enter on the discussion of any plans by which European labour might be made to supersede Chinese labour so far as to relieve the necessities of the men to whom we now refer. The thing could be easily done, and in the interests of humanity, as well as of self-protection, we trust it may be done."

CONSULAR NOTIFICATIONS.

The undersigned has been instructed by T. F. Wade, Esq., C.B., H.M.'s Charge d'Affaires and Acting Chief Superintendent of British Trade in China, to publish the following despatch for general information.

(Signed.) H. S. PARKES, Consul.

Peking, Oct. 21, 1864.

Sir,—I am instructed by Earl Russell to acquaint Her Majesty's Consul in China with the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown regarding the liabilities of the ships in disputes arising between merchants at Chinese ports and the captains of ships trading there, a question on which his Lordship had been requested to give a decision.

The law officers hold that any question between a merchant and the captain of a British ship arising in China which can be the subject of a civil suit may be adjudicated upon by the Consul, and any judgment against the captain may be enforced by distress upon the ship or other property belonging to himself; but cannot be enforced by the detention of any ship which is not his property. The ship's Certificate of Registry and her other papers cannot be detained for the purpose of enforcing any such decision in any case in which the ship itself is not liable to be distrained for the same purpose.

Your obedient servant,

(Sd.) THOMAS F. WADE,

True Copy,

EDW. SOLBE, *Assistant.*

Sir H. S. PARKES, K.C.B., &c., &c., &c, Shanghai.

The undersigned has been instructed by T. F. Wade, Esq., C.B, H.B.M.'s Chargé d'Affaires and Acting Chief Superintendent of British Trade in China, to make publicly known that the Chinese Government has declared the export duty on "camel's wool" to be 5 per cent., *ad valorem.*

HARRY S. PARKES, Consul.

PRUSSIAN NOTIFICATION.

It is hereby notified for general information, that since the 15th of this month, the transaction of judicial affairs of his Prussian Majesty's Consulate General has been given in charge of Mr. Assessor Tettenborn, hitherto a judge in the Royal Court of the city of Berlin. All plaints and communications referring to the jurisdiction of the Consulate General have therefore in future to be directed in the hours from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. to the abovenamed officer, who has his residence for the time being in Astor House, Hong-que.

His Prussian Majesty's Consulate General for China,

VON RADOWITZ.

3de 538 Shanghai, Nov. 19th, 1864.

The extracts subjoined are from the *North China Daily News* :—

News has been received to the effect that a battle was fought a few days since at Kuang-sing-fu in, the province of Kiang-si, between the Imperialist forces and a large rebel army led by Hung Yuan-cheng, a near relative of the deceased Tien Wang, and Li Shuiseng, a relative of the Chung Wang, whose title was Yu Wang, or the Admired King. The former was killed in action, and the latter was captured. The loss is said to have been very serious on both sides; the rebels, however, were totally defeated.

The following mercantile notices have appeared :—

The interest of Mr. James Joseph Mackenzie, and of the late Mr. Henry Hubbard, in our firm, ceased on the 30th June last —Dent and Co.

The business hitherto carried on in Yokohama, Japan, by Mr. James S. Downie, will in future be conducted under the name of Fletcher and Co. Mr. James S. Downie is authorised to sign our firm per procuration.—Fletcher and Co.

A noted chief of Canton thieves and rowdies—to the number it is said of a thousand—has been executed, along with nine of his accomplices. His death will be a heavy blow to the cause of burglary and rowdyism in the North and every-

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where ; and we have a double cause for congratulating ourselves on his disposal, as in his confession we find he was meditating a journey South, where he expected even greater success than in Shanghai and its neighbourhood.

The gunboat *Hardy* had left for Hankow, as the residents there were apprehensive of an attack of banditti.

The tug steamer *General Ward*, which sank on the 21st Oct. in consequence of the bursting of her boiler, was raised by Messrs. Robinson and Mr. Noland. She was announced for sale by auction.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

(To the Editor of the *North China Daily News.*)

DEAR SIR,—In conformity with the circular which you will find below, the American residents of Shanghai voted as follows,

For George B. McClellan,	...	...	...	132
„ Abraham Lincoln, ...	...	...	...	83
„ John C. Fremont, ...	...	...	...	1
„ John A. Dix,	...	...	...	1

As the result has not been published as advertised, the inference is that the result is not what was expected by the originators of the idea. It is satisfactory, however, to the supporters of "Little Mac," who feel confident that he is the President elect of the United States.

By publishing this communication you will oblige all who voted for McCLELLAN.

CIRCULAR.

The undersigned, at the request of many American residents of Shanghai who are desirous of obtaining an expression of opinion from their fellow citizens in regard to the merits of the various candidates for the Presidency of the United States of America, and the 8th day of November being the day for the Presidential election in the United States, would respectfully notify all American residents that they have prepared a ballot box, and printed ballots, which will be under the charge of a competent clerk, and that the ballot will be taken in one of the private rooms of the Bank Exchange, entrance on Foochow-road. It is hoped that a full vote will be registered, the result of which will be published. D. W. McCOMB.

Shanghai, 7th November, 1864.

SHANGHAI RACES.

(*North China Herald.*)

The autumn meeting has fully sustained the reputation which has been fairly earned by the Shanghai community for providing first-class prizes and excellent horses to contend for them. Hadji added very considerably to his previous laurels, and other well-known horses kept up their reputation. The most annoying incident at the meeting was an eccentricity on the part of an excited spectator, which caused the defeat of Lawyer at a time when he looked a certain winner. The individual, whose enthusiasm for *le sport* was thus so disagreeably exhibited, may congratulate himself that the scene of his exploit was Shanghai rather than England. In the latter country, disgust at his conduct might have been manifested in a more forcible manner than by universal condemnation. A detailed account of each race is subjoined. The first day rose as favourably as could have been wished by the most critical in racing weather. The sun was lightly screened by clouds, the air was warm and invigorating, and the course in the best possible order. At about half-past twelve the Stand looked exceedingly well, the front bench on the lower row lined by ladies, whose variegated costumes lent an air of additional gaiety to the scene. The first saddling bell was rung at a quarter to one, and the jockeys, in all the glories of red, white, and blue, made their appearance. The Maloo Plate—for China ponies—was the first on the list, and out of thirty-five entries fourteen came to the starting post.

1.—The Maloo Plate. Value Tls. 50. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Entrance Tls. 5 each. Half a mile.

Ozone	1
Wiggle Waggle	2

This race was one of the best of the day. For a third of the distance the competitors kept well together, but then Ozone and Wiggle Waggle forged ahead, Ozone finally winning in a canter, with Wiggle Waggle second. Time 1 min. 9 sec.

2.—The Oriental Cup. Value 100 guineas. For all Arabs. Weight 9st. Entrance Tls. 10 each. One mile and a half.

Hadji	1
Hassan	2

This race was contested by four horses, viz., Early Purl, Forrester, Hadji, and Hassan. For it Hadji seemed to be the favourite, although bets were given readily on Forrester. Hassan, a splendid bay Arab, had not so many supporters, but came in a good second to Hadji's first, the latter hard held, Early Purl third. Hadji's success in this race was, we believe, mainly owing to his rider, who displayed much judgment in the treatment of his horse. Forrester, we are sorry to say, came to grief after running about three quarters of the distance. He is said to have burst a blood vessel. Time 3 min.

3.—The Maiden Stakes.—Value Tls. 75.—For China ponies that have never run at any meeting in China. Weight for inches as per scale. Entrance Tls. 5 each. ¾ mile.

Dontitim	1
Blair Athol	2

Out of the thirty-seven entries for this race seventeen presented themselves. The start was a fair one, Dontitim, however, losing about five lengths by skittishness. He soon made it up, and, after a well contested race with the Wizard and Blair Athol, came in a good first, Blair Athol second, and the Wizard third. Time, 1 min. 40 sec.

4.—The Farewell Cup.—Presented by J. D. Gibb, Esq. For English and colonial horses. Weights :—English, three years, 9st. 4lbs. ; four years, 10st. ; five years, 10st. 7lbs. ; six years and aged, 10st. 10lbs. Colonial—Three years, 7st. 11lbs. ; four years, 8st. 7lbs. ; five years, 9st. ; six years and aged, 9st. 3lbs. Entrance Tls. 10 each. 1½ mile.

Exeter	1
Traveller	2

The following horses ran :—Traveller, Pathfinder, and Exeter. Pathfinder was looked on as a tolerably safe horse, but his performance did not quite come up to the hopes of his supporters. At an early period in the race Exeter and Traveller walked away from him, and came in well ahead, Exeter first, Traveller second. Time, 3 min. 2 sec.

5.—The Criterion Stakes.—A Sweepstakes of Tls. 50 each, with Tls. 200 added from the Fund. For all Colonial horses that have never won in Shanghai. Weights—3 years, 8st. 7lbs. ; 4 years, 9st. 3lbs. ; 5 years, 9st. 10lbs. ; 6 years and aged, 9st. 13lbs. Entrance Tls. 10 each.—1¼ mile.

Incledon	1
Gorilla	2

Colonial horses which had never before won in Shanghai had now a chance. Six ran, and contested the sweeps nobly. Incledon, though not apparently the most promising of the colonists, came out well. The pace was excellent, and for a time it was difficult to prophecy the result. It was settled, however, about a quarter of a mile from the winning-post, Incledon coming in well in front, Gorilla second, and Malabar third. Time, 2 min. 25 sec.

6.—The Haphazard Stakes.—Value, Tls. 200. Weights : Arabs, 8s. 7lbs. ; Stud Bred, 9st. ; Colonial not otherwise entered at this meeting, except for Steeple Chase and Hurdle Race, 11st. Entrance, Tls. 10 each. 1½ mile.

Hadji	1
Anecdote	2

For these four horses were put forward. Again Hadji showed his blood and breeding, although in Anecdote he found a fresh horse of no despicable powers. Kept well behind at first, he slowly but surely crept up, and at last came in at a canter an easy winner.

The second day passed off as well as did the first. The course, which was somewhat cut up by the previous day's work, had been restored to its normal state of smoothness. The weather was delightful, although a little warmer than the day before, and the only drawback was the dusty state of the roads in the neighbourhood of the Grand Stand. The Grand Stand was again crowded, and the ladies of Shanghai lent their presence to the gay and animated scene. The road was crowded by Chinese, anxious to see the foreigner at his extraordinary and break-neck amusements, but perfect order was maintained by a small body of municipal police. The first saddling-bell rang at a quarter to one, and at one o'clock everything was in readiness for the race.

1.—The Northern Cup. Value Tls. 50. For China ponies. Weight for inches as per scale. Winners at this meeting 7 lbs extra. Entrance Tls. 5 each. Quarter of a mile.

Mrs. Gamp	1
Wiggle Waggle	2

Out of the thirty-nine ponies entered for this cup, fifteen came to the post. The quarter of a mile was well run in 30 sec. Several false starts were made, but when once off Mrs. Gamp and Wiggle Waggle quickly drew ahead, many of the others, however, pressing up closely.

2.—The Autumn Vase. Value £100. For all Arabs. Weight 9st. Winner of the Oriental Cup 7 lbs extra. Entrance Tls. 10 each. Two miles.

Hadji	1
Early Purl	2

Two horses presented themselves, viz., Hadji and Early Purl. A capital start was made, but Hadji had it his own way from the commencement, Early Purl closing up at one period of the race, but soon falling into the rear. Time 4 min.

3.—The Subscription Cup. Value Tls. 500. For China ponies. First pony to receive Tls. 300 ; second pony, Tls. 150 ; third pony, Tls. 50. Weight for inches as per scale. Entrance Tls. 10 each. One mile.

Cobweb	1
Bogtrotter	2

Out of the forty-four entries seventeen were put forward. The start was good, and for most of the distance a blanket might have covered the field. Towards the end Cobweb came to the front ; Bogtrotter a good second, and Agony third. Time 2 min. 16 sec.

4.—The Bachelors' Cup. Value 150 guineas. Presented by the bachelors of Shanghai. For colonial and English horses. To be run for at the autumn meetings, and to be won two years consecutively by a horse or horses the *bona fide* property of the same owner. Weights : colonial, 9st. 7lbs. ; English, 10st. 7lbs. ; professionals allowed to ride at even weights. Entrance Tls. 10 each. Two miles.

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Exeter 1
Sir William 2

This was contested by only two horses, viz., Sir William and Exeter. Sir William took the lead, and held it for about a third of the distance, when Exeter crept up, and a neck-and-neck race ensued. Exeter, however, eventually burst from his rival, and came in a good first. Time 3 minutes 53 seconds.

5.—The Arabian Plate.—Value Tls. 250. For all Arabs. Weight 9st. 7lbs. Winners at this Meeting of one cup 7lbs. extra. Entrance Tls. 10 each. 1 mile.

Hadji 1
Hassan 2

Four out of the seven horses entered contested this race. Hadji, as winner of the Oriental Cup and Autumn Vase, carried 7lbs. extra, and came in first, Hassan second, and Godolphin third. Hadji's performance in this race, and the excellent jockeyship of his rider were the theme of universal admiration. The owner of the animal may well be proud of him, and of his fortune in securing the services of riders so accomplished.

6.—The Hong Kong Cup.—Presented by the Hong Kong Community.—For English and colonial Horses.—Weights:—English 3 years, 9st. 3lbs.; 4 years, 9st. 13lbs.; 5 years, 10st. 6lbs.; 6 and aged, 10st. 9lbs.; Colonial, 3 years. 8st.; 4 years, 8st. 10lbs.; 5 years, 9st. 3lbs.; 6 years, and aged, 9st. 6lbs.; Entrance, Tls. 10 each.—1¼ miles.

Exeter 1
Incledon 2

This had been looked forward to as the race of the day, and for it there were twelve entries, seven running. The distance—one mile and three quarters—was run by Exeter in 3 min. 20 sec., Incledon closely behind. Pathfinder at first took the lead, but did not keep it long. It was soon evident that the cup lay between Incledon and Exeter, Priam pulling up after a short run. The race was well contested. Incledon pressing Exeter very closely, and coming in about a length behind.

7.—Hack Stakes.—Of Tls. 25 each, with Tls. 100 added from the fund. For all horses not otherwise entered at this meeting. Catch weights. Entrance Tls. 10 each. Once round.

Robin Hood 1
Inheritor 2
Basilisk 3

Six horses ran. It was dusk before the start was effected, we can only therefore, give the names of the winners.

The weather was again propitious on the third day, the course capitally looked after, and the Grand Stand again crowded. The roads were sunk deeply in dust as before, but this was, after all, but a secondary consideration.

1.—The Handicap Plate.—Value Tls. 250.—A Handicap for all Arabs that have run at the meeting. To be handicapped by the Stewards at the conclusion of the second day's races. Entrance Tls. 10 each. 1½ miles.

Hadji 1
Early Purl 2
Hassan 3

Five horses came to the post. The mile and a half was run in 3 min. 1 sec. At the start Hadji remained a short distance behind, but closed up to the others at the end of the first mile. He was then let out, and after an exciting race with Early Purl, collared the latter and came in about four lengths ahead.

2.—The Champion's Plate.—Value $200.—For China Ponies.—To be run for at the Autumn Meeting, and to be won two years consecutively by a pony or ponies, the *bona fide* property of the same owner.—Entrance Tls. 20 each.—2 Miles.

Ozone 1
Cure 2

Out of the thirty-two that entered seventeen presented themselves. Deserter third. The ponies kept well together at starting, and for the first round it was difficult to speculate with anything like certainty on the winner. Shortly after passing the Stand, however, Ozone and Cure came to the front, and kept it up to the finish, Ozone, although first, being closely pressed by Cure. Time, 4 minutes, 46 seconds.

3.—The Shanghai Cup.—Value 150 Guineas. For English horses only. Weights:—4 years, 8st. 7lbs.; 5 years, 9st. 0lbs.; 6 years, and aged, 9st. 3lbs. Entrance Tls. 10.—1¼ miles.

Sir William .. .. w.o.

This was a walk over on the part of Sir William.

4.—The Australian Cup.—Value £100, added to a sweepstakes of Tls. 50 each. For Colonial horses only. Weights:—3 years, 8st. 7lbs.; 4 years, 9st. 3lbs.; 5 years, 9st. 10lbs.; 6 years, and aged, 9st. 13lbs. Entrance Tls. 10 each.—3 miles.

Exeter 1
Traveller 2
Incledon 3

This was, with the exception of the Steeple Chase, the most exciting race of the day. The distance was sufficient to pump the longest winded, so that after all it became a question of endurance almost as much as of speed. On passing the stand the first time (half a mile from the starting post) Incledon was leading, with Traveller close behind. When next they passed, Incledon and Traveller had changed places, and Exeter, whose strength had been carefully husbanded, began to creep up. At the finish Exeter came in a good first, leaving Traveller and Incledon lots of room to spare. Time, 5 min. 58 sec.

HONG KONG.

The Messageries Imperiales steamer *Tigre* brings the following freight to Europe:—Silk, for Marseilles, 449 bales, for London, 730 bales. Cotton, 20 bales for London. Treasure, 72,000 taels for Shanghai. Opium, 786 boxes for Marseilles, and 23 boxes for London.

The following ladies and gentlemen compose the dramatic company. Miss Mattie Aldrich, Miss Josephine Aldrich, Miss Jenny Arnot; Messrs. C. R. Thorne, Junior, H. Clifton, R G. Marsh, L. W. Brown, C. R. Faylor; Masters G. Marsh and Joseph Bingham.

The British steamer *Fusi-Yama*, from Japan, reports having had moderate weather on her passage down. The steamers *Bahama*, *Monitor*, *Scotland*, and several Japanese steamers, were in Nagasaki harbour when she left. Her dates are from Yokohama, 8th Nov., and Nagasaki, 18th Nov., but no news is reported.

It appears that the steamer *Island Queen*, which rendered some service to the P. & O. Company's steamer *Nepaul*, has put in a claim. The following is from the *Daily Press*:—A rapacious tug is coaxed alongside one of the Company's ships, which has had the misfortune to be stranded, and helps to pull her off. The master of the tug follows the steamer to Hong Kong and arrests her for $200,000. We thought it was $2,000—then we added a cipher, and now we have to add another. Did ever any one hear of such voracity? The P. & O. are fighting the battle of the owners of the silk, as in any case little of the money could come out of their pocket. We sincerely hope that the voracious owners of the rapacious tug will have to chew the cud over a sweltering bill of costs. If they have not passed out a hawser to the lawyers, which the latter know how to handle better than Captain Sutherland did the *Nepaul's*, we are vastly mistaken. Two hundred thousand dollars! It beats horse-racing hollow.

Two Europeans were apprehended on board the Siamese ship *Canton*, from Ningpo. They are charged on information received with the robbery of $2,000 from the firm of Messrs. Hart and Co., of that port. A third individual is also in custody on suspicion of having been an accomplice to the robbery. The sum of $500 in money, along with a draft for $400, was found in their possession. They have been remanded to jail, in order to give the authorities time for further investigation. Several others have likewise been apprehended for having been engaged in the burglary.

The burglars have again been engaged *improving* upon the drains—for, however, a peculiarly characteristic purpose. On Monday morning it was discovered that the godowns of Messrs. Camajee, corner of Peel-street and Queen's-road, had been broken into. The feat had been achieved in this way. From the main drain they worked underground until they reached the floor of the godown, through which they very ingeniously burned a hole wide enough for free access to the coveted opium. They had thus succeeded in carrying off three chests of the drug. On information being sent to the police the drain was searched; but our contemporary falls into an inaccuracy when he says the man's head seen peeping up from it was that of a thief, as it was one of the constables getting a mouthful of fresh air: the burglars are by no means the men to fall into any such a mistake as to show their heads from a drain in broad daylight. In the drain, however, a number of implements and a quantity of other stuff were found; and the drain itself was very dangerously choked up with rubbish, which had been thrown up by the burrowing through the earth. Two-thirds of the stolen property was recovered by the police on the premises of Tam Achoy.

The trial of the eleven men of the 99th regiment is adjourned. The charge has been reduced to "riot." We should say that, from the evidence adduced, there is not much likelihood of the prisoners being found guilty.

We take the subjoined from the *Gazette*:—

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The following return of land sale at Kowloon and Hong Kong by public auction on the 16th Nov. is published for general information.

By Order,
W. T. MERCER, Colonial Secretary.

RETURN OF LAND SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION ON NOV. 16, 1864.

No. of Lot.	Purchaser.	Annual Rent.	Premium.
	AT KOWLOON.		
Mar. 27 ..	The Union Dock Company ..	$480.00 ..	$50 00
	AT HONG KONG.		
„ 204 ..	M. J. de Aquino	568.60 ..	4,800.00
„ 205 ..	M. J. de Aquino	568.60 ..	3,000.00
In. 832 ..	Pat. Rose Harper	236.16 ..	1,360.00
		$1,853.36	$9,210.00
„ 589 ..	C. May (being average premium on inland lots) ..	6.60 ..	76.14
		$1,859.96	$9,286.14

W. WILSON, Acting Surveyor-General.

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SIAM.

We have dates from Bangkok to the 17th November.

The price of Rice continues to increase (we find it reported under date of the 14th), and good cargo is to day up to 90 ticals per coyan. Paddy is up to 79 and 80. There are rumours abroad that the sale of paddy has been interdicted, and several rice boats have returned back up country. During the famine in 1844 prices went up to about the present rates, and the King was obliged to import several cargoes to keep the people from starving.

Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul had been engaged in an enquiry, not yet ended, into a mysterious case of an attempt to scuttle the British barque *Euphrates*.

Siam (observes the *Siam Times* of the 17th) affords an extensive field for cotton culture. In 1848 we made a tour into the upper districts, where it is principally grown. We were peculiarly struck with the fine appearance of the plant, and admirable adaptation of the soil to its culture. It was then, and still is, principally grown by Hainan Chinamen. The consumption of Siam cotton, until two years or so past, was mainly confined to Hainan. It is still largely exported thither. The favour with which some exportations of this country's cotton has been received abroad, and the great demand for the article, leads to the inquiry, how is it possible to extend its culture? We have seen some fields cultivated by the Siamese, but they bore no comparison with those worked by Hainan Chinamen. The Siamese succeeded better in growing rice. Where one class or race of people has successfully produced any article it is good economy to encourage its increase, if possible, by them. We know that the island of Hainan is thickly populated, and doubtless multitudes would be glad to emigrate to Siam and engage in the culture of cotton, were the means and opportunity afforded them. Let men of enterprise take this subject into consideration, and see what can be done to increase immigration, and extend cotton culture in the fertile and extensive, but now waste lands in Siam.

On the 9th November Dyer and Co. reported eight arrivals and only two departures. Our shipping list continues to grow, and where it may stop it would be hard to tell. We have now in port 101 merchant vessels, of about 32,300 tons register. Of these vessels, 32 are British; 8 Bremen; 14 Danish; 14 Hamburg; 3 Prussian; 4 Hanoverian; 3 French; 1 Oldenburg; 1 Russian; and the remainder Siamese. Many more are said to be on the way.

His Majesty the First King, went to Ayuddhia in his steam yacht *Royal Sovereign* on the 4th November, accompanied by his princes, nobles and Government officers, to make the annual visit to the royal Wats in the old city and vicinity. He returned on the morning of the 7th, and left again on the 9th, accompanied as above, to visit the ancient temple of Phra Phradhum, at Laconchasri. This wat or temple is supposed to be the oldest Buddhist monastery in the country. For some time past his Majesty has been repairing, rebuilding and greatly enlarging it. While its general aspect will be improved, it loses much of its ancient appearance and consequent historic interest. His Majesty has done much to rebuild and restore old places, which is very gratifying to the people. The Second King has returned after a short excursion down the gulf.

An interesting letter on "Railways to China" appears in the *Siam Times*. It will be seen that our contemporary in the few comments appended treats the writer as an authority, holding the offer of his Majesty's elephants as real and abiding. The letter is as follows:—

Sir:—It is rumoured among people of other countries that the King of Siam is very shallow minded, and easily persuaded into all European things and business, and is greedy of fame and praise. Whoever persuades him to purchase or do anything, why he purchases and does it all—therefore somebody is trying to persuade him to make a railroad to China.

When the difficulties were made known to them on a former occasion, they would not credit it, but still believed it could be done, and again troubled his Majesty with the subject. If the person who brought up the subject still thinks his Majesty is fond of praise, we know that that person is fond of fame and pays more regard to idle reports than to those who speak the truth.

If for the various reasons concerning this subject, those persons who have proposed it think a railroad should be made to China, let them get up a subscription and engage an engineer to come to Siam, and give him authority to go and make a survey for the road first, and know for a certainty where it should be made, and how it should be done, and how much it will cost. Let the engineer first make his report, and then we will believe. His Majesty will furnish elephants and give protection from Bangkok, through his dominions to Hluang Phrabang; but he cannot furnish the means to pay his passage and salary, he fears it will be wasting money. He is also fearful that the engineer will get intoxicated and fall into the river and be drowned, or on account of change of climate die of dysentery, or from travelling in the jungle may die of jungle fever, the same as many others have done, and thus the business prove a failure, and the money wasted. His Majesty is of opinion that it will be better to hire mechanics to come and do astonishing things, the benefits of which can be sooner reached. He is willing, however, to furnish elephants free of expense within his own dominions, but when they have arrived at the territorities of the Cochin Chinese, or Laos Lur, or Haws, he cannot. These distant people are wild men of the forests, and easily excited; they will not listen to the voice of the Siamese, and you cannot astonish them with anything that you may say. The Cochin Chinese now fear the French; if you can get their assistance perhaps you may succeed.

If the Siamese, or the Laos belonging to them, should accompany the engineer with elephants, we think the Cochin Chinese called Kao, and the hill tribes, will seize the elephants and take all the people captives. The Laos Lur are tributary to the Haws and the Burmese; notwithstanding this, the persons who are employed, some by the Haws and some by the Burmese, if they come and oppress them too much they are met and killed in the road on their return. This occurs yearly. Even in the capital of the Laos Lur themselves, and the principal places under them, they are often on good terms for a time and then at enmity. If the orders of their governor pleases them, they will obey; if not pleased they go to war, and their governor has had to flee, and take refuge in other countries several times.

The Haws are under the Emperor of Peking, and are a race of Chinese very easily excited, and do not know anything. If, therefore, foreigners desire to have the road surveyed by engineers, it would be better to have one engineer start from China and meet the one from Bangkok at the town of Hluang Phrabang or Wiang Chan.

Even if there is wealth enough in the kingdom, and money sufficient in the Royal Treasury to make a railroad to China, the Government officers who receive a salary of only one and a-half or two catties (£15 to £20) will not want to serve; for what can they do? They will not receive money enough to support them. It is to be regretted that the persons who urge this subject give credence to idle rumours, and will not believe the real truth.

Foreigners came and asked permission of his Majesty to dig a large canal across the Malay peninsula from Krah to Ranong and the mouth of the Chumpon (Pakchan(river, that steamers and sailing vessels might pass through and shorten the distance to and from China. After his Majesty had given permission to perform the work, an engineer came and surveyed the country, who reported that it being very difficult, on account of the rocks, to dig a canal, it would be better to make a railroad, and tranship goods from Krah to Ranong and mouth of the Chumpon River, and *vies versa*; and asked for a grant to that effect, which the Siamese authorities gave.

From that time to this nothing has been done. What are they afraid of that they do not do it? Has his Majesty hindered them? Are the Europeans, who come from a country abounding in wealth a hundred or a thousand times more than Siam, afraid to invest their money in a railroad of only twenty or thirty miles? Is this the reason it is not done?

When inquired of they say that the people of Singapore are jealous, and will not permit it to be done. The Singaporeans are an enlightened people; why should they prevent it? Will the Cochin Chinese called Kao, the Laos Lur and Haws, who are barbarous, permit one to be made? Do the persons who urge this subject think that the King of Siam, can persuade them to give their consent? If they would have followed the King of Siam, we think he would have had them for dependencies and pay tribute long ago.

At the close of the Siamese year Marong 1218, agreeing with the Christian Era 1856-7, the foreign community united in calling meetings and getting up a written paper similar to a newspaper, which they did every Saturday for several weeks, bnt had not the means to print it. Sometimes it was written by Mr. Hunter and sometimes by Mr. Porter. In one of these papers it was stated that the foreign community are agreed that it is not pleasant for them to locate at Sempeng and Kawkkwai, mixed up with Siamese, Chinese and other races, as there will be frequent quarrels and difficulties arising amongst them; and besides, there are no suitable landings for ships to come up to anchor, discharge and receive cargo at these places. There is also much time lost, and it is difficult to sail up and down; and further, according to the treaty, foreigners are not permitted to purchase land within four miles of the city; they can only rent. It would be a good thing if all foreigners were permitted to build storehouses and wharves, and establish a town by themselves at a place called Bangna. It will be near for merchants who import goods for sale, and even if goods are brought from a distance above, they are easily floated down by the current. Goods that foreigners purchase can be stored in the warehouses until shipped, and whatever goods are brought for sale, there will be only Europeans to purchase, so that there need be no strife with the Chinese. As for all kinds of light valuable imported articles, such as are sold in the floating houses and shops, a canal could be dug straight from Bangna to the city, thus cutting off the bend of the river, and the boats could be towed by buffaloes or horses, in a manner called by the English "Navigation Inland," and thus easily bring them up to the traders in the city. This desire of theirs they thought his Majesty would grant.

This written newspaper containing the above was presented to his Majesty, who gave command to say that at Bangna the water was salt, and it was difficult to get fresh water. Should foreigners locate there, would they not suffer for want of fresh water? The reply was, "No matter, with houses built as they are in Singapore, having eave-troughs around them, they could catch plenty of rain water, so that they need not fear from salt water. In digging the canal from Bangna, if there is fear of the salt water coming up to the city, locks with gates can be made, and at flood tide close the lower end, leaving open the upper gate, and when it is full then shut it and keep the water in, so that it can be used at both high and low water.

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After remaining silent for several days, the Borneo Company, Mr. Gilfillan at the head, Hamilton Grey and Co., Mr. Wilsonne at the head, jointly addressed a letter to the Minister of Foreign Affairs requesting to have the subject brought before his Majesty, and asking him to assist in purchasing a place at Bangna, that they might put up their storehouses at once, and also urging the Government to hasten in digging the canal, and making a road from Bangda to the city. His Majesty consulted with his high officers, who approved of the plan. He therefore requested the Minister of Foreign Affairs to assist in purchasing two places at Bangna, which cost about 300 ticals each, one of which was given to the Borneo Company, and the other to Hamilton Grey and Co. His Majesty also caused a canal to be dug, and a road to be made straight from Bangna to the new canal called Padong Krungkasame, which cost between 200 and 300 catties (say $12,000). As for the two places which were given, one to the Borneo Company, and the other to Hamilton Grey and Co., both Mr. Gilfillan and Mr. Wilsonne were much pleased at first, but after receiving the land they remained silent, and to this day have not done anything. The places still belong to them. In this affair the Royal treasures were wasted, were they not? The canal is of some use to people who go through it, but it is not of any benefit or advantage to the Government or to trade. This is an example to show that it will not do to hastily follow what the foreign community say, less money be spent uselessly, as in this case.

With reference to the railway to China, it may be well to have an engineer who is acquainted with surveying and map-making to come, examine the route, and make an estimate. Even should there not be a railroad made, we should know something of the state of those distant wild hilly countries which would be of some use. But if his Majesty should engage to pay the passage and salary of an engineer, we fear he would take advantage and charge over a thousand dollars a month, thinking his Majesty so very fond of European improvements; should he get intoxicated and be drowned, or die of dysentery or jungle fever, the money would be spent uselessly. If the foreign community would get up a subscription and hire one, we think they will get him cheaper. His Majesty will furnish elephants and people to accompany, assist, and protect him in his own dominions to Muang Phra Bang, but he cannot protect him against the jungle fever.

If the foreign community desire a specific against the jungle fever, let them address his Majesty the Second King to graciously give them one, and perhaps they may get it, for his Majesty is not afraid of the jungle fever, but can travel all seasons, both wet and dry, even into the great jungle Phrayafai without fear.—I am Sir, yours truly, WOHAR.

Our contemporary remarks on the above:—

"Why the parties interested do not go on with the work of making a railroad we do not know. The delay does not prove that it will not be done. We believe, however, that a ship canal will yet be made. There is too much delay and injury to goods in transshipping, to cross the peninsulars and isthmuses by a railway, and it is hoped no money will be invested in a railroad across the Malay Peninsular at Krah until it is more definitely determined that a ship canal cannot be made. Of the railroad from Siam to China we have but little more to say. The noble and generous offer of his Majesty, to furnish elephants and protection through his dominions, to enable engineers to survey the route, is all, under the circumstances that can be asked. Let time and circumstance decide when it will be proper to make the survey, and commence the work. In regard to the proposal to establish an European town at Bangna and cut a canal to the city, it never met our approval. We suggested at the time that a canal cut from Daokanong (nearly opposite the lower end of the new road) to the village of Paknam would meet the interests of trade much better. A road and telegraph must ere long be made from Pangkok to Paknam, and then the one formed by digging the Bangna canal will be of great service. It is gratifying to see that his Majesty is alive to the interests of the Royal Treasury, as well as that of trade, and desires to confine public expenditure to objects of real utility."

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates hence are to the 3rd December. The London mail of the 26th October, arrived out on the 1st December.

The French mail steamer *Hydaspe*, that left Singapore at seven o'clock on the morning of the 24th of November, ran aground on the Pan Shoal, at the top of high water at nine o'clock on the same morning, going at the rate of ten knots an hour. She was on her way to Batavia, on her first trip from Singapore thither with the French mail from Europe. The Dutch steamer *Java* came up to her two hours after she got on shore, and remained by her for some hours; but all attempts to move her off proving fruitless, the *Java* proceeded on her voyage, receiving the mails from the *Hydaspe*, and taking the news of the accident to Rhio. His Netherlands Majesty's steamers *Apeldorn* and *Dassoon* proceeded to the reef, and made ineffectual attempts to get the vessel off. The *Dassoon* was then despatched to Singapore to get six tongkangs loaded with bamboos to act as floats. The *Rifleman* steamer, of the British Navy, was also despatched from Singapore on the 25th to render assistance. Small hopes, however, were from the first entertained of getting the *Hydaspe* off, in consequence of the fore compartment (which was full of water) not being built sufficiently high to keep the water off the lower deck; and as there were no bulkheads on the deck to prevent its flowing down the after hatchways, should the tide rise high enough to allow of its doing so, it followed that the only hope of keeping the ship afloat was by building a bulkhead on the lower deck strong enough to prevent the water going aft. The *Rifleman* came up to Singapore late on the evening of the 26th to procure the materials and carpenters for the purpose, and left directly they were on board. The bulkhead was nearly completed on the night of the 28th, but at 11 P.M. the midship compartment of the ship had made so much water, through an unusually high tide, that the engines were unable to keep it down, and it eventually put the fires out. Under these circumstances the ship had to be abandoned, and the *Rifleman* left on the morning of the 29th. The *Rainbow* arrived with boats on the evening of the 1st December, and the next day, at daylight, commenced stripping the wreck. The vessel's stern had sunk down so that at low water the water nearly covered the deck as far as the mainmast, while the bow was high upon the rocks. She had also taken a strong list to port, so that the seas broke clear over her. Some valuable property, however, had been got out of her, consisting of a steam crane, force-pumps, chains, anchors, yards, &c., so that the purchasers of the wreck, continues the *Straits Times*, "can scarcely be losers by the venture. By the Dutch steamer *Java* which arrived this morning (Dec. 3) it is reported that the vessel had disappeared altogether. We can scarcely reconcile this, however, with the fact of the *Rainbow* still remaining away, and the report has since been contradicted." A Dutch gunboat arrived at the shoal the same night as the *Rainbow* did, to renew the two beacons which had disappeared, but it is said that nothing but a good stone beacon will stand at the exposed north-east part of the reef.

Sir James Brooke has added a sister ship to the *Rainbow* to his marine. The *Heartsease* was launched from the yard of Messrs. Buyers and Robb, the builders, on St. Andrew's Day, being the second steamer that firm has sent out to assert the ship-building repute of Singapore. The launch was witnessed by most from the deck of another steamer also building for Borneo. To Mrs. Crookshank, the wife of the representative of the Sarawak Government, devolved the duty of christening; the Bishop of Labuan standing by at the time, as also Mr. Crookshanks.

The *Straits Times* has an article advocating the immediate construction of a line of telegraph to connect Penang with Singapore, as a useful and probably remunerative line in itself, and one forming a span on the great highway of telegraphic communication with the Far East, "which will hasten our communication with Europe, and certainly prevent any short-cut departure from our doors."

A case involving charges on two counts, viz., assault with a criminal intent, and assault against the master of the British ship *Africana* had been investigated. The stewardess of the ship was prosecutrix. From the details of the evidence given by the husband of the complainant, and subsequently by other witnesses, there appeared to have been an assault committed during the passage down from Melbourne to Hong Kong on the prosecutrix by the captain. After Mr. Atchison had closed his case for the defence, the magistrates retired for a few minutes and on taking their seats on the bench were heard to say that they were of opinion that an intimacy did take place before and after the alleged assault between the defendant and the prosecutrix, and only on one occasion a resistance was made; that their worships were unable to state why this resistance was made; that the assault on the second count was satisfactorily proved, and that under the circumstances the magistrates fined the accused 100 rupees, or the alternative of four months' imprisonment. The fine was paid.

An "Hydrographic Notice," containing the results of the *Rifleman's* recent cruise in the China Sea, appears in the *Straits Times* of the 3rd December. The notice embraces Vanguard Bank, Granger Bank, Alexandra Bank, Prince of Wales Bank, Amboyna Cay, Spratly Island, Ladd Reef, West London Reef, London South Breakers, Gullus Shoal, the South Western, and the Vernon Shoal. The following note is appended at the close:—

In surveying the extensive banks in the China Sea, beacons have necessarily to be used, and as these are very apt in squalls to drag off the bank, captains of ships are requested if they see them to report their position to

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the *Rifleman*, in order to ascertain the set of the current. They are made of bamboos cut in 6 to 8 feet lengths, and lashed round a spar to which a weight is attached; on the upper part of the spar a long bamboo with a distinguishing flag is fastened, which can be seen in the clear weather from six to eight miles. Captain Gilham of the *Shenshah* lately saw one, which he took to be a rock, in lat. 6. 42' N., Long. 108. 19' E.; but as the description of the supposed rock exactly answers to one of the beacons, viz. "a small black rock 5 feet under water, with a bamboo sticking up in it; a heavy swell at the time and no breakers," we concluded it was the beacon that drifted off the Vanguard Bank from lat. 7° 34' N., Long. 109° 44' E., the current having set it to windward 99 miles in 18 weeks.

Cocoanut sprouts were planted on Amboyna Cay and Spratly Inland. Of the latter (evidently identical with Storm Island of Horsburg) it is said:—"Spratley Island in the months of June and July swarmed with turtle of a very fine description. Large numbers were easily taken. They possibly may frequent the island at other seasons. The average weight of those brought on board was 300lbs. They are easily turned over by two or three men on the beach, in the evening or night; and occasionally in the day time. They are apparently identical with the green turtle of Ascension Island. Immense quantities of their eggs were found in the sand on the S.W. side. Fish were numerous, but very few captures effected. Sea-birds' eggs (in June) literally covered the ground."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

BLAKISTON—On the 28th Dec., at Wood-end, Hollington, near St. Leonard's-on-Sea, the wife of Commander Peyton Blakiston, R.N., of a daughter.

COLLINS—On the 17th Nov., at Astor House, Shanghai, the wife of Mr. W. P. Collins, of Christy Minstrels, of a daughter.

GODDARD—On the 29th Dec., at 7, Victoria-road, Clapham-common, the wife of Mr. James Goddard, of a daughter.

HEINSEN—On the 17th Nov., at Shanghai, Mrs. R. Heinsen, of a son.

HOGG—On the 19th Dec., at 38, Westbourne-park Villas, the wife of Alfred Graham Hogg, of Hong Kong, of a daughter.

ROBB—On the 26th Nov., at Marina Villa, Singapore, the wife of Mr. D. Robb, of a son.

TATE—On the 23rd Dec., at Croydon, the wife of William Henry Tate, Esq., of a son.

TRAUTMANN—On the 28th Dec., at Mulgrave House, Fulham, London, the wife of J. F. H. Trautmann, of a daughter.

WILGOSS—On the 5th Nov., at Yokohama, the wife of Henry Wilgoss, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

EVANS—WHISTLER.—On the 29th Dec., at St. James's Church, Colchester, by the Rev. R. F. Whistler, M.A., rector of Hollington, Sussex, brother of the bride, assisted by the Rev. R. S. Cummins, M.A., Joseph Henry Evans, of Hankow, China, to Mary, daughter of Edward Webster Whistler, Esq., of Colchester.

MACGREGOR—PROVAND.—On the 19th Nov., at Trinity Church, by the Rev. Mr. Butcher, Mr. J. Macgregor, of Hankow, to Miss Jessie Provand.

DEATHS.

HARVEY—On the 8th Nov., on board the ship Northfleet, at Hong Kong, in the 23rd year of his age, Richard John Harvey, son of the late Richard Coward Harvey, of Ludgate-hill, and grandson of the late Thomas Tegg, of Cheapside.

NOBLE—On the 15th Nov., at Hong Kong, at the Agra Bank, Catharine Isabella, the wife of Henry Noble.

O'BRIEN—On the 13th Nov., at the Lodge Head Quarter House, Hong Kong, the wife of Staff Sergeant Major O'Brien.

PUTTFARCKEN—On the 22nd Nov., at Singapore, Malwina, infant daughter of Otto Puttfarcken, Esq.

WHEELOCK—On the 16th Nov., at Shanghai, James J. Wheelock.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1863-64.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to Oct. 31, 1864	682975	40833871	33969626	453017	7093470	83039959	14797
Corresponding period last season	1295995	55776162	33594900	1187694	9029461	80814515	26064

SHIPMENTS IN NOVEMBER.

Ship	From		
Benares (mail str.)	Shanghai, &c.		2,267
Freya	Foochow	557,000	
Lord Clyde	Do.	600,100	
John Staunton, jun.	Shanghai	896,625	

TO UNITED STATES.

							Piculs.
From June 1 to Oct. 31, 1864	...	...	...	...	...	6185852	62
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	6956550	177

SHIPMENTS IN NOVEMBER.

Falcon 483,528

TO THE CONTINENT.

							Bales.
From June 1 to Oct. 31, 1864	...	...	...	...	...	38800	...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	854127	...

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

							Tea pkgs
From June 1 to Oct. 31, 1864	...	...	...	...	...	12656	...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	193239	...

SHIPMENTS IN NOVEMBER.

Lancashire 4

TO AUSTRALIA.

From 1st June to 31st Oct., 1864 ... ... 6,479,150 lbs.
Corresponding period last year ... ... 5,114,685 „

SHIPMENTS IN NOVEMBER.

Ship	From	
June	Hong Kong	267,540
Spunkie	Foo-chow	150,039

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	...	...	...	51,022,600	...
„ 1845 to 1846	...	...	...	57,334,200	18,60
„ 1850 to 1851	...	...	...	63,972,000	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854	...	...	...	77,327,800	61,280
„ 1855 to 1856	...	...	...	92,240,300	50,480
„ 1857 to 1858	...	...	...	76,990,255	68,31
„ 1858 to 1859	...	...	...	65,789,792	83,13
„ 1859 to 1860	...	...	...	35,560,452	64,16
„ 1860 to 1861	...	...	...	90,066,160	70,644
„ 1861 to 1862	...	...	...	109,854,040	79,199
„ 1862 to 1863	...	...	...	121,273,580	72,848
„ 1863 to 1864	...	...	...	117,463,586	46,605

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to Oct. 31, 1864 ...	200113	154	1793	7803	—	189

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Oct. 31, 1864 ...	1000	—	—	420	—	1145

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to Oct. 31, 1864 ...	500	2500	—	—	—	—

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to Oct. 31, 1864 ...	375	9752	34298	980	7118	119780

SHIPMENTS IN NOVEMBER.

Lancashire ...	20	7547	1437	—	—	2500

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Oct. 31, 1864 ...	—	645	6878	725	10240	—

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Nov. 17, Sir Harry Parkes. From Liverpool: 11, Queensbury. From Shields: 10. Ensign. From Cardiff: 12, Spirit of Trade; 17, Star Queen. From Newcastle: 12, Agnes Holt and Torres; 14, Bertha.

At HONG KONG.—None.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Edwin Fox. For Falmouth: Susanne. For Bordeaux: Marie.

DEPARTURES.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Nov. 12, Palawan; 15, Queen of the Ocean. For Liverpool: 14, Ariadne; 17, Dennis Horton and Aerolite.

From HONG KONG.—None.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Dec. 1, Anna Maria.

LOADING.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Anglo Saxon, Bedfordshire, Bosworth, Canadian, Countess Russell, Courier, Delhi, Diligentia, James Russell, Jubilee, Lochlevan Castle, Spirit of the Deep. For Liverpool: Constance, Coringa, Gitana, Her Majesty, Isabella, Nora Greame, Queen of the East, Roodee, Royal Bride, Sailor's Home, Savoir Faire, Silvia, Yorick.

At HONG KONG.—For London (*via* Cape of Good Hope): Xulla. For Liverpool: Jas. Vinnicombe and Melbrek. For New York: N. B. Palmer.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: Dec. 3, Alexandra. From Liverpool: Nov. 24, Drache. From Cardiff: 22, Insulaneren. From Sunderland: 24, Chalmer. From Glasgow: 22, Kate Carnie. From Rotterdam: 30, General Michels.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

Subscription 54s. per annum, including Postage. Export Supplement 12s. extra.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, TUESDAY, JAN. 3, 1865

JAPANESE CURRENCY.

WE find unmistakable traces of the underhand dealing of the Japanese Government in currency matters, in the announced rarity of itzebues at Yokohama, at the very time when t is affecting to give an impetus to foreign trade. Thus to the compulsory submission to an exchange of Mexican dollars for a coin which is no part of the currency of the islands, and two pieces of which merely give us the same dead weight in silver and alloy, must be added the evil of an arbitrary supply, leading to an injurious fluctuation, the amount circulating at the ports at one time deserting at another, hastily recovering some unknown but prescribed average limit. It is essential that these negotiations include a complete understanding as to the basis of our future mercantile transactions. We have no evidence that Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK has modified his views on the currency question, or we might find in the enforcement of a demand that the terms of the treaty which gave an exchange of three itzebues to the dollar should be complied with, and this, not in itzebues especially manufactured for the purpose, but in the currency of the country, one of the most efficient means of Imperial interference with foreign trade would be removed. The theory of maintaining the sovereign right of an Emperor to determine what shall or shall not be a legal tender, urged on this point by Sir RUTHERFORD, might apply to any country rather than Japan, where sovereign rights are shadowy and undefined, and engagements are made with the secret intention of violating them. It is simply exchange we ask for, the exchange of the Mexican, now stamped by Japanese officials with the mark of three itzebues for the coin of the country. The real objection is not that we would get an undue value on the exchange, for Mexican dollars themselves carry a premium, which would be enhanced did they circulate in the interior, but that the operations of trade would be facilitated, and that the native dealers, mostly with limited means, would become more extensive purchasers of our manufactured goods. As it is, the heavy discount on the Mexican dollar at the Imperial mint places us under the discredit of introducing a depreciated currency. It is most essential, too, if our trade is to be materially enlarged, that the prohibitive price placed on copper should be removed. We can bring this article from any quarter of the globe to Yokohama cheaper than we can purchase it there, whereas it is known to exist in abundance and to be easily mined. The extraordinary impetus given to the culture of cotton on the permission accorded to cultivators to forward it without restriction to the foreign ports, sufficiently indicate the effects of a similar privilege as to copper. Let mining industry be but fairly excited, and Japan at once enters on a new career. The influx of light Mexican dollars at Yokohama, and the recrimination and inconvenience thus occasioned, constitute additional cause for regret that the mint of Hong Kong destined to become the chief supplier of a silver currency not only for China but the whole Eastern Archipelago, should not be in operation.

OUR FURTHER PROGRESS IN JAPANESE MYSTERY.

THE insight latterly afforded into the internal political condition of Japan, enables us to estimate with tolerable accuracy the efficacy of the means at our command to secure for the future a proper regard for treaty rights, and to prevent the formal concessions that have been or may yet be made from being neutralised. It may be supposed that on the outbreak of the Simonoseki hostilities the TYCOON had already resigned himself to the idea of seeing the empire exist in fragments. On the making of the treaties in 1858 an ebb and flow of power between Miako and Yedo was clearly perceptible, rendering it difficult to determine which of the two potentates controlled the Council of the Empire; since then, both the spiritual and temporal authority would appear to have undergone decadence, and we find that theologic chieftain CHOSHIU seeking to subordinate the former to his political aims. The danger which impended rendering the tenure of the TYCOON'S power insecure, was not only the formidable and increasing strength of too powerful Daimios, but the foreign recognition of their pretensions to treat as well as fight with us as sovereign Powers. The Japanese nation has the merit, rare among Asiatics, of adapting itself to the ideas and entering into the activity of the West; but a Government that stands still when the country has reached a point of organisation impelling to further development; that instead of applying itself to vitalise by new purposes and fresh agencies the whole political framework, mainly concerns itself with enforcing those restraints on industry still within its power, could have no other fate, if left to itself, than that of a stranded wreck left high and dry. A Saracen or Tartar ruler with an empire thus showing every sign of disintegration from the weakening of old cohering elements would have resorted for a remedy to foreign war, to give expansion to that martial spirit which is vivid, bold, and desperate in the Oriental, when the secret of awakening it is found; but this insular empire finds no lands to conquer, and the sword if unsheathed, is turned against herself. It may fairly be doubted, after all, if the TYCOON'S fear of the extension of foreign relations is not greater than for Daimios aiming at territorial aggression and seeking to revive revolutionary associations. The true character of those expressions of delight, poured into the ears of the foreign envoys, at this unlocking of the Simonoseki Straits, are not to be misunderstood either by Japanese or foreigners, any more than were the carefully worded inuendos in the plays of ARISTOPHANES by the Athenian audiences before which they were performed. True to that Asiatic assumption which ever seeks to make capital out of the exigencies of circumstances, and acting as though the whole naval and military force of Western Powers in those seas were at his beck, the TYCOON proceeds to cancel exemptions from residence in Yedo that had been granted to the more powerful Daimios,—a suicidal act, strengthening an already formidable combination, and which is suggestive of a disposition to exercise the most unlicensed and remorseless despotism, if only opportunity allowed. The mistrustful temper of the Daimios, their secret jealousies, and widely different, introduce elements of weakness into all their combinations; and a true appreciation of the interests both of his dynasty and the country on the part of the TYCOON, would have suggested an enlargement rather than curtailment of privileges, more especially as to foreign trade. Our power will be best shown in neither directly forwarding nor opposing any internal movement, but by urging on the TYCOON the giving ascendancy to those commercial considerations which will provide the best means of reconciliation and of union. We have every confidence that an extensive and friendly intercourse, not simply with the rulers, but the people of Japan, will, in no long period, be realised. To suffer the energies of the country to expand with force and freedom is plainly the only mode of securing for Japan internal tranquillity, and the effect of true civilisation. With her various populations capable of distinguishing themselves in numberless branches of skill and industry; imbued, too, with an uncorrupted spirit of respect for constituted authorities, the means exist for such a reorganisation as would drive away that innate, restless spirit of discontent which, if left to itself, can only produce pestilential fruit.

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Literature.

Mémoires sur la Chine: Coutumes. Par le COMTE D'ESCAYRAC DE LAUTURE. Paris: Librairie du Magasin Pittoresque.—The new part of this valuable work, under the general head of "Customs," contains chapters on the Social Life, the Theatres, Ceremonies, Private Life, Public Instruction, and Agriculture of the Chinese; with additional Notes on Conveyances, Arithmetic and Measures, Pawnbroking Establishments, and on the Commerce of China in 1863. A few preparatory words warn the reader that all these subjects are rather glanced over than fully discussed; and it must be admitted that the illustrations—all spiritedly engraved after Chinese drawings—form the main attraction of the present section of the book, which when complete will form a stately and ornamental volume. The illustrations are in such number and excellence in the part now under notice as to entirely condone for any deficiency of interest or novelty in the letter-press. M. de Lauture often indulges in reflections *apropos* to his subject which are sure to fix the attention, either by their originality or their bold expression of views opposed to the theory in vogue. There is a good deal of justice in the following remarks on the metric system:—

The origin of the ideas that govern us is often humble or obscure: perhaps the decimal system came to us from China as exhibited by the Jesuits. It must be regretted that those who were its promoters, being pure theorists, were ignorant of the most common facts: they have ushered into the world new measures, christened in dog-Latin and bad Greek, taking for departure the ten-millionth part of a line whose exact length is not yet known. There was in their work somewhat of the useful, but with a little more study they might have done better. Inferior States took our measures with our fashions; America, under John Adams, criticised them more severely: Napoleon himself, not finding in them what there should have been, abolished them by decree. Had they been better informed, the learned authors of the new metres would have seen that the entire world was using measures almost alike; they would then have understood that those measures had a reason for their existence, and that the point was not to divide the day into ten hours,—or what is more ridiculous still, to engrave on the map of France a new division of the circle,—but to give to France a uniform foot, and to propose to the nations this new foot, but slightly different from their own, and with which, in ordinary use, it might easily be confounded. There are natural and universal measures that might with facility be brought to one type, by having recourse to an international and neutral congress: such are the foot, the ounce, and the pound, the acre and the *arpent*, and still more the fathom and the ton, common to all mariners; with the geographical mile, an exact division of a degree, the only measure of distance that geography and navigators can recognise. To such measure as these should an intelligent legislator confine himself, in place of seeking out artificial types and decorating them with barbarous names, the half of which have already become obsolete.

All the portions of the work before us hitherto published have been delivered to subscribers only, but the two last parts, devoted to Language and Geography, are, from the special nature of their subjects, to be made purchasable by the public separately.

Functional Diseases of the Stomach. Part I. Sea Sickness: Its Nature and Treatment. By JOHN CHAPMAN, M.D.—Messrs. Trubner, of Paternoster-row, have just published a pamphlet bearing the above title, which it is incumbent on us to notice as a matter of news—for grateful news it will be to many a sufferer, that the agony of sea-sickness can be prevented, or immediately removed. We shall not pretend to pass a judgment on the inductive reasoning that led Dr. Chapman to fix on the remedial means he recommends and may be said even to guarantee. Suffice it to say that for professional readers those reasons are given and fairly argued out, and that cases are narrated in which the topical application advised proved thoroughly successful. The treatment proposed is the following:—

The inevitable conclusion from all the facts and arguments of the preceding exposition is that the only scientific and really effective remedy for sea-sickness must be one which has the power of lessening the amount of blood in the whole nervous centres along the back. This, as I have proved, can be effectually done by lowering the temperature of the spinal region by the application of ice. A formidable-looking remedy I admit; but when it is judged of by the aid of experience it ceases to terrify, and, on the contrary, is found decidedly agreeable. Ice applied in bladders, or by any of the ordinary methods, would undoubtedly occasion great discomfort, would constrain the movements of the patient, compelling him to remain for the most part in one position, and, in fact, could not be so applied as to insure success. It is necessary, first, that the ice be kept in contact with each region of the spine, the upper portion of the ice being prevented from falling down as the melting proceeds; secondly, that the application do not extend far on each side of the spinal cord, otherwise the patient will become cold; thirdly, that having regard to the comfort of the patient, the mouth of the bag containing the ice be so effectually closed as to prevent the water from escaping as the ice melts; fourthly, that the mouth of the bag be as wide as the bag itself, in order that the bag may be easily and rapidly filled; fifthly, that without any inconvenience to the patient, facility should be afforded for giving escape to the air which accumulates in each compartment of the bag as the ice melts.

Instructions are given as to the mode of filling the bags, and the best manner of applying them to the person, and properly constructed bags have been patented both for England and the Continent. The proposed remedy has certainly this remarkably good quality—that if found injurious or even disagreeable to the patient, it can be instantly removed and the effect must cease almost immediately. So much cannot be said for potions taken internally.

The Chinese and Japanese Repository for December opens with a paper on the Topography of the Kiangsu Province, which contains the two important cities of Nanking, the ancient southern capital, and Shanghai, the great emporium of modern trade. Next we have a continuation of Mr. Consul Swinhoe's interesting description of the Island of Formosa; followed by "Directions for the cultivation of Cotton, especially in the district of Shanghai," translated from the Chinese Encyclopedia of Agriculture. There is also a curious collection of Chinese "Sententious Sayings," with a list of the 28 constellations forming the Chinese Zodiac. The number is wound up with the completion of the Editor's very valuable contribution on the grammar of the Japanese language. We extract the following from the description of Formosa, trusting that the want of a good survey will not have to be complained of in the December of 1865:—

The dangers and difficulties of the Formosan coast, with the aid of the best surveys, cannot be exaggerated. It is true comparatively few ships visit the coast with a view to trade, but vessels bound up and down the China coast have too often to lie over to Formosa. With the increasing traffic wrecks yearly multiply; and yet the Government takes no steps to survey the island. With the exception of a few special notes we may say that the greater part of the Formosa coast is unknown. I have been assured by adventurous masters of vessels that there are good and safe harbours at the south cape of Formosa, and probably some on the lower portion of the east coast. The advantage that such would afford, as places of refuge in stress of weather, to vessels availing themselves during the north-east monsoon of the gulf stream beyond Formosa, cannot be too strongly advocated; and yet, with all the fine ships at their command lying idle in Hong Kong harbour, the Admirals have turned a deaf ear to this project.

A little incidental notice of the difficulties with which commerce is frequently impeded in China deserves reproduction:—

It is singular that in a country noted for its produce of camphor, like Formosa, it was almost impossible to purchase an ounce of the drug in the shops. So jealously guarded is this article by the Taotai, who claims the entire monopoly of its sale, that the druggists have to petition him in a body to be permitted to purchase a picul for distribution among themselves to retail. Powder and shot are also contraband goods at Taiwan-foo.

Macmillan's Magazine for January begins the year well. Everything is good from first to last, Lord Hobart winding up with a short but pithy paper on "The Finances of France and England," which does him infinite credit, containing, as it does, reflections worthy of being treasured up by every thinking man. —*The British Army and Navy Review* keeps up the prestige acquired by its later numbers. The narrative of a "Carolina Loyalist" is a reminiscence of the Old Revolutionary War happily saved from oblivion. "The Apparatus of War" is evidently from the pen of one who thoroughly loves and understands his profession; while Mr. Serjeant Burke's series of "Celebrated Trials" gives us this month one of the most important in our military history, that of Lord George Sackville. All the other articles are completely identified with the spirit of the services, and can hardly be too well spoken of.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

ROTTERDAM, Dec. 23.

With the 31st Dec. in sight, the discussions about the Budgets have been continued with zeal, and terminated in the Second Chamber of the States-General yesterday evening. The debate respecting the Budget of War touched chiefly on our system of defence and our fortified towns. Prior to the debate the Minister had, in a general secret committee, given the necessary explanations, and also explained the opinion of the Government. The demolition of many of our fortifications was recommended from various sides, and though there are no positive promises, yet the Minister has announced that it is his intention to dismantle Bergen op Zoom. This chapter was finally passed by 41 against 24 votes. The Budget for Colonial Affairs was next brought on for discussion. You can easily imagine that the early departure of the mail does not leave me time to give you a complete abstract of the debate, which lasted five days. Therefore

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I shall for the present only give a few of the principal points, more especially because, as you will see afterwards, the debate has not yet quite finished.

The Conservatives began the attack. Messrs. de Brauw, van Goltstein, Wintgens, Schimmelpenninck, Hoffman, Meyer, Rochussen, and van Zuylen fiercely attacked the colonial policy in general, on the ground of the discontent existing everywhere in India, and of the certain loss of the *batig slot* (revenues of the Indies). Mr. Viruly Verbrugge commented on one point only, and wished for an improvement of the scholastic education in India. Some Conservatives showed more confidence in the Ministry, and declared that they would rather postpone giving their opinion, because they felt a conviction that India wanted reform in a liberal sense. Not one of the Liberals spoke in the beginning of the debate to deny the alleged mal-administration. In the sitting of last night the Minister of the Colonies answered all the speakers, the one after the other, in a masterly speech, which lasted nearly three hours.

The debates about the Budget will now commence in the First Chamber of the States-General. According to our constitution they can last only seven days. The budgets must be approved or rejected before the 31st.

Mr. Groen van Prinsteren is going to resign his seat as representative in the Lower House, in consequence of ill-health. Shortly after this was known we heard of the death of Mr. S. A. Baron van Heemstra, one of the leaders of the Conservative party.

The Prince of Orange returned from Compiègne a few days ago.

His Majesty had been pleased to create Knights of the Fourth Class of the Military William Order, Captain J. E. de Man, commander of H.M.'s squadron in Japan; Captain J. P. G. Muller, commander of H.M.S. *Amsterdam*; Captain Lieut. P. A. van Rees, commander of H.M.S. *Djambi*; and to promote to Knights of the Third Class Captain J. E. de Man, and Captain Lieut. Jhr. F. de Casembroot, commander of H.M.S. *Medusa*.

The King has honourably dismissed from service A. D. Meyer, the medical officer on board of H.M.S. *Djambi*.

In consequence of the battle in the Straits of Simonoseki other nominations and promotions will take place in a few days.

SINGAPORE.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—Mr. John Crawfurd, formerly Governor of Singapore, and a person subscribing himself "R," have already remarked on a paragraph which appeared in *The Times* of the 13th December, and although very cursorily criticised, enough has been said by them to completely disprove the unwarrantable and false assertions contained in the said leading article.

The article in question had too much the flavour of the Westminster Hotel for any one to doubt from what quarter it emanated, and therefore there was little chance of *The Times* inserting letters from individuals exposing its fallacies.

The retention, however, of Singapore under the Supreme Government of India, which has been plundering its community for very many years (for its own purposes), is not the only grievance of which the commercial and proprietary population have to complain, by which their interests are likely to suffer.

The British flag was hoisted at Singapore, and the settlement founded by Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles, in the year 1819, and a proclamation issued by him declaring it a *free port*, which was approved and confirmed by the then Supreme Government of India.

In 1823 Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles gave grants of land to such persons as pleased to apply for them, and further engage to build upon them, thus to form the town of Singapore, and, to induce individuals to do so, he issued a second proclamation, again declaring the settlement a *free port*, and made sundry regulations for conducting its trade. This also was approved and confirmed by the Supreme Government.

Subsequently, to give confidence to the commercial settlers, also to the builders and founders of the town, a proclamation or document was published prohibiting for the future any duties being levied on the trade and commerce of Singapore.

Now the grievance of which I as well as many others complain is, that Sir Charles Wood, without any just or well-founded ground, has taken upon himself to annul that prohibition, thus laying the settlement open to the infliction of duties at some future period.

He has done it on the plea that the Chamber of Commerce required him to do so, for the purpose of raising funds to establish a Harbour Master's Office, &c. This plea has been proved to him to have no foundation in fact, as the copy of the correspondence between the Chamber of Commerce and the local Government very clearly establishes, which copy has been sent to him.

The free settlement of Singapore has quite difficulties enough to encounter in competing with the several Dutch free ports established in its vicinity and among the Eastern Islands, and the infliction of duties would drive the native trade and resident native shopkeepers into the arms of the Dutch.

The settlement has for many years paid large sums, which have been most unjustly exacted from it by the Supreme Government, which are now being reclaimed, and which it is confidently expected the Government will be obliged to refund, which of itself will prove that the settlement hitherto *has, can*, and *in future will be* able to pay its way, even if saddled with the deficiencies of Penang and Malacca.

No one can be surprised, therefore, that the inhabitants of Singapore, suffering so much as they have been, by the unfair exactions of the Supreme Government in India, and the despotic conduct of the Secretary for India at home, are most desirous of being set free from such rulers; they are anxious to get out of the clutches of the former, and to be replaced by the latter in the position (as regards trade) in which Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles left them.—Your obedient servant,

London, 30th December, 1864. BACHAR.

THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT.

(*North China Herald.*)

It is singular that, notwithstanding its material weakness, the Chinese Government contrives to maintain unimpaired the suzerainty over neighbouring States which it acquired in former days, under more energetic emperors. The Talelama of Thibet, though nominally the chief authority, is actually subject to the civil governor appointed from Peking, and through Thibet all the Indo-Chinese races on the Himalayan frontier are kept under Chinese influence. Bhootan pays an annual tribute, and Nepaul is believed to continue to acknowledge to the present day the supremacy asserted by Kien-lung after he had repelled the Goorkha invasion of Thibet. Siam continues to send its tribute of rice, and the Corea acknowledges such complete subjection that, as appeared from a recent announcement in the *Peking Gazette*, its sovereigns are crowned by Chinese delegates. Not the least singular instance of the influence which the empire still exerts, is the fealty acknowledged by the kingdom of Liu-chiu, of which also proof was given in a translation from the *Peking Gazette* which appeared in the *North China Herald* of the 28th May. The tribute-bearers from this island sovereignty had, it was stated, arrived in Chekeang and begged to be permitted to proceed to Peking to salute the present, and worship the manes of the departed, Emperor. Formerly, the Liu-chiuan envoys proceeded to the capital as a matter of course, but in the 10th year of Hsien-fung, and since the accession of T'ung-chi, the route has been closed by rebels, and by the alteration in the channel of the Yellow River, which has destroyed the Grand Canal in its neighbourhood, and they have been debarred from the inestimable privilege of prostrating themselves at the feet of the Brother of the Sun. Now, however, that the districts bordering on the latter stream have again been reduced under the Imperial sway, a return to the former custom has become possible, and the *Peking Gazette* to which we allude mentioned that the Emperor had referred the pressing request of the envoys to be allowed to visit him to the decision of the Board of Rites, with the remark that it appeared reasonable. The report of the Board of Rites was not made public; but a few weeks ago some gentlemen, travelling along the Grand Canal towards Hangchow, met five large boats, containing the persons of the Liu-chiuan Ambassadors and the arrears of tribute, on their way to the capital. While professing to concede an interview with the Emperor as a favour, the Chinese Government could not adopt a more certain method of maintaining their *prestige* and impressing the Liu-chiuans with a sense of their power. To people accustomed to the narrow limits of their own islands, the journey of several weeks' duration through the heart of the empire, cannot fail to convey an exaggerated idea of its extent and power, and of the hopelessness of any attempt to cast off their allegiance, should the idea of attempting such a step occur to them. But the Chinese Government is not the only one to which, if the imperfect information which can be obtained on the subject may be credited, the Prince of the Liuchius owns fealty. The prince of Satsuma is believed also to claim an authority over him, more direct even than the Emperor of China; and the propinquity of the Liu-chiu islands proper to Japan renders it extremely probable that he does so. It would be equally easy for Satsuma to take possession of one of this group as a material guarrantee, as for China to exert moral pressure on one of the Madjicosimahs, in case the Prince of the Liu-chius showed signs of insubordination; the former group being as near Kagosima as the latter to Foochow.

THE TAIPINGS.

(To the Editor of the *Standard.*)

SIR,—As an admirer of the different tone of your journal, allow me to call your attention to a leading article in yesterday's issue of *The Times* apparently upon the demise of the Anglo-Franco-Manchoo legions hitherto infesting the treaty ports in China, the disbandment of which mercenary battalions is announced by the last mail from that country.

Being an old resident in that distant and little understood empire, and having traversed during the last four years every inch of Taiping territory, and thereby become thoroughly acquainted with the so-called "long-haired robbers" of your contemporary, I take the opportunity to notice several facts that have evidently been forgotten during the composition of the leading article in question.

In the first place, it opens with a delightful little series of suppositions which might have been given as well-known facts. Doubtless to those who have "always most earnestly advocated" the bolstering up of the Manchoo Government (a Government its most ardent supporters have now discovered is incapable of regeneration), the prosecution of aggressive war upon China in order to force our trade and peculiar views upon her, and the extermination of the Taipings because they might have interfered with the due receipt of the "indemnity" for the last war, the opium trade, and our commercial interests, it is unpleasant to acknowledge that their machinations have terminated in comparative failure. But why state realities—numerously declared by our late Minister at Peking, and also by Mr. H. N. Lay, C.B., the late Inspector-general of Chinese customs—as mere anticipations of evil?

Exchanging the fictitious Chinese Minister of *The Times*, "San-pan wang," for the real personage, Prince Kung, every rightly Chinese informed Englishman would render the conclusion of the amusing, if not candid, anecdote of suppositions thus:—"He might conclude by assuring the Assembly" (*i.e.*, the members of the Manchoo Government), "that these mercenary bands" (Major Gordon's, Colonel Cooke's, General d'Aguibelle's, and others, being now unnecessary, have been dismissed

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and that China is now free to indulge her own pleasure . . . to go back to the ancient exclusive policy of the last reign," (and not) "to pursue the newer course which has been adopted under the temporary and adverse pressure of recent times."

When the prime agents of that policy which the great and unbiassed journal has "always most earnestly advocated," write to this effect (see "Extract of a despatch from Sir F. Bruce, respecting maintenance of treaty rights in China," and other despatches, and pp. 18, 20, 33, 37, &c., of "Our Interests in China," by Mr. H. N. Lay, including a letter from Captain Sherard Osborn, R.N., and various statements by Sir F. Bruce), how is it the public are not satisfied with a more substantial appearance of these facts in *The Times*?

Before leaving the San-pan-wang anecdote it is necessary to notice the statement—"that the provinces which were lately the scene of the rebellion have recovered their green and fertile aspect: that the places of the murdered men have been filled . . . ." The late desolation and massacres have been effected by Major Gordon and other mercenary legions while carrying the uncontrolled horrors of Asiatic warfare among the Bible-reading Taipings, to effect their extermination, or, as *The Times* has it, the "pacification of the country by the expulsion of the Taipings."

Passing on to the definitely-stated part of the article, I find that after very correctly touching upon the absorbing mercenary spirit of the Shanghai land proprietors, this passage occurs:—"And the crowd, which in their agony of fear paid so well for their protection, is gone back to cultivate cotton, and silk, and rice, and tea." This, if unexplained, seems to imply that the cultivators of such produce had been driven to Shanghai by the Taiping rebels; that, consequently, these staple productions had been neglected, but, that, upon the defeat of the Taipings, the people had returned to cultivate cotton, silk, tea, &c. Any such inference would, however, be grossly incorrect. The whole of the valuable silk districts were entirely under the control of the Taiping Government from the summer of the year 1860 until the summer of 1864, and during this period the exportation of silk from the producing districts very largely increased, attaining, at the close of the season of 1861, nearly the largest amount ever exported from China in one year, viz., 88,112 bales, which, until Major Gordon's and other mercenary contingents carried war into the interior, constituted very little more than the average.

I have travelled throughout the silk and tea districts when they were in the possession of the Taipings, and found them always fully peopled, and those valuable productions diligently cultivated; while, beneficially affected by the moderate taxation of the insurgents' government, the trade seemed carried on with a much greater freedom than under the Manchoo *regime*.

If people have been required from Shanghai to cultivate the mulberry or tea plantations, it must be to fill the places of those unfortunates who have lately been slaughtered by the bloodthirsty colleagues of Major Gordon. *The Times*' article states:—"For the moment there are no more massacres and no more fires, and in the name of humanity we ought all to rejoice that by small and comparatively little cost we have been able to produce a result which, however it may work upon the policy of a barbarian Court, has at least restored a vast tract of country to industry, and has given happiness to many millions of our fellow-creatures." If there are no more fires and no more massacres then Major Gordon and his compeers have rested upon their arms, blood-stained as they are by such treacherous massacres as those perpetrated at Soo-chow, Ka-sing-foo, Chang-chow-foo, &c. I have wandered through hundreds of villages, once tenanted by crowds of happy, well-to-do Taipings, but in the winter of 1863 I have passed through each village and into each house, and have found as one result of the policy we have lately pursued in China, the whole of the wretched inhabitants starved to death, or those few yet living eking out a fearful existence by crawling among and devouring the bodies of the dead; therefore, I for one, cannot rejoice "in the name of humanity." Certainly, although having lived in the districts referred to by *The Times* during the last four years, I am at a loss to know where the "vast tract of country" that is stated to have been "restored to industry" can be situated. And if our policy "has given happiness to many millions of our fellow-creatures" it has given death or unhappiness to a far greater number.

From the leader of *The Times* it appears—"Eventually the same causes must produce cognate results;" that is to say, that the corrupt Manchoo Government, despite our murderous attacks upon the Taiping rebellion, "the organisation of which only has been broken," will soon drive the oppressed Chinese into another insurrection; this seems an all-sufficient argument against our hostility to the Taiping movement—a movement of a crushed people against a tyrannical foreign dynasty, which in analogous cases, such as that of Poland, Italy, or Hungary, has found the warmest sympathy and aid from Englishmen.

Intending to shortly again address you upon the same subject, I trust to your impartial columns for the insertion of these few protests against the animus pervading the leader of *The Times*.

London, December 31. A. TAIPING.

BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS

The Board of Trade Returns for the month and eleven months ended the 30th November may on the whole be regarded as satisfactory, although the amount of exports is not quite so large as in the corresponding month of last year; but the chief falling off has been, as for the first two or three months, in cotton yarn and cotton manufactures. The total declared value of Exports for the month of the present year was £12,065,213, against £12,758,323 in 1863, and £9,761,510 in 1862, being a decrease of £693,110 as compared with the former period, but an increase of £2,303,703 over the latter. For the eleven months of the present year the total was £148,340,865, against £132,135,368 in 1863, and £113,280,779 in 1862, being an increase over 1863 of £16,205,497, and of £35,060,086 as contrasted with 1862.

We extract those facts presented by these return swhich relate to trade with the Far East:—

EXPORTS TO CHINA AND HONG KONG.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	For the Month ended the 30th November.		
Cotton yarn	—	379,474	72,800 lbs.
Cotton manufactures	1,598,183	3,158,419	8,279,580 yds.
Worsted stuffs	943,239	874,883	1,261,850 „
Woollen and worsted cloths	31,181	11,289	20,278 „
Lead	808	1,450	680 tons
	Value for the Eleven Months ended 30th November.		
Cotton yarn	£183,963	£215,084	£226,090
Cotton manufactures	1,219,777	1,063,212	1,832,465
Worsted stuffs	374,212	581,017	874,363
Woollen and worsted cloths	239,812	279,639	280,569
Lead	176,351	287,112	159,915

Of Cotton Manufactures the quantities and values exported to the other great centres of trade in which our readers are principally interested are exhibited by the following figures:—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	Quantities for the Month ended 30th November.		
Ceylon	146,152	3,229,567	653,638 yds.
Singapore	176,500	3,596,694	3,693,817 „
Java	1,345,660	1,742,706	—
Philippine Islands	—	180,019	—
	Value for the Eleven Months ended 30th November.		
Ceylon	£261,230	£430,607	£391,024
Singapore	541,941	595,829	644,016
Java	489,925	347,334	484,882
Philippine Islands	252,329	324,391	546,257

Of Cotton Yarn the export to Ceylon for the month of November was only 7,520 lbs., and the value for the eleven months of the three years was:—1864, £26,707; 1863, £58,413; 1862, £26,654. To Singapore the quantity for the month is 381,400 lbs., against 194,390 lbs. in the same period of 1863, and 20,000 lbs. in 1862. The value for the eleven months of the three years is respectively:—1864, £126,790; 1863, £203,045; 1862, £96,949.

IMPORTS.

In Raw Cotton the import for the month of November does not present that extreme ratio of increase that characterised the earlier part of the year, though the value for the ten months ending with October testifies to the immense development of the supplies furnished from the East:—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	Quantity for the Month ended 30th November.		
British India	627,514	352,293	428,815 cwts.
China	198	23,682	82,458 „
	Value for the Ten Months ended 31st October.		
British India	£12,632,381	£22,051,712	£29,183,930
China	84,528	1,545,833	5,174,553

Of Sugar the quantity imported from Java and the Philippine Islands in the month of November is 2 cwt. of the second quality (equal to Brown Clayed); 168,423 cwt. third quality (equal to Brown Muscovado); and 29,072 cwt. fourth quality (not equal to Brown Muscovado). The figures following show the difference in the import under the new scale of duties enacted last session:—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	Quantities for the Eleven Months ended 30th November.		
2nd quality (equal to Brown clayed)	35,999	3,419	438 cwts.
3rd (not equal to Brown clayed)	316,784	726,939	29,328 „
3rd (equal to Brown Muscovado)	—	—	268,498 „
4th (not equal to Br. Muscovado)	—	—	109,850 „
	Value for the Ten Months ended 31st October.		
2nd quality	£49,736	£4,551	£632
3rd (previous to April 16, 1864)	308,691	644,627	41,205
3rd (subsequent to do.)	—	—	112,551
4th quality	—	—	104,282

Of Hemp the import from the Philippine Islands in the month of November was 26,244 cwt., against 9,124 cwt. in that month of 1863, and 15,205 cwt. in 1862. For the eleven months of the present year the quantity is 160,246 cwt., against 254,507 cwt. in 1863, and 135 355 in the year preceding. The value for the ten months ended 31st October in the three years is given thus:—1864, £235,085; 1863, £319,772; 1862, £156,848.

The Coffee imported from Ceylon during November was 4,742,694 lbs., against 4,903,886 lbs. in the eleventh month of 1863, and 735,685 lbs. in 1862. The quantity for the eleven months of the present year is 64,254,355 lbs., against 66,108,754 lbs. in 1863, and 51,854,594 lbs. in 1862. The value of the import for the ten months ended 31st October was £2,041,456 in the present year, against £2,252,999 in 1863, and £1,894,395 in 1862.

The Declared Value of the British and Irish Produce and Manufactures exported from the United Kingdom to the ports and countries undermentioned, during the ten months ended 31st October, is returned as follows:—

To	1862.	1863.	1864.
Singapore and Eastern Straits	£970,342	£1,134,692	£999,823
Ceylon	469,572	762,629	711,222
Hong Kong	979,100	1,165,889	1,431,491
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)	1,687,691	2,036,926	2,456,578
Japan	—	73,526	486,352
Netherlands India (Java, &c.)	687,147	489,695	687,421
Philippine Islands	379,209	503,835	764,647
Siam	17,068	11,958	15,129
Cochin China, Camboja, and Tonquin	247	36,597	—

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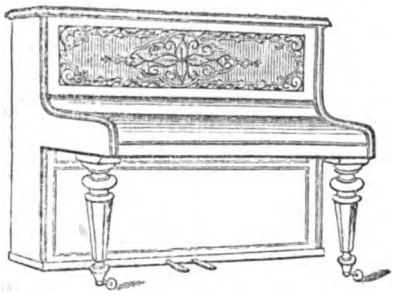

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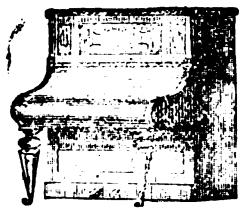

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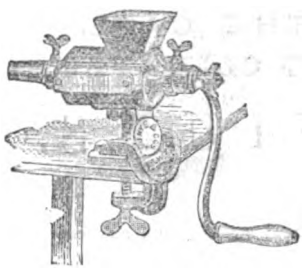

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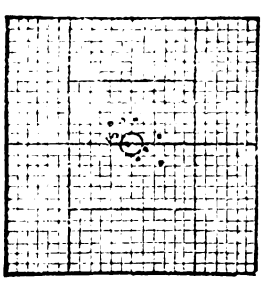

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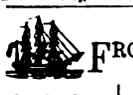

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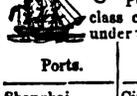
For Freight or Passage apply to GRINDLAY and Co., 55, Parliament-street, S.W.; or to GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL, 27, Leadenhall-street, E.C.



CHINA, JAPAN, and SINGAPORE.—The following splendid, first-class clipper SHIPS will be despatched as under:—

Ports.	Ships.	Class.	Docks.	Last Shipping Day.
Shanghai ...	CityofQuebec	A1 12 yr.	E.I.D.	Jan. 20.
Hong Kong & Whampoa ...	White Adder.	A1 10 yr.	E.I.D.	Jan. 10.
Ditto	Taeping ...	A1 14 yr.	E.I.D.	To follow.
Amoy & Foo-Chow-Foo ...	Merse ...	A1 13 yr.	E.I.D.	With des.
Kanagawa ...	SimonHobley	A1 10 yr.	W.I.D.	With des.
Nacasaki ...	Lammermuir	A1 12 yr.	W.I.D	With des.
Singapore ...	Helensbank.	A1 10 yr.	S K.D.	With des.

For Freight or Passage apply to KILLICK, MARTIN and Co., 28, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, E.C.

TOULMIN, LIVINGSTON, and Co. will despatch the following splendid VESSELS:—

Destination.	Ships.	Class.	Tns.	Docks.
Colombo ...	Francis ...	A1 13 yr.	489	Lond.D.
Ditto	Evelyn Wood...	A1 10 yr.	384	Lond.D.
Bombay ...	Frncs.K.Dumas	A1 —	1208	E.I.D.
Calcutta ...	Star of Scotia ..	AA1 —	999	E.I.D.
Rangoon ...	Duke of Wellington	A1 12 yr.	734	W.I.D.

31, Great St. Helen's, E.C.

INDIA AND CHINA.

ROBERTSON and CO. will despatch the following first-class VESSELS to their respective destinations. They are well adapted for their several trades, and are confidently recommended to their friends:—

Destination.	Ships.	Docks.	To Sail.
Shanghai	Solent ...	W.I.D.	With des.
H. Kong & Whampoa	Valdivia ...	W.I.D.	Jan. 10.
Hong Kong	Philomela ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Manila	A Ship ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Kanagawa	Bolina ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Nagasaki	Rifleman ...	W.I.D.	With des.

Apply at 5, Newman's-court, Cornhill, London; or York-Chambers, 55, King-street, Manchester.

SHANGHAI DIRECT.—The FYCHOW, A 1 fourteen years; 715 tons register; JOSEPH MATHERS, Commander, will receive goods in the East India Docks until Thursday, Jan. 5. This beautiful vessel was built a Aberdeen last year by Messrs. Alex. Hall and Co., especially for this trade, and is strongly recommended to shippers. Has splendid cabin accommodation.

For Freight or Passage apply to GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL, 27, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

SHANGHAI Direct (last shipping day Jan. 15), the new clipper STIRLINGSHIRE, A 1 10 years; 549 tons register; JOHN CUNNINGHAM, Commander; now loading in the West India Docks. Has good accommodation for passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to A. WRIGHT and Co., 19, St. Helen's-place; or to W. O. YOUNG, 3, Newman's-court, Cornhill.

N.B. To be followed by an A 1 clipper ship just launched, built expressly for the China trade.

NOTICE TO SHIPPERS TO HONG KONG AND WHAMPOA.—The well-known clipper ship BANIAN, A 1 14 years, 760 tons register, will receive goods in the London Docks all Wednesday next, the 4th inst.

For Freight or Passage apply to PHILLIPS, SHAW, and LOWTHER, 2, Royal Exchange-buildings.

Regular Line of Packet Ship. To sail on the 20th January.

FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the splendid clipper ship CARACTACUS, A 1 thirteen years, 676 tons register, GEORGE H. TWISS, Commander; lying in the East India Docks. This ship sails very fast, having made the passage from Anjer in 77 days.

For Freight or Passage apply to PHILLIPS, SHAW, and LOWTHER, 2, Royal Exchange-buildings, E.C.

COLOMBO, CEYLON, Direct—having the greater portion of her cargo engaged and shipping, the magnificent clipper ship PRINCESS, A 1 for thirteen years, KINGSLY HUNLEY, Commander; loading in the West India Docks. This splendid vessel, having a full poop, has unrivalled accommodation for the comfort and convenience of passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to W. A. WINCKLEY, 23, Birchin-lane, Cornhill, E.C.

COLOMBO DIRECT (to follow the Princess), the new clipper PALESTINE, the highest class at Lloyd's, register 607 tons, Captain T. PARK; loading in the West India Docks. Has most splendid accommodation passengers.

For passage apply to W. H. TINDALL, 5, Tokenhouse-yard; or for freight or passage apply to W. A. WINKLEY, 23, Birchin-lane, Cornhill, E.C.

COLOMBO DIRECT.—The beautiful clipper ECHO, A 1 12 years, 369 tons register, is now loading in the West India Dock, and having a large portion of her cargo engaged, will be promptly despatched.

For Freight or Passage apply to STUART and SIMPSON, 9, Clement's-lane, Lombard-street, E.C.

With Immediate Despatch.

DIRECT for COLOMBO, the splendid British-built clipper ship FRANCES, A 1 thirteen years, 489 tons register, F. W. HILL, Commander; lying in the London Docks. This magnificent ship is confidently recommended to shippers.

For Freight or Passage apply to TOULMIN, LIVINGSTON, nd Co., 31, Great St. Helen's, Bishopsgate-street, E.C.

With Immediate Despatch.

DIRECT for BOMBAY, the nearly new clipper-built ship FRANCIS K. DUMAS, 1,209 tons register, J. LEMIEUX, Commander; East India Docks. This splendid vessel, built this year, will be found a first-rate opportunity to shippers requiring despatch.

For Freight or Passage apply to TOULMIN, LIVINGSTON, and Co., 31, Great St. Helen's, Bishopsgate-street, E.C.

To follow the FRANCES.

DIRECT for COLOMBO, the beautiful clipper ship EVELYN WOOD, A 1 10 years; 384 tons register; D. WYLIE, Commander; London Docks. This splendid vessel offers a first-rate opportunity to shippers of fine goods.

For Freight or Passage apply to TOULMIN, LIVINGSTON, and Co., 31, Great St. Helen's, Bishopsgate-street, E.C.

FOR RANGOON Direct, the British clipper ship DUKE OF WELLINGTON, A1 12 years; 724 tons register, J. KERR, Commander; is now loading in the West India Dock.

Apply to TOULMIN, LIVINGSTON, and Co., 31, Great St. Helens, or to EDWARD HIGGIN and Co., 2, East India-avenue, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

To follow the "Aminta."

Will positively sail on Jan. 15 (full or not full) last Shipping Day the 12th.

DIRECT FOR CALCUTTA, the magnificent clipper-built ship STAR OF SCOTIA, A 1; 999 tons register; J. M'DOWELL, Commander; East India Docks. This splendid vessel, built this year, will be punctually despatched, thus offering a first-rate opportunity to shippers.

For Freight or Passage apply to TOULMIN, LIVINGSTON, and Co., 31, Great St. Helen's, Bishopsgate-street, E.C.

Monthly Line of Clipper Ships for Calcutta.

To leave the Docks on the 20th January. Last Shipping day the 18th, unless previously full.

DIRECT for CALCUTTA, the splendid clipper ship BOLINGBROKE, A 1 12 years; 1,259 tons register; HUGH ROSS, Commander; loading in the East India Docks. This magnificent ship was built in 1863, under special survey, especially for this trade. Has beautiful cabin accommodation.

For Freight or Passage apply to the owners, LISTON, YOUNG, and Co., 36, Cannon-street, E.C; or to GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL, 27, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

Monthly Line of Clipper Ships for Calcutta.

To leave the Docks on the 20th February. Last shipping day the 18th, unless previously full.

DIRECT FOR CALCUTTA, the the splendid New River-built clipper ship VARUNA, A 1 12 years, owned by Messrs. Smith, Fleming, and Co.; 1,330 tons register; JOHN TOVAR, Commander; loading in the East India Docks. This magnificent vessel, just launched by Mr. Charles Lungley, offers the best opportunity for shippers; has beautiful accommodation for cabin passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to LISTON, YOUNG, and Co., 36, Cannon-street, E.C.; or to GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL, 27, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE SIXTH Volume of this JOURNAL was completed on the 26th December, 1864. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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Nagasaki—Japan ..	PIGNATEL AND CO.
Yokohoma	A. W. HANSARD.

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JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 161.] LONDON, THURSDAY, JAN. 12, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Sept. 10	Nov. 8	Nov. 17
Nagasaki			„ 18
Hakodadi			„ 10
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			„ 15
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			„ 18
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	„ 27	„ 16	„ 25
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 25
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 26
Swatow			
Hong Kong	„ 27	„ 10	Dec. 1
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila			Nov. 22
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			Dec. 29
SIAM— Bangkok			Nov. 22
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			„ 24
JAVA—			
Batavia			Dec. 1
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Oct. 26	Dec. 1	„ 8
Penang	„ 26	Nov. 29	„ 10

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, arrived Jan. 10. From Shanghai: Mr. R. Shrill. From Hong Kong: Colonel Gordon.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, Jan. 4, 1865, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. Manger, Commander Round, R.N., Mr. J. R. Bromley, Mrs. Bird, Mr. F. D. Wakeford, Mr. Glasse, Major Blamire, Mr. Tudor, R.N., Commander Menzies, R.N., and servant, Mr. Turner, R.N. To Shanghai: Mr. H. M. Carter. To Ceylon: Miss Wodehouse, Mr. Thompson, Mrs. C. Morrison, Messrs. Hope and Davis, Miss Rothwell, Mr. B. L. Armitage, Mr. and Mrs. Byrde, two Misses Brown, Miss Swan, Mr. Swan, and five second-class passengers. To Calcutta: Messrs. Plomer, J. Tawse, G. Raban, F. Raban, J. Semple, D. Anderson, C. W. V. Bradford, Cliff, D. Thomson, E. J. Wynne, J. H. de Renzy, H. T. Pearce, C. Abraham, Pringle, James, G. Bickham, Inglis, and Coupland, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Pasley, Miss Siddons, Major Ellerman, Mrs. Manson, Miss Tawse, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Donald, Lieut. and Mrs. Spragge, Capt. and Mrs. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Woodruffe and European servant, the Rev. J. B. and Mrs. Archer and infant, two Misses George, Lieut. R. S. Green, Dr. Milne, Mr. and Mrs. Figg, Ensign J. A. Little, and nine second-class passengers. To Madras: Mrs. T. Chase, Capt. and Mrs. Bell, Capt. and Mrs. Pereira, the Rev. J. Gritton, Messrs. Seacombe, Clark, Calcraft, Rhodes, and D. Hume, and three second-class passengers.

From Marseilles, Jan. 12.—To Hong Hong: Mr. and Mrs. A. Hancock, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Bush and European servant. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Morgan and European servant, Mr. Jas. MacKenzie. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Faviell, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Byrde. To Calcutta: Messrs. J. Douglas, J. W. Smyth, Severin, Wodehouse, Sandby, Middleton, Lyons, J. R. Shea, Steel, and Vickers, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Thornhill, Miss Thornhill, Dr. J. A. Payne, Gen. H. Vetch and son, Sir Barnes and Lady Peacock and native servant, Capt. and Mrs. Bruce, Mr. and Mrs. Cook, Mr. and Mrs. A. Symonds, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Ross, Capt. and Mrs. Paske, two infants, and child, Capt. and Mrs. Taylor, Lieut.-col. W. Fyers, Mrs. Ross. To Madras: Mr. J. M. Miller, Miss Blissett. To Alexandria: One second-class passenger.

Per P. and O. steamer Poonah, Jan. 20, from Southampton.—To Singapore: Mrs. Scott, Mr. E. Hill. To Hong Kong: Mrs. A. Boardman, Miss Winkworth, Mr. J. S. Southey, R.N., Mr. J. Pittis, R.N., Mr. Turner, R.N., Sub-Lieuts. Joliffe, C. A. Tucker, and F. N. C. Hall. To Shanghai: Mr. J. A. Fraser, Mr. T. F. Hughes. To Ceylon: Mrs. Tranchell and two children, Mr. R. A. King, Mrs. Clark.

From Marseilles, Jan. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Eusden, Mr. J. W. Escherich. To Singapore: Lieut. Hatchell. To Shanghai: Mr. C. Simpson, Mr. Whittaker, Mr. F. H. Bell. To Ceylon: Mr. E. Strong.

Per P. and O. steamer from Marseilles, Feb. 13.—To Hong Kong: Mr. McDonald.

Per P. and O. steamer, Feb. 20, from Southampton.—To Hong Kong: Sub-Lieut. D. M. Smith.

Per French steamer, on 19th inst.—For Singapore and Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Rufino Rangel.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Dates hence are to the 17th November. The London mail of the 10th September arrived out on the 8th November.

Captain Wilkinson, of the *Nepaul*, has obtained high commendation for the energy and seamanlike activity he evinced on the occasion of the late mishap to his vessel. The *Nepaul* left Yokohama on the 1st November with cargo, passengers, and mail for Shanghai; but about 4 P.M., just as it was believed that the business duties of the day were concluded, two steamers were seen coming in, and for a short time the usual excitement attendant upon the expectation to receive immediately "our mail" ran round the Settlement, in a few minutes, however, to be painfully disappointed; for of the steamers which were seen rounding the point one was immediately recognised as the *Nepaul* returning to port at slow speed—the other the missing *Island Queen*. The first-named vessel had proceeded at fair speed about twenty or twenty-two miles, when, on nearing the Plymouth rock a sudden and violent concussion was experienced by all on board, and it was found that the vessel's bows had struck on a sunken rock, detached from what we believe is called the Ingersoll Patch, and which is not shown in the latest surveys of that part. Just before this occurrence Capt. Wilkinson had signalled the *Island Queen*, which was at anchor close by; and immediately after having asked for assistance that steamer got under weigh and towed her off. She came into harbour about five o'clock, and was immediately run alongside the storeship *Nassau*, and her valuable cargo commenced to be transferred. All connected with the steamer speak in the very highest terms of the readiness with which boats and men from most of the ships in harbour were sent to proffer assistance, and that these acknowledgements are specially due to H.B.M.'s ships. The *Nepaul's* passengers and mails, and the most part of her cargo, were conveyed to Shanghai per the steamer *Australian*, Capt. Hamlin, which was chartered the same evening by the P. and O. agents from Messrs. Macpherson and Marshall, her consignees, and left on the morning of the 3rd November. The celerity with which arrangements were made by the agents for lightening as much as possible the public inconvenience attached to this unfortunate occurrence has been universally commented upon, acknowledged, and praised.

Too much praise cannot be given to all who had any part to take consequent upon this accident; the *Nepaul* left on the morning of the 1st, and returned damaged about four o'clock that afternoon. In the evening of the same day the *Australian* steamer was taken up for cargo and passengers. On the 2nd and 3rd all the damaged cargo was taken out and stored—all the sound cargo, the mails, &c., transferred to the *Australian*—and in the evening the passengers embarked in the latter vessel, which left early the following day. The damaged cargo, indiscriminately thrown into a go-down, was sorted, catalogued, sold, and closed up on Monday the 7th, and the *Nepaul* herself was despatched on the 10th to Hong Kong for her repairs.

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The 168 bales of damaged silk ex *Nepaul* were sold at auction by Mr. Hansard on the 7th.

There were no items of political occurrences to note during the postal fortnight, and of domestic events but few. Although no official announcement has yet been made of it, we believe we may safely assert as a fact that the Japanese authorities have been prevailed upon at last to consent to form a really fine road some three or four miles in extent round or near the Mississippi Valley, and a race-course, and to make certain other extensive improvements for the advantage and accommodation of foreigners.

"The Japanese mail (writes a Shanghai correspondent) has brought no news. Everything is quiet, the Inland Sea is opened, and trade appears to be going on satisfactorily. To the great regret of English residents in that country, as well as in China, Sir Rutherford Alcock is to leave for this port, *en route* for England, on the 15th proximo. It is rumoured that a desire on the part of the Government to confer with him is the motive of this sudden return. It is to be hoped that this reason may be the true one, for during the few months which have elapsed since his return from England, he has by his vigorous measures brought our political and commercial relations from a deadlock to a very satisfactory condition." Sir Rutherford and Lady Alcock arrived at Shanghai, per steamer *Corea*, on the 22nd November, *en route* to England.

Messrs. Jardine and Matheson's steamer, the *Rona*, is laid on to run regularly between this port and Shanghai, in connection with the Messageries Imperiales, signing bills of lading through to Marseilles.

On the evening of the 13th November, about half-past nine o'clock, a fire broke out in the kitchen of the residence of one of the principals and some of the employés in the house of Carst, Lels, and Co., on No. 25, which in a few minutes communicated to the main building. The alarm was first given by Mr. Frey, who was visiting at the adjoining house, and several civilians were soon upon the spot, quickly followed by the Belooche Regiment, and detachments of the 20th, Royal Marines, French Guard, and of seamen from all the men-of-war in harbour. The engine of Mr. Hegt was first up, Mr. S. J. Gower's close behind him, Mr. Kingdon's being stationed on the front on the bund. It was low tide, and there not being yet formed any tanks below highwater-mark no supply was to be obtained from the sea. Mr. Gower's engine soon cleared out the three or four adjoining wells, and the supply of water could only therefore be kept up at long intervals in short duration. There was soon found to be but little chance of saving the building itself, or any important part of its contents, which were in a short time all sacrificed to the flames. The principal fear was that the buildings in the rear, occupied as the "Golden Gate" livery stables, should ignite, and thus form a communication across to the other street; but there was fortunately but very little wind, and the activity displayed by all hands (the Beloochees working with great vigour and pluck) in clearing down the burning building, and intervening lumber on that side, together with the efficient aid rendered at every moment that water could be obtained by Mr. Gower's engine, soon quieted any anxiety as to its extending beyond the building itself. Mr. Freeman and his corps of firemen were early on the ground, but the services of the latter were not availed of. Lieutenant Colonel Browne was busy in every quarter, and doing great service in the calm direction of the military working parties. There were two severe accidents: one of the Marines during the conflagration fell from the roof of the building and broke his arm, and another was seriously injured in the back, and amongst the wounded we have to mention Mr. Stearns (slightly), who was observed working with his usual energy and courage. The building and furniture are insured.

A case of Japanese broken contract had come on for trial in H.B.M.'s Consular Court. "We consider (remarks the *Japan Herald*) that the thanks of the whole mercantile community are due to Messrs. Macpherson and Marshall for their public spirit in withstanding the temptation to accept any compromise of their demands upon the Japanese merchant Hudzo rather than suffer the annoyance and trouble of a Consular suit in which Japanese officers are concerned. The wretched system of making advance bargains, to be completed if the market rises, or to be repudiated or thrown up if it answers the purpose of the purchaser, under penalty at least of no peace in one's office, must be checked, and we think a good step has now been made towards it. The case of Hudzo was a most glaring one; and we hope the trial and result may be translated and published 'for the benefit of the concerned;' on the one hand as a lesson to the Japanese merchants that such nefarious attempts are not only fruitless, but somewhat dangerous and costly; and on the other to show the Japanese officials that they make themselves somewhat ridiculous before us in bringing forward such cases for their merchants. They know full well that before H.B.M.'s Consul they will get the most ample measure of fair-play, but the earlier they learn not to wash their hands in such very muddy water as this the better for all concerned." The following is a report of the case:—

H.B.M.'S CONSULAR COURT.

(BEFORE C. A. WINCHESTER, ESQ., CONSUL.)

Messrs. A Winstantley, R. D. Robison, S. Rowell, Assessors.

YESEJA HUDZO *v.* MACPHERSON AND MARSHALL.

This was an action brought through the Japanese officials to recover the sum of $3,376, as per the following plaint. "Our merchant Yeseja Hudzo made an agreement with your merchant Macpherson to buy 300 piculs of iron-wire, and paid as an advance upon it $3,376. He received 50 of the 300 piculs and found the wire different from the sample and useless. On doing so, Hudzo communicated with Macpherson in order to have the wire exchanged for other, but he refused. Hudzo therefore had to take the fifty piculs of the said wire, without having them exchanged, and he made a further agreement that the remaining 250 piculs of wire should be received as per agreement. After that they were separately examined, and what was bad taken out, but Macpherson declined to inspect the wire, contrary to their agreement. All the above has been made subject of complaint to us by Hudzo. I have therefore to request that you will explain the matter with Macpherson and arrange the said goods be examined and delivered according to agreement." The contract was put in by the defendants, and it came out in explanation that 108 piculs of one-quality iron-wire was sold at $22 and 216 piculs at $17. The ship was to arrive within five days or the contract was to be void, and the whole was to be cleared within ten days after her arrival.

The Consul, to the Interpreter: Ask the plaintiff what he alleges as the cause that he has not completed his contract.

(The Japanese officers began to prompt the plaintiff, but were immediately silenced by the Consul.)

The Plaintiff: Two hundred piculs arrived; they were at the bottom of the ship, and it took 17 or 18 days to land them; I offered to take 100 piculs of the best kind; I wanted to receive 100 piculs of the best kind first, to send it to Yedo to get paid for it. I wanted $500 of the bargain-money to be put against the account of the 100 piculs which I wanted to receive first, but this was not agreed to. Since then I have offered several times to take the best kind of the wire paying for that; I received 50 piculs and in addition to the bargain-money paid $2,376. I received 25 cases; this was the kind bought at $22, value for $1,188; I did not take away the remainder because it was not equal to sample. I sent the 50 piculs to Yedo, and was told it was not good and broke.

[The sample produced and acknowledged.]

By Messrs. M. and M.: Did the defendant not come to our godown with the Government officers and interpreter? did they not examine the goods, and did not the officer say they were equal to sample and he must take them? Answer: We examined some, and some did not break and I said I was willing to take it.

By Messrs. M. and M.: Did we not offer to have it examined by two different parties, one chosen by himself and the other by us, and did he not refuse that?—Answer: That is true. I refused because I did not know anyone I could ask to look at it for me—because I did not like to be bound by anyone's opinion; but anyone could see it would break.

By Messrs. M. and M.: He says he did not know anyone he could ask to look at it for him. Ask him if he is not one of the largest teamen in the place?—Answered: I was formerly a large tea merchant, but owing to the "Loonins" on the 20th day of the 9th month I came to grief (*sic.*); I did offer $500 to be let off the bargain.

By Messrs. M. and M.: What was the difference between the market price at the time he made the contract and the time he first came about being let off?—Answer: I do not know what the rate was, but it might have been cheaper.

Messrs. M. and M.: We can tell him, then, we hold similar wire to the $22 wire which we should have been glad then to sell for $15.

Several casks of the wire were brought up to the Consulate out of the godown, promiscuously, and opened, they were found to be perfect in their packings; the lining of tin, soldering, &c., all in good order. The wire contents were carefully examined by the Consul and Assessors, and declared to be fully equal to the samples.

After some further hearing, the Consul said there could be but one conclusion, viz., that the wire was equal to the sample, and that the plaintiff had not the vestage of a reason for not fulfilling his contract. It was quite clear he had made a bad bargain, and now wanted to wriggle out of it. He must take delivery and fulfil his payments, together with certain equitable charges, such as godown rent, interest of money, fire insurances, &c., or the defendants would be at liberty to sell the goods at auction and give the plaintiff credit for the nett balance of such sale after the payment of expenses and the sums already received, if that should leave the balance in his favour, to pay it to him: or if on the other hand it should leave a balance against him, Messrs. Macpherson and Marshall could sue him before the Governor through him (the Consul). He again repeated the plaintiff had not a leg to stand on in bringing this complaint.

Messrs. Macpherson and Marshall offered that the plaintiff could, if he first deposited the whole purchase money within four days, come to their godown and select any of the goods he said were not equal to sample, and they should be placed aside for the decision of the practical assessor.

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The Imperialists began to advance against the city in July from Chungching. I went out with Tow Wang against them. We met them 40 li from the city, and Tow Wang divided his men into two bodies, the right body under a Kin Wang was to out-flank the Imperialists while Tow Wang retired in front of them. The manœuvre succeeded. The Imperialists rushed on after Tow Wang, who retired and then turned at them, while Kin Wang took them in flank and drove them back: about 150 Imperialists were killed, no quarter being given. Tow Wang pushed on till he came in sight of the Imperial stockades situated on small hills; we got round them, and being out of fire from the stockades under the brows of the hills, threatened their rear; which being seen by the Imperialists made them run, leaving everything standing in their camps, four of which were taken with some boats. Tow Wang afterwards went back to the city. Tow Wang was very daring; he led his men himself, and made the rebels fight desperately. He scarcely slept two hours in the twenty-four, was always about, and very much feared by the rebels. The garrison may have been 50,000 or more.

On our return to Wuchufu, Kung Wang arrived from Nanking with an escort. The villages in the immediate neighbourhood and suburbs of Wu-chu were for the most part in ruins, and subsisted in a squalid half starving state. All offences received one punishment—death. I saw 160 men beheaded, as I understood, for absence from parade; two boys were beheaded for smoking; all prisoners of war were beheaded; spies, or people accused of being so, were tied with their hands behind their backs to a stake and brushwood put around them, and they were then burnt to death In spite of the orders against smoking, the chiefs were inveterate smokers.

About a week after our return to the city Tow Wang ordered us to accompany him to the east of the city. We drove back the Imperialists who were attacking the stockades at Linza with a large number of gunboats and a steamer. When Tow Wang saw the steamer, he said I had deceived him and that foreigners were fighting against them, and that instead of 4,000 cash a day we should only have 1,000. From Linza we went down to Tung-poo, where an Imperial force had advanced. We had a great deal of fighting here; the rebels had got a force of Imperialists surrounded and were keeping the other Imperial force from helping them. Tow Wang had not many gunboats, so he drilled his small boats in the lake and taught them when to advance and retire. He then sent one of them to fire at the Imperial gunboats, while he landed some rebels on a bank in secret. The Imperial gunboats came out against the small boats which retired, the gunboats pursuing, when Tow Wang ordered the other small boats to advance, they dashed forward and the party on the bank fired into the gunboats whose crews deserted them. We pushed on and came close up to the stockade, capturing a boat with a 12-pounder English howitzer V.R. and some six boxes of shell. Tow Wang gave the gun over to me with another 12-pounder iron gun. Some thirty or forty gunboats were taken from the Imperialists. We had many encounters with the Imperialists and with the French force with varied success. The Imperialists had their breastworks on the opposite side of the creek to ours, they tried to cross but were driven back. All the Imperialist soldiers belonging to the Mandarin who was surrounded were beheaded, cut down, and driven into the creeks. Demetrius was killed in one of the fights, and Pasquali died of sunstroke. When we went back to the city Tow Wang and Kang Wang assembled all the men into a square, and mounted a sort of scaffold made of tables. Tow Wang addressed them first. He mentioned the words Soochow, Quinsan, and Yang-kwei-tsze very often. I understood enough to make out that he was mentioning the places the rebels had lost, and alluding to the Yang-kwei-tszes refered to their present situation. Kang Wang then addressed them in the same strain. This lasted some two or three hours; while it was going on, some of the soldiers commenced firing off their muskets. Tow Wang ordered silence, but another report was heard, the offender was ordered up, he was a clean-looking boy of fifteen years' old, he was made to kneel down, but Kang Wang begged his life. Tow Wang, however, saw two or three rebels playing with their spears, and ordered his officer to go down and "cut." The officer returned in a very short time with two heads, which were laid down in front of the Wangs. Kang Wang, on coming down from the tables, spoke to me in English very slowly, he asked me what I was, I said an Englishman. He said he had never met a good foreigner, and asked me to go with him to Kiangsi. I did not see him again, I think he went with some men soon after.

Shortly after, I was ordered to go to the N.W. side of the city, against the Imperialists who were advancing. I went out and found the Imperialists had placed one of their stockades within two hundred yards of the rebel stockade. I was ordered with my men to put my gun in the rebel stockade, which I did, after making good the parapet. I fired on the Imperialists but they opened such a fire of shell on my gun as to cause great loss to the rebels, who were hustled in rear of the gun. About a day or two after, the Imperialists assaulted at 4 P.M. They were bothered with the ditches and were repulsed; several rebels were beheaded for running away. A shot struck my gun on the trunnion and disabled it. The chief of the stockade told me that I had better go away, as he was afraid that they would lose the stockade, and that if they did, they would get into trouble with Tow Wang if the gun was taken. I therefore went back to Wuchufu with the boat and gun. The 1,000 cash per diem had been discontinued, and we were told to subsist ourselves. There was some distress now in the city, and we saw signs of the evacuation, rice being sent out to a place 41 li off towards the north. On the 24th August, a rebel chief came to me and told me it was likely they would move, and that we had better get ready. I asked him what they would do about a wounded man; he said he must go with us. It was now evident that the city was to be vacated, as the shops were shut and the shopkeepers and their goods embarked and sent into a small lake 50 li to the North West of the city. At midnight of the 26th August, the head man came again and told us that the start would be made at daylight the next day; our idea was to escape during the confusion, but the wounded man was our drawback. At midnight we tried to get the wounded man into a boat, but were met by Tow Wang himself at the North gate. He was furious, and ordered us back. We waited till 2 A.M. 28th August, when we were ordered to take the wounded man down to the boats. At this time signal lights were hoisted to the outposts to retire. Men were patrolling the streets to cut down any who might try to escape. That evening we saw fearful sights, the rebels were embarking their wounded and could not take all—the poor women crowded down into the boats and were cut at and driven back. We left the city, which was empty at 3 A.M. and soon saw it in a blaze, it rained, however, heavily. We pushed on and passing through the lake came to the entrance of the creek. Here the most fearful confusion ensued, all the boats were yulowing on and jamming one another, the rebels marching along the bank. Here we passed the night. The next day we could not advance—six of the men, viz., the two Englishmen, the two Austrians and two of the Greeks here left me. With me were the two remaining Greeks, the interpreter and the wounded man. The rebels resumed their march at daybreak, but they soon began to be apparently hurried, and one of them called out to us that the Imperialists were advancing. The wounded man was our great trouble. Nothing could further be done with him and it was certain death to remain. I took leave of him and told him I could do no more, as we could not carry him. He begged me to shoot him, and offered his ring and money. I said I could not do it, but he could ask his two countrymen. They refused, and we left him in the boat. The rebels were now in confusion, running everywhere, and the Imperialists were close at hand. We landed, and after wandering about two or three days got a boat and with some difficulty got down to Shanghai. Tien Wang's son was not in the city, and I never heard of him.

Continental Intelligence

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, Jan. 7, 1865.

It may be intentional or not, yet it is a fact, that the different Budgets were received so late by the First Chamber of the States-General that it was impossible to bring them on for discussion before the New Year. In consequence of this, Mr. Bosch Vollenhoven proposed on the 23rd of December that the different Chapters should be postponed until the next month, because the Budget was of too great importance for it to be disposed of without due consideration. On the day this proposal was brought forward there were as many votes in favour of it as against it, and it underwent the ordeal of the vote again the next day, when it was rejected. Practically, however, there was a discussion, for the last days of the year were employed in exchanging the reports and the replies of Government. Only the Budget of Means and some other unimportant ones were disposed of in 1864, and this was passed by 25 votes against 3. The principal points to be noticed are, in the first place, the carrying over of two *batige sloten* of the year 1864-65; 2ndly, the question respecting the so-called East India debt, and the not carrying over, on the Means, of a sum of 9,800,000 f. for payment of the interest of that debt; 3rdly, the question respecting the land-tax in Limburg. The discussion on the Budget of 1865 was commenced as late as last Wednesday. It need not be remarked that after all that was said in the Lower House, little that was new was to be heard in the Upper. The only importance that lay in the renewed discussion was that it illustrated the degree of concord or difference existing between the two Houses of the States-General. It was, therefore, pleasant to see that the Opposition was much less fierce, the feeling being that the Budget should not be rejected for reasons extraneous to it. Without any important debate, the following Chapters have been passed:—I.11 III-III R., IV-IV B. The only point of importance was that the Minister gave a promise that the diplomatic salaries should be raised. On the Chapter relating to legal affairs (eustiee), several remarks were made on the laws relating to joint-stock companies, which were considered too severe. It will be readily conceived that what has of late taken place with reference to the Canal Company (which affair is still in a very unsettled state) was the chief cause of these observations.

Yesterday the debate commenced on the Chapter entitled "Internal Affairs," which, with the one relating to colonial matters, may be considered the most important of all. I think there will be but very little opposition on the latter, for the majority has already declared "it perceives with pleasure that the course of policy which the Minister had pursued of late was more moderate, and that, according to his own statements, he seemed to be much less radical than he had been." At the same time that the general feeling of the House is becoming much calmer, the opposition from without increases from day to day. Messrs. P. Vreede Bik, P. van Rees, J. J. Hasselman, J. D. van Herwerden, Schonck, A. L. Andriesse, D. J. A. van Hogendorp, H. D. Potter, J. L. B. Engelhard, T. P. Willer, Netscher, Canneman, and W. J. M. van Schmid, have presented a petition to the King, earnestly warning his Majesty to be on his guard against the course the present Government is pursuing in India. It is not necessary to state that this step, by

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which the King becomes personally mixed up in the combat, is generally disapproved of.

Sir J. R. Milbanke, the English Ambassador at the Dutch Court, has given a splendid *thé dansant*, which was honoured by the presence of the Prince of Orange.

Baron R. F. van Raders, ex Governor-General of the West Indies, has been attacked by a sudden and severe illness. The Minister of War has again manifested his approbation in an official way to those who have taken a share in the battle of Simonoseki. Messrs. A. Fokker, barrister, Wassewaer Cortwyck, van Tets, and van Gondriaaz are named as candidates for the approaching election, in place of the late Baron van Heemstra.

A proof of how many young men are without suitable employment here is afforded by the fact that for eleven vacancies in the service of the State Railways 1,800 have offered themselves. If the *Auswandering* system were a little more practised here, this state of affairs would very much improve. The qualifications they generally possess would ensure these young men good success abroad.

Mr. B. van der Linden, the civil engineer, intends to leave for Sourabaya by the next mail, in order to put together the dry dock which has been manufactured by Messrs. van Plessengen and van Weel.

P.S.—The "Internal Affairs" Chapter passed this day by 29 against 4 votes.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—With some transactions at unaltered prices. Stock on the 1st. Jan. 374,100 b., against 264.500 b. in 1863. From the 1st of Jan. till 31st Dec. were delivered by the Trading Company 890,193 bales.

SUGAR.—Market inactive.

TOBACCO.—Dull. During the year 1864 were sold (1st hand) 3,469 c. Maryland, 291 c. Kentucky, 36,418 p. Java, 614 cer. Havana, 232 cer. Cuba, 2,523 cer. Yara, 491 p. Manila. Stock 1st Jan., 3,362 c. Maryland; 83 c. Kentucky; 13,568 p. Java; 82 cer. Havana; 287 cer. Cuba; 3,610 cer. Java; 1,180 b. Brazil; 2,009 b. Manila.

COTTON.—Rather more active, at somewhat higher prices.

TIN BANCA.—56f.

TEA.—Very firm, but nothing doing. Stock 11,900 ¼-ch., against 6,700 in 1863.

RICE.—Firm, under the influence of the London market. Stock 50,000 bales, against 19,600 b. in 1863.

SPICES.—Market very flat, owing to the great stock of the Trading Company. Cloves: Firmer; Cinnamon, No. 3, is paid with 90. to 91 ct. Stock on the 1st. Jan., Nutmegs, (1863) 593 c.; (1864) 1,570 c.; Mace, (1863) 583 c.; (1864) 539 c.; Cloves without stock at the Trading Company— Cinnamon (1863) 1,047 fard.; (1864) 441 fard. Pepper (1863) 1,137 c.; (1864) 850 c.

As the shipping is stopped by the ice, trade in general is dull, and prices are nominal. Transactions are only for consumption.

MONEY.—Rate of discount at the Bank 5½ per cent. for bills, 6 per cent. for acceptances; open market 5½ per cent. 2½ per cent.; N.W.S. 6 2½; 3 per cent. 72½; 4 per cent. 96⅛; Handelmaatschappy 139⅝; 'Change on London 3 mo. f.11.51; 2 mo. f.11.57; short, f.11.68; on Paris 3 mo. f.45.86; 2 mo. f.64.05; short, f.46.55; Hambro, 3 mo. f.34.65; 2 mo. f.34.75; short f.35.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.—Dec. 26, at Texel, from Batavia, Gerard, Pieter, Servatius. Jan. 1, at Brouwershaven, from Padang, Vooruit; at Texel, from Batavia, San Salvador. Dec. 30, at Flushing, from Batavia, Salatiga. Jan. 4, at Texel, from Batavia, Julie. 5, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Balder, Catharina Jacoba, Henriette; Nation's Hope, from Sourabaya; at Texel, from Tjilatjap, Commissaris des Konings van der Heim. 6, at Texel, from Padang, Affiance. 7, at Brouwershaven, from Samarang, Sverige; from Batavia, Majestic, Copernicus; from Batavia via Capetown, Balder.

DEPARTURES.—Dec. 21, from Texel for Samarang, Johanna. (Shipping is still stopped by the ice, only steamers can pass the Maas.)

SHIPPING IN 1864.

ARRIVALS AT TEXEL.—From Java, 161; Kanagawa, 1; Nagasaki, 1; Padang, 4; from other harbours, 1,421 ships.

DEPARTURES FROM TEXEL.—For Decima, 2; for Japan, 3; Java, 82; Macassar, 2; Padang, 4; Singapore, 2; for other harbours, 1,368 ships.

ARRIVALS AT HELLEVOETSLUIS.—From Banjœwangie, 34; Batavia, 71; Macassar, 2; Manila, 1; Padang, 8; Passaroeang, 1; Samarang, 4; Sourabaya, 5; Tjilatjap, 7; from other harbours, 2,357 ships.

DEPARTURES FROM BROUWERSHAVEN.—For Batavia, 67; Macassar, 1; Melbourne, 7; Padang, 4; Samarang, 7; Singapore and Hong Kong, 6; Sourabaya, 8.

BUILDING DURING 1864.—149 ships, measuring 19,673 lasten, against 105 ships, measuring 10,869 lasten, in 1863.

LOADING AT AMSTERDAM.—For Kanagawa and Decima, D. J. Pisser; for Macassar, Quatre Bras; for Batavia, Ferdinand and Louis; Almelo, Sliedrecht, India packet, Staatsraad van Ewyck; for Batavia and Samarang, Galileo; for Batavia and Sourabaya, Anna and Sophia; for Samarang, Stad Leyden, Estafette, Koning Willem II.; for Sourabaya, Willem Daniel, Capella, Baltimore, Petronella.

FREIGHTS.—Quotations of Messrs. Fouchey and de Vletter, ship brokers, Rotterdam:—For Batavia and Samarang, Whampoa, 462 tons; Marie, 746 tons, Catherina Wilhelmina, 1,083 tons, 18f. to 20 for B, 25f. to 30 for S; for Batavia and Sourabaya, Delft, 735 tons, 20f. for B, 25f. for S; for Samarang, Marie Magdalena, 403 tons; Vyf vrienden, 337 tons, 25f. to 30; for Sourabaya, Salatiga, 448 tons, 25f. to 30; for Padang, Frederik Hendrik, 611 tons, 40f., all per last of 2,000 ks. of 120 cubit feet Amsterdam, of 15 per cent.; for Singapore and Hong Kong, Gouverneur van Swieten, 352 tons 30f. to 35 for S, 40f. to 45 for H, both per ton of 1,000 ks., or 40 cubit feet English, and 15 per cent.; for Melbourne (H.B.), Nereus, 665 tons, 35f. to 40 per 1,000 ks., or 40 cubit feet English, and 5 per cent.; for Decima and Kanagawa, Japan packet, 266 tons, 60f., and 15 per cent. per last of 80 cubit feet English.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

January 7, 1865.

The good people of Trieste appear to be quite in earnest in their endeavours to obtain the full benefit of their geographical position with respect to the direct trade with China and Japan, as soon as the opening of the Suez Canal shall enable them to do so. A project has been started by a Signor Revoltella for the formation of a sort of East India Company, to trade with the Far East by means of their own steamers from Trieste, *via* Suez, under the Austrian flag. That gentleman has lately made a journey to Holland to sound the feelings of the Dutch merchants on the subject, and endeavour to obtain their support and co-operation. He has now returned to Trieste in high spirits, having ascertained that the leading East India houses at Amsterdam are greatly in favour of the plan, which also finds support and sympathy in the highest quarters, the Colonial Minister being among the number. They express their conviction that on the completion of the Suez Canal Trieste could not fail to become the chief emporium of the European continental trade with the Far East, and from its favourable situation would be able to compete successfully with any other continental trading port.

In the meantime, the Austrian Government is not blind to the fact that to promote the success of any new undertaking of this description a reform and extension of the consular system is a desideratum of the last importance. Austrian consuls abroad have hitherto been placed exclusively under the orders of, and in sole communication with, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, but the feeling has become very general in commercial circles at Vienna that the period has arrived for transferring the control and direction of the Consulates to the Department for Trade, and that the commercial reports of the consuls should be published for the benefit of the mercantile world. Above all things, it is generally agreed that immediate steps ought to be taken for negotiating commercial treaties with foreign states—more especially with China, Japan, and Siam—which will give Austrian subjects a recognised footing and a right to trade, whereas they are now only permitted to do so on sufferance, or are in the humiliating position of being obliged to place themselves, their cargoes, and their ships, under the protection of the consul of some other perhaps smaller but, at all events, more enterprising maritime State. In the spring, the Austrian Government intend to take some steps to mitigate this evil and place their national flag on a more dignified footing in foreign countries.

The subjoined table shows the total quanties of East India produce imported at Trieste by sea in the last three years (in centners.)

	1861.	1862.	1863.
Coffee	239,994	164,912	252,718
Cinnamon	125	165	8
Cassia lignea	810	494	105
Cloves	920	688	473
Nutmegs	108	97	116
Pepper	8,949	6,922	8,185
Tea	93	45	16
Ginger	101	—	541
Sugar, raw	61,455	136,079	42,731
„ refined	251,814	323,272	264,867
Cochineal	13	19	21
Indigo	96	236	143
Cocoa nut oil	7,904	10,141	13,740
Saltpetre	1,120	12,866	14,349
Rattans	2,605	1,975	822

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Since the departure of the last mail the Christmas and New Year's holidays have interfered considerably with business, and caused a check from which the market is only just beginning to recover. As the frost precludes the possibility of the arrival of any fresh supplies holders continue to be firm, and in general a favourable opinion for this article prevails. According to the statistics just published the quantity of coffee of all descriptions imported here in 1864 amounted to 69,100,000 lbs., showing a considerable falling off as compared with the preceding years (85.300,000 lbs. in 1863, 80,800,000 in 1862, and 100,000,000 in 1861), whilst the stock on hand on the 1st of January, 1865, was 10,000,000 lbs., and nearly the same in the three previous years. Sales of the fortnight, 14,000 bags.

SUGAR.—During the holidays the prices of Raw had a tendency to decline, but have since become firmer. The imports in 1864 have fallen off as compared with 1863, and the stock in warehouse is 7,000,000 lbs., against only 2,000,000 lbs. last year. Refined goods are in favour, and 20,000 loaves have been sold a shade higher.

RICE.—Market firm, with a sufficiency of orders to cause some animation, but there are no large sales to report.

SPELTER.—This article is decidedly dull, and somewhat lower than in last report. Silesian in slabs may be bought at 12⅞ marks banco per centner of 50 kilogr., both ex warehouse and for delivery in the spring, but even at this figure purchasers are reluctant to operate.

Discount, 4½ to 5 per cent.

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PASSENGERS INWARD.

From JAVA.—Per Baron van Pallandt van Roosendaal, Captain Hoogenstraaten, Mr. Hurrelbrinck, Mrs. van Bommel and Son; per Vooruit, Captain Kool, Mr. Zabli and family, five soldiers; per Catherina Jacoba Henrietta, Captain Tonjes, Mrs. Soeterik, van Delden, de Hoog.

ROBBERY OF THE BORNEO COMPANY.—About the middle of May last, a young, sickly-looking man, calling himself Charles Walter Thorne, arrived in Ayr, and on alighting at the station inquired of the station-master if he could recommend him to a quiet lodging in the neighbourhood. He was directed to a house in the suburbs, where he obtained furnished apartments. He was in very delicate health, and was attended by a medical gentleman of the town. He remained for about a fortnight, during which time he took daily carriage drives, and his health seemed to improve considerably. He said he expected a lady, whom he had entrusted with the transaction of some urgent business for him in London, to call for him, and he went frequently to the station to meet her, but she never came. At last he said he would require to go to London himself, and he accordingly set off on a Monday morning, promising that he would return in a few days. He sent a telegram announcing his safe arrival in the metropolis, but nothing farther was heard of him until Wednesday last, when a lithographed circular was received at the various banks in Glasgow (accompanying which was a carte de visite of the stranger), stating that his real name was Walter H. Dalgleish, late a clerk in the service of the Borneo Company at Hong Kong, and that he had robbed the company of a £3,000 draft, for which he obtained cash in London. On 5th May Dalgleish paid £1,000, in fifty Bank of England notes for £50 each, into the Mercantile and Exchange Bank at London, in the name of Ralph Ensign, to be remitted to his credit with the Glasgow branch of that bank. He also paid £1,580 in seventy-nine like notes to the London Bank of Scotland, getting in exchange two orders of £790 each on their branch in Glasgow, in favour of Ralph Ensign. He then, as Ralph Ensign, received payment of the £1,000, and the £1,580 in Scotch notes in Glasgow, after which he proceeded to Ayr. While at Ayr he showed a considerable amount in gold, as well as a number of unset diamonds and jewellery. The last glimpse got of Dalgleish was at the Crystal Palace, near London, on the 11th June, since which all trace of him has been lost, but he is believed to have passed as Henry Gray, of Canada, and he may have gone to Canada, or some other part of America. It seems Dalgleish had been sent home by one of the partners of the Borneo Banking Company in Hong Kong on account of the delicate state of his health, and he had stolen the draft before leaving, and the theft not being discovered for some time afterwards, he has had ample time to "go off to parts unknown."

POSTAGE ON MERCANTILE CIRCULARS, &c.—Treasury warrants have been issued specifying—1st, the mode of transmission and rates of postage of packets consisting of books, publications, or works of literature or art, British, colonial, or foreign, transmitted between any part of the United Kingdom and any part of the Cape of Good Hope, by British packet boat direct or private ship—by British packet boat *via* Suez, and in closed mails *via* France and *via* Suez (the sea conveyance being by British or colonial packet boat); 2ndly, repealing the rates of postage formerly chargeable on all printed prices-current and printed commercial lists transmitted by the post and conveyed by packet boat, or private ship, from any of Her Majesty's colonies, or from any foreign countries to or through the United Kingdom, whether transmitted direct or through any other colony or foreign country; and directing that henceforth there shall be chargeable the same or the like rates of postage payable on printed newspapers transmitted by the post and conveyed in like manner from any such colony or foreign country to or through the United Kingdom; and that in all cases where printed newspapers are so transmitted and conveyed free of postage all printed prices-current and printed commercial lists shall be so transmitted and conveyed in like manner free of postage; and 3rdly, regulating the transmission of packets not exceeding eight ounces in weight consisting of patterns or samples of merchandise of no intrinsic value posted in any part of the United Kingdom, addressed to any place within any of the States of the German Postal Union, or either of the Free Hanseatic Republics of Hamburg and Bremen, or posted in any place within any of the States of the German Postal Union, or either of the Free Hanseatic Republics of Hamburg and Bremen, addressed to any part of the United Kingdom, in closed mails *via* Belgium, subject to the several rates of postage (including the Belgian transit rate) therein mentioned.

THE SWORD OF CHUNG WANG.—General Gordon, of Southampton, has received the following letter from his distinguished son, Colonel Gordon:—"I send home Chung Wang's sword. It is wrapped in a rebel flag belonging to Tieu Chwang, a rebel chief, next in command to Wang, and who was killed on it at Chan-Chu-Fu. You will see marks of his blood on the flag. Chung Wang's sword was given by him to Tye Wang, a rebel chief, of Leyang, at Wusich, in December, 1863, after the all of Soochow, and at the time that Chung Wang, disgusted, determined to return to Nanking, and take for a time no further active operations. It is more than an ordinary sword. The Emperor of China gave one to San-quo-jan, and this gift was accompanied with permission to San-quo-jan to execute anyone, whatever his rank might be, without reference to Peking. In fact it was a symbol of the power of dictator. Tien Wang, the rebel chief at Nanking, gave this sword to Chung Wang, with the same power as the Imperialists, and it was this symbol of chief and supreme command which Chung Wang handed over to Tye Wang when he was recalled to Nanking. It fell into my hands at Seyang, on the 9th of March, 1864, and has on it Chung Wang's name, 'Li-tzn-tquen,' Chung Wang, meaning 'faithful prince.' Chung Wang has since been taken prisoner by the Imperialists at Nanking."

WRECK OF THE "ALICIA ANNIE," FROM MANILA.—Another example has been offered of the damage caused by Daunt's Rock, on which the *City of New York* was wrecked while entering Cork harbour. The brig *Alicia Anne*, Andrew Fraser, master, 300 tons burden, from Manila, with a cargo of hemp and sugar, value about £10,000, struck while entering the harbour. As if to make more conspicuous the futility of the precaution the Ballast Board has contented itself with, this vessel was entering under the best possible circumstances. About six o'clock in the morning the brig was off the Old Head of Kinsale. Towards evening she neared the harbour. The captain took a pilot on board, and was taken in tow by a steamer about half-past six o'clock in the evening. The captain was walking the quarter-deck, and saw the light lately put up at Roche's Point for the purpose of pointing out the rock; the pilot was on the forecastle: and she was, as we have said, in tow of a steamer, when the vessel, drawing 14 feet of water, and going from four and a half to five knots, struck upon Daunt's Rock. She immediately filled, and was with great difficulty brought into the harbour, and beached upon the Spit bank, where she now lies, the water being just below her deck beams. The sugar she carried was in bags, and of course immediately destroyed; the hemp, value £5,000, has been all saved through the energy shown by the agents, Messrs. Scott and Co., who had it all taken out before the rise of the tide. The ship itself will be saved.

A CHINESE DINNER.—A traveller recently arrived at Paris from Peking gives the following description of a Chinese dinner:—"The first course consisted of a kind of square tower formed of slices of breast of goose and of a fish, which the Chinese call 'cow's head,' with a large dish of hashed tripe and hard eggs of a dark colour preserved in lime. Next came grains of pickled wheat and barley, shell-fish unknown in Europe, enormous prawns, preserved ginger, and fruits. All these are eaten with ivory chopsticks, which the guests bring with them. On grand occasions the first dish is always birds'-nest soup, which consists of a thick gelatinous substance. Small cups are placed round the tureen, each containing a different kind of sauce. The second course was a ragout of sea-snails. At Macao these are white, but at Ningpo they are green, viscous, and slippery, by no means easy to pick up with small sticks. Their taste resembles that of the green fat of turtle. The snails were followed by a dish of the flesh covering the skull of sturgeons, which is very costly, as several heads are required to make even a small dish. Next was a dish of sharks' fins mixed with slices of pork, and a crab salad; after these a stew of plums and other fruit, the acidity of which is considered a corrective for the viscous fat of the fish; then mushrooms, pulse, and ducks' tongues, which last are considered the *ne plus ultra* of Chinese cookery; deer's tendons—a royal dish which the Emperor himself sends as a present to his favourites; and Venus's ears—a kind of unctuous shell fish; lastly, boiled rice, served in small cups, with acanthus seeds preserved in spirits and other condiments. Last of all tea was served."

CHINESE CURIOSITIES.—The Emperor and Empress, a few days back, visited at the sale rooms in the Rue Drouot a fine collection of Chinese curiosities belonging to M. Louirette. Their Majesties were accompanied by General de Goyon, the Marquis de Caux, and M. de Saint Aubin, librarian to the Empress. M. Thiers and Baron de Rothschild had previously visited the collection. At the sale which took place on the following day a rectangular flower-stand, supported by two kneeling Chinese warriors, enamelled, with the exception of the heads and hands, which are in bronze gilt, was knocked down for 11,250f.; two pieces of furniture, in black wood, each ornamented with twenty-three plates in enamelled porcelain, fetched 4,000f.; a table, decorated with arabesques, sold for 2,000f.; a large vessel for burning incense, with gilt cover and high handles, was knocked down for 6,000f.; two white elephants, in enamel, 2,440f.; and octagon perfume burner, with gilt cover, 4,000f.; a gourd, having on each side a medallion with a landscape, 3,620f.; a basin with a flat cover, having the form of a barrel, 2,901f.; a handsome cylindrical porcelain vase of the time of the Myngs, 2,000f.; and another of the same period, 1,000f. Her Majesty is said to have been the purchaser of the finest articles. The whole sale produced nearly 85,000f.

CHINESE SHEEP.—The *New Zealander* says:—"We have received a communication from a gentleman who has some thoughts of organising a company to obtain from China a very prolific breed of sheep, which finds much favour with the inhabitants of that country. Their fecundity seems very surprising, as they are said to produce from three to five at a birth, or, as our accounts call it, a litter, and to have a litter of this kind twice a year. Their material ingenuity is not, it seems, inferior to their fecundity, as they wean the stronger lambs, and allow the more weakly ones to suck for a longer time. They are said to produce from 7 lb. to 12 lb. of wool annually, to weigh 143 lb. to 170 lb. as mutton, and to be of a quality not inferior to Leicester sheep. These sheep inhabit the northern parts of China, near the Great Wall, and would therefore require to be acclimatised to our warm climate."

ANOTHER CHINESE DISTURBANCE AT ELEPHANTA.—The last mail from Bombay reports that a number of the "Celestials" inhabiting the island of Elephanta, collected together in a mob, evidently with the intention of kicking up a tremendous row, and arming themselves with clubs and stones, marched off towards the guard-house occupied by the Tanna Rangers; on approaching which, the greater portion of the ruffians fell back, but a few who were more daring than the rest advanced stealthily to the sentinel on his post, and stoned him; whereupon his piece was at once levelled and discharged into their midst, which immediately brought out his comrades, who seeing the serious state of affairs fired at the Chinese, and after a few shots, finally dispersed them, wounding four and capturing a few others who are now doubtless in confinement.

ENGLISH SEAMEN AT A CHINESE FIRE.—The following is an extract of a letter received by last mail from an officer on board of Her Majesty's gun vessel *Algerine*:—"Hankow, Oct. 13, 1864.—Yesterday a fire broke out in the Chinese city, burning an immense extent of houses and some of the English and other foreign houses on the river side, outside our concession. The 'Algerines' were there as soon as possible; their behaviour was really admirable, as it had been during a previous fire about a fortnight since. On both occasions they were surrounded by liquor, and I had not occasion to find fault with a single man. Every one on shore remarked, 'How those men do work?' And, truly, and candidly speaking, I have been at several fires in China, and I never saw men work so well and steadily."

SCENES AT THE CAPE AND JAPAN.—In the *Illustrated London News*, 7th January, their special artist has sent an account and photograph of the view of British and Japanese troops at "Yokohama," together with a sketch of a Japanese letter, and a view of the upper battery at Simonoseki, all of which appear as engravings. Engravings are also given from sketches by Mr. F. L. Bedwell, of Port Hamilton, in the Peninsula of Korea, and of the style of dress of the Koreans. Korea will no doubt soon figure as a place of trade, through the enterprise of Englishmen.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, THURSDAY, JAN. 12, 1865

THE FRENCH TREATY WITH COCHIN-CHINA.

WE find the following paragraph in a Paris paper:—

"Admiral de la Grandière, Governor of Saigon, who is shortly expected in Paris on a *conge*, is the bearer of an autograph letter addressed by the Emperor Tu-Duc to his French cousin Napoleon III. The Cochin-Chinese Sovereign most probably demands the abrogation of the treaty concluded by M. Aubaret, and the withdrawal of the French troops, on condition that the tribute-money, which no doubt he promises to increase, be paid regularly."

Our information is that during the absence of Admiral la Grandière, Admiral Jaurez will act as his *locum tenens*, and the command of the fleet will be entrusted to Flag-Captain Duquillot until the arrival of Admiral Rose, who has just been appointed to the station, and proceeds, we believe, by the next mail. Another version, however, is that the last-named officer not only replaces Admiral Jaurez in the command of the China and Japan squadron, but also as interim Governor of Saigon. Captain Ollivier, just promoted, has been appointed Flag-Captain to Admiral Rose, and has gone out in *La Guerriere*, which will replace the *Semiramis*, ordered home. Lastly, Captain Lejeune, who has left for Saigon, is said to be appointed Commandant Superieur of the Marine for Saigon, an arrangement which would lighten Admiral Rose's duties.

We hear that the Governor has introduced into the administration of the colony a Director of the Interior, and that this officer will be accountable only and directly to the Governor himself; in other words, the internal affairs of the colony will be managed without interference from any one else. A Ministerial paper of Paris says:—"The constantly increasing development of the security and prosperity of the colony renders necessary this measure, which will allow of the centralisation of the action of the various European and native authorities." We confess we are at some loss to comprehend the exact meaning of these phrases, but we suppose the purport is that the broth will be better done in proportion as fewer cooks have a hand in it. Measures are being taken for the establishment of a lighthouse at the mouth of the river Donnai, in order to facilitate access during the night to the anchorage of Cangiou. About three months since we recorded the despatch of supernumeraries and stores by the Overland route. In reference to the treaty made by M. Aubaret, it is quite decided not to ratify it, but to hold possession of the three provinces. The revenue for 1864 it is reported will reach about two and a-half million francs.

THE CONSULAR SERVICES IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

IN another column we present a list showing the present *personnel* of these departments, which are charged with such important duties in conducting our international relations on the other side of the globe. The vast extension of our interests in China and Japan during the last few years has been necessarily followed by an increase of Her MAJESTY'S official staff in those regions, and the list we publish to-day comprises probably twice as many names as would have filled it five or six years ago. The vast territorial distribution of these services is indicated by the names of the stations at which the various officers are placed, and, as chief of a department extending over some twenty degrees of latitude, Her MAJESTY'S Minister at Peking must be reckoned as holding a very onerous post. Sir FREDERICK BRUCE, who, for the last five years has very ably filled the appointment of Plenipotentiary in China, is now, however, enjoying a well-earned leave of absence, and the frequency with which his name is observed among the favoured guests in attendance on Her MAJESTY testifies to the esteem in which he is held, in common with all the members of his family, in the highest quarters. Contrary to the general expectation, his *locum tenens* is Mr. T. F. WADE, a gentleman of most distinguished scholarly attainments in the Chinese language, but who has never chanced to display—owing possibly to lack of opportunity—those brilliant talents for diplomacy and administration which have signalised Sir HARRY PARKES, the functionary who above all others seemed, as we observed at the time, marked out for the post vacated by Sir FREDERICK. It may be that weighty official considerations have necessitated the appointment of Mr. WADE; but, with all respect to this latter gentleman, we cannot help repeating that in the list we publish to-day Sir HARRY PARKES' name at the head would be a nearer approach to "the right man in the right place." We trust, however, that ere long, without detriment to any other claims, we may see our interests in China confided to the care of one who at Canton, Peking, and on the Yangtze has shown himself so well qualified for promoting them. The rumour current some time since that Sir FREDERICK BRUCE would not return to Peking seems to be accepted as a fact; should this be so, the appointment must now be under the consideration of H.M.'s Government, and it may turn out that the recal of Sir R. ALCOCK has something to do with it.

Apropos of Shanghai, it strikes us as most strange that H.M.'s Government should not yet have seen fit to create a Consul-Generalship at a port where the French and United States' Governments, with their comparatively trivial interests, have for some length of time maintained such appointments. The question is one which has been much mooted in China, and for the despatch of judicial and other business at the minor ports, we should imagine that a central authority, to decide appeals, &c., would be a great convenience in comparison with the present system of reference to Peking. It is to be hoped that Sir FREDERICK BRUCE may bring this subject before the Foreign-office during his stay in England. The correspondent of *The Times* on this subject says:—

"The lack of power by Her Britannic Majesty's Consuls in cases of criminal jurisdiction is becoming a crying evil. Setting aside the cases of rebellion against the Emperor of China, in which an English subject would now find it difficult to engage, the heaviest punishment for any crime that a Consul can inflict is twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour, with the additional sentence, after a second conviction, of deportation from China; but deportation, although a very desirable measure, can hardly be considered a punishment. It is a very different thing from transportation from England; so that for piracy, burglary, murderous assaults, and other similar eccentricities, Englishmen are at present only liable to be imprisoned for twelve months. Of course, it is competent to the Consul to send them to Hong Kong for trial, but I suspect a Consul who habitually incurred the expense of sending a prisoner and the necessary witnesses to that colony, would not be looked on benignly by Government. A murder case is of course always referred to the Hong Kong Supreme Court, but cases have frequently occurred in which the perpetrators of grave crimes have escaped with the stereotyped twelvemonths. An Englishman who was concerned in the piracy of the *Tsatlee*, which will be well remembered, was sentenced to one year's imprisonment, while an American, who had only taken an equal share in the transaction, got ten years, the Consul-General of the United States having full power even to condemn to death in cases of murder."

Among the senior officers of the Consular Service we still hail, in 1865, the familiar and respected names of Messrs. D. B. ROBERTSON, T. T. MEADOWS, W. H. MEDHURST, M. C. MORRISON, and others, who, during something like a score of years, have filled the most prominent positions in China, and who, having seen the earliest growth of our unshackled commerce, still figure as presiding in various quarters over its enormous increase. Considering, indeed, the trying climate of China, the longevity of the Consular Service is a remarkable fact; and it would perhaps be difficult to find another tropical country where, amid so many dangers to life and health, so great a number of officers are to be found (proportionally) who have passed twenty years and upwards of almost uninterrupted service. One death has occurred since the publication of our last list—we refer to Mr. GEO. C. P. BRAUNE, who died of heart-disease shortly after reaching Peking in May last. With the exception of this death, that of the Rev. W. C. MILNE, who also expired at Peking a year or two ago, and that of Mr. Consul GINGELL at Hankow in 1863, the Consular Service in China has been remarkably exempt from such mournful vacancies. The junior officers who have been dispatched to China since the outbreak of hostilities in 1857 appear to have

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pulled off, a salute of twenty-one guns was given from the *Feiseen*, the booming of the return salute being the last heard of Macao, and its pleasant reception.

Outside, however, there was yet another honour awaiting us. The *Josefito Almira*, a large vessel, with over 300 coolies on board, classed as a man-of-war, received the British flag with a salute of twenty-one guns, and nine for the Commandant. This was again replied to by twenty-one guns from the *Feiseen*.

On the homeward passage, the general good-humour was pleasantly kept up. Breakfast was served down below, and we understand several toasts got up; but of this we cannot vouch. CaptainCarroll's health alone could be admitted, after the hard toasting campaign gone through in Macao.

COCHIN CHINA.

SAIGON.

By way of Singapore we have the *Courier de Saigon* of the 5th December.

The news from the interior indicates that, owing to the abundant rains of the preceding month, there is promise of a good rice crop. It is hoped that it will be as large as that of 1864.

The Chinese are spoken of as very valuable colonists. They have undertaken the reconstruction of Cholen, and in six months have created a new town. They are trying to substitute steam barges for the slow junks for the transport on the rivers. They have also spontaneously instituted a school for the French language at their own cost.

The *Courrier* calls the attention of French merchants to the profits that may be derived from the fishery on the great lake of Cambodia. The Custom-house returns at Phuom-penh for this year show a quantity of 80,000 piculs dried fish, besides fish oil, &c. This return is thought to be understated, and there is reason to believe that it may be put down at from 120,000 to 150,000 piculs, or from nine to ten thousand tons, which, adopting the average price at Phuom-penh of 10 francs per picul, represents a value of from twelve to fifteen hundred thousand francs.

The *Courrier* thus describes the harbour of St. James, at the mouth of the Saigon river:—

The large and deep watercourse that connects Saigon with the sea is easily practicable for the largest ships. These conditions of a port situated fifty miles in the interior, in the centre of consumption and of production, as easily accessible to the largest vessels as a sea-side harbour, are exceptionally favourable; they are unique in the China Sea, and rare in the seas of Europe, where the Thames and the Tagus alone can challenge a part of these advantages. At all events these rivers do not possess at their outfall a large and safe anchorage, capable, like that of St. James, of serving as an indispensable means of union between the navigation of the interior and that of the exterior. The harbour of St. James lies upon the route which is most frequented by ships coming down the China Sea, at all seasons, or going up it in the S.W. monsoon. It offers the only point between Singapore and Hong Kong where vessels can run with perfect security for refuge in bad weather with facilities for refitting. The importance it has already acquired will be increased when the colonial administration shall place a light-ship upon the station, construct a convenient watering-place in Cocoanut Bay, and establish a coal depot, anticipating on this point private enterprise, in favour of which it can afterwards retire.

NETHERLANDS INDIA.

BATAVIA.

The mail from Europe of the 17th October arrived out on the 27th November; and our dates from Batavia are to the 29th November.

H.M. steamship *Bromo* arrived on the 26th November from Singapore, having on board Vice-Admiral Fabius, who replaces Admiral May. His Excellency landed in the afternoon, and was received at the Little Boom by a small body of officials, one of whom (the Governor's Adjutant) accompanied the Admiral in the Governor's carriage and four, which had been sent down for his use, to the residence prepared for him. Admiral May, A. Prins, and H. B. v. d. Wyck, Esqrs., late Members of the Council of Netherlands India, were to leave per H.M. steamship *Bromo* for Singapore, thence to proceed by French mail to Europe.

Colonel Kroesen, the Governor of Celebes, has been appointed a Member of the Council of Netherlands India, and the steamer *Hertog Bernhard* has proceeded to Macassar to fetch the new member. C. Castens, Esq., resident of Bagelen, has been promoted to director of *Middelen en Domeinen*.

Lieutenant Tobias, N.I.I., has brought an action for defamation of character against Major Donleben, Captain Swaving, and 2nd Lieutenant von Schmidt auf Altenstadt, all of the same corps.

The Chinaman Koo A. Sian, merchant, and a sub-wykmeester, is said to have absconded by the last mail steamer, leaving liabilities to the extent of 33,000f. It seems that he availed himself of his official position to procure a passport, having put his seal of office to a document bearing the name of another man, and which was countersigned by the Major Chinaman. He is believed to be connected in business with Lim Atjiet, whose flight we reported a few weeks ago.

The *Sourabaya Courant* is informed that Mr. Roorda van Eijusinga has been served with the following telegram.—"*R. v. E. must now leave India within* 14 *days.*" One of Fowler's steam ploughs of 14-horse power, had just been landed at Sourabaya.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

The London mail of the 26th October reached Singapore on the 1st Dec. by the steamer *Ganges*. The Messageries' homeward mail from China arrived on the 3rd December, and was despatched for Europe the following day.

The *Straits Times* notes receipt of the intelligence that the *Salsette* had not arrived at Hong Kong in due course, and thinks it probable she had put into Labuan.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

BLAKISTON—On the 28th Dec., at Wood-end, Hollington, near St. Leonard's-on-Sea, the wife of Commander Peyton Blakiston, R.N., of a daughter.

DENNIS—On the 11th Jan., at Hill-side, Streatham, the wife of John Dennis, Esq., of a son.

ELLIS—On the 10th Jan., at 27, Belgrave-square, the Hon. Mrs. Arthur Ellis, of a daughter.

GODDARD—On the 29th Dec., at 7, Victoria-road, Clapham-common, the wife of Mr. James Goddard, of a daughter.

HOGG—On the 19th Dec., at 38, Westbourne-park Villas, the wife of Alfred Graham Hogg, of Hong Kong, of a daughter.

ROBB—On the 26th Nov., at Marine Villa Singapore, the wife of Mr. D. Robb, of a son

TATE—On the 23rd Dec., at Croydon, the wife of William Henry Tate, Esq., of a son.

TRAUTMANN—On the 28th Dec., at Mulgrave House, Fulham, London, the wife of J. F. H. Trautmann, of a daughter.

THOMPSON—On the 2nd Jan., the wife of W. H. Thompson, Esq., The Firs, Bickley by Bromley, Kent, of a daughter.

TWIGG—On the 22nd Nov., at Shanghai, the wife of Mr. Paul O'Brien Twigg, of a son, stillborn.

WINCHESTER—On the 12th Dec., at Sunderland, the wife of Capt. John Winchester (late of the Caribbean), of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

EUSDEN—GAREY.—On the 29th Nov., by Consular licence, and at the Episcopal Church, Avenue Marbouef, Paris, by the Rev. G. G. Gardiner, M.A., Richard Eusden, Esq., Japanese Secretary to H.B.M.'s Legation at Yedo, Japan, to Mary Ann, youngest daughter of the late Edward Garey, Esq. No cards.

EVANS—WHISTLER.—On the 29th Dec., at St. James's Church, Colchester, by the Rev. R. F. Whistler, M.A., rector of Hollington, Sussex, brother of the bride, assisted by the Rev. R. S. Cummins, M.A., Joseph Henry Evans, of Hankow, China, to Mary, daughter of Edward Webster Whistler, Esq., of Colchester.

SCHMIDD—LONGSTAFF.—On the 15th Nov., at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. T. J. Irwin, D.D., Colonial Chaplain, Stephen Henry Schmidd, to Sophia Longstaff.

VOLKMAN—VERNON.—On the 22nd Nov., at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. T J. Irwin, D.D., Louis Volkman, to Martha Vernon.

DEATHS.

FALCONER—On the 4th Dec., at Singapore, Mr. John Falconer, of Stonehaven, Scotland.

FEGAN—On the 17th Nov., at the Military Hospital, Hong Kong, Thomas Fegan, private H.M.'s 99th Regt., aged 28 years.

DOOLEY.—On the 4th Nov., perished in the wreck of H.M. ship Racehorse, in the China Seas, Mr. G. M. Dooley, Chief Engineer, eldest son of the late Commander Dooley, R.N., of Worthing. A widowed mother and five sisters are left to mourn the loss of a dutiful son and loving brother.

GRAY—On the 18th Nov., at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, Charles Gray, destitute seaman.

HARVEY—On the 8th Nov., on board the ship Northfleet, at Hong Kong, in the 23rd year of his age, Richard John Harvey, son of the late Richard Coward Harvey, of Ludgate-hill, and grandson of the late Thomas Tegg, of Cheapside.

HOGG—On the 6th Jan., at 42, Norland-square, Notting-hill, deeply regretted, Edward Hogg, Esq., in the 72nd year of his age.

NOBLE—On the 15th Nov., at Hong Kong, Catherine, the wife of Henry Noble, of the Agra Bank.

PENDER—On the 14th Nov., at Hong Kong, James Pender, late engineer S.S. Clan Alpine.

YOUNG—On the 21st Nov., at West Point, Hong Kong, Mrs. Young, wife of the schoolmaster of H.B.M.'s 20th Regt.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6	months sight.	6s. 4½d. to 6s. 5d.	6s. 5d. to 6s. 6d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 9d. to 4s. 9½d.	4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 8¾d. to 4s. 9d.	4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.
At Manila	6	ditto	4s. 6d.	4s. 7d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 307 to 308 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 223 to 224 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 7 to 8 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 72 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 26 to 27 discount.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—The only sale reported in this article during the past fortnight consists of the settlement of five bales of medium numbers purchased for re-shipment to Japan. Grey Shirtings: These goods have remained entirely without inquiry during the past fortnight, and the only settlement to notice is that of 3,050 pieces of damaged goods which hav

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been moved off by public auction. White Shirtings: The same remarks apply to these fabrics, which have not found any buyers since the date of last circular, and 150 pieces of damaged goods disposed of by public auction constitute the fortnight's transactions. T-Cloths: There have not been any sales of sound goods reported in this colony, but from Foochow we hear of the settlement of 800 pieces 6 lbs. at 3.25 dols. per piece: 1,300 pieces of damaged cloths have been disposed of at public auction. American Drills: The market is quite bare of these goods. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: There are not any sales of these manufactures to notice either here or in Foochow, and prices remain nominally as before quoted. Damasks: There are not any sales reported. Chintzes remain without inquiry. Handkerchiefs have been purchased in this colony to the extent of 750 dozens.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: The sole sales of these goods reported in this colony during the fortnight are those of 156 pieces of medium Cloths, while at Foochow business has been limited to 240 pieces Spanish Stripes taken at 85 cents per yard. Long Ells: There has not been any business transacted in these goods. Camlets: Nothing doing. Lastings: The sales of the fortnight amount to 200 pieces. Blankets: There has been a moderate inquiry shown, and the settlements are put at 500 pairs.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: The value of iron is very firm, and there is a fair amount of inquiry existing for the various descriptions of Nail Rod imported. The business of the fortnight is put at 2,700 piculs of Nail Rod and 330 piculs of Hoop. In Canton, 1,250 piculs of Hoop and 500 of Flat Bar have found buyers at advanced rates. Lead: Continues very dull of sale; the business transacted amounting to 125 piculs, and 700 piculs for Hong Kong and Canton respectively. Tin: The settlements of the fortnight amount to 700 slabs. Tin Plates have been taken to the extent of 300 boxes.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From London: Nov. 4, Velocidade.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Nov. 23, Aurora Australis. From Liverpool: 11, Queensbury. From Cardiff: 12, Spirit of Trade; 17, Palmerston; 18, Amaranth; 21, Hainan and Trieste. From Shields: 10, Ensign. From Sunderland: 18, Magra. From Newcastle: 12, Agnes Holt and Torres; 14, Cornine and Bertha.

At FOO-CHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From Glasgow: Nov. 17, Blairmore. From Boston: 14, Goethe.

At MANILA.—From London: Nov. 10, Elisa. From Glasgow: 17, Luzon.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: Dec. 3, Alexandra. From Liverpool: 5, Rance.

At PENANG.—None.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—For London: Nov. 7. Mountain Ash.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Nov. 12, Palawan; 15, Queen of the Ocean. For Liverpool: 14, Ariadne. For New York: 23, Clara Babuyan.

From FOO-CHOW.—For London: Nov. 8, Lord Clyde; 10, Carisbrook; and 13, Blencathra. For Falmouth: 20, Conrad Henrich.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—Nov. 16, Nornen for Hamburg (via Macao). For New York: 21, Magenta; 22, N.B. Palmer.

From MACAO.—For London: Nov. 19, Elizabeth Dawson.

From MANILA.—Nov. 10, Windward for New York.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Dec. 1, Anna Maria. For Bordeaux: 5, Marie. For New York: 2, Magenta.

From PENANG.—For Marseilles: Nov. 20, Ocean. For London: Southern Cross.

LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Bacchante, Pembrokeshire, Alfred Hawley, Medina. For Liverpool: Gabalva.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Canadian, Countess Russell, Bosworth, Delhi, Spirit of the Deep, Diligentia, Lochleven Castle, Jubilee, Anglo Saxon, James Russell, Courier, and Beufordshire. For Liverpool: Gitana, Silvia, Yorick, Isabella, Queen of the East, Royal Bride, Sailor's Home, Savoir Faire, Constance, Coringa, Her Majesty, Norah Gleame, and Roodee. For New York: Finella. For Montreal: Princess of Wales.

At FOO-CHOW.—For London: Langdale, Esperanza (full), Birch Grove, Violet, Sydney Eggers, Dilkhoosh, and Star of the North. For New York: White Eagle and Bonnie Lassie.

At HONG KONG.—For London: Juanpore. For Liverpool: Melbreck (full) and Jas. Vinnicombe.

At MANILA.—For London: Otillie. For Liverpool: Therese. For Falmouth: Amur. For New York: White Swallow.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Earl Grey, Maury. For Liverpool: Chase, Dashing Wave, Lady Bowen. For Falmouth: Moldavian, Susanne. For Bordeaux: Marquard Family.

At PENANG.—For Boston: Borneo.

At SINGAPORE.—For London, Edwin Fox and Charlotte Jane.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—Nov. 10, Franco Havre to Saigon; 11, Kykduin, Amsterdam to Sourabaya; 12, Diamant Sunderland to Singapore; 13, Kin Lin (str.), Cardiff to Shanghai; 20 R. de los Angelos, Cadiz to Manila.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—Nov. 12, Far East (str.); 13, E. Ronneberg, Verbena, Foo-chow to London; 14, Semper Fidelis, Bangkok to Falmouth; Ellenborough, Foo-chow to London; Rosalind, Zebu to Liverpool; 16, Avondhu, Shanghai to London; 18, Victoria, Batavia to Amsterdam; 20, C. S. Lemon, Manila to Liverpool; 22, Moneta, Singapore to Liverpool.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—13, Ravensworth, Foochow to New York.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

YOKOHAMA.—To London: Cotton and Tea, £3 to £4 per ton. Silk, £4 to £5 per ton of 50 cubic feet. To Shanghai, per steamer, for silk $3.50 per bale; measurement $3.00 to 5.00 per ton. To Hong Kong, per sailing vessel, $5 per ton of 40 cubic feet: per str. $7.

SHANGHAI.—The rates for London and Liverpool are lower, viz., £2. 10s., and less demand exists for tonnage. A large number of vessels are on the berth.

FOO-CHOW.—To London, £2. 10s. per ton.

HONG-KONG.—The circular of George Holmes gives the following settlements:—Juanpore (460 tons); Whampoa and Macao to London at £2. 15s. per ton; Diana (280); D. F. Weber, sen. (648); Carlotta, (376); and Colina (255); for Akyab, Rangoon, or Bassien to Falmouth for orders, at £4. To Saigon and back the rates are 35 c. to 40 c. per picul. To Rangoon and back 70 c. to 75 c.

MANILA.—Some activity is expected at fair rates for the next few months, as also at the outports. The Therese has been fixed for Liverpool at £3. 10s. per ton for unclayed sugar.

SINGAPORE.—Freights remain high, though vessels in harbour, as well as those arriving daily, are large. To London, from Liverpool the rates vary from £3. 12s. 6d. to £3. 17s. 6d.

PENANG.—Tonnage is in demand both for the rice ports and for London. To the latter the rate is £3. 5s. per ton dead weight and £4 measurement.

CASUALTIES.

JAPAN.

From Hakodadi we learn of the total loss of the British schooner Bonito on the 18th October, at Cape Saiaki, near that port. She was bound for Tien-tsin from Hakodadi, laden with a cargo of sea-weed. The wreck was sold under the instruction of H.B.M.'s Consul for the benefit of the concerned for $850.

NINGPO.

The Hamburg brig Mosquito has become a total wreck at the entrance of the Ningpo River.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Jan. 10, at Falmouth, from Maulmain, Frederick, at Liverpool, from Manila, Gondola; 7, at Brouwershaven, from Samarang, Sverige; 8, from Batavia, Ottolina, Kortenaar, and Jannetje; 11, at Brest, from Saigon, Japan (str.)

DEPARTURES.—Jan. 9, from Sunderland for Shanghai, Coral Nymph, and Queen's Own; 11, from Liverpool for Hong Kong, Chaa Sze.

SPOKEN.—Honigby (Dutch ship), Batavia to Amsterdam, Dec. 2 off Ascension; Cornelia Adolfina, Batavia to Amsterdam, Nov. 27, 14 S., 8 W.

LAID ON AT LIVERPOOL.—For Batavia and Sourabaya, Affghan; for Singapore, Tigris.

CASUALTIES.—The Florence Braginton, Turner, from Sunderland to Hong Kong, which put into Plymouth 1st Jan., after having been in collision, had stem started, lost cutwater and head-gear, and is obliged to discharge.

CHINESE VOTING IN AUSTRALIA.—The following is from Melbourne:—Another amusing novelty in this election was afforded by our naturalized Chinamen. Many of these men were on the roll, and being thoroughly free from political opinions or prejudices, 33 of them in the borough of Beechworth were engaged by one of the candidates at 8s. a head, and tutored to say "yes" to every question put to them in the polling booth. One of the first questions asked was, "Have you voted before at this election?" Answer, "yes," from most of these Celestials, and forthwith they were unceremoniously bundled out of the booth. Two or three of them, however, passed more prosperously through the ordeal, and retired to score out the names from the ballot papers. They had been told to scratch the first three names from the paper, but unfortunately for the arrangement they got the papers upside down, and plumped for their employer's antagonist after all.

NARRATIVE OF PATRICK NELLIS WITH THE TAIPINGS.

I left Shanghai on the 25th February, 1864, with a Cantonese going up to buy silk, being engaged at $200 a trip as a guard to the boat. The destination was Chanzu, a village on the canal leading from Pingwang to Wuchufu. We found that the rebels had moved out and had occupied this place ten days previously. The Cantonese went on shore to make inquiries, and never came back, and soon after the rebels came down and took me and the crew prisoners. They put a chain round my neck, and threatened to cut off my head. A Ningpo man, who could speak English, told me to say that I could fire guns, which being translated to the chief, he asked me to stay with him. I having no alternative, said yes. I was then sent on to Wuchufu, and well treated on the way, provisions being plenty from the loot of Chanzu. At Wuchufu I was brought before Tow Wang (the Yellow Tiger), commander of the city, who was much pleased at my capture. A rifle was produced, and I was asked if I understood it. I said yes, and was taken out to fire at a magpie, and having struck the tile the bird was on, Tow Wang told me that if I liked to stop I should command all the foreigners in the place. These having accepted me as their commander, the chain was taken off my neck and I was given quarters with them. The names of the men were—English, Conroy and Dillon; Austrian, Raffaeli and Glovan; Greeks and Germans, Demetrius, Anathaseus, Palasios, Demetrius Coolis, Antonio, and Veamiscus; French, Pasquali.

They were seafaring men, and were glad to have a soldier to command them; they had come from Ningpo, Soochow, and from the silk boats. Tow Wang asked me if there were any Yang-Quitzes fighting with the Imperialists against them. I said no, that they had been withdrawn. He agreed to give me 4,000 cash a day for the men. He gave me a rank, and we were used as a sort of body-guard. I had to drill the foreigners.

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This offer however did not appear to give much relief to Hudzo, who still continued to "wriggle" under his bargain.

Intelligence has been received in Paris of the death, on the 23rd of September, on board of Admiral Jaurès' flagship the *Sémiramis*, after three days' illness, of Ambroise Dieudonné, Vicomte de Loyauté, aspirant in the Imperial French Navy, aged 25 years. This promising young officer had already served in the navy nine years. He was buried in the Catholic Cemetery of Yokohama, where his fellow officers have erected a monument to his memory.

Notice is given, under date of the 1st November, that the business hitherto carried on at Yokohama, under the name of James S. Downie, will in future be conducted under the name of Fletcher and Co., Mr. James S. Downie being authorised to sign for the firm per procuration. The auction business of Mr. A. W. Hansard would from the 11th November be carried on under the style of Hansard and Co., and Mr. J. R. Black will sign the firm per procuration. The partnership between William Curtis and Joseph Viney, carrying on business as hotelkeepers at Yokohama, was dissolved on the 31st October; outstanding accounts to be liquidated by W. Curtis.

HAKODADI.

Dates from this port are to the 10th November.

So seldom do we learn anything of what is passing at this *ultima Thule* of commerce that a correspondence between Mr. Consul Vyse and Mr. A. P. Porter (Porter, Dents, and Blakiston), dated so far back as January, 1864, has but just turned up. In reply to a request from the Consul, Mr. Porter gives the following information as to the trade of the port:—

EXPORTS.—The principal are seaweed, timber of various kinds, dried fish, deer skins, deer horns, fish oil, tobacco, potatoes, charcoal and but little else. Indeed, the trade of Hakodadi is but little worth, and could be well done by one or two firms or agents, who would then make a little money, probably; but, as the goods are mostly of that cheap and bulky nature, the freights become very high to get them to a market, which makes the profit small. As we are so far away from the nearest China port, such goods as silk or tea are hardly known here. Our principal exports are to Shanghai, sometimes to Nagasaki and Tientsin. But two vessels have has yet been sent to Europe, viz., the *Sea Witch*, with a cargo of oil, and the *Alpaca*, oil and tobacco, in the year 1862. Salt is lately exported into Northern Russia, principally by the Russian Government transports.

The greatest detriment to our trade is the *Exchange*. The Mexican dollar, four years ago, was worth its weight in itzebus—a native coin, or copper cash 5,321, but to-day the market value of the dollar is but cash, iron, 3,600; consequently, in purchasing anything, we have to pay a much higher rate accordingly. For instance, sea-weed that, four years ago, we could buy for 1.60 dollar up to 7.70 dollars, we now pay 2.80 dollars; which, if not for exchange, would be equal to 1.90 dollars. Thus it is that our trade in Japan is ruined, and what ought to be the merchant's profit, according to Treaty rights—see Article X. British Treaty—is eaten up in exchange to the benefit of the Japanese Government; but, as we are here, we are obliged to bear it. In consequence of this, doubtless, the trade has not expanded so much as it might have done in the four years I have been here. I see but little difference to what it was when I first came. In speaking of exchange, I may also remark on the peculiar fact that a Mexican dollar belonging to any foreign Government official is at all times worth to the Japanese Government 3 itzebus, or 5,100 cash. It would be well if the dollars of the merchants were of the same value.

Mr. Porter considers that many of the Daimios are friendly disposed to foreigners and foreign trade, mentioning particularly four—Sengaro, on the north end of Niphon; and Xanga, Shendai, and Aitchezen-no-Kami, on the west coast. This feeling has been pleasingly evinced by their kindness in cases of wreck.

Another difficulty in the way of the merchant is the system of trading through the *banto* of a firm—the native clerk or petty broker. "In cases of contract it may be necessary to advance money; which, if on the security of the merchant himself, would probably be safe, but in his banto's or broker's name always falls through if brought before the native officials; who are sure to say he is very poor and cannot pay, although at the same time they well know the merchant who owns the goods, whatever they may be, if for sale, or who he is who may have bought from a foreigner." The Governor had lately issued an edict desiring that no credit should be given either by Japanese or foreigners, but this, Mr. Porter thinks, is safest left to the merchant's own good judgment. He recommends also that junks should be permitted to go alongside the foreign vessel and discharge at once into her, instead of having to land the goods and ship them off in cargo-boats. "About two years ago this was tried in Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate before Mr. Eusden and others, all the Consuls here at that time giving it as their opinion that the junks should go alongside foreign vessels, if required to do so; also that they could not come under the Treaty Clause VII. or Regulation II. as transshipment—as by transshipment was meant from one foreign vessel to another foreign vessel; and that junks should be considered as cargo boats, and the duty on all goods shipped by them should be paid for as any other, according to Treaty. The Consuls at that time were Mr. Eusden, Mr. Goskavitz, and Mr. Pitts, Acting United States Commercial Agent."

CHINA.

TIEN-TSIN.

Dates from this port are up to the 15th November, *viâ* Shanghai, per steamer *Yedo*.

Business in imports continued very stagnant, and little improvement can be expected until cotton goods can be laid down at a much lower figure than at present. The opium business is growing smaller every year, which is to be accounted for by the fact that the growth of the native drug is largely on the increase in the North, and this can be sold much cheaper than the foreign drug. The export of cotton continues brisk, and the price is firm at 15 taels per picul.

The Spanish legation was still at Tien-tsin. The envoy has succeeded in making a treaty, but it is not yet signed. His Excellency would leave for Peking in a few days.

The British barque *Queen of Avon* had been on shore 17 days, on the Sha-lui-teen, a dangerous and rocky point; part of her cargo had to be thrown overboard.

SHANGHAI.

The dates are now down to the 25th Nov. The English mail of 26th Sept. arrived out on the 16th, as reported in our last.

It is rumoured that Commodore Montressor, of the *Severn*, will assume the temporary command of the fleet, and that Admiral Kuper may be expected home with Sir R. Alcock.

We regret to announce that Sir Harry Parkes, while in the Consular grounds, was hurt by a deer who butted at his legs. He was able to attend the races (an account of which was given in our last) with the aid of supports.

There has been another small fire in the compound styled Teen-chung, confined, however, to servants' dwellings.

Grace, the pedestrian, has completed his walk of 1,000 miles in 1,000 hours, his 998th, in the presence of some of the consular authorities in this quarter, being done in eight minutes.

The following on docks in China is from the *Friend of China*:—

"We hear from Hong Kong that Mr. John Lamont has sold his two docks at Aberdeen (Shek-pai-wan) for $320,000, the purchasers being the Company recently started, with a limited liability, under the designation of the Whampoa and Hong Kong Dock Company. This is a large sum of money to pay on an experiment—the present amount of competition in docking business in China rendering what was once an exceedingly safe investment, a speculation not far from chimerical. The speculative part of it, however, is the business of those interested. We are only glad that Mr. Lamont, the first European to establish a shipwright's yard in Hong Kong, has made, after his quarter of a century's hard toil in China waters, a good and well-deserved property; no memoir of men who have raised themselves to positions of wealth and respect being more calculated to show what energy, sobriety, and strict principle can effect than would be that of the warm-hearted highlander known as "Jock Lamont," erstwhile carpenter of the East Indiaman the *Fort William*, and who will now, we suppose, leave the field to the ploughing of younger men.

"With regard to docks generally, besides those at Whampoa, there is one at Amoy, another, or an apology for one, at Foochow, and four here at Shanghai. One of these, the last opened, Messrs. Collyer and Lambert's, we have not seen yet; its site being so far off that a charter of the yacht *Donington* for a day's excursion is necessary before an editor, with three issues a week, can venture away so far from home. It must be a grand affair, however, or it would not be able to accommodate so long and beamy a vessel as Messrs. Dent and Co.'s *Fusiyama*, which recently underwent an overhaul in it. Next in newness is Mr. Muirhead's, or the Pootung-dock; also a dock of considerable magnitude, and extensively patronized, as shown by our shipping list during the last three months or so, and averaging an entry of one vessel in three days; a return, at the dockage rates given, most satisfactory, we conclude, to the shareholders. In this dock, too, we have another instance of what Caledonian perseverence and skill can do in the face of obstacles which people of other countries might break down under.

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"Lastly, we have the Old and New American Docks, properties in which immense sums have been swallowed to make complete; yet all, as we are advised, returning respectable dividends. The Old Dock, however, was a long time in getting water-tight, and is now kept so by a caloric engine, occupying a space of under a thousand cubit feet, and going night and day. Thus, by so many docks in this quarter, the day is gone by when those in the south were employed in all cases, and made fortunes for all interested in them."

The Franco-Chinese contingent in the province of Chekeang was disbanded at the close of October, men and officers receiving a bonus of two months' pay. The force had previously been reduced to 500 men; but, by order we learn of the Futai, has now been completely broken up.

The *North China Daily News* has the following notice of the indefatigable Taotai:—"The Taotai is said to take periodical midnight walks through the city and suburbs, in order to pick up any waifs and strays of information which may fall in his way. He strolls about, disguised of course, and no doubt hears the most candid expressions of opinion with regard to himself. In thus doing, his Excellency Ting follows the example of many renowned Western potentates, and we trust that the same good results which are said to have attended the discoveries made by them will follow the Taotai's nocturnal investigations. The Chinese are now occupied with a story to the effect that a night or two ago Ting made his appearance in a gambling house, and got into a dispute with some one or another whom he detected cheating. A row ensued, but one of the party recognising the Taotai gave the alarm, and the house was quickly emptied. The individual who had got into the dispute was however captured and carried into the city, where after the wholesale administration of two hundred blows he was "warned and dismissed." We are glad to see his Excellency thus initiating a system by which he will be put in possession of many facts relative to the wrongs inflicted by the smaller mandarins, of which otherwise he would never hear."

Colonel Gordon takes his departure for England by this mail, and the merchants have recorded their appreciation of his services to the trade of China.

The British clipper ship *Jane Leech* arrived at Woosung from London *via* Amoy on the 14th November. She experienced an unusually rough passage after leaving Anjer, which place she left on the 27th August, and encountered light variable winds passing through Macclesfield Channel on the 2nd Sept. A series of south-westerly gales and strong winds were met with up to the Prata Shoal, which she passed on the 15th Sept. and sighted the coast of China on the 17th, the wind blowing strong from the N.E. Sighted the N.E. point of Formosa Island on the evening of the 23rd, bearing from N.N.E. to N.E. The wind still blowing from the N.E. and increasing, sail was shortened, the ship plunging heavily. At noon on the following day it was blowing a terrific gale, and the decks were constantly flooded, the ship behaving nobly. Lat. by obs. 26 N., long. 121.45 E., gale and sea increasing. At 6 P.M. wore the ship to the N.W. At midnight, in consequence of the fury of the gale and the current, the ship was driving fast to leeward and it was necessary to wear her to the eastward. Sunday morning the fore-top-sail blew out of the bolt ropes. At noon sighted Pinnacle Island to leeward and Craig Island ahead, but could not weather; set the fore sail and ran to the N.E. for three hours. At 3 P.M. laid the ship to again on the port tack, heading up N.E. with a tremendous head sea from N.N.E. Towards midnight, gale and sea increasing, so much so that the deck and cabin was constantly flooded.. The pumps were constantly attended to during the gale; the cross-jack and mizen royal blew out of the gaskets. Capt. Bingham, seeing that there was no chance of the gale abating, made for Lan-o Bay at the N.E. end of Formosa. At midnight the main trysail sheet parted. At 3 A.M. on Monday the spanker gaff fell and severely injured the man at the wheel. At 4 A.M. wore ship to the N.W.; the fore topsail yard got unparrelled, carrying away all the topmast and rigging, breaking the top in pieces, and seriously damaging the fore-topmast. The men being constantly on deck, were quite exhausted; the quarter boats and bulwarks on starboard side were carried away. At 6 A.M. on Tuesday, the men being so much exhausted from exposure and hard work, several were laid up, the foresail was set, which split from head to foot immediately. Having had no observation for two days, ran for Ship Island on the N.E. end of Formosa, which was fortunately sighted during the forenoon, from which place the ship was steered for Lan-o Bay and anchored. At 3.30 P.M. Captain Bingham started to the village for the purpose of obtaining a gang to come off to the ship to work; and after a great deal of difficulty succeeded in getting a gang to go on board the following day. The village lay at the foot of very steep hills which enclose the bay. The chief officer and seven of the men fell sick, and there were evident signs of the gale breaking; the remaining portion of the crew that were not disabled by sickness were engaged making ready for sea, the natives assisting. Sunday was a day of rest for the men, expecting to sail on the following day, and sailed accordingly. At 7 P.M. on Tuesday, anchored off Tamsui. On Friday 4 P.M. sailed for Amoy, Captain Paterson, late of the Hamburg brig *Matilde*, took passage in the *Jane Leech*, having lost his vessel off Tamsui during the same gale.

We find the following account of theatricals in the *North China Daily News*:—The programme announced for Miss Julia Edouin's benefit was so full, that perfect acquaintance with the different parts could hardly have been expected from the already well-worked performers. This was more especially the case, as the erection of a new proscenium must have rendered it impossible to use the stage for rehearsal on the day of the performance. The first piece, "Hard Struggles," is in itself somewhat halting. It seems to be a three act drama not very judiciously crammed into one act. Miss Julia Edouin as *Amy* won all hearts by the simplicity with which she acted. Miss Rose Edouin as *Lilian*, and Messrs. Creswick and Andrews, materially aided the success of the piece. The scene from "King John" which followed took the house by surprise. It was impossible to anticipate that the popular danseuse should so interpret the ideas of England's noblest poet, as to prove the possession of a true appreciation of the bard's meaning. Mr. Birch, as *Hubert*, acted well up to Miss Edouin's *Prince Arthur*—indeed the scene from Shakespeare was the gem of the evening, and gives promise of a future excellence in Miss Julia Edouin's case which her warmest admirers could before hardly have hoped for her. The sword dance we have seen as well performed on other boards. It was followed by the Fille du Regiment dance, which was warmly encored. We should be glad to give a favourable report of the after-piece. It is, when well put on the stage, one of the most effective burlesques in the language. One jar puts the entire fabric out of joint, and unless the prompter be very ready, a hiatus, painful to the performers and amusing to the audience, is the result. The prompter in Wednesday evening's burlesque was either not at his post, or did not pay sufficient attention, and hence one or two difficulties, which, however, served to display the extraordinary self-possession of Misses Rose Edouin and Lizzie Naylor. Miss J. Edouin and Miss Nye, as the benovolent fairies, had not very much to do, but contributed to the measure of success which attended the piece.

The meeting of the Shanghai Volunteer Rifles was singularly favoured by the weather, although it was excessively warm for the time of year. In the afternoon the sun shining full in the competitors' faces must have seriously incommoded them. The first prize shot for was

THE ALL-COMERS' CUP.

	points.
Carnie, S.V.C.	36
Milsom, S.V.C.	31
Dost Mahomed	27

THE WOKEE CUP.

	points.
Maclean	23
Beazly	19
Milsom	17

FOR THE CHALLENGE CUP.—Presented by R. T. Ashton, Esq.

	points.
Breuel	41
Beazly	29
Sutherland	24

FOR THE ENFIELD COMPETITION CUP.

This cup was shot for by ten regular and ten Volunteer soldiers.

	points.
The Volunteers	335
The Regulars	315

The highest scores in this match was that of Sutherland, 42

The Times' correspondent on the rebellion writes:—

"Although the remnants of the rebel forces have no recognised head, they continue, under the leadership of different chiefs, to give great trouble, and to excite lively alarm in the minds of the local authorities. A severe defeat has just been inflicted on them in Kiangsi, but they are reported to be in considerable force in Fohkien, where one band has taken the city of Chan-Chow, not far from Amoy; another is menacing Swatow; and a third, which has just issued from Kiangsi, has taken three first-class cities, almost without opposition, on the borders. Her Majesty's gunboats, *Janus*, *Flamer*, and *Dove*, and the sloop *Swallow* are lying at the former port, ready to protect it in case any attempt be made against it, and the *Grasshopper* is at Swatow. The Chinese evidently regard

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the matter as grave, for they have chartered the steamers *Viola* and *Sir Harry Parkes*, and the ship *Sandringham*, to carry troops from Ningpo to Foo-chow, and have already despatched 5,000 men. But so far as I can learn, the insurgents merit the name of brigands rather than the more respectable one of rebels. They have now neither organisation nor head. The force which is ravaging Fohkien is an agglomeration of those bands which are an inevitable consequence of a great rebellion in a country like China, where the Executive is too weak and inert to vigorously stamp out the embers after having subdued the fire. On retreating from the provinces which they had so long occupied the broken bands of the Taipings found congenial spirits in the bandits, who had made their homes in the mountains of Kiangsi, and joining their strength they have contrived to render themselves formidable and exceedingly troublesome to the local authorities. It is sincerely to be hoped that the Fohkien authorities will avail themselves of the services of Colonel Cooke's contingent if the Chekiang Futai persevere in his intention to disband it. The Franco-Chinese are already a thing of the past; they were disbanded with a bonus of two months' salary at the close of last month, and their commander, D'Aiguebelle, has left China with, it is reported, a large fortune, accumulated during some fifteen months' service. They were undoubtedly of great service to the Imperialists during their brief career, but their organisation and the *personnel* of the officers were much inferior to those of the Anglo-Chinese—rough as were many of the men who served in the latter corps. It only remains for Cooke's force to be broken up, and mandarin incompetency and jealousy will have succeeded in throwing open the province again to the raid of any of the brigands who exist in such large numbers in the adjacent one of Kiangsi. Fortunately, in the battle to which I have alluded above, they lost almost the only two chiefs of note who remained unaccounted for after the fall of Nanking and Hoochow. One, Hung-yuan-chéng, a near relative of the Tien-wang, was killed in action; the second, the Yu-wang, a cousin of Chung-wang, was taken prisoner, and will, of course, be decapitated. Their army was defeated with great loss and dispersed, and having lost its two leaders is not not likely to reassemble. It will be resolved into separate bands of plunderers, each following its own chief, which will go on robbing and murdering until one by one they are exterminated. There are rumours, too, of disturbances in the neighbourhood of Loochow, a large city in the centre of Anhwei. Tsen-kwo-fan has gone thither in person with a large force to restore order. It is said that this powerful mandarin will on his return vacate his governor-generalship, and proceed to Peking to take his seat as President of the Board of War. Li-hung-chang, the present Futai of Keangsu, is spoken of as his successor. If this surmise be correct, the services of the latter in extinguishing the rebellion in this province must indeed have been highly appreciated; for the post to be vacated by Tsen-kwo-fan is to the other vice-royalties what the Governor-Generalship of India is to a Government in any of the colonies; a Governor-General from one of the less important ports is, therefore, generally promoted to it. It is to be hoped that if he do indeed gain the supreme control over Keangsu, Anhwei, and Kiangsi, Li will be as successful in treading out the remnants of the rebellion from the latter province as he was in crushing its head in the former. It is possible, however, that these reports may be premature, for grave differences in opinion are spoken of between Tsen-kwo-fan and the Seng-wang, better known to foreigners as Sankolinsin, generalissimo of the Imperialist forces. The latter accuses Tsen and Li of selfishness in having disbanded their troops directly after the fall of Nanking, instead of keeping them to suppress disturbances in other provinces.

The correspondent also notices the narrative of Europeans in the rebel forces, which will be found in full in another column.

HANKOW.

A Hankow correspondent, writing under date of the 16th inst., confirms the rumours lately current as to the approach of Nien-fei. The Chinese officials are still in a state of tremor, and endeavour to enlist the active sympathies of the foreign officials. It is in contemplation to get up one day's racing on the 8th prox., but the preliminaries have not yet been settled.

NINGPO.

We have further accounts of the rebels or banditti, and the Imperial authorities are active. They have chartered several foreign vessels to convey troops to Foochow, Amoy, and Swatow. The vessels include four British steamers—the *Sir Harry Parkes*, the *Viola*, the *Shooeyleen*, and the *Chou-pou-yuen*, and the sailing vessels *Sandringham* and *Zingari*. The soldiers are accompanied by over a dozen foreigners, including Colonel Moore, formerly of Reynolds's Contingent.

AMOY.

The advices from Amoy continue very unfavourable. The rebels still hold Chang Chow, but, strange to say, nothing definite has been ascertained concerning them. We should have supposed that the Consuls, or the missionaries, or the Chinese elders, would long ere this have opened communications with them. It is the general impression of the foreign community of Amoy, that these insurgents have obtained a firm footing in the province, and that it will require a long time to dislodge them. That they are Taipings there is no reason to doubt, that their number is increasing is positively affirmed, and that there are foreign rowdies among them is pretty well ascertained. We can learn nothing further about the reported capture of Wan-chew, a most important movement should it really have taken place. Business generally at Amoy continued at a standstill. Cotton was selling in small quantities for local consumption, being required for stuffing blankets and winter clothes. Ningpo quality was quoted $27. Rice had advanced The rebels are said to be cutting the crops around Ching-chow. The supply had, however, as yet kept time with the consumption, but a scarcity was apprehended.

HONG KONG.

The English mail of 10 Oct., which left Singapore in the *Salsette* on the 14th Nov., had not arrived out on the 1st Dec., our latest date. It is conjectured that the *Salsette* had fallen short of coal and put into Manila.

The trial of the soldiers of the 99th Regt. ended on the 28th November in a verdict of Not Guilty.

On the recal of Sir Rutherford Alcock the *China Mail* has the following :—

"We can only repeat what we have already urged, that the removal of Mr. Alcock was a mistake on the part of Her Majesty's Ministers. He has passed very many years in Japan and the adjacent Empire of China, studying, no doubt, the peculiar idiosyncrasies of both races; he was at any time prepared to advise in case of difficulty; his policy has proved to a great extent correct; and he ought to have been allowed a chance of following it up. People here say that the recalling of Sir R. Alcock is merely a device of the English Cabinet to meet the objections of the peace party at home, and to stave off attacks similar to those which were based upon the affairs at Kagosima. If this be so we should decidedly say that Sir Rutherford was in luck. The operations at Simonoseki were of an unusually mild sort, and proved as thoroughly effective as could have been expected by the peace party itself. In the meantime all continues to go well in Japan."

HONG KONG.

THE TRIP OF THE HONG KONG VOLUNTEERS TO MACAO.

We find in the Hong Kong *Evening Mail* an account of the visit of the Volunteers to Macao, from which we gather the following :—

After parading at Murray Barracks, and settling all the usual preliminaries, the corps, headed by their band, marched down to Pedder's wharf at 9 o'clock on the morning of the 19th November. In about half an hour all the guns were on board, and the *Feiseen*, skilfully handled by Captain Carroll, emancipated itself from the swarms of small craft in the harbour, and, amid the cheers of the crowds on shore, and the answering shouts of the Volunteers, left Hong Kong behind. The muster was tolerable, but owing to the dilatoriness of a certain tailor, the Rifle Company was unable to make quite so good an appearance as it would doubtless, otherwise have done. The following is the official muster:—Officers (including the Acting-Chaplain), 9; sergeants, 7; musicians, 25; trumpeters and buglers, 3; rank and file, 69;—total (including Mr. Deane, A.D.C.), 114. The armament consisted of four 3-pounder guns, and 4 2-5th inch howitzers. Everything at Macao had put on a holiday appearance where we arrived at 1 o'clock. The guns below were manned, while the Rifles and band filed along the side of the steamer. The Portuguese flag was hoisted at the fore, a salute of twenty-one guns was fired with admirable steadiness, and the band played the Portuguese National Anthem. The salute was promptly returned by twenty-one guns from the Governor's fort; at half-past one Commandant Brine and officers landed, and were received by Mr. Marques, who gave them a hearty welcome, to which Colonel Brine replied :—

Mr. Marques and Gentlemen,—In the name of the Governor and inhabitants of the Colony of Hong Kong, both civil and military, and likewise on the part of the Volunteers under my command, I beg to tender you our sincere thanks for your address, and the welcome the Governor and inhabitants of Macao propose to give us. I trust our bearing and conduct on the occasion will be such as to merit your hearty approval, for I am satisfied the same is our wish. On our parts, we shall be very thankful for any attention and courtesy you may show us, and gladly anticipate the day when it may please the battalion of Macao to make a return visit to the Colony of Hong Kong. God bless your King!

The corps having landed with their guns, were marched on to the Praya, and formed there under a hot sun. Before the Palace they saluted the Governor, and having formed to the right of the Governor's Fort, the salute of nine guns given by the San Francisco Fort was answered by 21. Three cheers were then given on either side, and the corps was dismissed at the Royal Hotel, the Macao band the while playing "God save the Queen." Here Mr. Reed had prepared every comfort, and general cordiality smoothed any little hitch that might have occurred in the general bustle. In the evening, while the Macao band played, a promenade took place in the Praya Grande, which, always attractive, was now enhanced in beauty

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by the illuminations at the Governor's and the Royal Hotel, which latter boasted, among other adornments, of 2,300 lamps.

At head-quarters the dinner was served in relays, Colonel Brine presiding over one mess, accompanied by the British Consular Agent, Mr. Lanca. After dinner Colonel Brine proposed "The King of Portugal." The toast was drunk with all honours, and the national air played by the band. Mr. Lanca replied, and proposed "Queen Victoria," which was also drunk amid great cheering, and "God save the Queen" by the band.

The Commandant again rose, and referring to the pleasure, so unexpected six months ago, of dining at Macao with their own band, said he hoped to be able to repay the compliment, and proposed "The Governor and people of Macao."

Mr. Lanca returned thanks, and proposed "The Hong Kong Volunteers."

Colonel Brine then rose, and after bestowing great and well-merited praise on the military, proposed "The Regulars, coupled with the name of Captain Carey."

Captain Carey gave "Major Brine," who responded.

Dr. Murray then gave "The Rifles and Captain Coxon."

Captain Coxon in returning thanks humorously alluded to the delinquencies of the tailor and gave "Aide-de-Camp Deane," who replied in the usual way.

Lieutenant Henderson gave "The National Guard of Macao."

Mr. Lanca replied, proposing "Commandant Brine."

Captain Carey gave the "Non-Commissioned Officers" coupled with Sergeant Wilson; and Dr. Murray, in giving "The Band," alluded to their wondrous improvement and ascribed it to Sergeant Story, who in a brief speech having denied his superiority to the other members, gave way to the last toast, "The Ladies of Macao."

The grand feature, however, of the reception was the *dejeuner* in the Parade Ground. The decorations of the building and table were universally allowed to be superior to all China had as yet seen. Floral devices and flags of every description giving it a beautifully bright appearance.

The Volunteers reached the Parade Ground shortly after one o'clock; and soon after they had formed, his Excellency the Governor and staff arrived. They were received by a Royal salute of twenty-one guns; and the admirable way in which this salute was timed by Lieutenant Cohen, and fired by the battery, was the subject of general remark. The following were the manœuvres gone through before his Excellency:—Trotted past, changed front to rear on the centre, left and right reverse, formed line by right wheel, and broke off to lunch. Those who were best able to judge gave their testimony to the steadiness with which every movement was gone through. After the viands had obtained ample justice, his Excellency Governor Amaral then proposed the health of the Hong Kong Volunteers:—

Gentlemen,—If the mere thought of the gallant volunteers of Hong Kong coming, as a corps, to pay us a visit, deserves our thanks, we feel still more obliged by the delicate manner in which this their act of courtesy has been carried out.

We must hasten to add, that such a manifestation of their sympathy does not surprise us—for this sentiment exists between the English and Portuguese, and sprang up from a close alliance of the two nations, which counts ages already.

It is most gratifying to receive to-day a proof of our old friendship, thousands of miles away from our mother countries, and on the threshold of a vast empire, which we were the first to throw open, and which to powerful Albion chiefly we and other nations owe the benefits we enjoy.

Let us therefore drink to our gallant guests. Let us show, by our loud cheers, our cordial appreciation of their visit.

Prosperity to the Hong Kong Volunteers.

Commandant Brine returned thanks in the following manner:—

Your Excellency and Gentlemen,—In returning thanks for the handsome manner in which you have drunk our healths, I beg on the part of the Hong Kong Volunteers to express to you how fully we appreciate the compliment you have paid us, and the extreme courtesy shown for us both yesterday, on our arrival, and to-day. The same will be very gratifying to his Excellency, the Governor, and the inhabitants of Hong Kong. From the first the former has taken great interest in the welfare of the corps I have the honour to command, and not less so in this international visit. We can only hope for a return visit, and that shortly, when we will try to do our best and give as warm a welcome, and if possible as handsome a reception, as we have met with from your Excellency and the inhabitants of Macao, not forgetting the Chinese. As far as I am concerned, I have only to thank those around me, viz., the volunteers who have backed me up, and you who have received us. To both I feel deep gratitude, and with the permission of your Excellency and the earnest wish of the Hong Kong Volunteers, I beg to give, with all true British honours and cheers, the healths of your King, Don Louis the First, your Queen, and the Governor and inhabitants of Macao.

The last toast was received with the well known and inimitable British cheers.

The Governor, in replying to "The King of Portugal, the Queen, and the Governor and inhabitants of Macao," gave in return the health of the gallant Commandant of the H.K.V.; to which Colonel Brine replied, giving the health of "Mr. Marques and others of Macao who have given us this entertainment." (Prolonged cheers.)

Mr. Marques returned thanks.

Colonel Brine next gave the "Volunteers of Macao."

His Excellency replied in Portuguese, to the effect that the visit of the Hong Kong Volunteers would give a fresh impetus to the Volunteer movement in Macao.

Dr. Murray, in proposing the "Health of the Ladies," said he had in his time seen many a popular demonstration, but he had never enjoyed the pleasure of seeing one in which the good-feeling, hospitality, and courtesy could be compared with that which they (the Volunteers) had met with in Macao on their present visit. Amongst the din of cheers the Doctor's words were inaudible, but the ladies were observed to answer the compliment paid them by waving their handkerchiefs.

To this toast his Excellency replied, and the last toast was that of "Governor Robinson," proposed by the Governor, to which Colonel Brine replied in appropriate terms.

After this the corps, after saluting the Governor, was marched back to head-quarters.

In the evening, his Excellency the Governor and lady entertained the Commandant, officers, and several of the non-commissioned officers in the palace. Thirty-eight in all sat down to dinner. Of ten officers, two were unexpectedly absent—viz., the Acting Honorary Chaplain, Rev. Mr. T. Stringer; and the Band-master, Mr. Wagner. On the right of his Excellency sat Judge de Pinto, Captain Coxon, Governor's Secretary Captain Carey, R.A., and Commandant of the National Guard; on Lady Amaral's right were Lieutenant-Colonel Brine, the Archbishop of Macao, and Dr. Adams. On the Governor's left were the Brigadier Commandant of the Garrison, Dep.-Com.-General Maturin, Baron Antonio, Lieut. Perceval, R.A., and Mr. de Lanca; and on Madame's left were Baron do Cercal, Dr. Murray, and Mr. Marques. The spacious reception-hall and other apartments of the palace were tastefully decorated, and every honour done to the corps. The Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant lead the Governor's lady to table.

After dinner, his Excellency proposed the health of "The Queen of England, the Governor of Hong Kong, and the Hong Kong Volunteers;" which was drunk with enthusiasm.

Commandant Brine, in return, proposed the health of "Don Louis I. of Portugal and the Governor of Macao," which was also responded to by prolonged "hip, hip, hurrahs."

Several other complimentary toasts were given, and the company adjourned to the parade ground.

The fêtes of Sunday evening exceeded those of Saturday; and the illuminations were most brilliant. Both the Macao and H. K. V. bands were playing on the parade ground; and the crowds which promenaded the ground, or sat on forms or chairs, were such that one was compelled to adopt a tortuous system of navigation in going the length of the ground. The band of the volunteers here shone out very conspicuously; and it was remarked that they bore a favourable comparison with their brethren of Macao. A most extraordinary display of fireworks was set off on the parade ground, beginning about half-past nine, and lasting two hours. It was prefaced with a number of rockets and huge squibs, which served to fill up the intervals between the more ambitious parts of the exhibition. These latter took great numbers completely by surprise, as a display of such a character is very seldom seen in any part of China. The beauty of some of the devices, the ease and exactness which the various transformations were brought about, the ingenuity with which those transformation-scenes were constructed, called forth frequent expressions of applause from the spectators.

The corps turned out as a guard of honour, while the Commandant escorted Lady Amaral to the Governor's palace; after which they broke off. A sumptuous supper was, we understand, served after this to the members of the corps who chose to partake in the marquee on the parade ground.

The departure on Monday morning was a repetition of the tact displayed on the debarkation. From the deck of the *Feiseen*, however, the sight of the large barges, filled with "bushbied" Volunteers, as they neared the steamer, with the state barges of the Governor and his staff, was such that if no representative of the *Illustrated London News* was present, the metropolitan pictorial has lost an illustration, a better subject for which may not occur again for a century. As the barge

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competition, and were all cleared off at rather better prices, middling to fine small Pearl 17s. 6d. to 19s. 6d.; medium 18s. to 19s.

SAGO FLOUR.—The imports exhibit a diminution of 800 tons compared with those of 1863, and though the deliveries have likewise been much smaller, the quantity on hand is 150 tons short of that a twelve-month since. In the early part, sales were difficult at 15s. to 15s. 6d.; but afterwards there was a rally of 1s. per cwt., and in June the price was 16s. 6d., after which nothing of moment took place till December, when 15s. was again accepted, and sales have since been made at 13s. 9d. to 14s. 3d.

TAPIOCA.—Penang has in general found a quiet market, and easier terms have at times had to be submitted to, but little or no variation is apparent in quotations from those current at the opening of the year. Of Singapore only trifling quantities have been received, and realised at the low prices of 1863. Pearl Tapioca, which in January was sold cheaply at 20s. to 21s., advanced to 23s. 6d. to 24s. 6d. by the month of May, but has since been only slowly purchased, and recent rates have been 22s. to 23s. per cwt.

PEPPER.—The imports have been 1,100 tons heavier than in 1863, and the home deliveries also 800 tons more, but as those for export have diminished, the stock is 700 tons above that of January last. For the first two months of the year, prices of Eastern were steadily maintained; in March a speculative inquiry, in the expectation of a probable repeal of duty, united with an export demand for America, produced an advance of ¼d. per lb., Black Singapore being sold at 3⅞d. to 4d., and Penang at 3⅞d. to 3¾d.; but on the appearance of the Budget in April, without allusion to this article, a reaction set in, and there has since been an almost continuous decline, amounting at the close to ¾d. per lb., the more recent sales having been 3 3-16d. for Singapore, and at 2 15-16d. to 3 1-16d. for Penang, with Trang at 3⅛d. The supply of Malabar kinds has been of moderate extent; good shot was at one time sold as high as 4⅛d. to 4⅜d., and light Malabar and Alleppy sort at 4¼d. to 4⅜d., but the former afterwards declined to 4¼d. to 4½d., and the latter to 3¾d. to 4d., at which they have since remained. The landings of White have been less than in the former year, and although the total delivery has somewhat fallen off, the quantity on hand is 100 tons lighter than at the end of 1863. In the early part improving rates were obtained, and middling to fair Singapore and Penang were taken at 5⅛d. to 5⅜d.; in May a reduction of ¼d. per lb. took place, and notwithstanding a partial recovery, nothing of moment occurred till August and September, when the value again receded, and by the month of October ord. to fair Singapore and mid. Penang went at 5d. to 5⅛d., on which terms, however, there has since been a rally of ⅜d to ½d. The sales of Black for the month are 15,000 bags, and prices are 1-16d. higher for Singapore, and ⅛d. per lb. for Penang, the present value of the former being 3⅛d., and of the latter 3⅜d.

HIDES AND HORNS.—The import of Batavia, Singapore, &c., has been 40,794 hides, against 33,548 hides in 1863, and 43,721 hides in 1862. From Manila 675 hides, against 2,962 hides in 1863, and 3,248 hides in 1862. Buffalo hides have generally met a ready sale throughout the year; prices showed little alteration up to August, when an advance of ¼d. to ⅜d. per lb. took place. Singapore and Penang hides may now be quoted ½d. to ⅝d. per lb. dearer, whilst Yellow Batavia are about the same price, and Dark ½d. to 1d. per lb. higher than in December last. The sales of the month have been 5,405 cow and 2,696 buffalo hides at late prices:—Cow Hides, Light, 6d. to 6½d. per lb.; Heavy, 5d. to 6d. per lb.; Small, 6d. to 6¾d. per lb.; Thirds, 4d. to 4½d. per lb.; Buffalo, best, 4⅞d. to 5⅛d. per lb.; Seconds and Light, 4¼d. to 4⅝d. per lb. The stock consists of 1,016 Singapore, 3,461 Java Buffalo Hides, against 3,699 Singapore, 971 Java, 399 Manila Buffalo Hides in 1863.

COCOA NUT OIL.—There has been recently some improvement in the demand, and the market was rather firmer last week, with less oil offering. Cochin now rules at 37s., and Ceylon at 35s. 6d. to 36s. per cwt., choice goods bringing some advance on these quotations.

Business can scarcely be said to have recommenced yet in many of the articles of import since the Christmas holidays, and to quote prices from the very limited transactions that have occurred would only lead to misapprehension.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 15s.; nail rod, £9. 10s.; hoops, £10. 5s.; sheets, single £11; Staffordshire bars, £9. 10s.; rails, £6. 15s. to £7. 5s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £16.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £98 to £99 per ton; yellow metal, 8½d. to 8¼d. per lb.

TIN.—97s. for block; 98s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 28s. 6d. to 29s. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £20. 5s. to £20. 10s.; W.B., £21. 15s.; shot, patent, £23. 15s.; sheet, £21; spelter, £18. 15s. to £19; zinc, English sheet, £26; quicksilver, £8.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£500
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	—
Singapore	—	—
Penang	—	—
Yokohama	—	£600

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	—
Penang	—	—
Hong Kong	—	—
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	—
Yokohama	—	—

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	—	—
To Saigon	—	—
To Batavia	—	—
To Hong Kong	—	—
To Shanghai	—	—

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per oun	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0	to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4	
Silver in Bars	0 5 1⅛	
Mexican Dollars	0 5 1	

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

Grey Shirtings, 7 lbs., 15s. 9. to 16s.; 9 lbs., 22s. Cotton Yarn, No. 16-24, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 5d.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Dec. 23	Off Dover	Shanghai	Solent	Paige.
— 24	Portsmouth	Padang	Vooruit	Kool.
— 24	Falmouth	Tuticorin & Colombo	Epsom	Vaux.
— 24	Queenstown	Maulmain	Comte de Hainaut	Jansen.
— 26	Deal	Penang	Marengo	Lilly.
— 27	Falmouth	Hakodadi	Trave	Stoizenberg.
— 25	Queenstown	Bassein	Hotspur	Johnson.
— 27	Portsmouth	Tjilatjap	Helena and Anna	Aalborg.
— 18	Cadiz	Maulmain	Crescent	English.
— 28	Deal	Foo-chow-Foo	Philomela	Archer.
—	Off Cape Clear	Shanghai	Thos. Bell	Gruzelier.
— 16	New York	Padang	Salamander	Dethlessen.
— 30	Liverpool	Shanghai	Sea Snake	Popham.
— 26	Texel	Batavia	Gerard P. Servatius	Wamsteker.
— 25	Brouwershaven	Do.	Baron v.P.v.Rosendaal	Hoogenstraten.
— 30	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Geologist	
— 30	Do.	Singapore	C. H. Soule	
— 30	Do.	Rangoon	Rosalie	Lepan.
—	Queenstown	Maulmain	Epaminondas	
— 30	Liverpool	Shanghai	Finzel	Murray.
— 29	Queenstown	Maulmain	Lady Douglas	Evans.
— 30	Falmouth	Macao	Thos. Blyth	Hart.
— 29	Off Torbay	Batavia	Catharina J. Henriette	Tonges.
—	Falmouth	China	Yeavering Belle	Peart.
Jan. 2	Liverpool	Shanghai	Affghan	Fisher.
— 2	Do.	Do.	Brockham	Williams.
— 2	Falmouth	Java	Albert the Good	Peacock.
Nov. 24	Callao	Macao	Claud	Robet.
Jan. 3	London	Foo-chow-Foo	Racehorse	Matthews.
— 1	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Julie	Brem.
— 2	Plymouth	Do.	Lewe v. Nyenstein	Borchers.
— 2	Falmouth	Zebu	Auffredy	Poupard.
— 3	Do.	Maulmain	Darmstadter Bank	Siegener.
Dec. 19	Boston	Rangoon	Martha	Anderson.
Jan. 1	Off Plymouth	Singapore	Eddystone	Jack.
— 4	Deal	Shanghai	Waverly	Putt.
— 4	Do.	Do.	Taeping*	M'Kinnon.
— 4	Do.	China	Canute	Smerdon.
Nov. 27	Callao	Do.	Claire	Robert.
Jan. 4	Falmouth	Akyab	Java	Cramer.
— 2	Off Falmouth	Rangoon	Wilbur Fisk	Pousland.
— 4	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Everest	Curwen.
—	Off Liverpool	H. Kg. & Foo-c. Foo	Violet	
— 5	Liverpool	Manila	Jupiter	Hauschild.
— 3	Marseilles	Rangoon	Surate	Blouet.
— 6	Deal	China	Marlborough	Elmslie.
— 6	Do.	Singapore	Queen of India	
—	Plymouth	Batavia	Hochelaga	Arey.
— 6	Falmouth	Singapore	Queen Bee	Glover.
— 7	London	Amoy	Willie	
—	Deal	Penang	Spitfire	
— 5	Off the Wight	Batavia	Copernicus	Algra.
— 5	Off Portland	Sourabaya	Sirius	Wenke.
— 6	Deal	Maulmain	Anderstat	
— 5	Falmouth	Manila	Volandova	Villavova.
— 5	Do.	Maulmain	Refuge	Taylor.
— 7	London	Shanghai	Zodiac	
— 7	Deal	Ceylon	Nemesis	
— 7	London	Colombo	August von Tronchin	Von Tronchin.
— 8	Deal	Batavia	Petronella	Leicher.
— 5	Brouwershaven	Sourabaya	Nation's Hope	Lake.
—	New York	Yokohama	Brilliant	
—	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Saml. Russell	
— 5	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Balder	Sjoberg.
— 9	Deal	Colombo	Bentuther	
— 5	Off Beachy Head	Batavia	Staatsraadv.d.Houven	Heymerik.
— 9	Liverpool	Singapore	Tigris	
— 6	Bordeaux	Do., &c.	Leon	Revel.
— 5	Texel	Tjilatjap	Comm. des K.v.d.Heim	Kramer.
— 9	London	Colombo	Shallett	
— 6	Off Dover	Batavia	Majestic	Robertson.
— 8	Off Dungeness	Do.	Quintet	Slyboom.
— 6	St. Nazaire	Do.	Mocq. Bailly	Cario.
— 10	Falmouth	Rangoon	Walkington	Waugh.
— 9	Do.	Penang	Frederick	Hultman.
— 9	Liverpool	Manila	Labrador	Quin.

* Eighty-eight days from Amoy, seventy days from Anjer.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Dec. 22	Cardiff	Shanghai	Amoy	Nordberg.
— 24	London	Do.	Star of China	Hodge.
— 12	Rotterdam	Batavia	J. C. Schotel	De Groot.
— 14	Shields	Java	Francina Willemina	Van Winkel.
— 20	Amsterdam	Batavia	Johanna	Ouwehand.
— 26	Clyde	Ceylon	Princess of Wales	Finlayson.

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DEPARTURES—*continued.*

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
— 24	Sunderland	Shanghai	Florence Braginton	Turner.
— 28	London	Colombo	Echo	Stapledon.
— 27	Cardiff	Shanghai	W. W. Smith	Stanton.
— 29	London	Do.	Pegasus	Penrise.
— 29	Liverpool	Yokohama	Aden	Burt.
— 29	Do.	Galle	Childwickbury	Kaye.
— 13	Pernambuco	Shanghai	Syren	Lister.
Nov.15	Buenos Ayres	Singapore	Princess Amelia	Greeneveld.
Jan. 2	London	Cardiff & Manila	Hercules	Colonius.
Dec.31	Liverpool	Shanghai	Invincible	Tallentire.
— 29	Newcastle	Do.	Marion	Laughton.
— 29	Leith	Batavia	Peiho	
— 31	Swansea	Singapore	Kenilworth	Bowker.
Nov.14	Callao	China	Lima	Castagnola.
— 2	Valparaiso	Hong Kong	Benguirn	Allan.
— 19	Do.	Do.	Adolph	Steinholtz.
Jan 5	London	Shanghai	Fy-chow	Mathers.
— 5	Newport	Do.	Minerva	Fox.
— 5	Shields	Batavia	Jeddo	
Dec.31	Trieste	Hong Kong	Ernst & Maria	Meyer.
Jan. 2	Shields	Do.	Mina	Astrom.
— 7	London	Swansea & Shanghai	John N. Cushing	Swap.
— 7	Liverpool	Manila	Iberica	
— 5	Do.	Galle	Lepanto	
— 5	Do.	Singapore	Caroline Chisholm	
— 10	London	H. Kong & Canton	Banian	Shiell.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Bolina. For Nagasaki: Rifleman, Lammermuir. For Shanghai: City of Quebec, Stirlingshire, Solent. For Hong Kong and Canton: White Adder, Valdivia, Caractacus, Taeping. For Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: Merse. For Singapore: Dewa Gungadhur, Helens Bank, Eliza Thornton. For Singapore and Penang: Ferozepore. For Batavia: Admiral de Winter. For Colombo: Frances, Princess, Empress, Palestine, Evelyn Wood.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Raphael. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Empress. For Shanghai: Kew Kee, Red Deer, Finzel. For Hong Kong and Canton: Canton. For Hong Kong: Chaa Sze, Everest. For Singapore: Jessie Beazley, Qua Lee. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Silver Craig. For Manila: Sales, Peerless. For Colombo: Lizzie Scott. For Galle: Annie Sise.

At GLASGOW.—For Shanghai: Glencoe. For Singapore: Bothwell Castle.

At NEW YORK.—For Hong Kong: Surprise, Brem. brig Marianne For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Br. ship, Christian Matthias. For Singapore: Gen. Cobb.

SPOKEN.

GONDOLA, Manila to Liverpool, Nov. 8, 35 S., 21 E.
CLARAMONT, Shanghai to London, Sept. 27, 9 N., 109 E.
STAFFORDSHIRE, Hong Kong to London, Oct. 14, 8 S., 103 E.
MARY, Shanghai to New York, Oct. 15, 8 S., 100 E.
BEATRIX, Batavia to Amsterdam, Nov. 18, 28 S., 9 E.
AEOLUS, Rotterdam to Batavia, Dec. 16, near Scilly.
HERMANN DE RUYTER, Amsterdam to Samarang, Nov. 12, 1 N., 23 W.
JOHANNA MARIA, Java to Rotterdam, Nov. 5, near Cape Agulhas.
ALEXANDER, Batavia to Amsterdam, Nov. 22, 9 N., 26 W.
KORTENAER, Java to Rotterdam, Nov. 13, near Cape Agulhas.
ILLAWARRA, London to Singapore, Nov. 27, 6 S., 31 W.
ISABELLA, Foo-chow-Foo to London, Nov. 19, 14 S., 21 W.
EMPRESS EUGENIE, Foo-chow-Foo (?) to London, Oct. 13, 21 S., 69 E.
MAGGIE LESLIE, from Hong Kong, Sept. 6, 18 N., 110 E.
AMOY, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Oct. 9, 7 N., 112 E.
BEN LOMOND, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Oct. 21, in Gaspar Straits.
CASSIMEIRO (Dan. s.), Foo-chow-Foo to New York, Nov. 4, 30 S., 39 E.
COMMISSARIS DES KONINGS VAN DER HEIM, Bat. to Amstm., Nov. 19.
EXONIAN (barq.), Swansea to Singapore, Oct. 20, 36 N., (?) 1 W.
PEIHO (barq.), Shields to Singapore, Oct. 20.
WOOSUNG (s.), Boston to Singapore, Dec. 3, 25 N., 37 W.
MARIA, Amsterdam to Japan, Nov. 2, 9 N., 25 W.
H.M.S. TAMAR, Gibraltar to China, Nov. 21, 6 S., 16 W.
ADMIRAL PIET HEIN, Cardiff to Hong Kong, Nov. 20, 13 N., 20 W.
ZEENIMPH, Amsterdam to Batavia, Nov. 12, 16 S., 32 W.
SALATIGA, from Batavia, Oct. 30, 11 S., 10 W.
No. 6927, 3rd d.p., Cardiff to Ceylon, Dec. 18, 43 N., 15 W.
MARY MILDRED, London to H. Kong, Sept. 25, on the line, 107 E.
MARIA Y VICENTA (Span.) Lpl. to Manilla, Nov. 27 on line, 26 W.
HORSA, Foo-chow-Foo to Lon., Oct. 5, 3 N., 107 E.
OCEAN EMPRESS, Manilla to Queenstown, Oct. 14, 5 S., 106 E.
LOEWESTEYN, Batavia to Amstm., Oct. 24, 20 S., 75 E.
CARAUSIUS, from Foo-chow-Foo, Sept. 11, 13 N., 111 E.
CHLORIS (? Dut.), Bat. to Amstdm., 81 days out, Dec. 18, 37 N., 33 W.
JACOB, Rottm. to Batavia, Nov. 29, 3 N., 27 W.
OCEAN BRIDE, Sunderland to Singapore, Nov. 16, 16 S., 29 W.
ANTONIA BELLA (Peruv. ship), N. York to H. Kong, Oct. 1, off Gelgoo.
BALTIMORE (Pruss. barq.), New York to Shanghai, Oct. 25, 4 N.
ANTONY, Batavia to Amsterdam, Oct. 16, off Algoa Bay.
CAREL V. ZRAEFE (?), 2nd pt. 9104, Foo-chow-Foo to London, Oct. 17.
LAMMINA ELIZABETH (Dut. barq.), Rot. to Penang, Nov. 8, 2 S., 27 W.
SCHELDE, Newcastle to Batavia, Sept. 17, 4 S., 17 W.
ABLE TASMAN, Shields to Batavia, Oct. 19, 36 S., 6 W.
GOEDE VERWACHTING, Amsterdam to Batavia, 2 N., 29 W.
CYMBELINE, London to Japan, Oct. 12, 31 N. (?), 15 W.
LORD COLLINGWOOD, Newcastle to Shanghai, Dec. 19, 43 N., 12 W.
SUSANNA AND ELIZABETH (barq.), Shields to Batavia, 37 S., 22 E.
HENRIETTA ELIZABETH SUSANNA, Rot. to Bat., Nov. 27, 1 N., 26 W.
CREOLE (barq.), Newcastle to Sourabaya, Nov. 27, 1 N., 26 W.
SCHEVENINGEN, (Dut. barque), Shields to Batavia, Sept. 28, 14 S., 32 W.
TRICOLOR, Liverpool to Hong Kong, Oct. 2, 22 S., 33 W.
PETER, Bergen to Batavia, Nov. 2, 37 S., 26 E.
ST. CLEMENT, Sunderland to Singapore, Sept. 21, 1 S., 19 W.
ANGELA, London to Manila, Nov. 3, 38 S., 30 E.
THURSO, Sunderland to Singapore, Oct. 1, 21 S., 28 W.
ANDREAS (Bremen ship), Bremen to Shanghai, Nov. 15, 15 S., 32 W.
MIN, London to Shanghai, Dec. 8, 3 N., 24 W.
SAMARANG, Hong Kong to New York, Oct. 21, 2 S., 107 E.
RATTLER, from Hong Kong, Oct. 21, 2 S., 107 E.
JOHANNES, Batavia to Rotterdam, Nov. 14, 29 S., 46. E.
JOHN TEMPERLEY, Foo-chow-Foo to London, Nov. 21, 35 S., 20 E.
VANDALIA (?) (ship), Liverpool to Hong Kong, Nov. 22, 26 S., 30 W.
KENSINGTON (ship), London to Hong Kong, Nov. 21, 28 S., 30 W.
PANIC, Singapore to New York, Nov. 27, 16 S, 6 W.
EUCHARIS AND PAUL, Sumatra to Belle Isle, Nov. 30, 8 S., 17 W.
VERONICA, from Batavia, Dec. 18, 36 N., 22 W.
HORSA, from Foo-chow-Foo, Oct. 18, 2 S., 107 E.
BREAMER, for Batavia, Dec. 11, 2 N., 24 W.
FRAMBY (barq.), of Amstm., for Bat., 9 days out, Dec. 28, 39 N., 15 W.
EUSTACE (barq.), Colombo to London, Nov. 13.
ILLEGONDA IDA (Dut. ship.), bound to Japan, Nov. 20, 11 S., 32 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

The arrivals from the Eastward have recently materially decreased, and the amount of tonnage on the different loading berths now shows a marked diminution; still, however, brokers find it amply sufficient for their present requirements. In homeward charters we have nothing to report, but ships are still wanted for coals from the outports to Manila and Point de Galle.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £36 to £37 and £1. 10s. For Shanghai: £45 and £2. 5s. For Manila: £1. 10s. For Ceylon: £24 and £1. 2s. For Batavia: £25 and £1. 2s. 6d. For Singapore: £25 and 22s. For Penang: £27. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 561 tons of naval stores from the River Teames to Hong Kong, also for 39 tons naval stores to Trincomalee.

CASUALTIES.

The Alice, Anderson, from Nagasaki to London, put into Mauritius 27 Nov., to land the master and crew of the barque Rubens, of Dunkirk, from Swansea to Calcutta, which vessel was abandoned in a sinking state, Nov. 17.

The Yesso (s), Cairns, for Shanghai, put back to New York, Dec. 14, with machinery disabled.

The Florence Braginton (barque), Turner, from Sunderland to Shanghai, was in contact Dec. 27, in the North Sea with the Superb from Shields for Alexandria, and sustained trifling damage.

The Niemen, Knight, from Hong Kong for New York, put into St. Thomas' Dec. 7, with main topmast sprung and rudder damaged; she was being repaired on the 15th.

The Oriental Queen, from Sunderland, for Shanghai, passed Anjer Sept. 3, and had not arrived at Shanghai up to Nov. 25.

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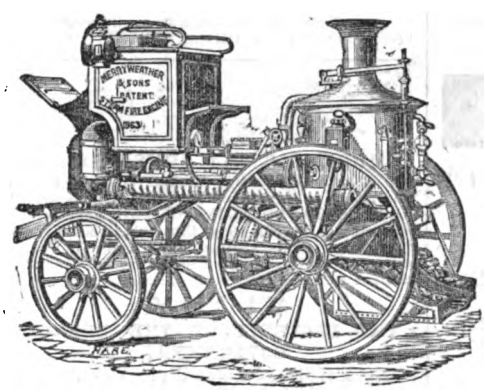

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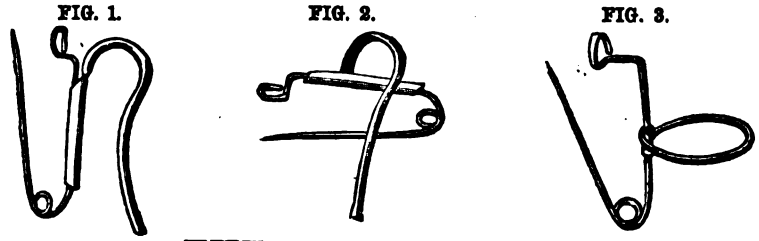

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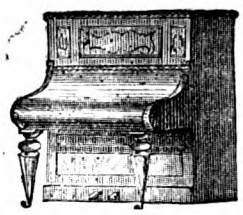

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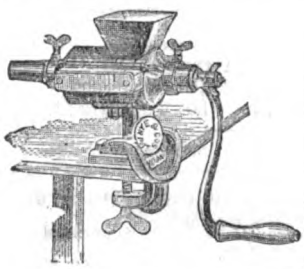

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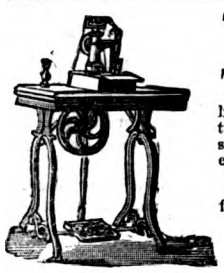

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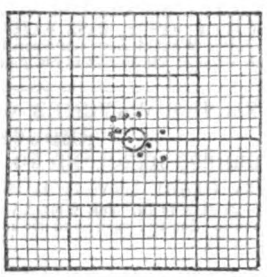

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Egypt	256,583 ..	513 ..	257,102
Turkey, &c.	60.298 ..	1,555 ..	61,793
West India, &c. ..	53,531 ..	6,114 ..	59,645
Surat	1,005,609 ..	37,769 ..	1,043,378
Madras	21,514 ..	152,134 ..	173,648
Bengal	137,570 ..	44,918 ..	182,488
China and Japan ..	310.459 ..	88,615 ..	399.074
Total, 1864 ..	2,247,755 ..	389.341 ..	2,587,096
Total, 1863 ..	1,669.481 ..	266,002 ..	1,935,480
Total, 1862 ..	1,253,881 ..	191,204 ..	1.445,085
Total, 1861 ..	2.793.997 ..	241,727 ..	3.035.724
Total, 1860 ..	3,171,367 ..	195,321 ..	3,366,688

EXPORTS.

EXPORTS OF COTTON FROM JAN. 1 TO DEC. 31, 1864.

American	bags	48.214
Brazil, &c.	„	42 996
East Indian	„	409.227
West Indian	„	3,460
Other kinds	„	32.257
Total of All kinds from outports ..	„	136 222
Total		672.376
Same time 1863		566,463

STOCK.

	Liverpool.	London, &c.	Total.
American	23,210 ..	161 ..	23.371
Brazil	16,140 ..	196 ..	16,336
Egyptian	22.700 ..	— ..	22,700
Turkey, &c.	6.360 ..	478 ..	6,838
West India, &c. ..	4,280 ..	285 ..	4,565
Surat	231 790 ..	9.609 ..	241,399
Madras	12.800 ..	57,322 ..	70.122
Bengal	70,600 ..	25,021 ..	95 621
China and Japan ..	78,420 ..	16,355 ..	94,755
Total, 1864 ..	466.300 ..	109,427 ..	575,727
Total, 1863 ..	281.337 ..	46.2?8 ..	327,545
Total, 1862 ..	392.460 ..	41,490 ..	433,950
Total, 1861 ..	622,560 ..	76,740 ..	699,300
Total, 1860 ..	545,68) ..	48,830 ..	594,510

GROWTH AND CONSUMPTION OF AMERICA FROM 1850 TO 1864.

	Growth.		Consumption.
1850-51	2.355.257	1850-51	404.108
1851-52	3.015.029	1851-52	603,029
1852-53	3.262,882	1852-53	671,009
1853-54	2,930,027	1853-54	610,571
1854-55	2,847,339	1854-55	593,584
1855-56	3.527,845	1855-56	652,739
1856-57	2,939,519	1856 57	702,138
1857-58	3,113,962	1857-58	469,080
1858-59	3,851,481	1858 59	771,917
1859-60	4,675,770	1859-60	810,362
1860-61	3,656,086	1860-61	669,350
1861-62	—	1861-62	—
1862-63	—	1862-63	—
1863-64	—	1863 64	—

In their annual Circular, just issued, Messrs. Neill, Brothers, and Co. speak as follows of the prospects of the coming year :—

As regards the future supply of cotton, it is as yet quite impossible to make a definite estimate for the present year with any great confidence in its accuracy. There are too many uncertain elements to be taken into account, and too few certain ones. Who can say how much American cotton will this year escape the blockade ; how much East Indian or China of last crop has been kept back in the interior in consequence of the late financial crisis; or how far the Bombay, Scinde, Bengal, and Madras crops, concerning all of which complaints have been received, have really been damaged ? A fair progressive increase may be anticipated from Brazil, Egypt, and Turkey, notwithstanding so disastrous a season in the latter country that estimates are not now one-half what might have been expected from the extent of land sown, but this can hardly be predicated of the East Indian supply, while a falling off is highly probable from America. In the absence of any facts to the contrary, it may be assumed that, after the effects of the recent crisis have been got over, a continued increase may be expected from China and Japan, and such may also be anticipated from the small miscellaneous sources. On the whole, therefore, there will be some increase, but probably not so large an increase as has occurred this year. There are already indications that in some quarters the extreme limit of cultivation, with present resources, has been reached. In Egypt it has been found for some time past that the people have, in consequence of the neglect of cereals in favour of cotton, become too dependent on foreign supplies of grain, and the Pasha has just interdicted every farmer from sowing next season more than one-fourth of his land in cotton. This is regarded at Alexandria as a most serious step, as it is believed that it will reduce next year's cotton crop into comparatively moderate compass. Indications of scarcity of food have also been observed in some parts of India, attributed to the same cause. But it must be remembered that we commence this year with an excess of stock over that of last year of 248,000 bales, a large proportion of which, however, must be attributed to diminished consumption during the late crisis, which must be gradually made up. At present the consumption is estimated to be 7,000 bales weekly in excess of last year, and, as the continental spinners have run themselves exceedingly low in stock, it is thought that they will require at least 2,000 to 3,000 bales weekly in excess of the very small quantity they took for the first three months last year, when they were kept out of the market by the Danish war and apprehensions of its extension. At the same time from the small quantity at sea, the imports promise for at least the first three or four months of the year to be on a very limited scale, and prices will, therefore, have the support of a constantly reducing stock.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices Dec. 26.
£100	Agra and Masterman's	50	13¼ to 137	135 to 140
50	Do. New	25	63 to 65	—
50	Do.	25	62 to 64	—
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	35½ to 36½	33 to 35
20	Do. New	All	...	—
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	59 to 61 xd.	61 to 63
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	...	—
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (10 pd.)	20	6 to 8 pm.	—
20	Eastern Exchange	8	1 to ¼ dis.	1 dis. to par
50	London Joint Stock	10	50 to 52	49 to 51
100	London and Westminster . . .	20	98 to 100	98 to 100
25	Oriental Bank Corporation . .	All	58 to 60	56 to 58
50	Union of London	15	57 to 59	56 to 58
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan . .	25	5 to 6 pm.	5 to 6 pm.
100	Do. New	23	4 to 5 pm.	3½ to 4½ pm.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi . . .	10	1½ to 2 pm.	to 1½ pm.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	30 to 32	29 to 31
100	Bank of London	50	158 to 162	155 to 160
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India .	4	1¼ to 1⅜ pm.	¾ to 1¼ pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 4	3 to 4
50	P. and O. Steam Company . .	All	78 to 80	77 to 79 xd.
50	Do. New	35	18 to 20 pm.	18 to 20 pm.xd
10	Labuan Coal Company . . .	All	...	—
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	...	—
5	Bombay Gas	All	4¾ to 5¼	4¾ to 5¼
10	Hong Kong Gas	All	...	2¾ to 1¼ dis.
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal . . .	8	3 to 2¼ dis	
2	Indian Carrying Company . .	1	½ dis. to ¼ pm	½ dis. to ¼pm.
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal .	All	19½ to 20½ xd	20 to 21
1	Oriental Gas	All	1¼ to 1⅜	1¼ to 1⅜ xd.
1	Do. New	All	¼ to ⅜pm.	¼ to ⅜pm.xd.
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2½ to 3	2 to 3
100	West India Steam Company . .	60	95 to 97	95 to 97
20	Ceylon Company	7	2¾ to 3¼ pm.	2¾ to 3¼pm.xd
20	International Finance Society .	5	2¾ to 2¾ pm.	2¼ to 2¾ pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	3½ to 3¾ pm.	2¾ to 3 pm.
50	London Financial Association . .	15	8¼ to 9 pm.	9¼ to 9¾ pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	1⅛ to 1¼ pm.	1 to 1¼ pm.
20	Société Financière d'Egypte . .	6	1¼ to ⅜ dis	1¼ to 1 dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company . . .	All	16¼ to 16¾ xd	16¼ to 16¾
10	Upper Assam Tea	2½	4 to 5 pm.	4 to 5 pm.
10	Do.	All	17 to 20	17 to 20

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—We have again to record a very unsatisfactory state of affairs as far as importers are concerned. The stock at the beginning of the year was a very full one, whilst the arrivals have been nearly, if not quite, equal to our deliveries; the consequence has been that our market has been over supplied, and there has been a constant pressure to sell. The Trade have been very cautious buyers throughout, whilst in rare instances has there been any relief from speculation, and the result has been a very serious loss to importers. Notwithstanding this, and the adverse accounts sent out from this side to China, more eagerness has been displayed this season in hurrying forward teas than has ever been known before—the total of export for the first six months of the season reaching 90,000,000 lbs., and at prices which must again leave heavy losses. As long as this system of hurrying forward shipments early in the season goes on, we fear there is no hope for any rally in our markets, as the trade will not hold the stocks they used to do, finding their advantage in moderate holdings, owing to the rapidity with which they can renew their supplies. Thus the onus of holding the stock is thrown mainly on importers, who, to compensate themselves, should look to a low range of prices in China, it being very difficult to get speculators into the market, as it is often found that owing to its hurried preparation for an early market in China, Tea loses its quality by keeping, and that thus any advance in the market is lost by the deterioration which has taken place in the article. The statistics for the United Kingdom show a considerable decrease in imports, the total being 122,687,600 lbs., against 136,123,500 lbs. last year. The deliveries show an increase of 4,800,000 lbs., of which 3 250,000 lbs. is in home consumption, and 1,550,000 lbs. in export, the total being 116,800,000 lbs., against 112,000,000 lbs. The stock we estimate at 9,500,000 lbs., against 89,184,000 lbs., and the quantity afloat at 44,577,000 lbs., against 41,500,000 lbs. last year. The circular of Messrs. Mitchell and Aspinall states:—"In giving our annual retrospect of the tea market for the past year, we much regret to record it as having been one of the most disastrous in its results to importers, and unsatisfactory to wholesale dealers, that has occured for many years past. The losses entailed upon the former (consequent chiefly upon the extreme rates ruling in China), having been probably of greater magnitude than were ever before experienced, whilst the latter, instead of deriving any advantage, have on the contrary found the greatest difficulty in operating with any degree of safety, owing to the almost continuous depreciation in the value of their stock." Messrs. Shepard, Harrison, and Rehden state :—"The past year, like the preceding, has proved disastrous to importers, and to the wholesale trade the results cannot be considered satisfactory, owing to declining markets, caused by over-supply and the monetary difficulties that have happened throughout the year. The retailer, and partially the consumer, have reaped the full benefit of the reduced duty. After the results of season 1863, and with no outside elements to influence the action of the tea market here, it is difficult to account for the eagerness and apparent recklessness with which supplies have been pushed on from China during the present season, our advices during the whole of the past year being against a high range of prices. The imports, although not so large as the previous year, are still in excess of the deliveries, and have consisted mainly of the lower grades of Congou, whilst the supply of fine has again been short, and would have been much felt were it not for the increasing supply of India tea, which continues to grow more and more in favour, owing to its great strength, and which in competition with China growth may be the means of improving the curing and manufacture of the latter, which has fallen off so much of late years, there being hardly an exception where the Kaisows of this season are not mixed with old leaf.

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FORTNIGHTLY REPORT.—During the past fortnight business has been very moderate, as is usual at this time, and quotations for Congous show scarcely any variation. Oolongs of medium quality have sold lower at public sale. Souchongs and Flowery Pekoes show no alteration. Scented Teas: both Capers and Orange Pekoes have been in steady demand, and prices show a further small advance. In Uncoloured Japans there is nothing new to notice. Green Teas have been fairly saleable at the decline last quoted. Canton Young Hyson of good to fine kinds sold at public sale without reserve at a decline of fully 2d. per lb.; fair qualities of Gunpowder also went lower. The public sales on the 3rd instant comprised 7,954 packages, of which 6,000 packages were sold, 5,964 packages being without reserve.

AT NEW YORK.—The market is quite dull, and prices favour buyers. The sales are 1,300 half chests Green, 200 uncoloured Japan. and 3,000 Oolong. The quotations are:—Hyson, common to fair, $1.30 to 1.50; Gunpowder and Imperial Canton made, common to fair, $1.30 to 1.50; Hyson Skin and Twankay Canton made 68c. to 70c.; uncoloured Japan, common to fair, $1.20 to 1.25; Oolong, common to fair, $1.05 to 1.12; Souchong and Congou, common to fair, 95c. to $1.10.

SILK.—China Silk: Arrivals have been small, and an improved demand having sprung up the unsold stock is much reduced, and prices of most descriptions must be quoted 6d. per lb. higher. In Japan Silk buyers showed some disinclination to operate, but more recent arrivals have been eagerly secured at advanced rates. It is to be regretted that the quality of the Mybash hitherto landed is far from good; it is to be hoped, however, that the good silk may arrive later on in the season. The deliveries for the month are 3,199 bales of China and 1,097 bales of Japan. The imports for 1864 have been 24,600 China, against 43,500 in 1863, and 11,635 Japan, against 24,050 in 1863. The stock on 1st January was 11,416 China and 3,271 Japan. The latest quotations are—No. 1, Tsatlee, 26s. 6d. to 27s.; No. 1, Taysaam, 24s. 6d. to 25s.; Mibash, No. 1, 28s. 6d. to 29s. At New York the imports are still quite small the past month, and stock unsold is held firmer on account of the high price in China, and limited supply in hand for next season. The market is quiet, with more doing in Canton Silk lately.

COTTON.—The market was unfavourably influenced last week by the excess of stock declared at the close of the year, and the business was very limited. The uncertain nature of the advices from New York also caused further depression, and prices closed heavily on Thursday with a general decline, particularly in the lower descriptions. For American there has been a moderate demand, and a reduction of ¼d. to ½d. has been submitted to from last week's rates. East India was quite neglected, and though from comparative scarcity the superior grades have better maintained their value, a reduction of ¼d. per lb. has taken place in them, and 1d. per lb. in the lower descriptions. China and Japan have been very dull of sale, and must be quoted 1d. per lb. lower. The import of China and Japan into Great Britain was 399,074 bales, containing 95,777,760 lbs. The consumption of China and Japan for the year was 52,644,000 lbs., and the export 28,382,000. The stock on the 31st December was 22,746,000 lbs. The stock, compared with last year, shows an increase of 6,836 Brazil, 3,500 Egyptian, 3,565 West India, 188,242 East India, and 61,675 China; and a decrease of 14,829 American, and 762 Turkey, &c., making a nett increase of 248,227 bales, or 74,814,978 lbs. weight. The total stock on the 31st December was 194,481,978 lbs. The official declaration of the stock turns out to be 113,500 bales above the estimate, the excess being principally in East India and China.

SUGAR.—The market closed last week with rather a dull tone, and prices are mostly 6d. per cwt. lower than before the holidays. Privately, on Friday, 3,000 bags Clayed Manila went at 29s. 6d. During the week we note a sale of 99 baskets Penang, 34s. to 35s. (duty, 10s. 6d. to 11s. 8d.). In their retrospect of the year, Messrs. Carey and Browne state—The imports of Penang have been about on a par with those of the previous year, but as little was offered after depression set in, the clearances have been scanty, and the stock is now more than double the reduced amount at the end of 1863. At the highest point in April, good brown to fine yellow grocery brought 42s. 6d. to 47s. 6d., from which a very material reduction ensued, and in November good brown to good yellow was sold at from 28s. 6d. to 35s. 6d. The arrivals of Manila have been 225,000 bags less than the abundant supply of the previous year, so that, combined with much heavier clearances for both home use and export, the quantity on hand is 190,000 bags lighter than in Jan. last. This description has likewise suffered the extreme of speculative excitement and depression, and from the unusually high rates for Clayed in March and April, viz., 42s. to 43s. 6d, duty 12s. 8d. (sales for arrival being about the same time effected at 30s. to 32s.), a severe drop to 28s. 6d. to 29s. (duty 9s. 4d.), had taken place by the beginning of December, since when there has been only a partial reaction; the comparatively moderate supplies of Unclayed have been realised at from 37s. to 38s. 6d. in March, down to about 27s. in September. Little Java has been received during the year, and the stock being insignificant, transactions have been precluded, and quotations generally nominal. The principal business in Siam was in October, when fresh imports were mostly forced off at cheap rates, low to good white 36s. to 40s. As regards the future, the most prominent fact is, that stocks generally are unprecedentedly large, and although the low prices at present ruling may be reckoned to lead to a more free use of the article, and at the same time discourage the cultivation of beet root on the Continent, as well that of indigenous plants in America, it should be borne in mind that the crops in most producing countries (with the exception of Java, which is reported to be very short) will probably be abundant. On the other hand, the powerful incentive to hurry forward supplies cannot be said to exist, and many places which import largely of Mauritius, Manila, &c., will now clear off that portion of the general production which in 1864 was directed to Europe; consequently, these markets in the coming season will not be burdened with the same extra weight of supply, and as stocks in the hands of the trade in the United Kingdom are estimated to be about 40,000 tons less than they usually hold, and those on the Continent also are believed to be light, returning confidence, followed by revived animation, may be anticipated before long.

COFFEE.—Little disposition to purchase was shown during the holidays, and holders being firm, the business done was unimportant; on the re-opening of the market, however, there was a fair inquiry, and similar rates were obtained to those current at the date of our last advice. Ceylon: 685 casks 1,035 barrels and bags Plantation at public sale found buyers as follows:—Fine ordinary to low middling, 79s. to 82s. 6d.; middling to good middling coloury, 83s. 6d. to 87s.; 254 casks 1,790 barrels and bags Native were chiefly disposed of, but at rather easier prices—good ordinary, 70s. 6d. to 71s. 6d. The amount landed in London during 1864 nearly equalled that of the previous year, as, notwithstanding some falling off in the supply of Ceylon and Mocha, most other kinds have contributed an increase, but, owing to heavier clearances, the stock, which at the beginning of October amounted to nearly 14,000 tons, against 11,470 in 1863, has since been worked down to a point 400 tons below that of the same period last year. As regards the future, the prospects of the article seem to be favourable, the most striking feature being the serious deficiency in the yield of Java, which is stated to be only one-half that of last season, and although a more extended production is expected from Ceylon, &c., together with a full average crop of Brazil, the general wants are large, so that after the bulk of the early supplies have come to hand, it is likely that an improving tendency in prices will be manifested.

RICE.—During the Christmas holidays an active demand was experienced, and large transactions took place at an advance of 3d. to 6d. per cwt. On Friday 6,824 bags fair to good pinky Madras at auction went off readily at 11s. to 11s. 6d., which is 6d. dearer than the last sale; 291 bags middling white Bengal were taken at 12s. It may be noted that of Java, during the past year, only two cargoes arrived; the first sold in April at 14s. 3d. to 14s. 9d. for middling white, the other in August at considerably reduced rates, viz., low and low middling 10s. 6d. to 12s, middling to good middling 13s. 6d. to 15s., bold 16s. to 17s. 6d. Arrivals have exceeded those of 1863 by 12,000 tons. The clearances show some falling off, but being still in excess of imports, the stock on the 31st December was rather lighter than at the end of the preceding year. The importations into Liverpool to the 31st ultimo were 82,000 tons, against 76,500 tons in 1863; the deliveries comprising 75,680 tons, against 75,000 tons, and the stock was 43,000 tons, against 36,700 tons in the previous year.

CINNAMON.—The quarterly sales in January went off without spirit at barely the previous currency, but those since held, offering only a very scanty supply, have been marked by considerable briskness, and the last in October showed an advance ranging from 4d. to 10d. per lb. on the first sales. Since then there has been little demand, and prices have a drooping tendency. With arrivals 2,000 bales short of those in 1863, the clearances have also been more moderate, yet the stock exhibits a relative deficiency of 900 bales.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—As compared with the imports in 1863, which included a large proportion of small mats, those in the past year have been light, and while the deliveries also appear to have diminished, the stock is 1,100 packages less than last year's. In the early part, the value declined about 2s. per cwt., and although this was afterwards fully recovered, a reduction of 2s. to 3s. again took place in June, so that, with a further material decline in December, present quotations (84s. to 88s. for middling to good) are fully 5s. below those of this period in 1864.

CLOVES.—The landings have been much lighter than in 1863, and notwithstanding an important deficiency in the deliveries, the stock is reduced to 6,400 packages, against 7,200 packages. In the first half of the year, fair to fine Penang were sold at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3½d., but in July good quality was disposed of cheaply at 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 1¾d.; since which higher rates have been paid, viz., middling to good 1s. 1½d. to 1s. 3d., fine 1s. 3½d. to 1s. 4d.

GINGER.—Supplies of East India have materially augmented during the past year, but as the clearances have been about double the amount of 1863, the relative excess in the quantity on hand is only 1,400 packages. The first sales of Rough Bengal were at 45s., which showed a further depreciation, and by the middle of May there was another serious fall, fair to good quality selling at 36s. to 37s.; on the sudden advance in African, however, the value rose to 44s. 6d. in June, but from this a decline of 4s. per cwt. again ensued in September, and in December the price descended to 35s., and lately to 32s. The liberal quantities of Cochin brought forward from time to time have generally been disposed of at cheaper rates, as, notwithstanding an occasional improvement, the value in October was several shillings below that of February, small to good middling, which at first realised 67s. to 75s., afterwards selling at 62s. to 70s. On Friday 375 bags rough Bengal, meeting with no offers, were withdrawn at 32s., a decline of 3s. per cwt.

MACE.—Arrivals have somewhat exceeded those of 1863; the deliveries have been more contracted, and the stock is about the same as that of the former year. The better qualities, being mostly scarce, have commanded relatively stiff rates, while the common sorts have been of slow sale at about the previous value. During the past week 31 cases at public sale were realised at rather higher prices, middling to good red 1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d.; middling to fine bright pale, 1s. 7d. to 2s. 10d.

NUTMEGS have also come to hand more freely during the past year, and though the clearances are nearly on a par with those of 1863, the stock shows a comparative surplus of 200 packages. There have been several fluctuations in prices, generally to the extent of 1d. to 2d. per lb.; as, however, they have each been of a temporary character, quotations, excepting for the finest kinds, which are dearer, only partially differ from those at the commencement of January last. At auction last week 137 cases (of 1861 import) were disposed of somewhat cheaper; small and middling 10d. to 1s. 3d., good middling 1s. 4d. to 1s 10d.; fine, 3s. 4d. to 3s. 5d.

SAGO.—The landings of this article have been heavier than in the previous year, but with the deliveries rather larger, the stock is deficient of that at the end of 1863 by 200 tons. Prices nearly all through the year have been declining, more especially for fair to fine small Pearl, which, after fetching 23s. to 24s. in the first two months, was not worth more than 19s. to 21s. in September, and last month 17s. 6d. to 18s. 6d. The supply of medium and large grain kinds has been somewhat limited, and these have generally found buyers at tolerably steady rates, until lately, when they declined almost to the level of small Pearl. During the past week 1,935 boxes and 229 bags, offered by auction, met a more lively

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turned out a number of useful public functionaries, whose names we now begin to notice as rising to the higher branches of the service; and an establishment of Student Interpreters at Peking shows that a further supply is provided for and kept under tuition at the most eligible point for the study of the language.

The Consular Service in Japan, so much younger than that in China, has also naturally had less opportunities of becoming distinguished, but the name of its veteran head, Sir R. ALCOCK, is worthy to be recorded in the same calendar with that of Sir HARRY PARKES. For meritorious services, Sir RUTHERFORD indeed had gained laurels in China when Sir HARRY was scarcely more than a lad; and if the progress of the latter towards renown has been more rapid than that of his elder contemporary, Sir RUTHERFORD has certainly added of late to his former well-established repute by the ability and firmness which have marked the tenor of his recent diplomatic action. We have already in a previous issue commented upon the rumour as to his recal from a post he so successfully fills; and, although a guarded denial of this report has been given by a Ministerial paper, we must avow some apprehension that the blind and ignorant cabal who rule over Her MAJESTY'S Ministers, and who seem bent on destroying the last vestige of English influence abroad, may have compelled the recal of a Minister who appeared too resolute to suit their peculiar notions of diplomacy. In the lower branches of the service in Japan we are not cognisant of any important changes during the past year, but it appears probable that the opening of the Straits of Simonoseki may ere long call for some fresh appointments.

DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR STAFF IN CHINA AND JAPAN—1864-5.

The following list is compiled with a view of affording the latest and most accurate information respecting these important departments, having been drawn up with the assistance of Consular officers in England. We shall at all times be happy to hear of any alterations that may occur in either of these services:—

CHINA.

PEKING.—Sir Frederick W. A. Bruce, K.C.B., Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary (on leave); T. F. Wade, C.B., Secretary of Legation and Chinese Secretary, Charge d'Affaires; F. R. St. John, Second Secretary; Dudley E. Saurin, Third Secretary; John Mc. Leary Brown, Acting Assistant Chinese Secretary; John G. Murray, Assistant and Accountant; E. Solbé, Third Assistant; T. Watters, C. F. R. Allen, A. Frater, O. A. Vidal, Student Interpreters.

TIEN-TSIN.—James Mongan, Consul (on leave, returning this month); William H. Lay, Acting Consul; R. K. Douglas, First Assistant (on leave); J. B. Goddard, Second Assistant; N. B. Dennys, Third Assistant.

TAKU.—John Gibson, Vice-Consul (on leave); William N. Payne, Acting Vice-Consul.

TANG-CHOW (Che-foo).—Martin Crofton Morrison, Consul; H. G. Howlett, Assistant.

NEW-CHWANG.—T. T. Meadows, Consul (on leave); R. Swinhoe, Acting Consul; C. F. Gardner, Third Assistant.

HANKOW.—W. H. Medhurst, Consul (on leave); J. A. Webster, Acting Consul; W. E. King, Assistant and Interpreter; E. D. Jones, Second Assistant.

KIU-KIANG.—P. J. Hughes, Vice-Consul; George P. Thomson, Second Assistant.

CHIN-KIANG.—Frederick Harvey, Consul (on leave); T. Adkins, Acting Consul; A. Davenport, Assistant.

SHANGHAI.—Sir Harry S. Parkes, K.C.B., Consul; John Markham, First Vice-Consul; C. Alabaster, Interpreter and Acting 2nd Vice-Consul; C. Treasure Jones, First Assistant; J. T. Middleton, Second Assistant; W. G. Stronach, Third Assistant.

NINGPO.—W. H. Fittock, Consul; R. J. Forrest, First Assistant (on leave); H. F. W. Holt, Assistant and Interpreter.

FOO-CHOW.—C. A. Sinclair, Consul (on leave); A. R. Hewlett, Acting Consul; H. J. Allen, Second Assistant.

TAI-WAN (Formosa).—W. Gregory, Acting Vice-Consul.

AMOY.—W. H. Pedder, Consul; George Phillips, Assistant.

SWATOW.—George W. Caine, Consul; W. Cooper, First Assistant; Jas. J. M. Beatty, Second Assistant.

CANTON.—D. B. Robertson, Consul; Wm. Frederick Mayers, Interpreter (on leave); Chas. Carroll, Acting Interpreter; J. P. Munro Fraser, Acting First Assistant.

WHAMPOA.—H. F. Hance, Vice-Consul.

MACAO.—E. L. Lança, Consular Agent.

Officers of the China Consular Service on leave in England:—W. H. Medhurst, Consul, Foo-chow, leave expires about March, 1865; Fredk. Harvey, Consul, Chin-kiang, do.; Jas. Mongan, Consul, Tien-tsin, do.; C. A. Sinclair, Consul, Foo-chow, about July, 1865; T. T. Meadows, Consul, New-chwang, about July, 1866; Wm. Frederick Mayers, Interpreter, Canton, about April, 1865; R. J. Forrest, Assistant, Ningpo, about Sept., 1865; R. K. Douglas, Assistant, Tien-tsin, about Sept., 1865.

JAPAN.

YEDO.—Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B., Envoy Extraordinary, Minister Plenipotentiary and Consul-General; Lieut.-Col. E. St. John Neale, C.B., Secretary of Legation (on leave); Richard Eusden, Interpreter and Japanese Secretary (on leave); A. A. J. Gower, Acting Japanese Secretary; Alex. von Siebold, Supernumerary Interpreter; R. Willis, M.D., Assistant and Medical Officer; John Macdonald, Second Assistant; Ernest M. Satow, and Jas. Troup, Student Interpreters.

YOKOHAMA.—C. A. Winchester, Consul; Marcus O. Flowers, Vice-Consul; Martin Dohmen, Interpreter; J. B. Walsh, Assistant; Lachland Fletcher, Second Assistant.

NAGASAKI.—F. G. Myburgh, Consul (on leave); C. E. Schmidt, Interpreter; A. A. Annesley, Second Assistant; Russell B. Robertson, Third Assistant.

HAKODADI.—Capt. F. H. Vyse, Consul; T. J. Enslie, Interpreter; J. F. Lowder, Third Assistant.

THE WRECK OF THE "RACEHORSE."

The following is the official account received at the Admiralty of this very sad affair:—

"HER MAJESTY'S SHIP 'TARTAR,' SHANGHAI. Nov. 14, 1864.

"My Lord,—It is my painful duty to report direct for the information of the Lords' Commissioners of the Admiralty that Her Majesty's ship *Racehorse* was wrecked on the night of the 4th inst., at 8.30 P.M., about five leagues S.E. of Chefoo Cape, and about two miles E.S.E. from White Rock. Only nine of her crew have been saved—three officers and six men.

"I beg to enclose a copy of a letter I have received from Lieutenant Nicholas, of the *Insolent*, giving, as nearly as he could, by desire of Commander Boxer, a description of this melancholy accident.

"The *Racehorse*, in pursuance of orders from the Commander-in-Chief, was on her way to Chefoo from this port. She left here on the 1st inst.

"Immediately on receiving this intelligence I despatched Her Majesty's steamer *Rattler* to the assistance of Commander Boxer, and now await Commander Webb's report—I am, &c.,

"J. M. HAYES, Captain and Senior Officer, North China Division.

"To Lord Clarence Paget, C.B., Admiralty."

"H.M. Gunboat *Insolent*, Teutai, Nov. 8, 1864.

"Sir,—I am ordered by Captain Boxer to report that H.M.S. *Racehorse* was wrecked on the night of Friday, 4th November, at 8.30 P.M., about five leagues to the S.E. of Chefoo Cape, and about two miles E.S.E. from White Rock, and only nine of her crew saved.

"At the time of the ship striking it was comparatively smooth, boats were lowered, stream-anchor and cable placed in cutters ready to lay out, when heavy rollers set in, swamping both cutters and gig, and breaking entirely over the ship; the masts were then cut away, and ship steamed full speed on shore, endeavouring to save life, but the wind increasing to a gale, the rollers washed away all skylights and filled the ship.

"The ship's company were then sent aft, told the position of the ship, and that if they held on till daylight there was every hope of all hands being saved. Unfortunately, the endurance of only a few was equal to this, the poor fellows dropping off one by one from the effects of the cold and the force of the sea.

"A list of those saved and lost is enclosed.

"Captain Boxer desires me to add that the conduct of the officers and men during this frightful night was most cool and collected, obeying every order smartly and energetically, especially by the first lieutenant, master, and boatswain.—I have the honour to be, &c.,

"G. TOUP NICOLAS, Lieutenant-Commanding.

"To Captain Hayes, H.M.S. *Tartar*, Shanghai."

The loss having occasioned considerable interest, we forwarded the account which we published from the *North China Daily News* to the Editor of *The Times* and other papers.

Previous to the publication of this, however, the following leading articles appeared:—

(THE TIMES.)

The accident which befel the *Racehorse* seems at present to defy explanation. The only account of it that has reached us is derived from her commander, Captain Boxer, who is happily one of the survivors, but whose report is conveyed through Lieutenant Nicolas, of the *Insolent*. We must presume that Captain Boxer was himself too ill or too much exhausted to give any description of the event in his own handwriting, and attribute to the same cause the fragmentary character of the details thus transmitted. We learn from Captain Hayes, commanding the *Tartar* at Shanghai, and senior officer of the North China Division, that the *Racehorse* had been ordered to leave that port for Chefoo—we suppose the harbour at the entrance of the Pecheli Gulf. At half-past eight on the evening of November 4, when she had arrived within five leagues of Chefoo Cape, and was about two miles east of White Rock, she seems to have struck; not that this fact is stated directly, but we infer it from the remark in Lieutenant Nicolas's letter to Captain Hayes, that "at the time of the ship striking it was comparatively smooth." It is tolerably clear, then, that stress of weather had nothing to do with the collision up to this time; but whether the rock was marked on the Admiralty charts or was unknown to seamen we have no means of judging. However, "boats were lowered, stream-anchor and cable placed in boats ready to lay out, when heavy rollers set in, swamping both cutters and gig, and breaking entirely over the ship. The masts were then cut away, and the ship steamed full speed on shore, endeavouring to save life; but the wind increasing to a gale, the rollers washed away all skylights and filled the ship." It is for nautical men to form an opinion out of these scanty materials as to the cause of the calamity and the means taken to meet it; but, whatever the cause, and whatever the means, the lamentable fact remains that a fine ship, fully manned and equipped, was knocked to pieces in the course of an hour or two by a swell rising so suddenly as is here stated. "The ship's company were then sent aft," doubtless because the fore part of the vessel was under water, or swept by the waves. They were told the position of the ship, and that if they held on till daylight there was every hope of all hands being saved." They did their best, and Captain Boxer bears emphatic testimony to the "most cool and collected" behaviour of all, both officers and men, during the horrors of this fearful night. They "obeyed every order smartly and energetically," and the

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first lieutenant, master, and boatswain, of whom only the last was saved, set them a noble example. But the struggle with the elements was too much for the endurance of all but nine, and the rest "dropped off one by one from the effects of the cold and the force of the sea." We are not even informed how the few survivors escaped the same fate, or by what means Captain Boxer reached the *Insolent*. As soon as Captain Hayes received the news, he despatched the *Rattler* to render any further assistance that might be possible, and we must patiently await fuller particulars. The circumstance that ten bodies had already been recovered and buried within three days after the wreck is a strong presumption that all these lives must have been lost near the shore.

There is nothing that shocks the imagination or excites the sympathies more than a shipwreck of this kind, and we earnestly hope that it may prove to have been due to causes beyond human control. Any suspicion that some terrible loss might have been prevented by proper care and caution seriously aggravates the effect of it, not only on bereaved relatives, but on the public. Recent occurrences, tending to shake our confidence in the seamanship which was the pride of our navy when scientific navigation was in its infancy, may perhaps suggest this suspicion in the present instance. Considering how imperfect our knowledge of the fact is, we should rather suspend our judgment, and hope that no blame rests with any one, living or dead. It cannot be said of shipwrecks, as it may of railway accidents, that almost all must needs proceed from some piece of culpable neglect. There are conjunctures, as every sailor knows, against which no skill is proof, currents so variable that they cannot be calculated, quicksands so shifting that they cannot be laid down on charts, seas in which no ship can live long, especially if the wind is also blowing a hurricane, without being strained in some vital point or springing a fatal leak. His art consists, in great part, in avoiding these conjunctures by eschewing dangerous seasons and localities and running out of storms, if he is unlucky enough to get into them. Unavoidable shipwrecks represent the cases in which he is baffled by some irresistible combination of mischances, and when they do occur they are probably the highest of all tests of courage. There is nothing sublimer on record than the discipline of the troops on board the *Birkenhead*, and the finest specimens of self-sacrifice in modern times have been displayed by common sailors in shipwrecks. It is consolatory to know that this heroic spirit was not wanting among those who clung to the wreck of the *Racehorse*, and that if we have lost a fine ship and gallant crew, we have gained at least a new assurance that habits of duty are superior to the fear of death.

(DAILY TELEGRAPH.)

All we can do now is to record the fact that the crew of the *Racehorse* behaved as English sailors always do in the hour of danger. "The conduct of the officers and men during this frightful night was most cool and collected, obeying every order smartly and energetically." So writes Commander Boxer, in that curt, cold style with which the noblest deeds of heroism and gallantry are recorded in our English fashion. The sublime saying of Nelson, on the morn of Trafalgar, has been hackneyed till its real purport is almost lost to us; but on occasions like this we recall with pride that now, as then, the expectation of England has never yet been unfulfilled by her heroes on the sea. There is something strangely sad in the list of the dead forwarded to us with the news of the disaster. Good Saxon names are those of the poor fellows whose death is the only incident of their lives known beyond their immediate circle. Of the crew, ten or so were boys, and of them not one has escaped to tell the sad story of the wreck. Throughout hundreds of homes, in this fair English land, there will be mourning to-day for brothers, husbands, fathers, sons, whose bodies lie buried in the far-away shores of China, or in the depths of the pitiless sea. Sadder yet, almost, is the roll of the men—names unknown—who were on board the *Racehorse* on their way to join the *Insolent*, at Cheefoo. "Five stokers, five marines, two boys," so runs the sole record of their fate; and yet for all of these there must be somebody to whom their death will be a solemn and a painful memory. To those who have lost friends or kinsmen in this fatal shipwreck there is nothing that can be said, with the exception of commonplace platitudes which had far better be left unsaid. One consolation, nevertheless, we may fairly tender them. Let them remember, as soon as the first bitter agony of grief shall have passed away, that England is proud of her sons who died faithful to their duty, obedient to the last, and brave to the bitter end. Of the noble crew, thus miserably wrecked, she is prouder than if their dirge had been the roll of conquering cannon, and not the roar of foam-crested breakers surging in upon the night-clad coast.

(ARMY AND NAVY GAZETTE.)

The losses which Her Majesty's navy has sustained during the last few years have been numerous and severe. When we recal to mind the wrecks of the *Conqueror*, the *Driver*, and the *Orpheus*, we cannot help coming to the conclusion that in all these instances, and in that of the *Racehorse*, there was a deficiency of that fine seamanship and cautious navigation which were once almost universally the proud characteristics of the English naval officer. The remedy for the evil is in our own hands, and we must seriously go about the task of making certain that when officers are entrusted with the charge of valuable property, and, what is of far greater consequence, precious lives, they are fully equal to the task imposed upon them.

THE NEW FEATURES OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

(THE TIMES.)

If it had so happened that there had been a Parliament at Peking, and a Chinese Minister responsible to it, that Chinese minister—let us call him San-Pan-Wang for euphony—must just now be the happiest of statesmen. He would have to meet his "House" with the proud announcement that long hair has disappeared in China; that the reign of the razor is restored throughout the Empire; that all the tributaries of the earth are pouring in sycee silver at the barbarian ports; that the provinces which were lately the scene of rebellion have recovered their green and fertile aspect; that the places of the murdered men have been filled, and their houses have been rebuilt, and their widows have found new husbands; and that China has become old China again. Perhaps he might condescend to explain that tribute-bearers have been allowed to go higher up into the interior of the country than they were allowed to go in the previous reign, and he may make some passing apology for the presence of certain barbarian eyes in the suburbs of the Imperial city; but these circumstances may well be described as rewards extended by the Imperial munificence to the well-meaning and useful drudges of Europe and America, who at their own cost, awestruck by the majesty of the Imperial power, have sent fleets and armies to exterminate the rebels. This wise and happy Minister, this San-Pan-Wang, might add that all this has been accomplished not only without cost to the Empire, but without compromising the dignity or the pretensions of the Imperial Court. What was done by the barbarian arms was done without solicitation and without debt of gratitude. What was otherwise accomplished by barbarian forces was effected by mercenaries hired for the purpose and acting under local Chinese officers. He might conclude by assuring the Assembly that these mercenary bands, being now unnecessary, have been dismissed, and that China is now free to indulge her own pleasure—whether that be to go back to the ancient exclusive policy of the last reign, or to pursue the newer course which had been adopted under the temporary and adverse pressure of recent times.

This may not unreasonably be the Chinese view of the present position of that empire, and the facts give great colour to such an appreciation. We may expect, indeed, to find the Chinese Government much less tractable. The rebellion is, to all appearance, killed. A fortnight since our correspondence from Shanghai depicted the fertile plains which extend for so many leagues landwards from that city as recovering their wonted richness. The hut-built towns are rising again from their ruins, the rivers and canals are covered again with their former floating habitations, and the millions of fugitives, hurrying back from their points of refuge within the thirty-miles radius protected by our soldiers, are seeking out the old plots on which they had laboured for generations. The European capitalists who had found their account in making the foreign settlement a sanctuary, who had sold corner lots and frontages at fabulous prices, and who had let to the fugitive Chinese small sites at rents which houses in Regent-street would scarcely fetch, now complain that their customers are gone. Shanghai, relieved from the pressure, is returned to its normal state; and the crowd which paid so well for protection is gone back to cultivate cotton, and silk, and rice, and tea. For the moment there are no more massacres and no more fires, and in the name of humanity we ought all to rejoice that by small effort and comparatively little cost we have been able to produce a result which, however it may work upon the policy of a barbarian Court, has at least restored a vast tract of country to industry, and has given happiness to many millions of our fellow-creatures. To a Chinaman, whether he be Prince or peasant, sufficient for the day is the evil thereof. When the pressure of the moment is removed, the Prince returns to all his old pretensions, and *semper eadem* is as much the true expression of Eastern as of Western arrogance. When the danger is past the peasant returns to his paddy-field, his mulberry plantation, or his cotton garden, and thinks of the long-haired robbers only as of a peril not likely to happen again in his time. To lookers-on from afar, however, everything is not so bright as it appears to the Mandarins at Peking and to the cultivators of the plains near Shanghai and the silk districts round Hangchow. Eventually the same causes must produce cognate results. China will fall again into her old system of Government. The great Mandarins will "squeeze" the little Mandarins, and the little Mandarins will "squeeze" the people; and the great Mandarins will be called up to Peking to disgorge, and there will be illegal imposts on the rivers and quarrels at the Customs. Famine will fall again upon the dense populations, and the rebellion the organisation of which only has been broken, but the elements of which remain, will re-appear, not perhaps in the same, but in other districts. Already we hear of detached bands leading a brigand existence, and sometimes uniting their forces to threaten cities. They wander up and down the coast, and they extend along the great river into the interior—not now dangerous to the dynasty or threatening the Imperial power, but sufficiently numerous to make property insecure and to show that under a new chief, a new cause, or a new pretext, a new Chinese rebellion may at any moment break forth. If we have succeeded by our policy in driving away the evil from our own doors, we have done ourselves great good, and we have done all, perhaps, which we have any right to do. Even this seems doubtful, if it be true, as reported, that bands of rebels have appeared near Amoy, where it would be most difficult for us to protect our own people. But at any rate we may hope that a lesson has been read which will not be unheeded by future adventurers of the Taiping class, and that the dangerous classes of China, when they organise themselves for a great onslaught, will take care to keep beyond the European arm. Unfortunately the temptation to venture into our neighbourhood is very great, for if the danger is imminent the plunder also is alluring. Shanghai, however, ought by this time to be quite able to protect itself against all that mere brigandage can do; and we may hope that we have established a prestige which should protect our treaty ports from any more important enemy.

Sufficient difficulties, however, remain to make the post of Minister at Peking a position of first importance to the merchants and tax-payers of this country. It is at Peking that the work must now be done. Whether wisely or unwisely for their own interests, the Court of Peking has resolved to disband—which means to stop the pay of—the various European and American mercenary corps which have been up to this time in the employ of the respective governors of provinces. This very much simplifies our position. It is, in effect, a sentence of outlawry to the European rowdy element in China. While the rebellion lasted, neither we nor the Chinese were too careful to scrutinise the character of the Europeans and Americans who came forward to aid to put it down. Several things happened which were scandalous to our Western civilisation. We saw mercenary leaders changing sides, like the old German leader of Free Lances. We heard of massacres in which the bearers of European commissions were in some way implicated, and of plunderings of peaceful people by men who ought to have been civilised. Some few, indeed, like our own Major Gordon, came out of this pitchy work with clean hands and augmented fame; but generally it was not so. The natural tendency of such a market for employment is to bring the boldest and the most unscrupulous men to the front. If the governors of provinces had been allowed to go on hiring foreign adventurers each for his own local purposes, China would soon have become the rendezvous for all the ruffians

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of the rest of the world, and the poor old Empire would have been torn to pieces by their dissensions and devoured in their greed. Every honest man who has a wife loving tea and silk must feel an interest in preventing this from happening, and there ought to be no difference of opinion among the Ministers at Peking as to the propriety of preventing foreigners from taking service in China. We do not retract one word or retreat one step from the course of policy which we have from early times designated and always most earnestly advocated. The taking of Canton, the advance to Peking, the opening of the Yang-tze-Kiang, and the subsequent pacification of the country by the expulsion of the Taipings, have all been pressed forward in these columns when some of them found small favour elsewhere. To these measures we owe that great flood of commercial success in China which came so opportunely to float us over the American difficulty. If we could have obtained, as we earnestly desired, the establishment of a permanent force in China, almost independent of its Government and quite independent of its officers, using European force under the guarantee of European character, and keeping the peace impartially against all offenders;—if we could have obtained this, as a security to civilisation for what civilisation has gained, then China might have vanished from our newspapers and our debates for the next ten years, while commerce was growing and the population was learning the advantages of foreign intercourse. This, however, was not to be. The attempt seems to have been almost equally mismanaged by almost every one who took part in it. Failing this hope of an auxiliary European force in China, in which we could have confidence, the next best thing is to have no European force at all in Chinese pay. We believe that all the Powers represented at Peking are at present well inclined to an agreement to this effect, and that one of the chief impediments is that want of adequate power of punishment in our English Consuls, which was stated so forcibly in the last letter of our Shanghai correspondent.

HIS NETHERLANDS MAJESTY'S GUNBOAT "HANDIG VLUG," FOR BORNEO.

(THE TIMES),

The trial trip of this vessel on the Thames was attended with circumstances of unusual interest, owing to the novelty in various points of her construction and general arrangements. The general term "gunboat" conveys to our minds the image of a vessel carrying two heavy shell guns on her low unprotected upper deck, and averaging no more than eight knots under the most favourable circumstances, a class of vessel which has figured for almost fabulous sums in our annual Navy Estimates for repairs, &c., but, nevertheless, a class of craft that has left imperishable marks of its usefulness on the rivers and seaboard of India and China. The Handig Vlug, or Nimble, is the first vessel of her class, the armour of which had been put on on the deflective principle. The Handig Vlug is, indeed an armoured vessel, inasmuch as she carries a central domed battery, although the steel protective plating of this battery is but three-eights of an inch in thickness, and therefore rifle, but not cannonshot proof. She is a little craft of only a mean draught of 3ft. of water having a length between perpendiculars of 100ft., a beam of 17ft, and a depth of 6ft. 6in. Her tonnage is 138 tons, builders' measurement. She is built entirely of steel plates. The hull of the vessel below the water-line is built of ¼ in. steel plates, but from the water-line upwards, and including her domed battery, she is built of ⅜ in. steel plates. This cupola battery occupies 61 feet in length in the central part of the vessel, the entire space being covered in with a central grating longitudinally for ventilation, and is capped with a "pilot house" 5 ft. in diameter. It is fitted with six gunports, three forward and three aft, one at each end and in a line with the keel, and the others on the bows and quarters. In addition there is breast-high, round this cupola, pierced holes with brass slide covers for rifles, the intention of the Dutch Government being to render the vessel one possessing sufficient speed under steam to outstrip a battery of field artillery if engaged with an enemy landed with artillery in a water bisected country, such as Holland, or a perfectly rifle-proof vessel when on duty in the rivers or inland waters of Java or Borneo. Speed under steam would carry the little vessel quickly out of the range of any battery moving on shore, while with her armament of 50 riflemen and two 12-pounder rifle shell guns she would prove herself a very hornet along a river's banks, or in out-of-the-way creeks in shallow waters. As she steamed down the Thames, the Handig Vlug represented a low craft, carrying a central protected battery, something after the principle of Captain Coles, in his proposed Lady Nancy rafts. The Handig Vlug, however, differs thus much importantly from Captain Coles's present turret principle that her cupola battery is a fixture, and the necessary revolving power to render it equal to the Coles' turret is given by the twin screws, which thus render the nuts of the vessel itself its gun's platform. Near as the cupola battery of the Handig Vlug thus approaches the cupola of Captain Coles, it is but an act of simple justice to say that the principle embodied in the domed central battery amidships (Mr. Reed, the Chief Constructor of our Navy, gives a square, walled battery, without roofing), and Captain Coles' giving a cylindrical form equally without roofing, is precisely the plan submitted to the Lords' Commissioners of the Admiralty for armoured central-battery ships by the Admiralty Inspecting Engineer Afloat at Portsmouth, Mr. G. Murdock. No one could have watched the Handig Vlug but must have been struck by her diminutive appearance above the water-line of her track, and equally so by the evidently dangerous look she exhibited. Granted she was but at the minimum rate of calculation a "rifle gallery," she was a "rifle gallery" possessing wonderful powers of locomotion, and, at the same time, possessed a couple of 12-pounder rifled shell guns. During our last Indian and Chines wars, the advantages that would have been given to our land forces by the aid of a fleet of some 20 or 30 of this description of vessels moving in nearly parallel lines with the troops, on shore would have been almost incalculable. She started on her trip from off Gravesend at noon for "sea-reach," a heavy N.E. wind blowing and no inconsiderable amount of sea being found on when the vessel reached the intended extent of her trial trip. The state of the weather limited necessarily the extent of the experiments, but, so far as they could be carried out, the results were as follows:—Runs were gone over at the measured mile in Long Reach, and the results of six runs thus made gave the ship an average speed of ten knots. Allowance must, of course, be made for the state of the weather, and if allowance is really made for this, the speed attained is indeed surprising. A series of experiments followed, the general results of which may be stated, as follows:—Reversing the action of the engines, the complete circle was made to starboard in two minutes and forty-seven seconds, and the circle to port in three minutes. In going ahead at full speed the course of the vessel was reversed by the altered action of the screws in one minute. The foregoing figures are facts, and all the opinions possible appended could neither add nor detract from their actual value; but at the same time they prove the worth of the double or twin screw.

The engines of the Handig Vlug averaged 220 revolutions throughout the trial, with a pressure of steam on the boilers of 30lb., and a vacuum of twenty-four inches. The engines worked with extraordinary regularity and smoothness, and there was no sign of a warm bearing at any time. Messrs. John and William Dudgeon, of Millwall, are the builders of the Handig Vlug and her engines, and the success of the vessel adds to the well-deserved reputation which they now enjoy as the practical expositors of the "twin screw principle."

LECTURE BY MR. MARTIN WOOD, AT THE ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—An outcast race yet lingers in the Island of Yesso, the most northern portion of the Empire of Japan. These aborigines are named "Aimos," or "Mosinos"—the "all-hairy people"—this last being a Japanese term which marks their chief physical peculiarity. Their number is estimated at about 50,000. Yesso is only separated from Niphon by the narrow Strait of Tsougar; but the climate of the island is unpropitious, and its soil is barren, so that the Japanese have only occupied the southern portion. They number about 100,000, and dwell principally in the cities of Mats-mai and Hakodadi. The former city is the residence of the feudatary prince who holds Yesso under fealty to the Tycoon of Yedo. To this prince of Mats-mai the Ainos send a deputation every spring, who present a tribute of dried fish and furs, and do homage, and repeat a formal convention expressive of submission to the Japanese. The Ainos live quite in the exterior of the island, and seldom show themselves at Hakodadi or Mats-mai, except when on their embassy in spring or autumn, when they come to exchange their dried fish and furs for rice and hunting gear. Of a timid and shrinking attitude, these people seem utterly crushed in spirit by their long subjection and isolation. They are short in stature, of thickset figure, and clumsy in their movements. Their physical strength is considerable, but besides that peculiarity, there would seem to be nothing by which an observer can recognise the possibility of the Ainos ever having possessed any martial prowess. The uncouthness and wildness of their aspect is calculated at first to strike a stranger with dismay or repugnance. Esau himself could not have been a more hairy, man than are these Ainos. The hair on their heads forms an enormous bunch, and it is thick and matted. Their beards are very thick and long, and the greater part of their face is covered with hair, which is generally dark in colour; but they have prominent foreheads and mild dark eyes, which somewhat relieve the savage aspect of their visage. Their hands and arms—and, indeed, the greater part of their bodies—are covered with abnormal profusion of hair. The natural colour of their skins is somewhat paler than that of the Japanese, but it is bronzed by constant exposure. The women of the Ainos, as if in default of the extraordinary endowments of their spouses, have a custom of staining their faces with dark blue for a considerable space around their mouths. The children they generally carry in a very singular fashion over their shoulders, and during a journey these tender charges are placed in a net and slung over the backs of their mothers. The children are lively and intelligent when little, but soon acquire the downcast aspect of their elders. Yet these strange people have a history, and though its details are lost, they cherish the remembrance that their forefathers were once the equals, if not the masters, of the Japanese. This is supposed to have been in the sixth century before Christ, at a period coeval with the reign of the first Mikado of Japan. The Ainos were then masters of the northern provinces of Niphon; but they appear to have become dispossessed of their land by the Japanese, and then were gradually driven across the Strait of Tsougar, into Yesso. Their final subjection was not accomplished until the close of the fourteenth century, when they were completely overcome by a Japanese general, and compelled to render tribute at Jeddo. As to the origin of the Ainos, we believe the whole college of ethnologists are at fault. Geographically considered, Yesso would seem to belong more to Kurile Islands than to Japan; and the short stature of the Ainos, together with their ordinary methods of hunting and fishing, remind one of the Kamtschatkans. Yet those tribes have none of that superabundance of hair which, being so striking a peculiarity of the Ainos, would be participated in to some noticeable degree by any race having affinity to them. Then the chief objection to a northern origin for the Ainos is, that they persist in cherishing the tradition that their ancestors came from the west; that is, from some place in the direction of the Asiatic continent. Yet no tribe now found in Corea or Mantchuria bears any resemblance to the Ainos. The interior of Asia, at least all the borders of Tartary and Siberia, have been explored by M. Huc, Mr. Fleming, or Mr. Atkinson, and as yet no hairy people have there been found. The language of this outcast race affords no clue to their origin, for there seems no known tongue—certainly none of Eastern Asia, which has affinity to theirs. They have no written characters, but have had their rude bards or sages, who, in verses orally transmitted, have kept alive the memory of their ancient heroes, and their exploits on mountain and flood. The world will not quite lose these wild strains, for a French missionary, the Abbe Mermet, is preparing a translation of them.

THE P. AND O. CO.'S SUPERINTENDENT AT SOUTHAMPTON.—Captain Engledue, who has so long filled the post of Superintendent to the P. and O. Co.'s vessels at Southampton, has, we hear, resigned that post and accepted that of manager of the Thames Iron Ship Building Co.'s works at Blackwall. It is rumoured that Mr. Bethune, the company's agent at Alexandria, will be appointed as his successor.

APPOINTMENTS.—The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint George Brackenbury, Esq., now Her Majesty's Consul at Charente, to be Her Majesty's Consul in the Philippine Islands.

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Naval and Military.

The rumours we lately referred to as to the successor of Admiral Kuper on the China station have not been revived.

The following changes have been noticed unofficially:—Lieutenant Dunlop, of the Kestrel, to command Staunch, vice Keats to Slaney, vice Lee, going home; Grant, of Argus, to command Kestrel, vice Dunlop; and Sub-lieutenant Echlin to be acting lieutenant of Argus vice Grant. The Kestrel is stationary at Yokohama.

THE "HIGHFLYER," 21, screw corvette, Captain Thomas M. S. Pasley, sailed from Spithead for the Cape of Good Hope on the 7th inst. She takes out supernumeraries for the Cape and China stations. On steaming down the Solent his vessel fired a salute of 21 guns, in compliance with the recent order, being the first vessel that has saluted Her Majesty since the death of her late lamented Consort.

Mr. John Edward Fawcett, one of the unfortunate victims in the Racehorse, who has seen much service in China, was born at Wodehouse, and educated at Leeds, where he joined the dispensary, previous to taking out his diploma in 1855. He was then appointed Assistant-Surgeon to the Waterloo, and from that ship changed to the Acorn, and in her went to China, when he again changed to the Chesapeake, and was present at the taking of Canton, Fatsan, and the Peiho Forts, and in consequence of his bravery and attention was raised to the rank of full Surgeon by Admiral Hope, and was appointed to the Racehorse just previous to the voyage to Chefoo, which resulted so disastrously to himself and many other brave men.

We (*Army and Navy Gazette*) mentioned some two months since that Sir William Mansfield was to have the command-in-chief of the army in India, and it may be as well for us to repeat the statement, inasmuch as the Indian journals just received are unanimously erroneous in assigning the post to Sir Hope Grant. We have also announced the approximate appointment of Lord William Paulet to be Adjutant-General. We may now state that Sir Hugh Rose will be recommended to Her Majesty for the command of the forces in Ireland, to be vacated by Sir George Brown in April. We trust that Sir Hugh will accept the appointment. We also learn that a similar recommendation will be made of Sir Hope Grant for the post of Quartermaster-General, about to be given up by Sir Richard Airey. The command-in-chief at Bombay, in succession to Sir William Mansfield, will, we believe, be filled by Major-General Sir Robert Napier, of the Bengal Engineers. As a compliment to the old Indian service and the scientific corps, as well as a reward to one of our most able and gallant officers in the East, this appointment is worthy of all praise. It is most probable that Sir James Yorke Scarlett will be appointed to the Aldershot command, upon the expiration of Sir John Pennefather's term of office in the early part of the summer; and, although it is not quite settled, we believe it is exceedingly likely that Sir Richard Airey will be the new Governor of Gibraltar, in succession to Sir William Codrington.

WAR-OFFICE, DEC. 30.—20th Foot: Lieut. Edward Hamilton Barlow, from the 1st West India Regt., to be lieut., vice Owen Tudor Burne, promoted to an unattached company, without purchase. Jan. 30—20th Foot: Lieut. Charles Kyrle Chatfield to be capt., without purchase, vice the Hon. Adolphus E. P. Vereker, deceased—13th October, 1864; Ens. James Whybrow to be lieut., without purchase, vice Chatfield—13th October, 1864; Gentleman-Cadet William Alfred Headeck, from the Royal Military College, to be ensign, without purchase, vice Whybrow.

ROYAL MARINES.—Brev.-Lieut.-Col. J. C. D. Morrison has been placed on the full-pay retirement of his rank, on account of ill health. The promotions on this will be First Lieut. and Quartermaster A. H. Ozzard, of the Portsmouth division, to be capt. at the Chatham division, and Second Lieut. T. Lakin (serving with the battalion in Japan) to be first lieut.

Monetary and Commercial.

We have received notices from Messrs. Finlay, Hodgson, and Co., signifying that their firm is about to be united with that of Messrs. Thomson, Finlay, and Co., of Liverpool. The names of the firms will be unchanged, but their interests identical. The interest of Mr. John William Dudgeon, in the firm of Thomson, Finlay, and Co., ceased on the 31st December last. They have likewise retired from the firms of Finlay, Scott, and Co., Bombay, and Finlay and Co., Kurrachee. The business of these latter firms, however, will be carried on by the remaining partners. The firm of Kay, Finlay, and Co., who hitherto acted in London for Thomson, Finlay, and Co., will be liquidated, Mr. D. J. Kay joining the firm of Finlay, Hodgson, and Co.

The business of Waithman, Jacomb, and Hogg, silkbrokers, will for the future be carried on under the firm of Jacomb, Hogg, and Co.

The directors of the Singapore Gas Company (limited) have issued the following circular:—"I am requested by the directors to inform you that they have great satisfaction in reporting that the works at Singapore were successfully lighted up on the 24th May last, and that at the date of the last advices from their engineer and manager, Mr. E. J. Wells (November 20th) the works and apparatus were all in good working order. The number of public lights actually laid on and lighted up was 167, and the number of private lights was 1,144 and seven stoves, there being also a great number of applications on the books not yet complied with, independent of numerous applications for gas from persons residing in districts to which the mains of the company have not yet been extended, but which extension the directors have under consideration. The accounts and balance-sheet to December 31st will be brought before the annual meeting in April next, of which due notice will be given.—ROBERT KING, Secretary."

It is stated that the Anglo-Egyptian Bank have agreed to advance to the Viceroy of Egypt as a personal loan on his estates £1,000,000, repayable at 6, 12, 18, and 24 months, at terms of interest equal to about 12½ per cent.

The directors of the International Financial Society have decided to recommend a dividend of 7s. 6d. per share, making, with the interest paid in July last, a total of 10 per cent. for the year; £5,000 will be carried to reserve fund, raising it to £23,000, and a sum of over £20,000 will be carried forward to new account. The securities are now all valued at the market price on December 31.

Some uneasiness has been felt regarding telegraphic communication between Benghazi and Alexandria. Owing to the frequent repairs of the section, and the constant deterioration going on in that part of the cable, apprehensions are still entertained as to an eventual stoppage. No confidence can be placed in the continuance of our telegraphic communication with Egypt until a new cable is substituted.

A circular has been issued announcing a final dividend of 8d. in the pound on the estate of the large firm of Reid, Irving, and Co., which stopped during the panic of 1847. This will make a total distribution of 10s. 2d.

Among the dissolutions of partnership we observe that of Dent, Palmer, and Co., as far as regards L. P. Wilson. It is announced that Mr. Henry Worms has been admitted a partner in the firm of G. and A. Worms.

Mr. Thomson, manager of the London office of the Alliance Bank, has resigned, having accepted the managership of the Bombay branch of the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan.

Fifty guineas premium has been paid at Lloyd's on the *Castle Howard*, from Shanghai to London.

A prospectus has been issued of the Nowgong Tea Company of Assam, with a capital of £250,000, half to be first subscribed in shares of £10. The object is to purchase 13 estates, consisting of 12,000 acres, of which 2,182 are planted. The price is £163,000 in instalments, extending over six years.

The biddings for 30,00,000 rupees (£300,000) in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were:—to Calcutta, 17,33,000 rupees; to Bombay, 12,00,000 rupees; and to Madras, 67,000 rupees. The minimum price was, as before, viz.: 1s. 11½d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11¾d. on Bombay. The applications within the limits amounted to 71 lacs (£710,000). Tenders on Calcutta and Madras, at 1s. 11¾d., will receive about 7 per cent., and on Bombay, at 2s., about 76 per cent.; above these prices, in full.

The number of new joint-stock companies in 1864 was 282. The total capital proposed for subscription was £106,523,000. Of these many have proved abortive. In 1863 there were 263 companies, with a proposed capital of £78,135,000.

From a circular of Messrs. Pixley, Abell, and Langley we extract the following:—

Statement of the imports of gold from Australia and America during the past seven years:—From Australia: 1858, £9,725,108; 1859, £9,830,944; 1860, £6,659,590; 1861, £6,474,451; 1862, £6,316,500; 1863, £5,164,752; 1864, £2,426,400. From America: 1858, £5,304,896; 1859, £14,560,062; 1860, £8,677,294; 1861, £83,450; 1862, £9,865,610; 1863, £7,874,179; 1864, £7,465,103. The export of gold to the East Indies and China during the same years is also shown:—From London: 1858, £168,305; 1859, £788,270; 1860, £1,612,900; 1861, £591,392; 1862, £971,582; 1863, £3,104,000; 1864, £1,255,208. From the Mediterranean: 1858, £165,230; 1859, £142,144; 1860, £765,138; 1861, £367,788; 1862, £139,172; 1863, £147,400; 1864, £4,450,210.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Co.'s steamer *Delhi*, from Southampton, on the 4th inst., was, in gold, to Alexandria, £7,600; to Madras, £602. In silver, to Madras, £29,000; to Yokohama, £600; to Shanghai, £500. Total, in gold, £8,202; in silver, £30,100.

THE ANNUAL COTTON STATEMENTS.

IMPORTS.—1864.

	Liverpool.	London, &c.	Total.
American	197,116 ..	660 ..	197,776
Brazil	205,129 ..	7,063 ..	212,192

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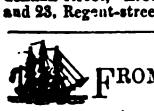

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Capetown ...	Jane... ...	253	A 1	„

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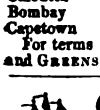

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Ports.	Ships.	Class.	Docks.	Date.
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Calcutta ...	Bolingbroke.	A 1 12yrs	E I.D.	Jan. 20.
Calcutta ...	Varuna ...	A 1 12yrs	E.I.D.	Feb. 20.

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Amoy & Foo-Chow-Foo ...	Merse ...	A1 13 yr.	E.I.D.	With des.
Kanagawa ...	SimonHobley	A1 10 yr.	W.I.D.	With des.
Nagasaki ...	Lammermuir	A1 12 yr.	W.I.D	With des.
Singapore ...	Helensbank.	A1 10 yr.	S.K.D.	With des.

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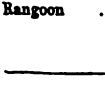
Calcutta ...	Star of Scotia ..	AA1 —	999	E.I.D.
Rangoon ...	Duke of Wellington	A1 12 yr.	724	W.I.D.

31, Great St. Helen's, E.C.

INDIA AND CHINA.



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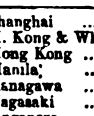
H. Kong & Whampoa	Valdivia ...	W.I.D.	Jan. 14.
Hong Kong	Philomela ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Manila	A Ship ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Kanagawa	Bolina ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Nagasaki	Rifleman ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Singapore	E. Thornton.	W.I.D	With des.

Apply at 5, Newman's-court, Cornhill, London; or York-Chambers, 55, King-street, Manchester.



SHANGHAI Direct (last shipping day Jan. 15), the new clipper STIRLINGSHIRE, A 1 10 years; 549 tons register; JOHN CUNNINGHAM, Commander; now loading in the West India Docks. Has good accommodation for passengers.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 162.] LONDON, THURSDAY, JAN. 12, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Sept. 27	Nov. 23	Dec. 1
Nagasaki			
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			Nov. 15
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	„ 27	„ 16	Dec. 9
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 12
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Oct. 26	Dec. 10	„ 15
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila			„ 8
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			
SIAM— Bangkok			„ 14
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 16
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Nov. 10	„ 14	„ 22
Penang	„ „	„ 12	„ 24

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles, per P and O. Company's steamer Delhi, arrived Jan. 24.—From Yokohama: Mr. Biava, Messrs, Agenzizero, Sempi, and K. Giro, Lieut. Brownlow, R.N., and one second-class passenger. From Shanghai: Mr. Sluyt, Capt. Van Duyn. From Hong Kong: Messrs. Watson, Peneida, and De Argan. From Singapore: Capt. Casunbroot. To Suez.—From Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Camo, child, and servant. To Alexandria.—From Penang: Capt. Grave.

To Southampton, per Nyanza, expected to arrive Feb. 1.—From Shanghai: Two second-class passengers. From Hong Kong: Mrs. Harper, two children, and servant, Messrs. Thompson, Bannatyne, and Teare, seven second-class passengers, and three soldiers. From Singapore: One second-class passenger.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Poonah, Jan. 20, from Southampton.—To Singapore: Mrs. Scott, Mr. E. Hill. To Hong Kong: Mrs A. Boardman, Miss Winkworth, and native servant, Mr. J. L. Southey, R.N., Mr. J. Pittis, R.N., Mr. Turner, R.N., Sub-Lieuts. Joliffe, C. A. Tucker, and F. N. C. Hall, Mr. J. A. Fraser. To Shanghai: Mr. T. F. Hughes. To Ceylon: Mrs. Tranchell and two children, Mr. R. A. King, Mrs. Clark, Mr. Lawrie, Mr. White, and two 2nd class passengers. To Calcutta: Mrs Cotton, child, and Eur. servant, Mr. and Mrs. D'Oyley, infant, and Eur. servant, Major S. B. Cookson, Mr. Jones and native servant, Miss Thompson, Miss Taylor and Eur. servant, Lieut.-Col. Fooke, Major and Mrs. Radcliffe, infant, and Eur. servant, Miss Rind, Lieut. Holdich, Miss Denham, Mrs. Read, infant, and Eur. servant, Surgeon Reade, Miss Henty, Messrs. Gubbins, W. Barlow, F. Girardot, Turner, A. B. Harvey, W. P. Wright, Trevor Lloyd, G. A. Lloyd, Milner, W. A. Singer, Strafford, and A. C. Johnston, and eleven 2nd class passengers. To Madras: Mrs. Estill, two infants, and native servant, Mrs. A. P. Clark, Lieut. W. D. Robertson, Capt. and Mrs. Morris and infant, Mrs. Viccajee, child, and native servant, Capt. and Mrs. Ward, Capt. P. H. Reade, Messrs. S. S. Duval, H. Cornish, Dashwood, and A. Revello and three 2nd class passengers. To Alexandria: Messrs. E. Watson and Williams.

From Marseilles, Jan. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. W. Escherich. To Singapore: Lieut. Hatchell, Mr. J. J. Greenshields, Mrs. D. T. Hatchell. To Shanghai: Mr. C. L. Simpson, Mr. Whittaker, Mr. F. H. Bell. To Ceylon: Mr. E. Strong. To Calcutta: Messrs. Dow, J. M. Lowis, F. Wigram, G. Porter, W. Macpherson, Sawers, Firebrace, J. A. Beale, Gould, J. Steel, J. Knowles, Peters, Overbury, J. Mackintosh, jun., P. Nebrich, S. Marsh, and Holway, Lieut. P. Dalmahoy, Mrs. Pollock, Rev. J. and Mrs. Barton, infant, and European servant, Lieut. R. M'Kenzie, Rev. A. O. Hardy, Lieut.-col. Gompertz, Major Annesley, Dr. Duka, Dr. E. Taylor, Lieut. T. B. Savi, Miss E. K. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. St achey and European servant, Miss Coddington. To Madras: Mr. Garrett. To Alexandria: Mr. and Mrs. E. Smith and maid servant, Messrs. Pfenninger, W. G. Simpson, and Henry Hadow and servant. From Suez.—To Calcutta: Mr. W. B. Jones, Dr. and Mrs. Cheke and two Misses Cheke.

Per P. and O. steamer Pera, from Southampton, Feb. 4.—To Shanghai: Mr. John Carnegie. To Hong Kong: Messrs. W. B. Chalmers, J. S. Young, McDonald, and W. Findlay, Mrs. Stewart and infant. To Singapore: Mr. J. W. Witham. To Ceylon: Mr. Elles, two Misses Price, Surgeon W. Jeever.

From Marseilles, Feb. 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. R. Eusden, Mr. G. W. Schwemann. To Penang: Messrs. F. S. Brown and F. Palmer. To Shanghai: Mrs. Brown and two daughters.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, from Southampton, Feb. 20.—To Hong Kong: Sub.-Lieut. D. M. Smith, R.N. To Ceylon: Mr. N. G. Layard.

From Marseilles, Feb. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Trantman, Mr. A. Milsom, Mr. and Mrs. H. Dickinson, Col. Knox, C.B. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Armitage and two infants.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Advices hence are to the 1st December. The English mail of the 26th September arrived out on the 23rd November.

The papers now delivered bring us the details in reference to the murder of Major Baldwin and Lieutenant Bird, intelligence of which was received on the 19th inst., via San Francisco and New York. We take the following account from the *Japan Herald*.

THE MURDER OF TWO BRITISH OFFICERS.

On the morning of the 21st November (Monday), Major George Walter Baldwin and Lieutenant Robert Nicholas Bird, both of the 2nd Battalion of H.B.M.'s 20th Regiment (two, who amongst all the respected and beloved of the officers of that regiment had, by their gentle inoffensive natures and sterling worth gained the foremost ranks in the affectionate regards of all who knew them), left Yokohama on horseback for an excursion to Kamakura and Daiboots. About half-past ten they arrived at Enosima, which place, after exchanging courtesies with other excursionists they met there, they left about twelve o'clock, with the intention of proceeding to Daiboots. The same night, information from the district authorities was sent in to the Governor of Yokohama, that two foreigners had been assaulted at or near Kamakura, that one was dead, but the other yet alive. This information having been communicated forthwith (about two o'clock in the A.M. of the 22nd, Tuesday) to the Foreign Consuls, Dr. Lindau, the Swiss Consul, Mr. Von Brandt, the Prussian Consul, and in various parties other foreign residents, started, at about 4 o'clock, towards the place indicated; Lieut. Woods, with a party of mounted artillery, and Mr. Lachlan Fletcher, interpreter to the British Legation, being ordered to proceed thither in all haste. A little after daylight they arrived at the three-fold road leading from the Great Temple, Hatchuma, where it divides into three smaller roads, one leading to Daiboots to the right, the second straight on to the sea, and the third into the country to the left. Near this spot, and between a miserable tea-house and a hut for horses, under two small sheds of mats propped up by bamboos, and disposed on mats laid on the ground, were found, most horribly mutilated, the bodies of the two unfortunate gentlemen; the pistol of one of them—one barrel of which appeared to have been recently discharged,—by his side, that of the other yet undrawn from his belt. All the inquiries made by Mr. Fletcher (and we all know how perseveringly and discreetly he would push them to the utmost) failed to elicit any information. No one knew anything but that there the bodies were—and that one of the deceased, the younger one, who said his name was Bird, had lived for several hours.

The bodies were brought in by water, and the inquest—a full report of which we annex—was held.

It would not be wise here (whilst the murderers yet remain undiscovered) to point out certain extraordinary antitheses between the medical evidence and that above referred to. Horrible as the deed is known to be—surpassing in cowardice

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and bloody murdering spirit all that even those who, like ourselves, have been in close and constant contact with a nation called cannibal and savage, have ever witnessed or heard of—there is,—we shudder whilst we say it,—great room to fear, that it may have been yet more brutal, more cowardly, more blood-thirsty, than yet is known. The deceased were buried with full military honours, on Thursday; the mournful cortége forming, without doubt, the most imposing spectacle ever witnessed in Yokohama. We noticed there the British, French, American and Dutch Ministers and all the Consuls in full uniform; the Governor of Kanagawa and suite; the officers of all the men-of-war of all nationalities in the harbour; the officers of all the land forces of all nationalities; and we believe we may say that every male resident of Yokohama was there. The profound solemn silence that prevailed; the sad (though stern) countenances of all this concourse so formed,—was a tribute to the memory of the slaughtered British officers which will reach higher than the highest mausoleum ever erected. We trust it may reach; with some consoling tone, the hearts of their relations—their brother officers—their fellow soldiers, and all who knew these two estimable men, from whom they have been for ever in this life severed in so sudden and afflictive a manner.

The coffins, which were on artillery carriages, drawn by the men of that corps, were first followed by Lieut.-Col. Browne, as chief mourner; the pall of that enclosing the remains of Major Baldwin being borne by Colonel Penrose, R.M.L.I.; Major Miller, 67th; Major Ord, 20th; Major Wray, R.E.; and that of Lieut. Bird by Lieuts. Fraser, Webster, Wahal, and Barlow, all of the 20th. The firing party consisted of 240 rank and file of the 20th, under command of Captain Rochfort.

We must not, however, omit to add for the information of the friends of the deceased, who will doubtless desire to acknowledge for themselves the considerate condolence, that not only were there present, as we have said above, the Ministers, Consuls, and naval and military officers of all foreign Powers, but that a detachment of 150 men of H.I.M.'s *Semiramis*, under command of Lieut. Mict, formed a part of the mournful cortege.

And now, having "buried our dead," we rejoice to be able to add here intelligence which will, we doubt not, be received with universal gratification. We know from the best authority that Sir Rutherford Alcock is resolutely determined, by every means at his command, to urge and if necessary compel, the Japanese authorities to do their utmost to discover and deliver up the murderers. Let none therefore imagine that in that quarter there can be any irresolution, torpidity, or disinclination sincerely to follow this matter to its end. We believe Sir Rutherford Alcock would value this discovery, this retribution, more than he ever valued any honours or praise which have been showered upon him—we believe his heart is in it. We rejoice, too, to be able to say that we have the best authority for believing that the charge which we have so often heard generally made, even in official as well as in far less influential quarters, that "the Japanese authorities make it their policy to shroud and conceal offenders against foreigners," is now, for this time at least, being most satisfactorily disproved. The Japanese authorities are, we know, professing to do their very utmost to bring the assassins to justice. We have good ground for the belief that they are sincere in their professions.

THE INQUEST.

On the afternoon of Tuesday the 22nd November an inquest was held in the ante-room of the mess apartments of the 2nd battalion of H.B.M.'s 20th regiment, before C. A. Winchester, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul, to nquire into the manner whereby Major George Walter Baldwin, and Lieutenant Robert Nicholas Bird, both officers of H.M.'s 20th regiment, 2nd battalion, came by their deaths.

Captains Charles Rochfort, Conroy Fahie, and John Aldridge, all of the 20th regiment, were duly sworn in as jurors.

The jurors having viewed the bodies the inquest was adjourned, to be resumed at H.B.M.'s Consulate the following day, Wednesday 23rd, at eleven o'clock, on which day the adjourned inquest was resumed.

Present: Charles A. Winchester, coroner, Captain Charles Rochfort, Esq., 20th regiment, Captain Conroy Fahie, Captain John Aldridge, jurors.

R. Lindau, Esq., Swiss Consul, sworn: Yesterday morning at 2 o'clock A.M., two officers came to me and told me that two men had been killed or attacked at or near Kamakura. My first apprehensions were that it might prove to be two gentlemen who were staying with me, who were then absent on an excursion. I went to the Custom-house with Mr. Von Brandt, the Prussian Consul whom I met; we found all in a bustle, and the Governor there. He told us that he had received a communication that two men had been attacked; one was killed, and the other had said he was an Engli-h officer. We determined to go down and ask the Governor to give us an escort; he did so, and gave us four officers, and we left about a quarter-past three. We lost them at the first gate, they evidently were disinclined to go with us; but my betto and one of the escort's betto followed us. At Kanasawa I inquired, but could learn nothing as to what had occurred, but was told that the wounded men were still at Kamakura. We arrived at the first tea-house and there saw the Vice-governor and Sinagawa, and several of the officers. We were then four foreigners, Mr. Von Brandt, Mr. Stearns, and I think a man named George, and I. We rode forward, Sinagaway accompanying us. At the end of the valley where the roads divide into three, at the road which leads from the Great Temple—one leading to Daiboots to the right, the second straight on to the sea, and the third to the country to the left. Near where the road divides on the right going to Kamakura there is a miserable tea-house and a stand for horses, there we saw two ponies tied up, and between the stand and the tea-house lay two bodies under a kind of shed or tent formed of mats. The bodies lay on mats and mats overhead. I believe Mr. Stearns saw the bodies and could identify them. Mr. Bird was lying on his back on a mat. Near the left hand of Mr. Bird was a revolver, the barrel of which next the capped one was discharged. The right arm was by his side, the left arm stretched out, the hand closed, two forefingers cut off an inch or two from the hand—it struck me as with care, as though to make it look natural. The long barrel of the revolver was full of dirt, as though he had fallen with it. When we had made these first examinations Mr. Woods (R.A.), Mr. Fletcher, and others arrived. [Revolver produced and recognised by witness.] The revolver was covered with blood. Major Baldwin was lying on his back, with the hands clenched. On consultation with the others who arrived we came to the conclusion that the bodies had been removed there. Their watches and other property was found on them. Major Baldwin's watch was still going. I said to the Vice-Governor I did not believe these gentlemen had been killed there: we removed the mats, and found only a small quantity of blood under both, not an amount proportionate to the hemorrhage which must have ensued from such wounds. The Vice-Governor said he knew nothing about it, and could say nothing; the people had been in the fields working and found the bodies there. Mr. Von Brandt, some 15 or 20 paces off, found some traces of blood on the road going to the sea. Evidently there the wounds had been inflicted, because we found blood on some of the bushes, and an old mat on the road which slopes to a bank, which evidently had been laid upon, was also stained with blood. We tried to find the traces of blood—but they were not very evident; we were led, however to a small tea-house—by something; a mat with a weight upon it, for instance, had been dragged along the road. This led us about 100 yards further out, but no blood there. On following these traces to another small hous on the left hand of the road it seemed to finish there. There was an old woman there, and the house was carefully examined, but nothing to give us any information or clue was found. We remarked distinctly marks of European boots leading to and from the sea. We concluded that these were of the murdered officers, but afterwards heard that others had passed and repassed the same road the previous day.

Mons. de Vecchy, in the service of the King of Italy, sworn, said: Early the day before yesterday morning I was with my party at Enosima. Major Baldwin and Lieut. Bird came about half-past ten. The Japanese priest in charge of a large tea-house at the foot of the large temple refused to give us a place to take breakfast, at the same time some Japanese officers came past and Mr. Beato in a loud voice called out to them to give us a place, otherwise, he said, we would take it. This was to a party of three or four Yakonins, going past the tea-house towards the temple. . . . A few minutes after these officers past towards the temple Major Baldwin and Lieut. Bird said they had only a short time to spare, and proceeded towards the temple. About ten minutes after the Japanese officers returned and repassed the tea-house, and one looked very savagely at us, and threw back his robe as though to show his sword. I put my hand upon my revolver; I believe the other did the same. I did not draw my revolver, but got it handy. The Japanese then marched on. The three chief men were dressed in silk; I did not observe any crest. After this party had passed we went across the island to a cave on the other side, and at the cave we met Major Baldwin and Lieutenant Bird; I tried to insist upon Major Baldwin coming back to Fusisawa with us, but he said he must see Daiboots before anything. I went along all the temples. They went to the tea-house and got a glass of beer, and started for Enosima about twelve o'clock. I said good-bye to Major Baldwin, and did not see him again, but heard from my servant that they had gone to get a bottle of beer, and had then left without saying anything else. This officer whom I say looked savagely at us was . . .

[The appearance of the men described, but we think best not to publish it at present.]

Lieut. Wood, R.A.: I was ordered out with a party of mounted artillery to bring in the bodies of two foreigners reported to have been killed at Kamakura. We started about 4 A.M. with Mr. Hensman, assistant-surgeon, and Mr. Fletcher, interpreter. We arrived at Kamakura shortly after daylight. We had three or four Japanese officers with us who kept up with our party. I found the bodies of Major Baldwin and Lieut. Bird about 1,000 yards from the Great Temple. There is a three-fold road which divides. They were lying on the left-hand side going down towards the sea, just where the road to Daiboots turns off; on the road, in front of a little tea house, under two little mats, propped up with bamboo. I have heard the first evidence about the position in which the bodies were found. I can corroborate the whole of it. There were two horses in the shed, with European accoutrements. There were only a few drops of blood on the left side of Major Baldwin's saddle-bags. I did not see any blood on the horse pointed out to me as Major Baldwin's. The horses were tied up and feeding. I did not notice that the reins of either bridles were cut. [Bridle produced, a few spots of blood found on it.] Mr. Bird's saddle had much blood on it, especially on the left stirrup. My impression from the position in which I found these bodies was that they had been carried there. I searched for traces of blood elsewhere and found them, as has been already stated, on the right side of the road. On the side of the road about twenty or thirty yards the leaves of the trees were marked with traces of blood. I staved with the bodies. The watches of both the deceased were going. Their shirt pins were all right. I did not search the

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pockets. Major Baldwin's revolver was in the case attached to his waist and all the chambers undischarged. Mr. Bird's was lying as stated by Mr. Lindau. The pistol was so smeered with mud and blood that it was not possible to tell if it had been recently discharged or not. There were no riding-whips found, tho' I believe they both started with them. My own first impression was that at the time they were attacked they were both leading their horses. There would have been more blood if they had been wounded whilst on their horses—there was blood on the saddles on the near side, and on the back of the saddle-cloth. The horses themselves were unhurt. My impression now on inspecting more closely the saddles and saddle-cloths is that they may have probably been riding. The nose-band of Major Baldwin's pony is covered with mud as though he had been down, but that may have occurred in many other ways. I think the pony has dirted the bridle himself. Both these gentlemen were wounded in both arms. Mr. Bird had a wound on the left knee almost cutting it through. I think that could scarcely have been done on the saddle without also cutting the saddle. It would have been a very clever cut to have inflicted that wound without injuring the saddle or stirrup-leather.

Mr. Charles Wirgman, being sworn said: I went out on an excursion on Friday morning. On the first night I slept at Kanasawa. Between Saturday and Sunday and Sunday and Monday, I slept at Kamakura. Monday night at Fusisawa. My party consisted of myself, Mons. Beato, Major de Vecchy, the Marquis de Bonnet, Mons. Rousen and Francisco, Major de Vecchy's servant. During the two days I was at Kamakura we lived at the first tea-house. We had no difficulties — on the contrary, they were extremely polite. We saw one man, a Hotomoto, stopping with his retainers the first night we were there, at the same tea-house; he was very polite to us, and left us the next (Saturday) morning, starting apparently in the direction of Daiboots. We all spoke to him, and all our intercourse was of a very friendly character. We saw no other parties of two-sworded men. I was sketching about the great temple, Hatchimang-sama, the avenue and thereabouts, without molestation. Monsieur Roussen and myself were together principally. He is also a sketcher. I first saw Major Baldwin and Mr. Bird on Monday morning when I was sitting on the steps leading down to the grotto at Enosima. It was about 10½ or 11. Beato came down with Major Baldwin and Mr. Bird. Beato had his photographic apparatus at a little tea-house. Major Baldwin asked to be allowed to sketch his tent. By and-by I saw them again as they were going away, and they bade us good bye. There were two parties of Japanese officials. Before I saw Major Bird I saw one party come up the main-street of Kagosima, go up towards the redwood pagoda, and come down again; but where they went I don't know. I looked at them and stood on one side. They were very well dressed. There were two officers and three servants. Shortly after the first a second party ascended the hill. I met them on the hill as I was coming down. They staid away a long time. The party consisted of four or five. They appeared to be very quiet. So far as I know they showed no signs of displeasure or offence. The first party only had the stolid look of Yakonins who don't care about foreigners. I first heard of this catastrophe in the evening at Fusisawa, while I was in the tea-house. I was in the tea-house about 7 o'clock. It was said that two English officers had been attacked. One had had his head cut off—the other both his arms, but he was not dead. We laughed at the report; we made inquiries of our own Japanese servant; he said he had heard it from a betto; next morning a Yakonin came down from Yokohama and said it was true. We returned next morning to Yokohama along the Tokaido. The distance between Enosima at the tea-house where the Major's servant was left and the spot where these two bodies were found was about six miles, I think. The distance between the same place and Fusisawa is say twelve to fourteen miles. It took us about three hours' ride. The two parties of Yakonins had left about two hours before Major Baldwin and Mr. Bird.

Francisco Quaranta being sworn said: I remember Monday last. I was attending upon my master who was on an excursion. I remember Enosima. I saw two English officers there. They arrived after the party in which I was—probably three-quarters of an hour after. I saw them arrive and saw them go away. They went away about twelve o'clock. They were talking with me a quarter of an hour before leaving. I asked them if they would take something; all they asked for was a glass of beer each. They said they were not hungry; that they had already eaten something; they were only thirsty. Then they went away. I did not see them get out their horses. I only saw them go out at the door. It was about twelve o'clock when they left; it could not have been more than ten minutes more or less. I saw a party of Yakonins going up the hill; I just looked at them once but took no great notice.

Sig. F. Beato, being sworn, said: I was on an excursion with others (as related before). I remember seeing Major Baldwin and Mr. Bird at Enosima. I saw and spoke with them the first. I think this was about half-past ten. They arrived before our horses were tied up. I last saw them on the island. I offered them my bettoes to take charge of their ponies. I took them then up with me to the second temple, and there I left them, after pointing out to them a Japanese man of the place to show them over the place. After that I put my things in a tent, and saw them again, and had nearly fifteen minutes' talk with them, and showed them my views; and I asked them to come with me to Fusisawa, that they would be less tired than if they went back to Yokohama; but they said they had their horses on the way at Kanasawa, and wished particularly to see Daiboots, which they had not seen in coming. I asked them to stay to tiffen with us, but I persuaded them to go and get some refreshment from the servant, and they said perhaps they would go and take a glass of beer, but were anxious to go on. They then left, and I did not see them again. It was about half-past eleven when I last saw them. I think they left the place about twelve o'clock. It was not a tea-house, but the head-quarters of the priest. I consider the distance from Enosima to the place where these gentlemen were killed five miles. I have done it in half-an-hour. From Enosima to Fusisawa is about four miles. I arrived at Fusisawa about half-past three or four o'clock. I stopped the night there. I had some fun with the children; they took a fancy to throw at the tea-house. About half-past six o'clock my servant came to me and told me quietly that he thought the two friends (meaning Major Baldwin and Mr. Bird) had been killed. He described to me the appearance of those he meant. I asked him who told him? He said some bettoes who had come from Kamakura had told him. He said one of the men had had his head cut and was dead, the other had had his hands only cut and was not dead. I did not believe him and sent him away. The next morning very early there came some Yakonins, saying they were looking for some men—"loonins"—who had killed some foreigners, and they were very sorry. It was these who told me these two men had been killed. At Enosima we had great difficulty in getting a tea-house. They shut them all; but we went to a large house and got hold of the head man and told him we must put our horses in, and asked him why these difficulties? As this was occurring a party of five Japanese officers passed us, and looked angrily at us. I did not like their appearance at all. They were not Yokohama officers. After this they gave us the place. Always before I have found the place very civil, but this day they were not so. I fancied these Yakonins had put them up not to give us anything except at Kamakura.

J. M. Woodward, surgeon 2nd battalion of the 20th Regiment, sworn (the coroner handed to him a paper): This is my report upon the wounds of the deceased. The opinion I have formed from the examination of the wounds is, that some of them were inflicted whilst the deceased were riding, and some on the ground. The wound of Major Baldwin on the cheek I call number one. I think very likely inflicted whilst he was riding. I consider all his wounds were inflicted whilst he was riding except that on the back, which must have been inflicted whilst he was lying on his face. With respect to Lieutenant Bird, I think that all the wounds on that gentleman, except that on the back of the neck, were inflicted whilst he was riding, that last-named wound must have been inflicted whilst lying on the ground on his face. Death in the case of Mr. Bird, after the wound on the back of the neck must have been instantaneous. It is possible that Major Baldwin may have lived for two or three hours after the receipt of those injuries; but I do not think it could have been so with Mr. Bird. If the spine is severed high up as in Mr. Bird's case death must be instantaneous. The wound near Major Baldwin's spine in the back is so low as to be compatible with a short continuance of life. From the nature and description of the wounds they could only have been inflicted by a sharp and heavy instrument like a Japanese sword. And the wound in Major Baldwin's back must have been inflicted by a two-handed sword; and the wound in Mr. Bird's neck also must have been inflicted by the same description of weapon—not by any weapon that I have ever seen of a less formidable kind. Looking at the wounds on the arms, I am of opinion they were inflicted as they were raised in defence, and that they were attacked on both sides. In respect to the wounds in Mr. Bird's neck it must have inflicted instantaneous death; it was between the second and third cervical vertebra, both of which were cut through, and the spinal marrow completely severed. It is not possible that he could have lived for three hours, and to drink water with such wounds.

REPORT.

Description of wounds on the body of the late Lieut. Bird, 2nd Battalion 20th Regt., murdered at Kamakura, Japan, on the afternoon of the 21st November, 1864.

1st. An extensive incised wound between 4 to 5 inches in length at the back of the neck dividing all the soft parts and two of the cervical vertebra.

2nd. A long oblique wound about 8 inches in length running from the acromial process of the right scapula to its base dividing the bone.

3rd. Extensive wound on the inner surface of the left forearm running into the elbow-joint, completely dividing the joint and cutting the articular surfaces of both bones away.

4th. Index and middle finger of the left hand cut off a little below the phalangs metacarpel articulation, the ring finger same hand only holding on by a small piece of skin.

5th. A long oblique wound at the lower posterior third of the right forearm, cutting through both bones, and all the soft parts, held together by a small piece of skin.

6th. A long oblique wound about six or seven inches in length on the inner surface of the left knee joint, running from above downwards and outwards, laying open the knee joint and cutting away the internal condyle of the femur.

Description of wounds on the body of the late Major Baldwin, 2nd Battalion 20th Regiment. Murdered at Kamakura, Japan, on the afternoon of the 21st November, 1864.

1st. Large wound on the left cheek, extending from the angle of the mouth to the ear, completely cutting away the cheek, only held on by a few shreds.

2nd. Left arm and forearm frightfully hacked, bones cut through in several places.

3rd. Long wound on the outer aspect of the right elbow joint, cutting through both bones of forearm, forearm frightfully mutilated.

4th. Desperate wound on back sixteen inches in length, to the right of the spinal column and extending from the middle of the back to the base of the sacrum, dividing all the soft parts and three of the false ribs close to their articulation into the abdomen.

Liver exposed but not injured.

(Signed) JAS. M. WOODWARD, Surgeon 20th Regiment.

Yokohama, Japan, 23rd Nov. 1864.

Marquis du Bonnais, being duly sworn, said: I first saw the two officers at Enosima when they arrived about ten to half-past ten o'clock. I did not observe anything extraordinary with any party of Japanese. I thought the people of the place received us rather queerly. When the party of five Yakonins passed by to the temple they seemed to stop for a moment, as though surprised to see us there, but nothing else particular struck me as to their manner. I saw the deceased gentlemen the last time at half-past eleven; they came out of the grotto as I was going in. I was afterwards told they left about twelve o'clock. I observed at several times on previous days in passing the spot where the deceased were found several parties engaged in agricultural employments. I think it scarcely possible that, considering the number of people about, there should not be some one who could give a good account of the whole transaction.

Lachlan Fletcher, Esq., being duly sworn, said: I went as interpreter with Lieut. Wood to the locality of the murder. I arrived at Kamakura,

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where the road branches off, shortly after daylight. It was my impression, from the manner in which the bodies were upon the mats, that they had been disposed there. I sought for traces of blood, and found some about thirty or forty yards down the small avenue that leads to the sea, on the right hand of the road. There is one place at the end of the thirty yards and on a parapet or bank some one and a-half or two feet high where there was a quantity of blood, but not a continuous line of blood; but in the spot I have described it is visible as where it fell on the leaves of the trees, and the bushes and bank and road, and starred as though it had trickled down from a distance. I afterwards went to the house of an old woman down this avenue leading to the sea, perhaps about 150 yards down. Between where we noticed these traces of blood and this spot we noticed a track as though something heavy had been trailed along the ground; it might have been a mat with a weight upon it; in some places the defined edges were perhaps two feet or a yard apart, but I saw no blood. It was a dry sandy part and I don't think blood would have been very visible. I did inquire of various peasants about the circumstances, but all I could get out of them was that they knew in the evening that two foreigners were killed, and they knew nothing further about it. The old woman in the house could give no information—nor during the whole time I was on the ground could I get any explanation—but the people all said they had been working in the fields. What the officers told me was the same. The Vice-Governor's interpreter, Sinagawa, I understood to say there was some disturbance in the village—I drew the inference that he meant in which these gentlemen were concerned, but I thought probably as he spoke in English that he did not convey his ideas correctly to me, and thought from his confusion of manner that he was mistaken, and still think so. I could find nothing from either officers or villagers further than that these gentlemen had been killed the previous evening. I got every assistance that the party required. The chiefs of the village were called and I was furnished with their names. This morning I have been engaged in taking down the evidence of the Japanese as read over to me by the Vice-Governor. I produce the translation. [Read.] They precisely correspond with that I heard on the ground, save that they contain the statement about the two officers praying in the temple and the finding of the hat.

STATEMENTS OF THE JAPANESE.

Yasnyomon, the name of the proprietor of the house on the spot, states about English 10 A.M.

Yasenyemon is a peasant, and went out to work into the fields about 10 A.M. at a distance with my wife and boy, and about 4 P.M. another man, Kikiuero, came and told me while working that two foreigners were lying dead opposite my house. I forthwith went home with my wife and boy and the chief of the village was there when I arrived. A report was immediately made to the Governor. I knew nothing whatever of who committed the murder. One of the officers was still alive when I arrived and he said he was an English officer, and the Vice-Governor said his name was Bird. He died soon afterwards.

Ki iuero, the inhabitant of the opposite house.

I went two days before to a temple to saw timber. A temple called Jimbugi in Kamakura and did not come home to my own house in the night time. A peasant called Yasungoro came to me and told me that two foreigners were killed before my house this evening. I immediately returned to my own house. My wife went to a neighbouring place, I found, in the morning to work in the fields.

Se, a widow woman living at Kinoshita Mura.

I went out to keep a stand of sweetmeats at the gate of the temple, and about three o'clock two two-sworded Japanese came to the temple to pray, one was about thirty-four years of age and had on the loose trousers of an officer and had a bamboo stick in his hands. The other officer was about twenty-four or twenty-five years and had on the dress of an officer, coat and trousers—he had on a large bamboo hat (a hat was discovered on the spot by one of the Yakonins from Yokohama corresponding to the one described here) and also wooden shoes. They did not sit down at the temple but departed immediately down the avenue towards the sea.

Takagiro. The chief of the village of Omatchi mura (the nearest to where the officers were killed). I went in the morning a little distance off to look after my rice fields, and was there all day till about four o'clock. My servant came to tell me that two foreigners were killed opposite to Yasnyomon's house. I immediately went back to my own house, and from there direct to where I heard the foreigners were cut down, and met there the chief officers of the temple, and immediately determined on sending a messenger to Yokohama.

Gembi, the next officer in rank to Takagiro in the village of Omatchi mura. I was at home in my house on the 22nd, and a man came to inform me that two foreigners were cut down opposite Yasnyomon's house, and I immediately went to the spot.

Kitchigoto, Betto, Euwaso, Betto to the officers that were killed.

Their evidence amounts merely to their having heard at Kanasawa (where they were desired to remain with fresh horses) that two foreigners were killed, and they immediately went to the spot.

FINDING.

That Major George Walter Baldwin and Lieut. Robert Nicholas Bird were cruelly murdered near the town of Kamakura on the 21st November, instant, about four in the afternoon.

That from the evidence brought before them, the jury have no doubt that this atrocious crime was the act of Japanese swordsmen unknown.

The jury further find that this attack must in all likelihood have been made on both sides simultaneously, and by a party of five or six ruffians at the very least, but possibly of even greater numbers.

The jury are further of opinion that the Japanese evidence read in Court is utterly worthless, and that there must be ample testimony in the possession of the Japanese authorities, or attainable by them, descriptive of the whole circumstances of the tragedy.

(Signed) G. ROCHFORT, Capt. 20th Regt.
" CONROY FAHIE, " " "
" J. ALDRIDGE, " " "

Approved,

(Signed) CHARLES A. WINCHESTER, Consul and Coroner.

The *Herald* observes:—"If anything could have rendered this sad incident more deplorable it is the reflection that it comes like a sudden blight upon the fairest prospects of a coming harvest of improved relations with the Government at Yedo. Not only an altered policy there, but a renunciation of hostility at Kioto, and of such powerful members of the Daimio class as Satsuma and Choshiu, have all been the fruit of the last nine months of patient effort. Are these all to be lost because no means can be found either to restrain or punish the more vicious of the two-sworded men who infest the country? We would fain hope not, but the answer must come from the Tycoon, and that promptly, or it may be too late."

A Shanghai contemporary remarks that there is a remarkable contradiction between the testimony at the inquest and the statements made by the local authorities in their report to the Governor, which, slight though it be, may afford some clue to the discovery of the culprits. According to the evidence of the village guards, Lieutenant Bird was alive at 10 P.M., whereas it is clear from the wounds inflicted, one of which severed two of the cervical vertebræ, that death must have been almost instantaneous; and yet there is native testimony to the effect that the assault was committed at 4 P.M. It is not surprising, under these circumstances, that the jury of officers which sat on the inquest expressed an opinion that the Japanese evidence was utterly worthless; and that, as other circumstances direct suspicion to the Yakonins at the Temple gardens, it should be generally believed that the district authorities can, if they choose, supply every detail necessary for the arrest of the criminals.

The *Japan Commercial News* reports that the Mikado refuses to sign the Treaty Convention lately entered into between the Tycoon and the Foreign Plenipotentiaries at Yedo, and also withholds his sanction for paying any indemnity. The Japanese are organising another embassy to Europe, which is not likely (says the journal quoted) to meet with a welcome reception at any of the European Courts—more especially with France—from the manner the last treaty was ignored by the Tycoon and his Gorojio. Unless the recent treaty is signed by the Mikado, and all the engagements of the treaty fulfilled, the ambassadors are not likely to obtain very favourable credentials from the Foreign Plenipotentiaries accredited to the Court of the Tycoon to the various Courts of Europe.

Sir Rutherford Alcock has addressed a communication to Mr. Consul Winchester on "the subject of the sanitary and municipal arrangements imperatively demanded in the settlement," accompanied by a "note on the Municipal Government of Foreign Settlements in Japan." This note, he says—

"May be of some utility in fixing your attention and that of your colleagues on what seems to be the main points for consideration. The progress of the municipal institutions at Shanghai, from their origin, you will see, has been traced with a view to draw such instruction as the history of a foreign settlement in very analogous circumstances is calculated to afford. It would obviously be very idle to run the same course without profiting by the experience of others; or to begin *de novo* upon a basis already found to be defective. By avoiding on the contrary the errrors, and beginning where a sister colony now is, free from the greatest of all their complications, the intermingling of a native population,—a mistake from which this community has hitherto been happily preserved—it may fairly be hoped that the task will be easier, and final success more certain of attainment. I would suggest that you should give the enclosed note as much publicity among those interested in the issue as you conveniently can; and in concert with the Consuls of other Treaty Powers invite the Foreign Community to meet together, and ascertain if they can propose a scheme of municipal administration which shall meet the 'requirements of the place' and be satisfactory to themselves. I can only say that the concluding paragraph of Sir Frederick Bruce's letter to the Committee, named by the Foreign Land Renters of Shanghai, exactly describes the object to be attained here; and I shall be glad to the best of my power to assist you and them in securing so legitimate and desirable an end."

The Yokohama hounds had a splendid run after a dog fox on the 19th November. There is to be a meeting every Saturday during the season, on the Bluff adjoining the camp of the 67th Regiment.

We observe in the *Japan Herald* an advertisement announcing the sale by auction of the effects of Sir Rutherford Alcock, including his "furniture, plate, small travelling library, valuable photographs, and various works of art and vertu from the Great Exhibition of 1863." Are we to gather from this that his Excellency will not return to Japan?

CHINA.

CHEFOO.

H.M.S. *Rattler* arrived at Shanghai from Chefoo on the 3rd December. She brings no additional particulars as to the loss of the *Racehorse*. The latter is a total wreck, and now lies embedded in sand, stem on to the shore, and so high up that at low water her upper deck is left dry, and the space between her

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and the shore can be easily traversed on foot. Her main and fore masts were cut away, but her mizen-mast is still standing. It is said that she will be sold as she now lies. The *Rattler* succeeded in saving all her guns, anchors, and cables, together with a large quantity of clothing and personal property. The latter is much damaged by salt water, and is almost useless. Up to the time of the *Rattler's* departure, fifty-six bodies had been recovered and buried. The survivors have been brought down to Shanghai.

SHANGHAI.

The London Mail of 10 Oct. had not arrived out, in consequence of the *Salsette* putting into Manila. The news by this mail from China is extremely meagre.

The bodies of Lieut. Farquhar, Dr. Fawcett, Mr. Crabbe, and thirteen men belonging to the *Racehorse*, have been recovered by the gun-boat *Insolent*. Comr. Boxer has received severe injuries in his arms through falling spars, &c.

The steamer *Dorrington* was advertised for a trip to Soochow.

Consequent on the long continued drought, the city authorities at Soongkong have resorted to the usual mode of propitiating the pluvial dieties, viz.—closing one of the gates. The absence of rain is serious, and unless we have a downfall on an early occasion, the Yangtse will be so reduced in volume that only three of the usual Hankow liners will be able to run—viz., the *Express*, the *Fusi-yama*, and some other craft, the name of which we are not certain about.

A Consular meeting was held on the 29th November, to read a proclamation issued by the Taotai as to the evil results of gambling. The assembled Consuls passed the following resolution :—

"That they concur with the Taotai as to the dangerous character of the gaming houses, and the evils attendant on their existence, and are of opinion, therefore, that they should be suppressed throughout the city, suburbs, and the several divisions of the foreign settlement. They also approve the Taotai's Proclamation, which they consider should be issued at once, and carried out immediately after a month's notice, and they recommend that in the various divisions of the foreign settlement it should be put in force with the aid of the foreign police.

"Resolved : That the chairman communicate this minute to the two Municipal Councils."

A meeting of the Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society was held in the Reading-room of the Shanghai Library, on the 29th November last, with Sir Harry Parkes in the chair. The routine business having been closed, the paper by J. M. Canny, Esq., on "The Amoy River and Island of Saghalien," was read. Mr. Kusst, on the conclusion of the statement, fully corroborated it, and the chairman, after a few appropriate remarks, proposed a vote of thanks for the pleasure afforded them. Dr. Lamprey then exhibited a quantity of Japanese books, and among them a dictionary and some works on botany. Mr. Hanbury produced some of the famed Magnesium wire, and the meeting came to a conclusion with several votes of thanks.

CHIN-KEANG.

On the 18th December an attack was made upon two English gentlemen (Messrs. Baldwin and Smith), who had started on a shooting excursion from this place. During the night Mr. Baldwin was awakened by a scuffling on deck, and rushing up with a loaded gun in his hand, he found that his crew were repelling a number of men, among whom were several Imperial soldiers. Mr. Baldwin was unable to fire his gun, it being wrested from him, and on his demand to be taken before the Mandarin, supposed to be in command, he was only beaten and insulted the more. On the dispersion of the assailants it was discovered that no lives had been sacrificed in the fray.

AMOY.

A correspondent under date the 12th Dec. writes :—

"You will have heard from various sources of the sudden near approach of the Taiping rebels to this port some few weeks ago. On the news reaching Amoy from Chang-chow-foo (a large city distant 30 miles inland from this, and of which Amoy is the sea port), a serious panic seized the native population. Fortunately for us two gunboats were here, which were the means of allaying their fears to a certain extent, and preventing the low mob of natives (which this place is infested with, from setting fire to the town. Mr. Pedder, our Consul, deserves great praise for the manner in which he made certain resolutions for the safety of life and property in the event of any sudden attack on the part of the rebels. Imperial troops have been sent from Foo-chow to assist in retaking the above city. Three or four attempts have thus been made, and every time the Imperialists have been severely defeated ; the last attack was made ten days ago, when they were driven to within ten miles of Amoy. The Imperial troops, of whom there are 20,000, do not intend molesting the rebels again until they receive more force. The Taepings are supposed to number 15,000 men.

"For the protection of foreign residents there are at present at anchor in harbour the following vessels of war :—H.M.S. *Pelorus*, Captain Kingston ; H.M.S. gunboats *Flamer*, *Cockchafer*, and *Janus ;* also H.I. Majesty's schooner *Vindex*, Captain B. Caw ; she formerly belonged to Messrs. Dent and Co., and if called upon would do good service, as she is a beautiful craft, armed to the teeth, and commanded by a very able officer. It is quite necessary to have all these vessels, should the rebels come, as it is fully expected they will, as they have so many places to attack from. Should they leave, it would be a great inducement for them to pay us a visit. We all, however, have great confidence in Captain Kingston's ability in protecting us ; already he has done much good for the port and its residents. H.M.S. *Tartar* arrived here from Japan on the 10th. She merely called in to see how the state of affairs was, being on her way to England ; she left this morning, and calls at Hong Kong.

"Business, ever since the first report reached us of the rebels being near, has been entirely stopped, and even now but very little is doing. Small purchases of tea are made, though there is very little more left to buy. The British barque *Ariadne*, from Shanghai bound to Liverpool, put in here on the 26th November, with the captain sick, and left again on the 29th, captain going on in her, he being better. The British barque *Falcon*, Captain Packer, left for New York, calling at St. Thomas's, West Indies, for orders, on the 4th inst., with 400,000 lbs. Oolong tea. The Danish brig *Theodore and Julie* left for same destination on the 8th Dec., with 169,700 lbs. Oolong tea.

"There are no vessels loading either for England or America."

HONG KONG.

The overdue English mail of October 10 arrived out per *Salsette* on December 3, having put into Manila short of coals. The French mail of October 17 arrived on December 9, and the English mail of October 26 on the 10th.

The telegraphic communication between the town and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co.'s had been opened.

The tutelary saint of Scotland was duly honoured in this colony by a public dinner in the new club on the evening of the 2nd Dec. About sixty "brither Scots" sat down, and one or two English guests were also present. The chair was occupied by the Hon. W. T. Mercer, Colonial Secretary ; and amongst those present were a goodly number of the most active public men of this colony. The arrangements for the occasion included some appropriate reminders of the national object which had brought the company together. Immediately behind the chairman was a full-length portrait of the venerable Saint Andrew, which, partially lighted up from behind, presented a tolerably conspicuous and romantic appearance. In front of the chairman, again, was placed a large vase, filled with thistles, the sturdy national flower—a unique and unexpected bouquet for such an isolated part of the world.

A subscription is being raised for the widows, orphans, and others dependent on those who perished in the ill-fated *Racehorse*. The mere mention of such an endeavour is, we are certain, quite enough to call forth a hearty response from this community ; and a single word in its favour would be simple waste. One thing, however, ought to be noticed ; and that is, that the fact of the idea being taken up by brother officers and men on the station does both credit to themselves and to the service to which they belong.

On the introduction of gas we find the following :—

We have much pleasure in congratulating the Hong Kong Gas Company on the success they have attained in illuminating the city of Victoria, as well as on the most remarkable speed with which the work has been performed. Mr. R. Witty, the company's engineer and manager, is entitled to have his services honourably mentioned in connection with this affair. No practical man of the smallest experience in Hong Kong is ignorant of the provoking difficulties that attend the carrying out of any public work ; and the attempt to do so by an entire stranger is, as we all know, surrounded with troubles on every side. Of Mr. Witty it may be said that "alone he did it." In saying so, we have no wish to

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detract from the credit due to those under his direction. They have evidently done their work well; and they have certainly done it most promptly. The gas is now in full working order in the office of this paper; and a purer fluid could not, we are sure, be produced in England.

Major Brine, R.E., Colonel Hong Kong Artillery Volunteers is under orders for home. He received directions from the Horse Guards to proceed to England without loss of time, the same day he was struck down with small pox; we are glad however to state that the crisis has passed, and the gallant major is on the high road to recovery. His successor, we hear, on his passage to this place has had a sun-stroke, and is detained in consequence at some of the ports.

The *Evening Mail* gives the following items:—The Volunteers have again claimed the greatest attention during the past week. The Prize Meeting on the Race-course lasted some four or five days, and the shooting was, on the whole, good—in some cases particularly good; and, moreover, involving keen and close competition. The meeting was closed by the presentation of prizes in the Public Gardens, which ceremony was performed by Lady Robinson on Tuesday evening, before a pretty numerous company of spectators and the paraded volunteers. The pretty cups, the crimson covering on the terrace steps, the band, and the pleasant scene of the occasion, made it a lively and pleasing little display. The scores made by the best shots, and the winners of the various prizes, will be found detailed in another column. Robberies are still rife, and one appears this week, on a lady, fortunately unsuccessful; it is to be hoped, however, that this case was of a local character, instigated by a discharged coolie. Things cannot go on long at the same rate as now, and the burglars must be fully met some day. The great event in our municipal affairs last week was the partial lighting up of the city with gas. This may have some effect on the burglars' movements. With theatricals and other amusements, we are likely to be well supplied during the Christmas week.

COCHIN-CHINA.

SAIGON.

The *Courier de Saigon* notifies that on the last voyage of the *Allom Prah* from Saigon to Bangkok, she found a rock not marked on the charts, situated in latitude 12 deg. 25 min. 30 sec. North, and longitude 90 deg. 19 min. East from the meridian of Paris. The buoys which were situated on the Donnai, twenty miles south of Saigon, have been raised, and replaced by beacons on the bank of the river, in a manner so as to indicate the course to avoid the bank, on which vessels may touch at low water. One buoy still remains on the centre of the bank.

On the 1st October the receipts of the taxation for 1864 exceeded three millions (of francs), including the value of the rice paid as tribute. The receipts exceed the expenses by upwards of a million. The expenditure included in the budget for 1865, which is about to be published, exceed four millions, without including the value of requisitions and corvees which it has not been possible as yet entirely to suppress.

About 500 kilometres of roads have been constructed or repaired. The most part of these roads are permanent and well frequented. More than 500 Cambodian carts carrying cotton, tobacco, and other produce, have passed Tay-ninh and have embarked their loads at Trambang for Cholen.

Eighteen primary schools for teaching the European characters have been opened at the pressing desire of the population; a thousand natives already spell the French alphabet, and there are numerous applications for the opening of new schools. Conversions are numerous, now that the natives appreciate the greatness and the excellence of Christian morality.

The new King of Cambodia has paid a visit to Saigon. He arrived on the 25th October in a French gunboat, and left on the 27th. He visited all the different establishments and made numerous inquiries regarding what he saw, and especially as to objects which he thought might be useful in his own country. He was particularly impressed by the Imperial printing-office and the electric telegraph. He had his portrait taken by photography and made purchases in different shops, not forgetting some articles of fashion, destined no doubt to set off the beauty of the ladies of the Court of Houdon. The more immediate object of the King's visit seems to have been to renew the assurances of his devotion to France, which had become rather doubtful, if we may believe the *Saigon Courier*, as it asserts that the existence of a secret treaty between the King of Siam and the King of Cambodia had been discovered by accident, annulling the treaty with France, and transforming the kingdom of Cambodia into a Siamese province.

SIAM.

The British Consul attended at the Royal Palace at Bangkok on the 2nd December to present an autograph letter from Queen Victoria to his Siamese Majesty.

JAVA.

BATAVIA.

Dates hence are to the 15th December. The mail from Europe of the 26th October arrived out on the 5th December.

H. M. André Wiltens, Esq., Governor of the Moluccas, has been appointed Governor of Celebes and dependencies. Lieutenant Colonel G. M. Verspyck, of the 11th battalion of Infantry, has been appointed Commandant of Batavia. Major J. H. Donleben, of the 12th, has been promoted to the vacant lieutenant-colonelcy. Lieutenant-Colonel A. E. Waszklewiez, surgeon N.I. Army, has been made a colonel of the medical service.

From a quarterly statement of the Government Java Produce Crops of 1863 and 1864 we extract the following:—

	1863.	1864. Probable crop.
Coffee	1,100,891 pic.	479,946 pic.
Sugar	1,104,256 „	1,116,726 „
Indigo	518,849 lbs.	446,748 lbs.
Tea	1,139,189 „	575,617 „
Pepper	18,699 „	No report recd. yet.
Cinnamon	159,373 „	169,505
Cochineal	8,872 „	15,000
Tobacco	9,050	Reports favourable.

The coffee and tea crops show a falling off of no less than 620,945 pic., and 563,572 Amsterdam pounds respectively. The failure in the crop of the former article is to be attributed to the heavy and continuous rain during 1863.

The same paper gives the following statement of the private crops during the same period, including the deliveries to Government:—

	1863	1864 Probable crop.
Coffee	137,818	84,220
Sugar	1,008,209	797,488
Indigo	206,646 lbs.	199,085 lbs.
Cochineal	16,000 lbs.	Not yet known
Tobacco	132,485 pic.	46,594 pic.

Showing a difference in the two first articles of 53,598 pic. and 210,721 respectsvely. If we take the difference of the Government coffee crop between 1863 and 1864 at an average rate of 38½f. per picul, we find the Government a loser by 23,906,382. Add to this 130,000f.—, the export duty on 53,598 piculs private coffee, at the same average valuation, which would otherwise have flowed into the Treasury, but which is now lost,—we get the enormous sum of twenty-four millions, thirty-six thousand, three hundred and eighty-two guilders, a dead loss to the Government in the matter of Java coffee alone.

The Chamber of Commerce had held a meeting which was attended by the members of the Vereeniging, to petition the Government in disapproval of the increased export duties on sugar and coffee, proposed in the draught of the new Customs tariff. The President of the Chamber moved that the mercantile community should join him in his intention. The Vereeniging immediately resolved that a committee be chosen to carry out the wishes of the Chamber of Commerce.

At the Government sale of sugar and coffee held on the 10th December 79,000 piculs sugar averaged fr.16.57; and 25,000 do. coffee averaged fr.39,53

The three men and one woman belonging to the *Gazelle*, reported in one of our former issues, as having arrived in an open boat at Bonthain, are now in custody at Batavia. There is a strong suspicion against these people; and, if report speaks true, one of them, the serang, has already partially confessed that there has been another of those scenes of piracy and foul murder, now becoming so frequent in these seas, and which make the blood boil to think of.

The Portuguese transport *Martinho de Melho*, with troops from Macao for Lisbon, put in on the 11th November, for fresh provisions, and would proceed on her voyage in a few days. The Belgian ship *Leopold*, from China to Havanah, with 400 Chinese coolies on board, has put in here for water. The British barque *Douglas*, from Melbourne, brought a cargo of horses, cows, and dogs—without exception, the finest lot ever seen imported into Batavia. The Mecklenburg ship *May Queen*, from Cardiff, having sprung a leak on her voyage, would proceed to Sourabaya to repair.

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His Netherlands Majesty's steamship *Medusa* arrived from Japan on the 15th November. The *Java Bode* says that it is intended to give the officers of this vessel a public ovation.

We have just been told (says the *Java Times*) one of the most horrible stories we have heard for several years past. It seems that whilst a party of gentlemen were on an excursion in the neighbourhood of Meester Cornelis, a couple of weeks ago, they lost their way in the woods there, and in their endeavours to extricate themselves from this dilemma, they were attracted to a certain part of the forest by the cries of a human being. Hastening to the spot, they were horrorstruck with the sight before them. A native woman, almost nude, and diminished to a skeleton, in all the agonies of insanity, and chained to the ground by an iron chain fastened round her ankles, was the spectre that met their eyes. As soon as they could get out of the forest, they gave information to the police, who proceeded to the place indicated, and released the poor creature. An inquiry was immediately instituted, and after much trouble it was discovered that the poor woman, who formerly possessed a great deal of property, had been served in this manner by her husband and brother, and had been three years in that situation, during which time her scanty meals were brought her regularly by her inhuman husband, who had built a small bamboo shed for his victim. Fifteen persons, who are said to be implicated in this barbarous act, are in custody.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Our dates are to the 22nd December. The London mail of the 10th November, by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Carnatic*, arrived out on the 14th December. The Messageries mail, with London dates to the 17th November, had not made her appearance. The Messageries steamer *Alphee* arrived on the 11th December from Saigon, disabled, having broken her screw-shaft shortly after starting from Saigon to Hong Kong. The *Alphee* left Singapore on the 23rd November with the Marseilles mail of the 19th October. She reached Saigon safely on the 27th, and started for Hong Kong again on the 28th, one day after which her screw-shaft gave way, and she had to return to Cape St. James under canvas. There being no facilities at Saigon for repairing the damage, she had to come down to Singapore. Her mails and passengers were sent on from Saigon by the French Government transport *Sarthe* on the 4th December.

The British steamer *Kin Lin*, Captain Bramwell, from Cardiff, the 30th June, arrived on the 14th December. The *Australian Messenger*, from Melbourne, the 1st November, arrived on the 19th December, having spoke the Peruvian barque *Alberto* in the Straits of Banka, from Rio de Janerio, having put in there dismasted; out 90 days, bound to Singapore, and wished to be reported. The steamer *Indore* arrived on the 21st December. Shortly after leaving Hong Kong some derangement occurred to her screw, which would not revolve, though the shaft continued to go round. She will have to be docked to ascertain the precise injury, and to repair.

The election of a Municipal Commissioner, to sit for three years in place of the retiring member, ended in the return of Mr. Vaughan, the police magistrate, at the head of the poll. Considerable disapprobation with this result is expressed by the European section of the community; first, because Mr. Vaughan is a Government official, and his presence at the board gives a majority there to the Government; second, because during the meetings of the Council he must absent himself from his magisterial duties; and thirdly, because as a commissioner he will be unable to try any of the many cases in which the commissioners are prosecutors. Mr. Vaughan will, we believe, be required by Government to get another magistrate to act for him in the two last contingencies; but it seems doubtful whether this will get over the difficulty; for, as the commissioners receive all the fines levied at the Police Court, it will be impossible for Mr. Vaughan while he is a commissioner, by a well known principle of law and justice, to award any punishment in the nature of a fine.

All attempts to get the *Hydaspe* off proved fruitless, so that she was abandoned, and the wreck sold in Singapore for some 2,000 dols. The vessel has since been stripped of all that was valuable within reach, and the purchasers of the wreck will probably realise a fair profit on their venture. The wreck lies on the reef with her stem sticking up at an angle of about 35 deg., and the sea at low water up to her main mast. We believe (says the *Straits Times*) the vessel was altogether uninsured.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

ESSEX—On the 30th Nov., at Shanghai, the wife of E. C. Essex, of a daughter.

OZORIO—On the 8th Dec., at Gough-street, Hong Kong, the wife of C. A. Ozorio, jun., of a daughter.

PROBST—On the 26th Nov., at Shanghai, the wife of Wm. Probst, of a daughter, still-born.

PEEL—On the 3rd Dec., at Ningpo, the wife of James Peel, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

AUSTIN—FUNG.—At his residence, Honque, Shanghai, by the Rev. Elliott H. Thomson Mr. John Austin to Miss Kung Fung.

DE VOS—DIECKMANN.—On the 10th Dec., at St. Andrew's Church, Singapore, by the Rev. Mr. Waterhouse, Mr. D. De Vos, of the firm of Becker, Belder, and Co., of Singapore, to Miss Johanna Louise Dieckmann, of Hamburg.

FIELDEN—MCCORD.—On the 27th Oct., at Greenville, South Carolina, at the residence of T. K. Sass, Esq., by the Rev. Thomas S. Arthur, rector of Christ Church, Captain Henry Wemyss Fielden, A.A.G.C.S.P. Army, second son of Sir Wm. Henry Fielden, Bart., Feniscowles Hall, Lancashire, to Miss Julia McCord, daughter of the late David McCord, of Columbia, C.S.

MENDEL—COOKSON.—On the 17th Jan., at Grasmere, Westmorland, by the Rev. Dr. Cookson, Master of St. Peter's College, and Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge, brother of the bride, assisted by the Rev. Edward Jeffries, rector of Grasmere, Sam Mendel, Esq., of Manley Hall, Manchester, to Mary, youngest daughter of Mrs. Cookson, of How Foot.

TOWSE—HOOPER.—On the 18th Jan., at St. Magnas the Martyr, by the rector, the Rev. A. J. McCaul, M.A., William Wrench Towse, of 89, Great Tower-street, and South Norwood, Captain L. R. V. B., eldest son of William Beckwith Towse, Esq., of Fishmongers' Hall, to Emily, only child of Bartlett Hooper, Esq., of King William-street, city. No cards.

DEATHS.

BALDWIN—BIRD—On the 21st Nov., at Kamakura, near Yokohama, Japan, most barbarously murdered by Japanese, George Walter Baldwin, Major of the 2nd Batt. 20th Regt. of Foot, late in the 31st Regt., aged 35, son of the late Major Baldwin of the 31st Regt., who was killed in battle at Chillianwallah: also Robert Nicholas Bird, Lieut. 20th Regt. of Foot, aged 23, son of —. Bird, of Kinsale, near Cork, brother of Lieut. J. S. Bird, H.B.M.'s Royal Marine Artillery, and of Lieut. G. B. Bird, of H.B.M.'s 51st Regt.

CAMPBELL—On the 20th Jan., most deeply lamented, John Shaw Campbell, of 5, Lyndhurst-square, Peckham, and of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's Service, eldest son of the late Dr. Campbell in his 38th year.

CUNARD—On the 16th Jan., at his residence, Upper Parliament-street, Liverpool, the Joseph Cunard, Esq., aged 66.

DAVIDSON—On the 26th Nov., at the French Hospital, Shanghai, Capt. Charles Davidson, late of the Chinese steamer Hyson, aged 38 years, native of Ireland.

GRAVES—On the 11th Dec., at Hong Kong, Eva M. Graves, wife of R. H. Graves, of the Southern Baptist Canton Mission, and daughter of the late Dr. A. Mills, of Albion, New York, U.S.A.

KOCH—On the 14th Jan., Robert Koch, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul at Frankfort-on-the-Maine, aged 57.

MASON—On the 26th Nov., at Shanghai, John Martin, eldest son of Alexander John Martin Mason, aged 4 years and 4 months.

NICHOLL—At the Vulcan Foundry, Honque, Mr. Nicholl, formerly of the P. and O. service, superintending engineer.

PROBST—On the 29th Nov., at Shanghai, Alma, the beloved wife of Wm. Probst, aged 29 years.

PATRICK—On the 29th Nov., at Shanghai, on board the American barque Nabob, Capt. George M. Patrick, aged 34 years, of Chelsea, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

ROBERTSON—On the 20th Jan., at 14, Westbourne-square, Hyde-park, Anna Maria, relict of the late Captain C. C. Robertson, of the Bengal Army, and daughter of the late Major-General James Manson, H.E.I.C.S.

TUMBLETY—At Shanghai, of dysentery, Mr. Tumblety, Colonel in Gordon's force, and late proprietor of the Clarendon Hotel.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—Remains without the slightest inquiry being manifested on the part of the native dealers, and the only transaction reported is the sale of 10 bales of 16 to 24 taken for re-export to Japan at $70 per picul. Grey Shirtings: The business transacted in this description of manufactures during the past fortnight is confined to the purchase on foreign account of 5,000 pieces, and about 1,000 pieces purchased by native dealers. The sales by auction amount to 150 pieces. White Shirtings: Sales of 450 pieces are reported since the beginning of the month, and in Canton 750 pieces have changed hands. T-Cloths: Remain quite uninquired for, and not a single transaction has taken place since the departure of last mail steamer, if we except 225 pieces of damaged cloth sold by public auction. American Drills: There are not any of these goods on the market. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: The sales of these goods are confined entirely to dyed Brocades, transactions in which are put at 1,750 pieces during the past fortnight. Damasks: There are not any sales reported. Handkerchiefs: A moderate amount of business has been transacted in these manufactures since the beginning of the month, and the sales which have taken place are estimated at 3,500 dozens.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: There have not been any sales of these manufactures reported since the departure of the last mail steamer, and quotations remain unchanged. Long Ells: Are quoted slightly lower than under date of last report, and sales of the past fortnight are put at 1,800 pieces, consisting principally of Scarlet, which have been moved off at $8.30 per piece. Camlets: 240 pieces of these goods have found purchasers. Lastings: The sales of the past fortnight amount to 520 pieces. Blankets: Have again met with a moderate inquiry and 400 pairs have changed hands.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: The value of the various qualities of Iron imported continues to be well maintained, although the transactions of the fortnight in this Colony are confined to purchases of Nail Rod, which has been taken to the extent of 3,400 piculs. In Canton sales 2,500 piculs have taken place. Lead: The dealers in this Colony hold large stocks, which they find it difficult to move off, and the market for this article continues extremely depressed. There are not any sales to report. Tin: The settlements of the fortnight amount to 320 slabs. Tin Plates: 260 boxes have changed hands.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—Canton: Three more chops of country Congous have arrived, but no settlements have taken place. The holders are desirous to sell, but they will be heavy losers, and demand far more than their teas will fetch in London. In Cantons Congou trifling settlements have been made at previous rates. Scented Teas are rather in better request. Canton Greens are in full supply and tend down. About 3,000 half

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chests of Country Green have arrived but have excited little or no attention. The following are the settlements of the fortnight:—Canton Congou, 500 boxes at 21 to 32 taels; Scented Orange Pekoe, 3,000 boxes, at 22 to 30 taels; Scented Caper, 6,000 boxes, at 12½ to 30 taels. Canton Greens, 3,000 boxes Gunpowder at 16 to 23 taels, and 1,000 boxes Imperials at 17 to 24 taels. The stock is as follows:—Country Congous, 22 chops; Refined and Canton do., 3,000 hf. ch.; Souchong, Pouchong, and Oolong, 4,000 hf. ch.; Scented Orange Pekoes, 5,000 boxes; Scented Caper, 15,000 boxes; Canton Green, 30,000 boxes; Country Greens, 2,800 packages.

SHANGHAI.—Black: A fair amount of business has been transacted during the fortnight, and prices have again been somewhat irregular, many of the settlements showing an advance of one tael on previous quotations. During the past two days, holders, in consequence of the advance in Exchange, have been more anxious to realise but no decline can be at present quoted. Settlements have been: 7 chops Oopack at Tls. 23.50 to 24. 50; 8 chops Oonam at Tls. 18 to 20; 5 chops Ningchow at Tls. 22 to 23; and 4 chops Hohow at Tls. 16 to 17. Settlements on the market, 24 chops, or 9,538 ch. as above. Re-shipped on owners' account, 14 chops, or 6,451 ch.; together 38 chops, or 15,989 ch., making total to date 346,323. Stock waiting shipment and for re-sale, 50 chops or 21,026 ch. Quotations: 3rd crop Oopacks, Tls. 23.50 to 26.50; Ningchow, Tls. 20 to 23; Oonams, Tls. 18 to 22; Hohows, Tls, 16 to 20. Green: One large chop of Moyune Country Tea belonging to a foreign firm, containing over 1,700 packages, has been settled at Tls. 35, but natives will not accept similar rates, so the market cannot be reported as fairly opened. Stocks both here and at Kiukiang are steadily increasing. A few small parcels of Shanghai packed have been taken at previous rates. Re shipments and settlements, 3,804 hf.-chests Fychow, &c.; 1,382 hf.-chests Pingsuey; 1,337 hf.-ch. Japan and Shanghai packed. In all, 6,323 hf.-ch.; making total to date 119,972 hf. ch. Stock of Green Tea is estimated at 38,000 hf.-ch. Fychow, &c.; 12,000 hf.-ch. Shanghai packed Japan; 2,493 hf.-ch. Pingsuey; total, 52,483 hf. chests.

FOO-CHOW-FOO.—During the fortnight there has been a quiet market for Congou, the demand being moderate at former quotations. The teamen, encouraged by the reduced stock, are firm holders. The bulk of the settlements are for Australia. Fine qualities are very scarce, and have been taken at very irregular rates. Oolongs sell freely for shipment to New York, and tend up. In other kinds there is no alteration to notice.

AMOY.—Owing to the disturbed state of the neighbourhood, supplies have been very scanty. Oolongs have continued in fair inquiry for New York, but are too firmly held to admit of much business being done—besides, the stock is very small. The market has been swept of Congou by the settlement noted below. In other sorts there have been no transactions.

KIUKIANG.—Green Teas: No transactions had taken place, and teamen were steadily holding their stocks, which had reached 110,300 packages. Very few buyers were in the market, but offers had been advanced to taels 32 to 34 for fair to good Moyunes and refused. Total settlements and shipments:—22,230 half-chests, against 73,600 half-chests. last year. Black Tea: Eight small parcels, 2,900 chests, of fair Ningchow had been settled at taels 16 to 18. Supplies were nearly exhausted, and only 4 chops were left in stock. Quotations, Ningchow: Medium to fair taels 16 to 20. Hohow: Common to Good taels 14 to 18 per picul. Total settlements and shipments: 105,500 chests, against 101,400 chests last year.

HANKOW.—A fair amount of business had been done, chiefly in common Oonams at previous rates. Supplies were beginning to fall off, and the stock was reduced to 6,000 chests, whilst future arrivals would probably not exceed 10,000 chests. Settlements for the fortnight amounted to 29 chops or 12,000 chests. Quotations: Oopacks, Common to Medium, Tls. 20 to 23; Oonams, Common to Medium, Tls. 13.00 to 19.50 per picul. Total settlements and shipments.—712 chops, or 355,300 chests, against 352,000 chests last year.

YOKOHAMA.—The transactions during the month have been rather extensive, and in the face of a large supply rates have advanced fully $2 per picul. For the better kinds there is a brisk inquiry. The settlements for the month may be estimated at 4.800 pls., the unsold stock being 3,000 pls. The following are the current quotations: Fine, $28 to 31; Medium, $25 to 27; Common, $17 to 24. The export of the season to date is 2,093,774 lb., against 2.884,782 lb. same period last season, and 5,811,991 lb. the season before.

NAGASAKI.—There is none on the market.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—The settlements are estimated at 300 bales; the high demands of dealers, and poor selection now in stock, as well as an advanced rate of exchange, having caused more caution on the part of operators. There has been no change in prices, and as the quantity of unsold Silk is reduced to a limited amount, without the prospect of any considerable supply for the remainder of the season, the Chinamen continue firm. About 300 bales have been brought down from the interior, so that there is no alteration in the estimate of stock. From Japan 883 bales have arrived. The latest advices from Yokohama report that the supply was coming forward less freely, and this, added to a reduced rate of exchange, had caused prices to advance to $705 per picul for best Mybash. The settlements of the fortnight are reported at 300 bales, against 1,400 bales corresponding fortnight of last season, and 3,000 bales of season previous. The present unsold stock is stated at 1,500 bales, against 8,500 same period last season, and 7,000 bales the season before. The following are the latest quotations:—Tsatlee, Tls. 450 to 460 per pcl.; Taysaam, No. 1, Tls. 440 to 450.

YOKOHAMA.—The receipts during the early part of the month were on a liberal scale, and a fair business resulted, the decline in exchange stimulating the demand. Latterly, supplies have fallen, not averaging 75 pls. per diem. Prices have continued steadily to advance, and have attained a point showing an advance of $40 to 50 over last mail's quotations. Settlements for the month reach 3,000 bales, the stock being reduced to 100 bales. The following are the current quotations: Ida $655 to 710; Maibash and Sinshiu $645 to 705; Oshiu $570 to 660; Coshiu $555 to 610; Hatchojee $480 to 520. The exports from 1st July to date amount to 6,077 bales, against 9,079 bales corresponding period last season.

RAW COTTON.

The demand continued languid for some days subsequent to last report, and prices receded one or two dollars. On receipt of advices by the 26th October mail, with telegrams to the 2nd November, communicating an advance in cotton at Liverpool, the Chinese commenced purchasing, and sales were reported of new Shanghai at $22 to 24½, and of Ningpo at $24½ to 26½, at which rates about 4,500 bags have been placed. For shipment to England nothing is doing. Supplies from the north have been small, and as the native demand is likely to continue, present rates will probable be maintained for a time. The closing rates are:—Shanghai, $23½ to 24½; Ningpo, $25½ to 27. The stock is estimated at about 11,000 bags.

YOKOHAMA.—The advices of the depression in the London market have had the effect of entirely checking business in this staple. The native holders, finding the articles unsaleable to foreigners, have been shipping to the interior, and sales are said to have been effected at $24 for good quality. The stock on hand is 500 piculs. The shipments from 1st July to date amount to 15,348 bales, against 20,464 bales same period last season and 10,933 bales the season before.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	6s. 6d. to 6s. 6¼d.	6s. 6d. to 6s. 7d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 8¾d. to 4s. 9d.	4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.
At Singapore	6 ditto	4s. 8¾d. to 4s. 9d.	4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.
At Manila	6 ditto	4s. 6d.	4s. 7d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 312 to 313 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 313 to 314 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 7 to 8 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 72 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 27 to 28 discount.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From Amsterdam: Nov. 20, Henrietta.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Nov. 17, Sir H. Parkes; 18, Twilight; Dec. 2, Vulcan. From Cardiff: Nov. 17, Star Queen; 18, Stewart Wortley; 26, Chetab; 30, Tupavo. From Sunderland: Dec. 2, Congress. From New York: Nov. 18, Baltimore; and 30, Lord Palmerston.

At FOO-CHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From Newcastle: Dec. 1, Paria; and 9, Tuisco. From Hamburg: 8, Siwa. From New York: 8, Edward.

At MANILA.—None.

At SINGAPORE.—From Liverpool: Dec. 10, Mount Vernon; and 19, Richard Cobden. From Cardiff: 9, Maria Helene; 11, Redbreast; 14, Kiu Lin (str.); and 15, Hawthorn. From Newcastle: 10, Edward and Elise; and 15, Jacob Levy. From Sunderland: 11, Stafford, and Diamant. From Dundee: 13, Parmenis. From Philadelphia: 13, Aurelia.

At BATAVIA.—From Glasgow: Nov. 28, County of Renfrew. From Shields: Dec. 2, Susanna Elizabeth. From Cardiff: 7, Cecilia. From Amsterdam: Nov. 28, Hellevoetsluis, and Sinbad; Dec. 4, Orthelius; 5. Zanstroom; 7, Henriette, Geode Verwachting, and Hendrina; 8, Gebreoders, and California. From New York: Dec. 6, Catharina Maria.

At PENANG.—None.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—None.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Dec. 6, Delhi. For Liverpool: Nov. 17, Aerolite and Dennis Horton; 25, Queen of the East; 26, Royal Bride; Dec. 7, Roodee.

From AMOY.—For New York: Dec. 1, Falcon; 9, Theodore and Julie.

From FOO-CHOW.—For London: Nov. 27, Esperanza; Dec. 1, Langdale. For Falmouth: Dec. 4, Persia. For Havre (via Hong Kong): Nov. 26, Taffarette.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For Liverpool: Dec. 4, Melbreck. For Falmouth: 2, Conrad Henrich. For New York: 7, N. B. Palmer.

From MACAO.—For Falmouth: Nov. 24, Nornen.

From MANILA.—For London: Nov. 30, Ottilie. For Falmouth: Dec. 1, Amur.

From SINGAPORE.—For Liverpool: Dec. 20, Demetrio Fario. For Bordeaux: 12, Briman.

From BATAVIA.—For Holland: Dec. 4, Sylphide; 10, Anna Digna, President Van Ryckevorsel, and Alfred the Great.

From PENANG.—For Boston: Dec. 7, Borneo.

LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Alfred Hawley, Pembrokeshire, Medina, and Bacchante. For Liverpool: Gabalva.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Canadian, Countess Russell, Spirit of the Deep, Naomi, Spirit of Trade, Spray of the Ocean, Jubilee, Anglo-Saxon, James Russell, Courier, and Bedfordshire. For Liverpool: Gitana, Silvia, Yorick, Isabella, Anna Helen, Sailors' Home, Savoir Faire, Constance, Coringa, Her Majesty, Norah Gleame. For New York: Fine lla. For Montreal: Princess of Wales.

At FOO-CHOW.—For London: Sydney Eggers, Star of the North, Violet, Dilkhoosh, Laurel, Maiden Queen, and Birchgrove. For New York; Queen of the Seas, and White Eagle.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Juanpore. For Liverpool: James Vinnicombe.

At MACAO.—For London: Kirkland.

At MANILA.—For London: C. David. For Liverpool: Therese

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For Falmouth: Hampton Court, and Vectis. For New York: White Swallow.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Edwin Fox, Maury, Charlotte Jane, and Alexandra. For Liverpool: Lady Bowen, and Chase. For Falmouth: Matilda. For Cork: Ocean Bride. For Bordeaux: Marie. For Copenhagen: Mari, and August.

At PENANG.—For London: St. Thomas Packet, and Mangerton.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

YOKOHAMA.—To England, £3 for tea and cotton; silk, £4 per ton of 50 cubic feet. To Shanghai, per steamer, silk, $3.50 per bale; measurement, $5 per ton of 40 feet. To Hong Kong, per sailing vessel, $5, and per steamer, $7 per ton of 40 feet.

SHANGHAI.—Little demand exists for vessels, while the tonnage in harbour is large. The rates to London for tea is £2. 10s. to £3; and cotton, £2. 5s. to £2. 15s.

HONG KONG.—Several vessels have been fixed to load sugar and hemp at Manila to England at £3. 10s. to £3. 15s. sugar, and £4. 5s. to £4. 10s. hemp.

MANILA.—The settlements to report for the United Kingdom are the Hampton Court and Vectis, for Falmouth, to discharge at London or Liverpool, at £3. 10s. for clayed, and £3. 15s. for unclayed sugar respectively, the rate for hemp for both being £4. 10s. per 20 cwt. The Corneille David has also engaged some hemp for London at £4. 15s. per ton. There is still a demand for vessels at above rates.

SINGAPORE.—To Great Britain: Tin £2, light freights £3, measurement £3. 15s. per ton of 50 cubic feet.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND AND CONTINENT TO CHINA, &c.—Nov. 28, Quartet, Amsterdam to Batavia; Dec. 3, Zaanstroom, Amsterdam to Batavia; 4, Henriette, Amsterdam to Samarang.

From UNITED STATES TO CHINA, &c.—Dec. 4, Catharina Maria, New York to Batavia.

From CHINA, &c., TO ENGLAND AND CONTINENT.—Nov. 22, Amelia, 23, Comus, from Yokohama to London; Cambalu, Macao to London; 26, Gabavlior, Shanghai to London; 27, Emelie, Hong Kong to Hamburg; 28, Ocean Home, Manila to London; 30, Northumberland, Singapore to London; Earl of Mar and Kellie, Zebu to Liverpool; Dec. 3, John Stanton, Shanghai to London; 4, Mountain Ash, Yokohama to London.

From CHINA, &c., TO UNITED STATES.—Nov. 28, Windward, from Manila; Dec. 2, Cassiterides, Hong Kong to New York.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 800 hhds. porter, and 99 tons naval stores, including a few combustibles, from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

SPOKEN.—Empress Eugenie, Sunderland to Shanghai, Aug. 13, 23 days out.

CASUALTIES.—The Hochelaga, Arey, from Batavia for Amsterdam, put into Plymouth Jan. 13, with loss of sails, &c.

Continental Intelligence.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, JAN 24.

As the discussions on the budget are terminated, and the second Chamber of the States-General has not yet reassembled, an unusual calmness has succeeded the more interesiing events which we have witnessed of late in the political world. This quiet is only broken occasionally by some remarks of the one or other "*oud gast*," which are brought forward to keep up the colonial agitation. The *Dagblad* has occupied itself in commenting on the late discussions, and has not refrained from odious and sometimes insulting remarks respecting Liberal members.

Though quiet reigns at the Hague, the contrary is the case in the capital. In Amsterdam the Canal Company is still the topic of the day, and on every tongue. Last week a very uproarious meeting took place, which, however, elicited no information beyond that furnished by previous *soi-disant* communications of the directors. The fact of the Board having broken off their contract with the original contractors, has caused many subscribers to refuse payment of the first instalment of ten per cent. It is supposed M. H. R. Baron van Hoevell, will be nominated as Government Director, and he has declared himself to have taken shares to a considerable amount. This assertion will, without doubt, be received in India with as much surprise as it was here. He returned as a poor Reverend from the Indies, became M.P. with an income of 2,000f. per annum, and has now been some months Member of the Council of State.

The sensation caused by the article inserted in the *Gids*, by Mr. Busken Huet, about which I spoke in my last, is still increasing. The next member of that periodical is looked for with great interest, as a reply against the accusations brought against the author may be expected therein.

The late Baron van Heemstra, M.P., is replaced by Mr. G. A. Fokker, as Member of the Second Chamber of the States-General for Middelburg.

The revenues of the State for the year 1864 amounted to f. 64,161,345. 06½ c., against fr. 62,203,842. 33½ c. in 1863.

Mr. E. Jacobson has been appointed Consul for Hesse at Samarang.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The market remains very inactive, waiting for the first auction, which will be announced by the Trading Company. The quantity that will be offered is still unknown. The transactions were limited to those for consumption, and amounted to 1,800 bales.

TEA.—There is much inquiry, and before the auctions business to a fair extent was done privately. At the public sales the following prices were paid:—Fine Oonam Congou, 106 to 108c.; fine Ningchow Congou, 116 to 117c.; extra superfine Oopack Congou, 110 to 114c.; superfine New Season's Oopack Congou, 132 to 134c.; finest New Season's Moning Congou, 65c.; finest Pingsuey Young Hyson, 120c.; extra fine Pingsuey Imperial, 155 to 159c.; finest Imperial, 72 to 106c.; finest Pingsuey Gunpowder, 119c.; extra fine Pinsuey Gunpowder, 136c.; finest Pingsuey Gunpowder, 99 to 147c.; finest Imperial, 50c.; extra fine Gunpowder, 52c.; finest Gunpowder, 51 to 66c.; Pingsuey Young Hyson, 136 to 137c.; Pingsuey Imperial, 51. to 140c.; Tegel, 37c. Open leaf: Black, 50 to 56c.; Green, 25 to 101c. The market remains in a very firm condition.

SUGAR.—The market remains in an unsatisfactory condition. Only 3,500 kr. just arrived from Java, and 2,000 kr. ex Majestic; 1,144 kr. ex Nation's Hope, at prices that did not transpire, but which are thought to be about 4f. under those of November. It seems however, that there are more orders, but sellers are not inclined to operate at the actual quotation. Refined sugar with much demand at lower rates, 400 to 500 tuns B and H were trucked against raw. Prices now quoted are:—Surinam, 24f. to 31f.; Brazil, white, 33f. to 36f.; yellow, 29f. to 32f.; brown, 24f. to 28f.; Havannah, white, 36f. to 42f.; yellow, 31f. to 35f.; brown, 25f. to 30f.; Java, white, 35f. to 40f.; grey, 33f. to 34f.; yellow, 30f. to 32f.; brown, 24f. to 29f.; Manila. grey, 29f. to 33f.; brown, 24f. to 28f.; Mauritius, grey and yellow, 29f. to 33f.; brown, 24f. to 28f.

RICE has experienced an advance, notwithstanding there has been no speculative inquiry since our last report, and scarcely any demand for consumption. In comparison with the markets abroad, prices here are still the lowest.

SPICES extremely dull; only Cinnamon could be sold at higher prices, but there is no stock in the first hand.

TOBACCO.—The market is rather more active. The 174 p. Manila Cagayan offered in auction were sold as follows:—37 p. 1a from 110½ to 171c.; 135 p. 3a from 43½ to 78c.; 5 p. 4a from 26 to 28c. In the first days of February, several parcels Java will be offered at public sales.

COTTON has had a reaction; some parcels, amounting to 2,000 b., were sold at lower rate for export.

BANCA TIN at 56f. and 56½f. Several transactions took place. Sellers now decline to operate under 57f.

HIDES.—2,000 p. Java Buffalo ex Three Bells, were sold at prices kept secret.

INDIGO remains firm. Several parcels Java have arrived, but are still unloaded.

DRUGS.—There are no transactions to report.

COCHINEAL firm, with much demand.

CURCUMA.—Good Java is offered at 11¾f.

MONEY.—Discount: Bank rate, 5 per cent.; acceptances, 5½ per cent.; open market, 5 per cent.; N.W.S., 2½ per cents., 62⅜; 3 per cents., 73 9-16ths; 4 per cents., 96⅝; Amort. Syndic, 90; Handelmaatschappy, 142½. The stock market is generally dull, but, although the supply of most kinds of securities is ample, the easy state of the money market encourages holders to wait the turn of events. Home railway stocks were somewhat higher; financial and bank shares flat. The bulk of the recent purchases seems to have been for account of a weak class of speculators.

Several new companies have issued their prospectuses at Amsterdam. Amongst them one proposes to clean the canals of that town for the manure, another to facilitate the labouring capital.

CHANGE.—London: 3 mo., f.11.53½; 2 mo., f.11.59; short, f.11.70. Paris: 3 mo., f.45.91; 2 mo., f.46.10; short, f.46.35. Hambro: 3 mo., f.34.65; 2 mo., f.34.75; short, f.35.15.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.—Jan. 16, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Hendrika; at Texel, from Tjilatjap, Helena and Anna (much damaged); Jan. 20, at Texel, from Batavia, Hochelaga; Jan. 21, Bellatrix; Johanna Maria Christina.

DEPARTURES.—Jan. 22, from Hellevoet to Hong Hong, Adelina.

LOADING AT AMSTERDAM.—For Kanagawa and Decima, D. T. Visser, Jacqueline, and Elise; for Macassar, Quatre Bras; for Batavia, Ferdinand Louis, Almelo, Sliedrecht, India packet, Staatsraad van Ewyck, Krimpenerwaard; for Batavia and Samarang, Galilei, and Madura; for Batavia and Sourabaya, Anna and Sophia; for Samarang, Stad Leyden and Estafette; for Samarang and Sourabaya, Koning Willem II.; for Sourabaya, Capella, Baltimore, and Petronella.

FREIGHTS.—Quotations from the circular of Messrs. Fauchey and de Vletter, shipbrokers, at Rotterdam:—For Batavia and Samarang, Whampon, 462 tons; Marie, 746 tons; Catharina Wilhelmina, 1,083 tons; Maria Adriana, 718 tons, 18f. to 20f. for B., and 25f. to 30f. for S.; for Batavia and Sourabaya, Delft, 735 tons; Grootmeester Nationaal, 755 tons, 20f. for B., 25f. for S.; for Batavia, Minister Fransen van der Putten, 1,500 tons; Kortenaer, 971 tons; Copernicus, 742 tons, 18f. to 20f.; for Sourabaya, Salatiga, 448 tons, 25f. to 30f.; for Samarang, Maria Magdalena, 403 tons; Vyf Vrienden, 337 tons, 25f. to 30ft; for Frederik Hendrik, 611 tons, 40f.; all per last of 2,000 ks. or 120 cubic feet Amsterdam, and 15 per cent.; for Melbourne, Nereus, 665 tons, 40f. to 45f., and 5 per cent. per 1,000 ks., or 40 cubic feet English; for Singapore and Hong Kong, Gouverneur van Swieten, 352 tons, 30f. to 35f. for S., 40f. to 45f. for H., both of 1,000 ks., or 40 cubic feet English, and 15 per cent.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From JAVA.—Per Hendrika, Captain van der Valk: Mr. P. G. de Bus and daughter, Mr. W. van Leyden, and Mr. H. P. van Dyck.

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HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

JAN. 23.

In consequence of the war with Denmark, the trade of this port suffered considerably last year, though the Elbe was not officially blockaded, nor were hostilities actually declared between the German Confederation (as such) and Denmark, notwithstanding which a good many vessels with their cargoes, belonging to Hamburg, Oldenburg, Hanover, and other States of Northern Germany, were captured, and conveyed for adjudication to Copenhagen, which naturally frightened away a good deal of trade that would otherwise have come to this port. The falling off in the number of vessels was more than 500, being a loss of about 10 per cent., for the shipping returns show that only 5,012 arrived from foreign parts against 5,543 in 1863. The tonnage returns are more favourable, the falling off being only 45,921 tons, or about 3 per cent. less, which shows that the smaller class of vessels were more affected by the war than the larger, the tonnage for last year being 1,397,727 tons against 1,443,648 in 1863. With regard to the trade with the Far East, the difference in the number of vessels that arrived here with cargo is comparatively trifling, the number being 27 (against 33 in 1863 and 44 in 1862), of which seven came from China, two from the Philippine Islands, one from Netherlands India, one from Singapore and Baly Badong, fifteen from Siam and British East Indies, and one from the Sandwich and Navigators' Islands.

From Berlin we hear that the Emperor of China has instituted an Order of Military Merit in commemoration of the suppression of the rebellion and the victory of his troops over the Taipings. A specimen of this new Order has been received at Berlin from the Prussian Ambassador in China. It consists of a gold medal about the size of a five-shilling piece, and is worn suspended by a yellow ribbon and two clasps. Col. Gordon, who commanded the European troops of the Emperor during the late war, has been entrusted with the distribution of the new Order.

The *Commercium*, or Chamber of Commerce, of this city celebrated on the 19th inst. the two-hundredth anniversary of its existence, on which occasion the exterior and interior of the Exchange were gaily decorated with the flags of all nations, amongst which appeared, for the first time, the Siamese flag, consisting of a white elephant in a red field, Siam being the latest country with whom commercial and diplomatic relations have been opened, a Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the two States having been recently negotiated, signed, and ratified.

The Prussian steam corvette *Gazelle*, that arrived at Brest on the 10th of December last on her return from Japan, was unable to proceed to a Baltic port on account of the ice, and therefore put into Cherbourg, where she is now undergoing a thorough overhauling and repair in one of the Imperial dry-docks.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The thaw having continued without any further interruption since last report, a large number of homeward-bound vessels, detained at Cuxhaven by the ice in the Elbe, have been able to come up to this port to discharge cargo, which has caused the usual bustle and animation by the river's side. The market has been rather calm, as holders are not inclined to sell at present quotations, anticipating a further rise when greater activity prevails and orders to buy come in. Sales of the week, 6,000 bags.

SUGAR.—A further depreciation has taken place for raw, and the dealings were not extensive. Refined dull, and also a shade lower.

RICE.—In rough grain nothing has been done; clean is in demand, and full prices are willingly paid.

SPICES.—An increased demand has arisen for Cinnamon, and prices have somewhat improved. Of Cassia Lignea 1,000 chests in warehouse here have been sold at 9¼ Sch. Bco., but the quality was not first-rate. Cloves continue to be sought after, and prices are well supported. In Pepper no alteration.

SPELTER.—Very dull, and no sales reported.

DISCOUNT.—4½ to 5 per cent.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVED.—Queen Bee, from Singapore; Alexandra, from Bassein.

SAILED.—Hoffnung, to Singapore; Jeannie, to Singapore.

SIBERIA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT).

The *Government Gazette*, published at Tobolsk in Siberia, brings the interesting piece of intelligence that, owing to the direct communication recently established between the river Obi and the new port of Petchora, some British vessels had arrived at the latter with cargoes of merchandise, which they bartered with the natives for graphite Meleze wood, and other articles, with which they sailed for London. The official organ mentioned above recognises in this first arrival of foreign vessels at Petchora not only an evident proof that the means of communication opened in the northern parts of Siberia are perfectly practicable, but greets it as a happy omen of the approaching development of foreign trade, and a significant mark of the satisfactory state of the internal commerce of that part of the Russian dominions.

The St. Petersburg *Gazette of the Academy* contains the following letter from Irkutzk:—"According to intelligence received from the districts situated beyond Lake Baikal, the Russian paddlewheel steamer had ascended the river Sungoura, a tributary of the Amoor, as far as the Manshurian city of Guirine, the most distant city of the province, and the residence of the Governor of the district. The Sungoura in its course south to north traverses nearly the whole of Mandschuria, and its banks were found to be pretty densely populated. The city of Guirine contains a population of 100,000 souls. The authorities received the strangers with some suspicion, but the inhabitants of that and other cities that they passed flocked round the Russians, caring very little for the whips used rather freely by the local police in order to disperse them. What most particularly excited the wonder and curiosity of the masses was the, to them, novel sight of the steamer successfully breasting the current of the river by the aid of its side wheels. Such is the result of the first visit paid by the Russians to the country traversed by the Sungonra, a visit that had for the present a purely scientific object. It was discovered that the river is navigable and has deep water during its whole course up to its confluence with its tributary the Nani-Oula; but further up sandbanks and shallows were encountered. It is at present unknown if the Nani-Oula be navigable or not. Thus the first step towards exploring the province of Mandschuria has been successfully accomplished, and the second will be much more easy; for among the Chinese a precedent is considered as a point of law. As the Russians have once been at Guirine they will experience no difficulty in going there again, and the next trip will have a commercial object. The Chinese residing at Irkutzk, form three distinct companies or associations, and deal chiefly in tea and other commodities of Chinese produce and manufactures."

The *Siberian Messenger* states as a striking proof of the lively interest taken by the inhabitants of the Government of Yennessensk in the development of public education, that the subscriptions towards the fund to be raised for building a high school at Krasnoyarsk amount already to more than 25,000 silver roubles. It also mentions the formation of an association at Irkutzk for the increase of primary instruction, and that a fifth parochial school had just been opened at that capital.

The cotton sent from Bokhara for sale at the fair of Nijni Nowgorod, not having found purchasers owing to the exorbitant prices demanded, has been forwarded to Moscow to be disposed of there.

THE ARMY PATRONAGE.

In our number of the 10th inst. we noticed several important changes. These with others have been commented on by the *Globe*, which we may remind our readers is under Government patronage:—

Among the reforms in our military system, adopted some ten years ago, was a rule providing that Staff appointments should be held for five years only. The fulfilment of this rule happens this year to vacate most of the principal military posts to which the senior officers of the army aspire. The list, indeed, includes the great majority of the good things open to the profession. The command-in-chief in India, by far the most lucrative prize, and inferior to none in point of responsibility, becomes vacant; also the chief command in the Bombay Presidency, and not less than four or five of the divisional commands, which are as remunerative as Indian Judgeships. At home we find a clearing out of the head-quarters Staff scarcely less complete than that of a Ministry ejected from office by a vote of censure. The rule has been held not to apply to the officer who may be commanding-in-chief, and he, with his military secretary and personal Staff, remain untouched by it. But the Adjutant-General and his deputy retire, so do the Quartermaster-General and his deputy, together with other officials of minor station. The Quartermaster-General has been nearly double his allotted time in office, for some reason we know not of; and one of the deputy Adjutant-Generals has held his place for about eight years, also upon inexplicable grounds. But it is announced that the former is at last to leave, and though not announced it must be in reason and justice assumed that the latter will also make way for a successor—if, indeed, it should turn out that there is any occasion for continuing the place at all. The Inspector-General of Cavalry retires. The commands of the Northern, Western, and South-western districts all fall vacant. The Aldershott command and all the infantry brigades in that camp of instruction are also vacated. In Ireland the command of the troops, the Dublin and Cork districts, with one or two other Staff appointments, have to be filled up. In the colonies, the chief command in Canada, the military post of

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Governor of Gibraltar, and the command in Ceylon, will be transferred to other hands.

There is scarcely an appointment abroad which may prove of greater consequence than the Canada command; and the officer who is to fill it, Sir John Michel, has earned the thorough respect and confidence of the army by the manner in which he has discharged responsible duties under trying circumstances, at the Cape, in India, and in China successively. To the chief India command it is understood that Sir William Mansfield succeeds. He is a politician as well as a soldier, and has sought to school himself in statesmanship as well as in more purely military duties. That he unaccountably violated the law in the case of the Mhow Court-martial is unfortunately a matter of record. But as on that occasion his general high reputation saved him from official censure, so it would be unfortunate now if the recollection of this one error were to deprive him of an advancement to a post for which he possesses rare fitness. A gallant and very able soldier of the old Indian army, Sir Robert Napier, is understood to be designated for the Bombay command, while it is believed that Sir Hugh Rose, who is on the eve of retirement from the highest military post in India, in which he has left many enduring monuments of his wisdom and vigour, will take the command of the troops in Ireland. Lord William Paulet, whose administrative capacity is said to have been well proved during the Crimean war, and who was before known as an excellent regimental officer, will now have an opportunity of exhibiting these good qualities in the important post of Adjutant-General; while another favourite general, Sir Hope Grant, is likely to become Quartermaster-General, with Colonel Wetherall, one of the most accomplished officers of the army, as his deputy. Of the other appointments we believe it can be said that they are all justified by the merits of the recipients, and that they are of a character to give every hope of a good administration of the respective departments during the period for which they are made

LOSS OF THE "RACEHORSE."

(ARMY AND NAVY GAZETTE.)

We are still without the full particulars attendant upon the wreck of the *Racehorse*; and with that respect we would desire to feel for the memory of the dead, we shall refrain from imputing blame to the master for the calamity which fell upon him and so many of his lamented ship-mates. We will merely say that, if it should come out before the court-martial that he exhibited any want of intelligence and judgment, the fact will go to prove that we have been pursuing a wrong course in having confined the cultivation of navigation, pilotage, and seamanship to one class of officers. It is argued by persons of an old-fashioned turn of mind that no ship should be allowed to proceed to sea without having a master on board. We will not stop here to criticise the anomaly which these gentlemen thus perpetrate, further than to remark that it is more strange they should deny to so valuable a character the right to aspire to increased pay and to a more elevated rank. This is a contradiction which must necessarily in time work its own cure. We are, however, desirous of pointing out that further delay in carrying out the recommendations of a committee appointed by the present Board of Admiralty is working to an injurious extent upon the *personnel* and *matériel* of our Navy. The most eminent and intellectual officers have openly expressed their opinions to the effect that it would be conducive to the best interests of the Navy to make an alteration, and that the time has now arrived when it is no longer desirable that such a rank as master should be continued. After an observation of many years, they have arrived at the conclusion that the institution of Master acts as a clog upon the intelligence and energies of the younger race of officers. They argue that, if an improved pay were granted to the last named, and greater chances than now exist of advancement in their profession were held out to them, there would be no want of candidates to aspire to the honour of being recognised as navigating commanders and lieutenants, and that the new class would be infinitely superior to the old, from the simple circumstance that the door of hope would not be closed upon them. Man without hope is at all times but a miserable creature, and it is indeed a matter for wonder that the masters are so zealous and trustworthy as they unquestionably are at present. It is too much to expect of frail human nature that a desire to please should always, in the face of heavy discouragements, exist in the breast of man. The chief difficulty which, as we have on a previous occasion stated, stands in the way of the Duke of Somerset and his colleagues in carrrying out a useful reform, is the manner in which the staff-commanders and masters now on the *Navy List* are to be disposed of. We have yet to learn that there is any valid reason why the staff-commanders and masters who may be unfit for active duty, or who may have earned an honourable retirement, should not be removed to a separate list, with increased rank and a proportionate remuneration. Those officers whom it may be desirable to retain might then be made commanders and lieutenants as the case might be, and continue to perform the same scale of duties which now fall to their charge, and in the meantime other officers might have the opportunity of qualifying themselves to succeed, or in fact competing with them for possession of the prizes of the profession. A positive saving in point of money would be effected by the abolition from the *Navy List* of staff-commanders, masters, and second masters, as we certainly should not require a very large increase of commanders, lieutenants, and sub-lieutenants to undertake the vacant duties. There are just now 408 commanders on the list, of whom only one-half can be employed. Some are in line-of-battle ships, frigates, contract steam-vessels, training ships, on the Coastguard, and one is governor of a naval prison, but still the doors of the Admiralty are besieged by those who are compelled to be idle. If the idea which we have thrown out be adopted, we shall be much disappointed if we do not have for the future a more efficient and a more contented body of naval officers than we have now to maintain.

On this subject Captain Osborn writes

(TO THE EDITOR OF "THE TIMES.")

Sir,—On behalf of an old friend and brother officer allow me, through your columns, to beg the press to stay judgment on the unfortunate burning of Her Majesty's ship *Bombay* until a court-martial investigates the affair and awards praise or blame to the captain, officers, or crew. I am moved to do this in consequence of the very unusual course pursued in the case of the wreck of Her Majesty's ship *Racehorse*, near Chefoo, in which it appears to me that upon a most lame report, coming not from the commander, for he was, I believe, too shattered-from a night of frightful exposure to be able to hold a pen, a sort of loose sentence of condemnation has been passed upon that officer's judgment, seamanship, and qualities as a navigator. Indeed, some of our professional papers have been good enough to bewail the decadence of naval seamanship, founding their alarm upon the wreck in question.

If it was more generally understood by the public how terrible the loss of his ship, whether by battle, fire, or wreck, is counted by the captain of a man-of-war, I am sure there would be more forebearance shown. It is the first thing instilled into us to remember that we are intrusted with an emblem of England's sovereignty, that it is to be used for her honour and glory, not to be surrendered to her enemies, and, under peril of all an officer can hold dear, not to be wantonly risked or injured.

Fancy, then, what it must be to be condemned unheard by one's countrymen when such a sorrow as the loss of his ship falls upon a wretched commander. For my part I only wonder we have had so few wrecks on that dangerous coast of China, where as yet there is not a single lighthouse, and hardly a beacon; and the burning of the *Bombay* can be no matter of astonishment to officers who are aware that in the present day every ship is using in cabins, messroom, &c., those dangerous oils extracted from petroleum. The burning of the Spanish flagship in Peru ought to have been a caution to us.—Believe me, Sir, yours truly,

SHERARD OSBORN, Captain.

THE NOMADIC TRIBES OF THE ANGARA IN SIBERIA.

At a late sitting of the Imperial Geographical Society at St. Petersburg, an interesting paper by Lieut. Orloff was read on "The Wandering Tribes of the Angara." A large part of the valuable furs brought to the Russian markets are derived from native tribes inhabiting the extensive districts of the Angara, the Tunguska, and their tributaries, but without any fixed residence, and spreading over the mountains and plains, according to the season of the year. They are generally known in Siberia by the name of the Nomadic Tungoose, and maintain themselves by the produce of the chase and the fishery, bartering their furs for clothes, tobacco, brandy, powder and shot, with the Russians, who carry on the trade with them at stated periods and at fixed places. Without any idea of the advantages of civilised or even social life, they have formed a system of their own as regards religion, law, and the computation of time. Thus they divide our solar year into two lunar ones, the summer and the winter year, each containing six moons, with the additional one thrown in to the one or the other as it may happen. Their summer year corresponds to our months from March to August inclusive, and the winter year contains the other six months. These crude notions suffice to render them sufficiently exact in the payment of the *Jassak* or annual tribute they have to contribute to the Russian Government for the right of fishing and shooting, and for their annual barter of produce for the few articles they require for their existence. In the first month of their summer year (March) the surface of the snow is still sufficiently hard to permit them to traverse it securely with their long snow shoes, whilst the feet of the wild animals sink deep into it. This period is therefore favourable for the chase of the deer, the musk, the wild goat, and the elk. Their second month (April) melts the icy coverings of the rivers, and permits them occupying themselves with the fishery, which in all the rivers of Siberia is very abundant, and supplies them not only with their daily food, but enables them to lay by large stores for the winter, drying the fish in the sun and burying them in *cáches* known only to themselves. The third month (May) is devoted to another description of chase. In the preceding autumn they have taken care to burn extensive tracts covered with good grazing grass in certain valleys within the limits of their wanderings, where as soon as the snow begins to melt the grass sprouts up with great luxuriance, which attracts the beasts of the forest, who come there at night to feed, and fall an easy prey to the hunters concealed behind rocks and trees. Their fourth month (June) is exclusively passed in the chase of the deer, whose skins at that period are covered with a short thick wool, much in request by the Chinese, and which fetch such high prices that these tribes could afford, if they chose, to remain idle for several months.

In the fifth month they employ themselves partly with fishing and partly in the chase of the elk, as these animals come down at night to the rivers and lakes to feed on a certain water-plant, of which they are very fond, and whilst half immersed in the water become an easy prey to the spears and guns of the hunters. In the last month of the summer year (August), they turn their attention to the birds that frequent those inhospitable wilds, where innumerable flocks of wild swans, geese, ducks, and other aquatic birds come to the lonely banks of the lakes and rivers to build their nests, lay their eggs, and brood. In the dead of the night they glide noiselessly in their little fragile canoes amongst the reeds on the margin of the lakes, and spear the old birds, whilst they secure without difficulty the young ones and the eggs. This not only furnishes them with immediate food, but supplies a valuable stock of feathers and down, which they sell to the traders.

In the first month of their winter year (September) the Tungooses repair to the wooded valleys, where they know they are sure to find plenty of game, such as deer of different sorts, accompanied by their young ones. The end of the month is again devoted to fishing, when they complete their stores for the winter, which being accomplished they plunge into the depth of the forests and spend the two following months in the chase of the sable, fox, bear, lynx, martin, squirrel, and glutton, which furnish a valuable supply of furs. At the beginning of their fourth month (December) these wild nomadic tribes repair to the places agreed on, to pay their annual tribute to the officers of Government, and sell the produce of their chase. This tribute is levied on all the males of the Tungooses between the ages of 18 and 50 years, and amounts to about two silver roubles per head, which they pay pretty regularly, and mostly in furs of different sorts. They afterwards return to their native wilderness, and pass their time in hunting, till the returning spring calls them to commence again their usual annual round of active employment. The whole number of those subject to the payment of the tribute amounts to about 1,250, from which we may infer that their total number is not more than 4,000 or 5,000 souls.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, THURSDAY, JAN. 26, 1865

OVERTRADING IN TEA AND SILK.

OUR readers in China will have gathered from our last issue, in the ample commercial statistics laid before them, that the trade in tea and silk during 1864 has been as unsatisfactory to importers and exporters as that of the previous year, and even in some features presents a more unprofitable result to all foreigners, especially Englishmen, connected with these formerly lucrative branches of commerce. The careful and *substantial* merchant, in comparing the healthy and profitable returns of former years with the past two seasons in the staple commodity of tea, when the imports to England were not more than half what the last returns present, turns with dismay to the increase of prices in China, which entail such enormous losses on the legitimate trader, that if continued for another year commercial ruin must follow. Although it is difficult to arrive at a correct calculation of the actual loss sustained on the tea trade of the past two years, yet from inquiries in reliable quarters we have made an approximate estimate that will show our readers in China the gigantic losses sustained by overtrading. During the season of 1863-64 this was not less than £1,450,000, and the present season will not close without a deficit on the profit and loss account of upwards of *one million sterling*. Taking the value of the imports into the United Kingdom in round numbers at ten and a half millions sterling, here is a dead loss of fifteen per cent. in the former season and ten per cent. during the latter. This state of things cannot go on, or bankruptcy must soon follow the reckless traders who have brought the China trade to such a pass. It behoves, therefore, every one interested in that trade—bankers, merchants, tea-inspectors—to "put their shoulders to the wheel" during the ensuing season, to restore this branch (in which the public, from the peer to the peasant, are consumers), once more to its position on the credit folio of the Ledger. As far as our humble labours in this field can be serviceable we cheerfully give it our most serious attention, and shall endeavour from time to time to lay the result of our experiences before our readers *pro bono publico*.

In an article which appeared recently in these columns entitled "NO MORE BANKS FOR CHINA," we touched upon the monetary question of overtrading, and pointed out the injurious effects caused by the facilities afforded to inexperienced and speculative traders by some of the Banks in purchasing teas at exorbitant prices for the sake of rivalling old established firms—which we have reason to believe has been appreciated, and had a wholesome effect in the quarters intended, on this side. We shall now deal with the commercial phases of this important topic, and remonstrate with overtraders in China in more emphatic terms. If these sanguine but injudicious merchants have carefully studied—as they ought to do—the annual reviews of the tea market in London, they will perceive at a glance that while they were recklessly paying the greatly advanced prices asked by the more astute native teamen, the consignees could not realize, even by forced sales, within ten or twenty per cent. of what they paid for the same teas in China. From this it may be concluded that whatever prices be paid there, whether high or low, they do not rule the quotations in Mincing Lane. It is the duty therefore of the buyer in China to be firm in refusing to give more for certain qualities of teas than will leave a marginal profit on the home quotations. If he supposes that when he pays a large price at the place of production a corresponding increase will be obtained in the market for consumption, he is utterly mistaken, as the monthly circulars from London issued by the brokers plainly show. Moreover, while the buyer is foolishly taking all the teas of the season which the cunning Chinese know how to bring forward, here is the consignee in London selling in vain by auction "without reserve," to clear off the heavy stocks on hand, which at the close of the year accumulated to 96,000,000lbs., or ten months supply for an increasing consumption. Under these circumstances, it is sheer folly to continue heaping up unsaleable stock in bonded warehouses, where the charges will in time approach the cost of the article, especially as it is the new teas that are most eagerly bought by the dealers, leaving the old stock to be every day more and more unsaleable. In the judgment of the most experienced merchants in the home trade, the fact that *quantity* is the chief evil to contend with in restoring a profitable equilibrium becomes more apparent; whilst *that* remains, the trade must be ruinous. Hence importers *must* hold stock. They try to force it off by sale "without reserve"; but in so doing, they fail to induce the trade to purchase more than their actual wants. Do these facts not prove that *quantity* is the great evil to contend with? Here is a simple illustration of the well known rule of political economy regulating supply and demand. Consumption goes on steadily, but does not increase as rapidly as people in China expect, who calculate upon an augmented re-export to the continents of Europe and America. To the former it is now well known that where the reduction of the duty in Russia, and other contingencies, would lead to increased orders on England, nothing worth noticing on that point has taken place; and the Continent is not likely to take more than it has done—for two or three years at least—and it is just possible that it may take less. The exports to the United States during the past six months have been NIL, and are not likely to be resumed this year. It is clear, therefore, that the causes which have rendered the tea trade unprofitable, and it may be ruinous to many, is entirely attributable to the folly of those in China who have disregarded the advices from this side, and persevered in overtrading, in the face of losses which in two years can scarcely be covered by the enormous deficit of two and a-half millions sterling. It must also be taken into consideration that Assam and other Indian teas are competing favourably with China teas. The quantity brought into this market increases rapidly, and so good is the quality that prices also advance steadily, while the profit to the importer is *very large*. These are all questions for the serious consideration of our readers in China, and we trust they will accept them as intended for their benefit. Why should they waste their health and strength in an inhospitable country and climate to ruin credit as well as constitution, for the benefit of the Chinese only.

SILK.

We shall now revert to the trade in raw silk during the year 1864, as another source of loss to the importer in England and on the Continent; arising in a great measure from injudicious transactions between buyers and native silkmen in China, wherein the latter reaped all the benefit, to the detriment of the foreign merchant. Certainly the losses on silk have not been so heavy in proportion to those on tea during the past two years, but they have been sufficiently so to render this branch of trade with China unprofitable to all engaged in it on this side. Indeed, it has been simply a calculation with the importer, not as formerly, how large a margin of profit he will have, but how small he can average his losses for the year. This was especially the case for the first six months of the past year; and coming as it did upon the losses of previous years, the silk market was in a state of great depression up to the month of July, when a favourable turn took place, which gradually improved prices, so that by the close of the year silk was paying the importer a small profit. Now, as that improvement was chiefly caused by diminished imports, it is a practical illustration of the principle laid down in our remarks on tea, that *quantity* is the true cause of depression. Notwithstanding a diminished delivery of China silk of 9,300 bales during the year—the de-

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crease in import being 17,400—there was a margin of 8,100 bales, to clear off the heavy stocks on hand. This gave a fresh impetus to sales, and prices were slightly advanced, but not enough to furnish a fair profit on the high rates ruling on the other side. It is not possible that these can be maintained during the ensuing season, as we must reasonably look forward to a large increase in the next crop, seeing that the silk-producing districts are happily free from the desolating presence of the Taiping rebels. As far as we can see, all the circumstances bearing on the production of this article point to a considerable reduction in prices. If such does not take place at the opening of the market in May or June we can assure our readers in China that the importers on this side most conversant with the trade consider that heavy losses will again accrue, and depression set in as in previous years. Buyers on the other side have the matter entirely in their own hands if they are firm in resisting the demands of the Chinese, and unite together for that purpose if necessary, rather than rush into competition for parcels of silk brought by driblets into the market. In fixing prices at the opening of the season they must not be guided by the quotations of sales on this side, as these must keep as high as at present, perhaps higher, until the crop in Europe is in the market, or at all events until it is known what that may be in quantity and quality.

It must also be borne in mind that China silks do not rank now so high in the market for quality as they formerly did while Indian silk is improving in both quality and quantity, at prices which leave the importer a handsome profit. Perhaps this depreciation is only temporary, and caused by the hurried manner in which bales were made up during the disturbed state of the country. Be that as it may, the best class of *Tsatlee* silk is no longer seen in the importations at a time when its quality was being more than ever appreciated, while *Haineen* sorts of the best staple are no longer sought after by consumers, even at very reduced prices. Hitherto China silks of every description were deemed of the finest class by the manufacturers, but now it is evident that they are verging towards a second rate scale, which will materially affect their value. Buyers in China should see to this, and trace the causes of depreciation in quality, with a view to its improvement, in order that the best kinds may again assume their position at the top of the list. On this point silk inspectors in China would do well to study the quality of Japan silks, which, although hurriedly got up at times, are in high favour with manufacturers, and always command first rate prices. Not only is this article preferred by the consumer, but the growers of silk on the Continent are importing largely the eggs of the Japanese silk-worm, to replace the seed of the European insect destroyed by the unknown malady which has prevailed during the past three or four years. Great efforts are being made in importing that and other exotic seeds to secure a good crop in Europe during the ensuing season, which should again induce caution on the part of buyers in China. If the yield approach anything like what existed previous to the spread of this disease, it will seriously affect the export of raw silk from England to the Continent, which has continued steady during the past year, as it did the one previous; so that our manufacturers do not fear foreign competition, which may not be the case in the event of the new seed producing a crop. These drawbacks and probable contingencies that affect the profitable pursuit of the raw silk trade in China, if persevered in as heretofore, we have no doubt will have their full weight with our readers in China who are interested in this important branch of native produce. There is ample time before the opening of the new season for them to come to some understanding as to their future operations. It is well known that the Chinese silkmen unite in their guilds to regulate the sale of the new crops. Why do not buyers and inspectors take a leaf out of their book, and combine for the legitimate purpose of restoring the silk trade to a profitable and safe branch of commerce, to foreigners as well as natives.

THE CHINA COOLIE.

THE foreign demand for Chinese coolies increases—a natural result of the appreciation by various countries of the value of their labour. We find the French Consul at Canton urging on the authorities the adoption of means for a better supply of coolies for the French colonies. Cuba will take any number that can be delivered. Our own West India islands also find them the best importation. Paraguay, Brazil, and the Argentine Confederation will presently come to demand their services; and if the valleys of Mexico, with their high temperature and dry heats, are to be cultivated and railways constructed, the China coolie must be relied on. The golden drifts of California and Australia have ceased to reward free Chinese emigration; but compensation may yet be found in the cultivation of tea in the one country, and of cotton in the other. We advert to the subject for the purpose of calling attention to the terms on which the Cuban trade is conducted. Coolies are virtually sold into slavery for the advantage of unprincipled dealers, and the countries in which they are landed. The price given by a Cuban planter for a coolie, from £75 to £120, according to his condition, bears no due proportion to the cost of his conveyance in an overcrowded vessel, or to the value of his services, represented, as far as he is concerned, by the payment of 16s. per month for eight years. It would need little effort on the part of the Chinese authorities to circulate information among the Chinese population that would induce emigrants to put themselves, so to speak, at a premium to begin with, and so secure a portion of the money now passing into the hands of strangers who sell them like slaves, as a commodity which is worth whatever it will bring. The number of Chinese coolies at present in Cuba is no less than 14,000, for whose eight years' services upwards of £1,200,000 have been paid. Last season, 2,600 were shipped from Macao alone, for Cuba, of whom 600 died on the passage. Canton supplied also a large number. As to the second point, we have to observe that the Chinese authorities who have begun to countenance Chinese emigration,—for traditional policy in this matter has been entirely subverted,—might be induced to enforce to a larger extent the system that they carry with them their wives and children. Notwithstanding the atrocities committed on the Imperial as well as the rebel side during the late war, the Chinese authorities have never been indifferent to motives of benevolence; and finding, as they do, that few of the exported coolies return, they might thus be induced to ameliorate their condition.

PURCHASE OF STEAMERS BY JAPANESE DAIMIOS.

THE late active purchase of steamers by Japanese DAIMIOS need not have occasioned the surprise that has been expressed; *The Times'* correspondent from Shanghai having even gone so far as to characterise the desire for the possession of these vessels as a mania. Considering the wealth of the leading DAIMIOS, there is nothing extravagant in the aggregate amount expended for this purpose. These steamers are not purchased as mere toys. The two steamers belonging to SATSUMA, burnt by our fleet at Kagosima, were loaded down at the time with sugar. The Japanese are of too practical a turn of mind not to be disposed to put their money to the best account. Our only surprise is that a greater number of steamers should not have been acquired, looking to the large extent of coast pertaining to that archipelago, the activity of the trade carried on in junks, together with the violence of the currents, the cross seas and adverse winds which obstruct sailing craft. These steamers will answer also what, for the sake of clearness, we may term inland revenue purposes. DAIMIOS, as well as the MIKADO, have tolls to collect; jurisdiction is exercised by the maritime Princes over the water frontage of their domains; and the increase of smuggling suggests a further use to which such vessels may be put. Political purposes, too, whether involving combination among the Princes themselves, or facilitating a reference to Yedo or Miako, will thus be answered. Besides, steamers have become necessary State appendages, symbols of wealth and power, and so aid in keeping alive the awe and respect of wondering subjects. The Japanese rulers have always been ready to appropriate whatever is valuable or useful in the way of inventions. We shall no doubt find the telegraph introduced at no distant date.

THE RETURN OF COLONEL GORDON.

WE are glad to welcome back to his native country, in good health and spirits, Colonel Gordon, whose exploits in China we have so often had occasion to record. One would naturally suppose that, after the very arduous and harassing duties which he performed in China, he would now be disposed to settle down for a little quiet. Not so, however, for we find that, notwithstanding the number of persons who have called on him at his Club, they are daily informed of some new locality. Shortly after his arrival in London by the Marseilles route, on the 13th inst., he quitted for Southampton to visit

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his father, General Gordon; but before he could be seen at Southampton we hear of him at Woolwich, on a visit to his brother; next at the quarters of Sir Frederick Bruce; and next (on the 20th) starting again for Southampton. Considering the great risk he was exposed to in China, we trust that he will appreciate his preservation, and not endanger his health by over-activity in this country—at least for a season.

THE CONSUL AT BANGKOK.

IN our last issue we noticed the appointment of Mr. KNOX as representative of British interests in Siam. Statements have reached us for many months past of the high-handed and rude manner in which Mr. KNOX has behaved while in the discharge of his duties, but as we concluded it would be but for a short time, and that a gentleman—trained in Europe to the formula of a Consulate—would be appointed to succeed Sir ROBERT SCHOMBURGK, we were content to wait. As that event has not come to pass, we cannot longer refrain from noticing the remonstrances we have received. The following is one of the letters we have received on the subject, from which it appears quite evident that Mr. KNOX does not possess that necessary qualification for a consul, the *suaviter in modo* with the *fortiter in re*. Indeed, it is hardly to be expected from Mr. KNOX'S antecedents. If we are rightly informed, Mr. KNOX was an officer in the Indian army, and having left that service (why we do not know), went to Siam, where he passed the earlier portion of his sojourn in a very precarious position. His occupation was that of a drill-sergeant to the troops of the King of SIAM, for which he received a stipend, certainly insufficient for his support as an officer and a gentleman, and it is notorious that he was dependant to a great extent on the hospitality of the foreign residents in Bangkok. During this connection with the Siamese Government, Mr. KNOX naturally enough acquired some knowledge of the language, and, through the interest of his friends at home, he was attached to the Consulate as Interpreter and Vice-Consul until, by the resignation of Sir ROBERT SCHOMBURGK, he was raised to the post of Consul, in which capacity he is in a position to endanger our friendly relations with the King of SIAM. What opinion can the KING have for our Government when it accredits such a person as our representative? Assuming that Mr. KNOX discharged the duties in an exemplary manner, it was a very unwise act on the part of the Foreign-office to appoint a man who had held such a position under the very eyes of the Siamese. We can hardly believe that Lord JOHN RUSSELL would have bestowed the appointment on him had he been aware of the manner in which Mr. KNOX comports himself towards the Siamese Government.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Express*.)

DEAR SIR,—The affairs of Siam, Cochin-China, and Cambodia have been so much commented upon in your late issues that I deem it may be interesting to your readers to be informed of the cause which renders our political standing so weak in that quarter, more especially when opposed, as it is, by the able diplomacy of the French.

It can no longer be concealed that our Consulate in Siam does not occupy that position which would entitle it to the respect of the Government, and invite its confidence; and although the Siamese, alive to the importance of possessing our friendship, have been solicitous for its maintenance, yet it is evident that an estrangement has taken place, which, if allowed to contjnue, will seriously affect our relations with that country. I regret to observe that Mr. Acting Consul Knox has been gazetted as Consul in the place of Sir Robert Schomburgh, retired. It is the opinion of most persons acquainted with the affairs of Siam that Mr. Knox is responsible for these difficulties by his want of ordinary courtesy in forcing demands upon the Government in a manner it is difficult to assign any reason for, seeing that this has been mostly done in native cases, which have occurred in far territories bordering upon British Burmah, and therefore little if at all serving the interest of British trade in Bangkok.

It may be remarked that among the many Eastern nations our commerce has connected us with, the Siamese stand pre-eminent for the friendly spirit with which they have met foreign intercourse. Since the opening of the country, life and property have been universally respected, and a sense of justice evinced that cannot but be commended. With such a disposition on their part, it is to be deplored that the policy pursued is so ruinous to our prestige.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, SIAM.

MURDER OF TWO OFFICERS IN JAPAN.

It is with great regret that we have so soon a new cause for further demands on the Japanese Government. By way of San Francisco and New York we have received the following intelligence from Yokohama, under date the 24th November. "Major Baldwin and Lieutenant Bird, of the 20th Regiment, have been murdered while out on a shooting excursion." It is stated that the assasssins were unknown, but that the Government had shown every desire to trace and bring them to justice. We trust that the matter will be promptly adjusted, and not be allowed to remain over and gather strength, as in the case of Richardson. With all our experience of China during the past twenty years, it should be comparatively easy to shape our course in Japan. We never found any advantage in "waiting" the good pleasure of the Mandarins. While we urge prompt steps for the satisfaction of our claims, we urge equal promptitude in acknowledging if these officers should have been on ground out of the limits assigned. Major George Walter Baldwin entered the army as ensign in April, 1846, was made lieutenant on the 20th July, 1849, captain on the 31st October, 1851, brevet major in April, 1863, and major on the 30th June, of the same year. He served in the 31st Regiment, in the Crimea at Sebastopol and at the taking of the Redan, and all through the campaign in North China; was present at the battle of Sinho and the taking of the Taku Forts, the which he obtained a medal. Mr. Bird entered the army on for 30th Aug., 1859, and was made lieutenant in Dec., 1862.

THE HONG KONG ROYAL MINT.

With reference to the new British dollar for China, the Secretary of State has decided that the dollar shall have a milled, and not a lettered edge. It is found that to place a lettered edge upon the dollar would require a complicated and expensive addition to the coining-presses, which would be very difficult to work, and liable to disorder. At present it is uncertain whether any of the dollars will be coined here for shipment. Captain Kinder and staff will, most probably, leave England by the mail, and arrive at Hong Kong about the end of June.

THE POSTAL SERVICE TO INDIA AND CHINA.

The protest which was made some three years since to the Post-office in reference to the irregularity of the arrival and departure of the mails has again been revived, and the following memorial presented to the Postmaster-General. We may add that there is little chance of the project being carried out until the railway is completed between Bombay and Calcutta, and even then it is very doubtful:—

"TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE LORD STANLEY OF ALDERLEY, HER MAJESTY'S POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

"71, Old Broad-street, London, Jan. 20.

"My Lord,—I have been requested to place in your Lordship's hands the accompanying memorial from the principal merchants and bankers of this city engaged in the trade with the East, in which your Lordship's attention is drawn to the loss of time and general inconvenience attending the despatch of the mails on fixed days of the month, but varying days of the week; and a suggestion is made that instead thereof, for reasons which are strongly felt, the mail *vid* Marseilles shall be despatched on the evening of Friday in every week.

"I venture to express the hope that the unanimity of opinion upon the subject in question, indicated by the number and character of the signatures attached to the memorial, will secure your Lordship's co-operation in carrying the proposed change into effect.

"I have the honour to be,

"Your Lordship's obedient servant,

"R. W. CRAWFORD, M.P."

"'TO HER MAJESTY'S POSTMASTER-GENERAL, POST-OFFICE, LONDON.

"'London, January 11, 1865.

"'My Lord,—We, the undersigned, merchants, bankers, and others, engaged in commercial and monetary transactions with the East, wish to bring under your Lordship's notice the inconvenience attending the present system of despatching the East India, China, and Australian mails, and to submit for your consideration a proposal for changing the times of their departure.

"'The East India mails, *via* Marseilles, are now despatched on the 3rd, 10th, 18th, and 26th of each month. This arrangement causes the mail day to fall on a constantly changing day of the week, and when that day is a Sunday, the mail is postponed until the following Monday, thus causing a loss of not less than three days, because the business transacted on Saturday and Monday is of a very restricted character, and the really important intelligence to be transmitted is that of the preceding Friday. This loss happens practically in the case of nearly one half of the mails despatched in the course of the year.

"'It is suggested that a weekly mail, to be fixed on one convenient day, will be far more suitable to the habits and arrangements of men of business, especially those who have fixed weekly engagements, and for the regular and methodical transmission of mercantile correspondence.

"'The despatch of the American mails by the Cunard steamers is an instance in point.

"'If the Indian mails were invariably despatched on Friday evening, the letters they carry would contain the Bank of England weekly account and all the financial and market intelligence of the week up to the latest moment; no transaction of importance being effected on Saturdays, Friday appears to be in every way the best day for selection.

"'The proposed arrangement will involve the despatch yearly of four additional mails to India, two to China, and one to Australia, and a like additional number from each of these places. Your memorialists have no

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doubt but that the countries named will be very grateful for the additional postal communication with England which they would thus enjoy.

"'We have the honour to be,

"'Your Lordship's obedient, humble servants,

"'Crawford, Colvin, and Co.; Forbes, Forbes, and Co.; Finlay, Hodgson, and Co.; Matheson and Co.; Baring Brothers and Co.; N. M. Rothschild and Sons; Fruhling and Goschen; Dent, Palmer, and Co.; Arbuthnot, Latham, and Co.; Gregson and Co.; Daniell and Co.; Finlay, Campbell, and Co; Scott, Bell, and Co.; Gledstanes and Co.; Alexander Fletcher and Co.; R. and J. Henderson; Richardson, Findlay, and Co.; for the Borneo Company (limited), John Harvey, managing director; Kenckell, Du Buisson, and Co.; Smith, Fleming, and Co.; Rimington, Cartwright, and Co.; Morris, Prevost, and Co.; Schuster, Son, and Co.; C. Devaux and Co.; Frith, Sands, and Co.: T. A. Gibb and Co.; Martin, Robertson, and Co.; Grey and Coles; John Campbell and Co.; Alexander, Crowe, and Co.; John Ranking and Co.; Cotesworth and Powell; Coles, Brown, and Co.; Somes, Mullens, and Co.; Small and Co.; S. D. Sassoon and Co.; Kelson, Tritton, and Co.; Robert Benson, and Co.; Reynolds, Mann, and Co.; Lenox, Nephew, and Co.; Coupland Brothers; Thorne and Co.; Bowring, Allison, and Co.; Robert Smith and Co.; Duff, Cadell, and Co.; Gillespie, Churchill, and Co.; Denny, Bailey, and Co.; Gladstone, Ewart, and Co.; H. D. and James Blyth, Greene, and Co.; T. and W. Smith; F. Green and Co.; Fearon and Co.; James Barber and Co.; Smith, Elder, and Co.; W. H. Smith, Barry, and Co.; Hickie, Borman, and Co.; L. Reiss, Brothers, and Co.; Oriental Bank Corporation, P. Campbell, *pro* chief manager; for the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London and China, D. T. Robertson; for the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, G. U. Adam, manager; for the Agra and Masterman's Bank (limited), Mr. Balfour, general manager; for the Commercial Bank Corporation of India and the East, R. Angus, chief manager; for the Central Bank of Western India, Robert Davidson, agent; for the Bank of Hindostan, China and Japan (limited), J. Ouseley, general manager; for the Land Mortgage Bank of India, W. L. Fitzwilliam, director; for the Asiatic Banking Corporation, F. W. Lawrence, acting manager; the Assam Company, per procuration W. H. Wimshurst; Byramjee, Cama and Son; D. D. Cama and Co.; Forman, Limjee, and Co.; Bomanjee Framjee Cama and Co.; S. P. Framjee and Co.; Casumbhoy Nathabhoy, Sons, and Co.; A. Habibhoy, Sons, and Co.; Dadabhoy Naoraji, and Co.; Cowasjee, Goldie, and Co.; Dhurrumsey Poonjabhoy; Mody and Co.; Bhimsey Sewjee and Co.'"

THE DEVELOPMENT OF SIAM.

IN the issue of the *London and China Telegraph* of the 3rd inst. we inserted a letter that appeared in the *Siam Times* on "Railways to China," in which the writer complains of the preference given to rumours rather than the truth respecting the capabilities of Siam, and of the indiscriminate manner in which foreigners ask for concessions, and having obtained them, proceed no further in the matter. Since then we have received the following letter:—

(TO THE EDITOR.)

Sir,—The sovereign of Siam may be somewhat unreasonable in his complaint that after granting a concession ofa railway across the narrow Malay peninsular, the requisite capital for one or other should not have been forthcoming; what I chiefly allude to are the capabilities of that country for agricultural development, and the materials it offers for successful mining enterprise. The tariff rates prescribed under Sir John Bowring's treaty afford all requisite commercial encouragment to investments. The Government itself has extensively imported machinery for sugar manufacture. Manufactures and arts in Siam, however, are low, but with a fer tile soil, continually renovated by the inundation of the great river, and producing abundant crops, with an industrious people possessing a temperament which disposes them to appreciate those comforts and luxuries which can be only gained by means of commerce—it is a mine of wealth for those who are able to work it. Of the articles it could produce in large quantities are sugar, rice, cotton, gum, oil, pepper, and timber, dye woods, ivory and shellac can be obtained in large quantities. It has all the luxurious fruits of the forests, and extensive forests of teak. Mining companies might find their account in working its ores of gold, iron, copper, zinc, lead, antimony, and tin. As to commerce, the chief articles hitherto required by the Siamese in exchange for their products are arms, ammunition, anchors, cutlery, piece goods, crockery and mirrors; but the list of these articles might be greatly increased.

Your obedient servant, EAST INDIA MERCHANT.

THE LOSS OF THE "HYDASPE."

THE directors of the *Messageries Imperiales* have not decided on replacing this vessel, but in the meantime the Dutch Government will provide for the service between Singapore and Batavia.]

TRADE BETWEEN TRIESTE AND HONG KONG.

A regular trade between Trieste and Hong Kong is about to be essayed. The difficulty that still exists in Austria in bringing about combinations for mercantile purposes is remarkable, and we find the Austrian journals chronicling as an important event the first trading venture to the Far East. The Mercantile Company of Fiume has chartered, for this purpose, through the agency of a Hamburg house, the Bremen barque *Ernest et Marie*, originally with the intention of loading her with 3,000 barrels of flour. Only 2,000 barrels, however, will be taken, and the balance of cargo be made up by 400 cases of wax candles, 25 hogsheads of beer, 25 casks of Austrian wine, 50 packages of soap, and 200 packages preserved provisions. For the next outward passage there are already offered a large assortment of Moravian cloths and other national manufactures, including article of bijouterie, furniture, carriages, and varieties of the celebrated *liquers maraschino*.

PREPARATION OF CHINA TEAS FOR THE RUSSIAN MARKET.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Express.*)

SIR,—Allow me to throw out the suggestion through your columns that the Russian market for our teas might be improved, and competition better kept up with the Kiachta teas, were our importers to send out instructions to their agents in China to have teas prepared according to the fashion of the caravan teas, that is, pressed in the form of tiles (not English bricks) and packed 136 to a chest. The complaint with last serson's teas were that they were hurried forward too quickly, and lost flavour on this account; may not compression be a means of preserving their flavour in all conditions? This flavour can be of little consequence to Kirghis, Kalmucks, and other races who stew their tea with buttermilk and salt, but it is the prime test of quality at the northern and southern Russian ports with which we have to do. I am not for turning all our Russian exportations of tea into tiles, but the tile form would evidently suit the views of a large class of Russian traders in the article.—Yours, &c., CANTON.

City, January 17, 1865.

THE BISHOP OF VICTORIA.

The Right Reverend Dr. George Smith formally resigned the Bishopric of Victoria (Hong Kong) in the early part of the present month. Bishop Smith first arrived in China in the year 1844, and on his return to England published, in 1847, his "Narrative of an Exploratory Visit to the Consular Cities of China and the Islands of Hong Kong and Chusan, on behalf of the Church Missionary Society, in the years 1844, 1845, and 1846." In the year 1849 he returned to China as the first bishop of the newly-created see of Victoria. He published, in 1861, a volume entitled "Ten Weeks in Japan," containing his observations on that newly-opened country and people; a work favourably reviewed at the time in the pages of this journal.

The bishopric is endowed with a payment of £1,000 a-year from the Colonial Bishoprics Fund, and is in the patronage of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who in such cases generally seeks the recommendation of the Archbishop of Canterbury. The late bishop is in the fiftieth year of his age, and retires on a pension of £300 a-year voted by the Legislative Council of Hong Kong, and subject to reduction by the amount of preferment received in England, in accordance with the local regulations of the civil service of the colony.

We believe that no successor has yet been named for the vacant post. It is understood that the nominations to the vacant colonial dioceses of Victoria, Rupert's Land, Nelson, and the new see of Grafton (New South Wales), are likely to be delayed until after the judgment of the Judicial Committee of Privy Council on the Colenso case has been delivered, which may render some change necessary in the wording of the new letters patent of colonial bishops.

WAREHOUSING OF CHINESE SILKS.

Some months since, it will be remembered, an ineffectual effort was made by City merchants and others to bring about a reduction in current rates of insurance on goods. These rates, whatever their amount, necessarily vary with the risk: to reduce the risk, is, in all cases, to reduce the cost of a policy, and it may be safely left to competition to lower the scale of charges to that point which, whilst securing reasonable returns to companies, will give a maximum of benefit to the public at a minimum of cost. One means to this end, as far as warehoused goods are concerned, and we refer more especially to China silks, would be found in a better classification of the Dock system of warehousing. At present, inflammable or combustible goods entered and charged for by insurance companies as hazardous and extra hazardous, are frequently placed in proximity to China and Japan silks, on which, from this cause, the rates of insurance are proportionably increased. These silks are not unfrequently stored in the same building with saltpetre, hemp, flax, cotton, and even tallow and oils. If we add to this that many of the warehouses are of a character to invite conflagration to do its worst, we discover the reason for the heavy charges on policies constantly imposed. The miscellaneous storage resorted to is unnecessary, as answering no purpose that might not be otherwise better met.

THE COTTON PROSPECTS.

(ECONOMIST.)

The apparent aggregate increase of supply since the commencement of the cotton famine is greater than the real one, as shown at least by the trade accounts, inasmuch as the average weight of the bales has been steadily decreasing. The following table gives the full statement of the imports:—

	bales.	Average weight. lbs.	Aggregate in lbs.
1860	3,366,000	.. 425 ..	1,430,550,000
1861	3,036,000	.. 415 ..	1,259,940,000
1862	1,445,000	.. 370 ..	534,650,000
1863	1,932,000	.. 364 ..	703,248,000
1864	2,587,000	.. 347 ..	897,689,000
1865 (estimated)..	2,900,000	.. 341 ..	988,900,000

The import last year was considerably greater than the manufacturers could consume at the existing prices, and the consequence was a considerable increase of stock in the ports—viz., 575,000 bales, against 327,000 at the close of 1863. The weekly consumption has been as follows:—

	bales.	lbs.	lbs.
1860	48,500	.. 425 ..	20,612,500
1861	45,500	.. 415 ..	18,882,500
1862	22,800	.. 370 ..	8,436,000
1863	26,500	.. 364 ..	9,646,000
1864	30,900	.. 347 ..	10,722,300

The export during the past year has been 732,000 bales: it is expected to reach 800,000 in 1865—leaving 2,100,000 for our own consumption without any diminution of stock. This would allow a weekly consumption of about 40,000 bales, or 13,640,000 lbs. The sole questions re

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maining for consideration are, first, whether this supply will suffice to employ our mills and to produce as much cotton yarn and cloth as the world will buy? and, secondly, what effect on prices this supply will probably produce?

In 1860, when all factories were fully employed and every man was producing as much as he could, the apparent weekly consumption reached 48,500 bales; but as at the end of that year the stocks in the hands of the trade were unusually large, the real consumption was probably only 47,000 bales of 425 lbs. each, or about 20,000,000 lbs. For 1865, we have a supply available of 40,000 bales of 341 lbs. each, or 13,640,000 lbs.;—and as we may, perhaps, set off the dirtier character of the cotton now used against the greater economy in its use, and the various substitutes or rather auxiliaries employed to eke it out,—we may say that we shall virtually have *two-thirds* or 66 per cent. of the quantity we used up in our briskest and most prosperous year. But the present character of most of the cotton employed, being so much shorter and dirtier than formerly, requires a much greater amount of manipulation. The same number of spindles and looms cannot produce the same same quantity of yarn and cloth, the cotton has to be passed through more processes and a greater amount of machinery, and the machinery has to run slower than before. It is not easy—perhaps not possible—to estimate the amount of this change; but we shall probably be safe in assuming that all the factories existing in 1860 could not now work up more than 18,000,000 lbs, instead of the 20,000,000 they did work up then. Now, since that date, numbers of old concerns have been broken up or gone into such complete disrepair that they will never start again:—others no doubt have been created, and perhaps the one may be set against the other. In that case, we only want 18,000,000 lbs. a week, and we have 13,640,000 lbs., or as nearly as may be 75 per cent. of the extreme quantity we want, or could use.

Now few persons, we believe, who are aware of the great amount of disorganisation and dispersion which has occurred among the factory population during the last three or four years,—the number who have migrated or emigrated, the number who have gone to service, the number who have sought and found other occupations, would consider that more than 80 or 85 per cent. at the outside of the former factory population is now extant or to be found in Lancashire or Cheshire, available for their old work. And when we add to this the further consideration that more hands as well as more machinery than formerly are required to spin and weave a given quantity of the inferior cotton now alone attainable,—we think there is every reason to hope that, before the end of 1865 very nearly the whole of the manufacturing population, strictly so called, will or may be in full employment. The *subsidiary* trades,—the carriers, dyers, bleachers, printers, &c.,—will of course not recover so completely;—since 13,640,000 lbs. will not furnish to *them* as much employment as 20,000,000 lbs.

That prices of cotton must fall, as indeed they are falling, there can we apprehend be no doubt;—though at what rate they may decline, or at what point they may stop, we should be sorry to hazard any confident conjecture. Thus much, however, is certain. The production of cotton goods in 1860 was notoriously in excess of the aggregate demand of the world, even at the comparatively low prices then prevailing, for stocks accumulated in every market. Now, is it probable that if the world could not consume 20,000,000 lbs. a week when Orleans was at 8d. and Surats at 5d. per lb., it will be able to consume 13,640,000 lbs. with Orleans at 24d. and Surats at 18d. per lb.? As soon as prices reach a moderately ow limit, there can be no doubt that both production and demand will ncrease, for all the markets of the world are bare of stocks and need to eplenish them;—but what "moderation" is, whether 12d.—or 9d.—for East Indian cotton, no man can venture to pronounce.

APPOINTMENTS.—The Queen has approved of M. Henri Du Chesne as Consul at Hong Kong for the Emperor of the French.

Naval and Military.

Rear-Admiral George St. Vincent King, Commander-in-Chief of the Indies and Cape of Good Hope stations, has been appointed to succeed Rear-Admiral Sir Augustus L. Kuper, K.C.B., whose time of service has expired, as Commander-in-Chief in China.

Lieut.-Col. J. W. Lovell, C.B., principal instructor in field fortifications at the Royal Engineer establishment, Brompton Barracks, Chatham, having been appointed Commanding Royal Engineer in China, is succeeded at the Royal Engineer establishment by Major F. H. de Vere.

By direction of the Admiralty, the officials connected with the Steam Reserve are engaged in making a careful survey of the various steamers composing the Anglo-Chinese flotilla in the Medway, in order to enable them to arrive at the exact value of each vessel, including all machinery and stores.

We have to record the death of Capt. Robert Harris, R.N., which took place at his residence at Southsea, Portsmouth, on the 16th inst. We learn from O'Byrne that the deceased officer entered the Royal Navy in 1822 as a volunteer on board the Euryalus, 42, and in 1824 was employed at the blockade of Algiers. He afterwards served on board the Ferret, the Royal George yacht, and the Onyx and Pantaloon tenders to the yacht. In the Excellent gunnery-ship, as a lieutenant, his scientific acquirements secured him the highest possible certificate. In the Melville, 72, bearing the flags for some time of Admirals Sir Peter Halket and the Hon. George Elliot, Lieut. Harris served for four years as gunnery-lieutenant in North America and the West Indies, on the Cape of Good Hope and China stations, and took part in various military operations. Capt. Harris's last services, however, were the most important in his career, and with them his name must always remain indissolubly connected. This was the organisation and introduction into Her Majesty's service of the naval cadet and boys' training-ship system, a task for the execution of which Capt. Harris was specially selected by the Admiralty. How this arduous task was carried out is best exemplified by a reference to the means placed at Capt. Harris's disposal in the one ship (Illustrious) for the joint scheme at its commencement, and the present admirably arranged Britannia, with a college in prospective, for the naval cadets, and a training ship for boys now in every naval port in the kingdom. For several years he laboured at this duty, and none but his personal friends can know the amount of zeal he brought to bear upon it, or the tact with which he worked out the important plans entrusted to his care.

Major-General Lord William Paulet, C.B., will retain the Lieutenant-Governorship of Portsmouth, and the command of the South-west military district, until July next, when he will succeed Sir James Yorke Scarlett, C.B., in the duties of the Adjutant-General's office at the Horse Guards.

Commander Horatio L. A. L. Maitland joined Her Majesty's 5-gun vessel Landrail, commissioned at Woolwich for service on the South coast of Africa, to assist in the suppression of the slave traffic. The Landrail has been thoroughly repaired.

Lieutenant-Colonel Morrison has retired from the Royal Marines. This officer joined the Service on the 18th of October, 1842. On the 5th of April, 1845, he embarked on board Her Majesty's ship Vernon, and proceeded in that ship to the River Plate, where he was actively employed at Monte Video, and was present on the 20th of November, 1845, at the attack on the batteries at Punto Obligado. From the River Plate he went in the Vernon to the East Indies, where he was employed until the end of 1848. He was promoted to first lieutenant 27th July, 1845; appointed quartermaster at Plymouth 13th January, 1853; from thence transferred as adjutant to Chatham, 18th February, 1854; and promoted to captain 21st February, 1855. In August, 1857, he proceeded with the brigade to China, was present at the capture of Canton, served as Provost-Marshal to the forces, and afterwards as deputy assistant-adjutant-general to the garrison at Canton, in 1858 and 1859. On the formation of the expedition to the North of China he was on the staff of the garrison at Hong Kong, which appointment he resigned for the purpose of accompanying the battalion of his corps attached to Sir Hope Grant's force; was present at Sinho, Tongoo, siege and capture of North Takoo Fort, and the whole of the subsequent operations. He was gazetted brevet-major 15th September, 1858, and lieutenant-colonel 15th February, 1861. Since his return to England he has been employed on the recruiting staff of the corps, latterly in charge of the London district. His departure from the Service is much regretted by the whole of his old friends and comrades, and he carries with him their best wishes for his future welfare and prosperity.

The paddlewheel steam-sloop Virago, 6, Commander William G. H. Johnstone, from Bermuda, arrived in Plymouth Sound on the 20th inst. When entering Burmuda from Halifax, Dec. 4, and being about eight or nine miles from the island, she struck on an outlying rock, one of the Bermuda Reef. The Virago was at the time under steam, and going from six to seven knots per hour. Her timbers were started from the stempost as far up as the six-foot mark, the keel of her stem was started, and the bolts driven back; two or three streaks of copper were ripped off, and the whole of her starboard side severely shaken. Had the sloop been a sailing vessel she would have sunk in less than three hours, but being a steamer she was kept afloat by the action of her bilge ejection pipes. She entered Bermuda the next morning, and was repaired by a diver alongside the jetty. The Virago left Dec. 31 for England, in company with the screw steam corvette Challenger, 22, Captain John J. Kennedy, C.B., but parted from her four days afterwards. On the homeward voyage heavy gales from south-west, veering to north-west, were experienced, and on Saturday, Jan. 14, the first gig was washed away, carrying with it part of the starboard paddlebox.

Major-Gen. R. S. Armstrong, of the Royal Artillery, is to have the "distinguished service" reward of £100 per annum, vacated by the appointment of Major-Gen. Dupuis, C.B., Col.-Commandant of a Brigade; and a similar reward, vacated by the death of Major-Gen. Palliser, has been conferred on Major-Gen. Francis Warde. The annual pensions of £91. 5s. held by Major-Gen. Armstrong and Major-Gen. Warde have been bestowed on Major-Gen. Burke Cuppage and Major-Gen. J. St. George, C.B.

We learn that orders have been issued to stop the manufacture of Parrot guns in the United States, and a commission has been appointed to inquire into the causes of their failure. There are about 1,000 of them in the Federal arsenals.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* furnishes the following, in its usual monthly list, as the names of vessels of the Royal Navy on the China and Japan Station:—

Acorn, hospital sh., Mast. Com. Henry Hutchings.
Algerine, 1, sc. gunvessel, Lieut.-Com. T. C. Tucker.
Archer, 13, sc., Capt. Francis Marten.
Argus, 6, st. v., Com. H. L. Round.
Barrosa, 21, sc., Capt. Henry Boys.
Bouncer, 2, sc. gunboat, Lieut.-Com. F. Lewis.
Bustard, 2, sc. gunboat, Lieut.-Com. R. Adams.
Clown, 1, sc. gunboat, Lieut.-Com. T. S. Tonkin.
Cockchafer, 2, sc. gunboat, Lieut.-Com. E. M. Dagrel.
Conqueror, 78, sc., Capt. W. G. Luard.
Coquette, 4, sc. gunvessel, Com. A. G. R. Roe.
Cormorant, 4, sc., Com. C. M. Buckle.
Coromandel, 5, st. v., Lieut. D. G. Davidson.
Euryalus, 35, sc., Capt. W. M. Dowell, flag ship of Admiral Kuper.
Flamer, 2, sc. gunboat, Com. Alfred Eaton.
Grasshopper, 2, sc. gunvessel, Com. E. D. Morant.
Hardy, 2, sc. gunboat, Com. G. Morice.
Haughty, 2, sc. gunboat, Lieut.-Com. K. H. A. Mainwaring.
Havoc, 2, sc. gunboat, Lieut.-Com. E. Backley.
Hesper, 4, sc. st. sh., Mast. Com. A. F. Boxer.
Insolent, 2, sc. gunboat, Lieut.-Com. G. T. Nicholas.
Janus, 1, sc. gunboat, Lieut.-Com. G. Powys.
Kestrel, 1, sc. gunboat, Lieut.-Com. Hamilton Dunlop.
Leopard, 18, st. v., Capt. C. T. Leckie.
Leven, 1, sc. gunvessel, Lieut.-Com. H. P. Knevitt.
Manilla, sc. st. v., Mast. Com. H. W. Burnett.
Melville, hosp. sh., Honkong.
Osprey, 4, s.c., Com. Menzies.
Pantaloon, 11, sc., Com. F. R. Purvis.
Pelorus, 21, sc., Capt. W. H. Haswell.
Perseus, 17, sc., Com. C. E. Stevens.
Princess Charlotte, receiving ship, Capt. C. S. Nolloth.
Princess Royal, 73, Capt. W. Gore Jones, flag ship of Admi. G. St. Vincent King.
Rattler, 17, sc., Com. J. W. Webb.
Rifleman, 5, sc. st. sh., Com. John Ward.
Saracen, tender to above.
Scylla, 21, sc., Capt. R. W. Courtenay.
Severn, 51, sc. frigate, Com. F. B. Montressor.
Slaney, 1, sc. gunboat, Lieut.-Com. W. F. Lee.
Staunch, 2, sc. gunboat, Com. T. S. Keats.
Swallow, 9, sc. st. sloop, Mast. Com. E. Wilds.
Tartar, 20, sc., Capt. S. M. Hayes, ordered home.
Vigilant, 4, sc. Com. W. R. Hobson.
Weazel, 2, sc. gunboat, Com. Lieut.-Com. H. G. Hale.

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According to the official list, the following regiments are now in China, Japan, and Ceylon :—

9th Foot (2nd batt.), China.	67th Foot, China.
20th do. do. Japan.	99th do. do.
25th do. do. Ceylon.	Ceylon Rifle Regiment, Ceylon.

LOSS OF HER MAJESTY'S SHIP "BOMBAY."

Lieutenant Stirling, one of the survivors of the ill-fated Bombay, arrived at the Admiralty, and shortly after the Secretary of the Admiralty sent out to the various daily papers the following communication :—

"H.M.S. Stromboli, Monte Video, Dec. 15, 1864, 8 A.M.

"Sir,—I much regret that I have to report the total loss by fire of H.M.S. Bombay. She left this anchorage under sail at 7 A.M. yesterday when I transferred my flag to the Triton. About 5 P.M. of the same day I received intelligence that the Bombay was on fire near the English Bank, or Flores Island, about 13 miles from this place. I immediately despatched the Stromboli to her assistance, and proceeded myself in the Triton, but so rapidly had the fire extended that the ship had been deserted long before assistance could reach them. The ship's company had been at general quarters in the afternoon till a little after 3 P.M., the foremost lower deck guns were then told off for divisional exercise, but firing had not commenced from them, when about ten minutes after the retreat had been beat, fire was reported to have broken out in the after part of the ship, about the after hold ; the fire bell was immediately rung, and with the greatest order and promptness an abundant supply of water was obtained ; but the fire appears at once to have spread with uncontrollable rapidity, which gives me the impression that it originated very close to the spirit room, and that the spirit casks must almost immediately have burst and ignited. At 3.35 P.M. the fire was reported. At 3.52, finding the fire was quickly gaining, the boats were hoisted out. At four P.M. the boats were out, with the exception of the second launch, when the flames coming up the hatchways, the awnings and sails having been burnt, rendered it impossible for the men to work. The sick had already been passed into the boats, and the rest of the ship's company now followed. At a quarter-past four the mainmast went over the side, the boats then being scarcely clear of the ship, and many officers and men were still holding on to ropes alongside, and to the fore part of the ship, and others floating on the spars, &c. Soon after the mainmast fell, the stoppers of the anchors being burnt through, the anchors fell, and it seems many men who were upon or near them must have lost their lives. The ship was under sail, hove to, when the fire occurred, steam not having been up. At 8.25 the after-magazine blew up, and the ship sunk in about 8 fathoms.

"Among the officers, Mr. John K. Smallhorn, Assistant-Surgeon, is the only one missing, and who was drowned alongside.

"The French mail-packet being at this moment on the point of departure, I am not able to give a more detailed report ; but I am endeavouring to ascertain the number and names of men missing, which, I am sorry to say, amounts to about 93 ; but the boats having been picked up by vessels proceeding to different places, we cannot as yet get a correct return.—I have the honour to be, &c. (Signed), CHAS. G. J. B. ELLIOT, Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief. To the Secretary of the Admiralty."

No list of names has been received at the Admiralty, and whenever any further information is received it will be made public.

The *Navy List* represents the Bombay as 2,782 tons (flagship), and 400-horse power. Her officers were—Rear Admiral the Hon. Charles G. J. B. Elliot, C.B. ; Flag-Lieutenant Henry N. Hippisley ; Secretary, Stephen H. Moore ; Clerk to the Secretary, Charles E. Collins ; Assistant Paymaster, Charles R. Drew ; Captain, Collin A. Campbell : Commander, Charles Wells ; Lieutenants, Edward Kelly, Francis Sterling, Charles A. Vidal, Henry J. Carr, James Buchanan ; additional Lieutenants, for disposal, Charles R. Forrest and John R. T. Fullarton ; Master, James S. Watts ; Captain of the Marines, William A. Delacombe ; First Lieutenant of Marines, Cyril Frampton ; Second Lieutenant of the Marine Artillery, James S. Bird ; Chaplain, Rev. John Erskine, M.A. ; Surgeon, Frederick W. Blake ; Paymaster, James D. Gilpin ; Naval Instructor, Thomas H. Johnson ; Chief Engineer, Robert J. Hay ; Sub-Lieutenants, Edward F. Keppel, Henry A. Mandeville, Arthur S. Philpots ; Second Master, Frederick Hunter ; Assistant-Surgeons, John R. Samuelson and John Simpson ; and Assistant Paymaster, Henry M. Harrison.

LOSS OF THE "RACEHORSE."

(*Army and Navy Gazette.*)

In noticing the apparent decadence of seamanship in the Royal Navy we arrived at the conclusion from the fact that, of late years, an unusual number of Her Majesty's ships have suffered total and disastrous wrecks. We must not, however, be misunderstood ; we have no desire nor intention to visit with any degree of unnecessary severity those officers who, to their misfortune, were prominently connected with the losses in question. The few remarks which have appeared in the columns of this journal on the melancholy destruction of the Racehorse can in no way affect Commander Boxer's position, as a court-martial will, in all probability, have long since determined whether he was or was not liable to blame for the course which ended in the annihilation of much valuable property, and in the painful and lingering death of nearly one hundred of our fellow-creatures. We are fully aware of the suffering which a captain or commanding officer, if he possess the ordinary feelings of our nature, must endure when his vessel is suddenly snatched from under his feet, especially when that catastrophe, as in the case of the Racehorse, is accompanied by the removal from life of almost the whole of his shipmates, who only a few hours previously were full of health, energy, and activity. We should indeed have great reason to blush for ourselves if under such circumstances we could, without sufficient reason, be so callous as to lacerate the feelings of any man, particularly one placed in the position of Commander Boxer. All that we did say rested upon a fact published in the China papers, viz., that the Racehorse made for Lung Mun Bay instead of for Chee-foo. Now, considering that the latter place is twelve miles to the eastward of the former, we do not think that we said too much when we imputed blame to some one on board. We are prepared to admit that the two places resemble each other very much, but that, we should imagine would serve rather to induce caution than boldness. We are informed that Commander Boxer is a capital seaman, as his father was before him, and we shall hail with satisfaction his entire acquittal from blame in connection with the loss of Her Majesty's late vessel.

EXTRAORDINARY ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF A CHINA MERCHANT.

Robert Atkin, forty-five, who had been a ship captain, but was now described as a farmer, and who gave an address in Crawford-street, Bryanston-square, was placed at the bar before the Lord Mayor, on Saturday the 21st inst., charged with extorting £90 odd from Mr. Brown, a merchant in Fenchurch-street, by threatening to shoot him.

Mr. Denton, from the office of Messrs. Freshfields, the solicitors to the Bank of England, conducted the prosecution.

The complainant, Mr. William Seton Brown was called. He said : I am a merchant, and reside at Homedale-house, Nutfield, Surrey. I formerly resided at Shanghai, as a member of the firm of Birley, Worthington, and Co., of that place, merchants. I left Shanghai in April, 1858, and returned to England. I use the office of Mr. Lidderdale at 34, Fenchurch-street, in this city. The prisoner, accompanied by a woman, called upon me there about 1 o'clock on Friday, and they were shown into a back room by an office boy. As soon as I entered the room to speak to them the prisoner went to the door, and putting his back against it, drew a revolver from his pocket, and said, "My name is Atkin, and I want my money." I replied that I did not owe him any money. He repeated the same words more than once, still holding the pistol in his hand, not pointing it at me, but holding it downwards. He said, "I am a desperate man, and must have my money before I leave this room." After some further parley I told him I should pay him the money and give him into the custody of a constable. I tried to get to the door to open it. He repeated that he must have his money before he left the room. I suggested that the woman who accompanied him should call in my friend, meaning Mr. Lidderdale, who would probably pay the money. The woman left apparently for that purpose, and presently returned, accompanied by Mr. Lidderdale, who, on hearing what had passed, wrote a cheque for £91. 2s. on his bankers. The cheque was sent to the bank and cashed. Mr. Lidderdale himself paid the prisoner the money. The prisoner had previously demanded upwards of £100 of me. The woman showed me some papers which I handed to my friend Mr. Lidderdale, and he in turn handed them to the prisoner. They appeared to me to be accounts and documents relating to the ship *Dennis Hill*. The prisoner eventually agreed to take £91. 2s. The money was placed on a table with that view, and he took it up, signing immediately afterwards the receipt produced. Every now and then, until he got the money, he kept drawing the pistol out of his pocket.

A police-officer at length came in with Mr. Lidderdale, and they were present when the money was paid to the prisoner. I was under the belief that the prisoner would have fired the pistol at me if I had attempted to leave the room, or if I had not paid him the money. I am now liable to Mr. Lidderdale for the amount of the cheque. I was in bodily fear, and but for that I should not have paid the prisoner the money. At the very beginning of the interview I told the prisoner that my firm had nothing to do with the freight of the vessel in question, and that they had only acted as agents in chartering her. About a year and a half ago I saw the prisoner. He then called on me at the same office. Up to that time I had not heard or known anything about the freight of the *Dennis Hill* Besides, the question of freight was no business of mine. On that occasion the prisoner told me that he had been the master of the ship *Dennis Hill ;* that the vessel had some years before been chartered to go from Foochow to New York ; that she was required for the firm of Birley and Co., of Foochow, of which house I was not nor am now a partner ; and that on our arrival at New York some dispute arose about the freight. I said I could make inquiry into the matter, and that if I found there was anything due to him I should endeavour to get the money for him. I told him I was not a partner in the firm of Birley and Co., of Foochow, that I did this as a friendly act, and I asked him to call again in a day or two. I made inquiries, and he called again. I then told him he had been trying to perpetrate a fraud on the consignees at New York, and that I declined to interfere at all in the matter. He became insolent, and I requested him to leave the office, which he did. This was about the middle of July, 1863. A day or two afterwards I received a threatening letter bearing his signature, which I can produce. From that time until Friday I had not seen him. I had instructed my solicitor to defend me against the proceedings which the prisoner had commenced against me.

Mr. William Lidderdale : I am a merchant at 34, Fenchurch-street, and partner in the firm of Rathbone Brothers, of Liverpool. A few days ago the prisoner called upon me with his wife and asked for Mr. Brown, giving as his name "Mr. Johnson." I told him Mr. Brown was out, upon which the prisoner left, but did not return that day. On Friday the prisoner called again. I was out at the time, and on my return I heard high words in the back room, which my friend Mr. Brown occupies. Soon afterwards the prisoner's wife came out of the room calling "Chaplin," the name of the office boy. The boy went in and brought a message to me, upon which I entered the room where the altercation was going on. I could not get in for a minute or two, as some one appeared to be pressing against the door from behind. The door was opened by the prisoner, and I found him standing with a pistol in his left hand. Mr. Brown said, "Here's a man who threatens to shoot me if I don't pay a claim he has made upon me." Turning to the prisoner, I said that was an extraordinary way of enforcing a claim. The prisoner replied that he was a desperate man and had been driven to it, that he was very hard up, and had been a long time trying to get the money. I argued with him a few minutes, and then his wife produced some papers, some of which were handed to me. I looked at one or two of them, and amongst them was what appeared to be the copy of an affidavit made in New York by Messrs. Weston and Grey, in which they had declared they had tendered to the prisoner 383 dollars and 42 cents, and that he had refused to receive the money. The

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affidavit seemed to be in connection with the freight of the ship *Dennis Hill*. Mr. Brown then said it was not worth while going any further into the documents, and that he thought he had better pay the money and have the prisoner apprehended. I warned the prisoner myself that he would be given in charge if he demanded the money. The reply was that he was quite prepared. Mr. Brown assured the prisoner more than once that he had nothing to do with the ship, He then asked me to pay the money for him, upon which I wrote a cheque for £91. 2s. upon my bankers. The prisoner refused to take the cheque, lest, he said, I should play some trick upon him. I then sent the cheque to be cashed, and the messenger returned with the money, a policeman entering the room at the same time. The money was put into my hands, and I passed it to the prisoner, who then, in my presence, wrote the bottom part of the receipt produced in these words:—"As part payment of the freight (*sic*) earned by barque *Dennis Hill*, Robert Atkin." Over these words the following had been previously written:—

"Received from W. S. Brown, Esq., £91. 2s., the equivalent at 4s. 2d. exchange of $383, with interest at 5 per cent. for two years and ten months.—London, 20th Jan."

The prisoner had the pistol all this while, sometimes in his pocket and sometimes in his hand. As he was leaving the office Mr. Brown gave him into custody.

Police-constable Cushnie deposed that on Friday, about half-past one o'clock, he was called to the office of Mr. Lidderdale. On going there Mr. Lidderdale went into a back room with him, and witness saw the prisoner standing there near the door. The prisoner said once or twice, "Pay me my money, and then you can give me in charge." I saw Mr. Lidderdale pay the prisoner £91. 2s., and the prisoner sign a receipt, Mr. Brown at the time protesting against paying him the money, as he never owed it. He told witness in the prisoner's hearing that the prisoner had a pistol on him. Witness asked him if that was so, and the prisoner replied in the affirmative. Mr. Brown gave the prisoner in charge, and witness took him to the Seething-lane police-station. There the prisoner took from his left overcoat pocket the pistol produced (a revolver with six chambers), telling witness that it was loaded. The charge, which was afterwards drawn, consisted of six bullets, and the pistol was ready-capped. On searching him witness found £91. 2s., the sum paid him by Mr. Lidderdale, and 5½d. in copper besides, with some papers.

By the prisoner: I saw you several times before I went into the room, the door being open. You looked very much excited. You said to Mr. Brown, "Pay me the money you owe me, and then hand me over to a magistrate." You gave a receipt as soon as you got the money. On the way to the station you told me you had become a desperate man from having fallen into bad circumstances, but that you had no intention to shoot Mr. Brown.

Charles Newman, assistant-messenger from the Court of Bankruptcy, Basinghall-street, produced the proceedings in bankruptcy of the prisoner, Robert Atkin, described as of Chapel-hill, Walthamstow, farmer. The petition, he said, was filed by the bankrupt on the 2nd of November, 1864, and he was adjudged a bankrupt on the same day. On the 22nd of December the examination of the bankrupt was adjourned *sine die*, because of no account having been rendered. The object of the last witness's evidence was to show that even if his claim against Mr. Brown, the prosecutor, was well founded, the prisoner, being then a bankrupt, was not in a position to receive it. At the request both of the solicitor for the prosecution and of the prisoner himself, who wished to obtain professional assistance in conducting his defence, the Lord Mayor remanded the prisoner until Tuesday, declining at the same time to entertain his request to admit him to bail.

THE JAPANESE PEASANTS.—A correspondent of the *New York Tribune* writes:—"I have seen the soil about Nagasaki, Hakodadi, Yedo, and Kanagawa, and it is all the same; yielding bounteous returns only to painstaking labour. And this labour the Japanese peasant faithfully bestows till all the country laughs with fatness. For him there are no ambitions beyond honest toil; the conditions of his life are fixed irrevocably; he is haunted by no dreams of power, pursued by no restless avarice, and so his human machine runs on gently without many frets or breaks. His wife is industrious like himself, her spinning-wheel sings by the door, and the shuttle of his daughter's loom flies by the window. In the rice culture and the cotton picking they labour by his side. His children have full run of the streets for their earlier years—the girl plays with dolls and dresses, the boy snares birds, robs bird's-nests, dams up the little rills, sails his tiny boat, bakes his mud pies in the sun, and tears his trousers—till such times as he is able to go to the woods for fuel, or to the fields to hoe and weed. But one thing is to be remembered, to school he must go, and the sun is hardly up before he is off to school with shining brown face and the roll of paper which makes his copy-book in hand."

CAPTAIN SHERARD OSBORN read a paper at the meeting of the Geographical Society on Monday evening on explorations in the Polar regions. He pointed out that the dangers of Polar expeditions were not so great as had been thought, and he urged another expedition to explore the region round the North Pole. He named Captain M'Clintock as the most fitting man to command the expedition, and said the Admiralty would give two small vessels for the purpose if they were asked. The suggestion was approved by the speakers in the discussion which followed.

Mr. Vane (from Ceylon) had an interview with the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell at the Colonial Office yesterday.

Monetary and Commercial.

The following letter has been received by the *Standard* with respect to the British and Netherlands India Bank (Limited). It is understood out of doors that the directors propose to return the money, not only without deduction, but with some allowance for interest, having employed it profitably for the shareholders.

(TO THE EDITOR.)

The British and Netherlands India Bank (Limited),
28, Cannon-street, London, Jan. 11, 1865.

Sir,—Referring to the paragraph in your impression of the 9th inst., detailing the views of various shareholders of this company, I am instructed by the directors to state that so soon as certain advices are received from abroad, and which are shortly expected, a meeting of the shareholders will be convened for the purpose of affording them the opportunity of considering and determining the best course to be pursued.—I remain, Sir, your most obedient servant, B. W. BALL, Secretary *pro tem.*

The biddings for £300,000 in bills on India took place on the 18th inst. The proportions allotted were—to Calcutta, £165,000; to Bombay, £120,000; and to Madras, £10,100. The minimum price was, as before, 1s. 11½d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11¾d. on Bombay. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 1s. 11⅞d. will receive in full, and on Bombay at 1s. 11⅞d. about 13 per cent.; above these prices in full. The results indicate a diminution in the demand for bills both for Calcutta and Bombay.

A final call of £5 is to be paid by the 8th Feb. on the shares of the Commercial Bank Corporation of India and the East, allotted on the terms of the prospectus issued in April last.

At the half-yearly meeting of the London Joint-Stock Bank the available total, including a previous balance of £26,976, was stated at £171,125 and the usual dividend was recommended at the rate of 12½ per cent. per annum, with a bonus of £1. 17s. 6d. on each share with £10 paid, leaving £21,125 to be added to reserve, which now amounts to £298,069. The liabilities on deposits, &c., are £20,252,926, and the paid-up capital is £1,080,000.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Co.'s steamer *Poonah*, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was—in gold, to Alexandria, £17,500; to Madras, £561; to Singapore, £2,000. In silver, to Singapore, £52,650; to Hong Kong, £10,940; to Shanghai, £2,790. Total: In gold, £20,061; in silver, £66,380.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices Jan. 17.
£100	Agra and Masterman's	50	125 to 130	132 to 135
50	Do. New	25	61 to 63	63 to 65
50	Do. "	25	60 to 62	62 to 64
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	33 to 35	35 to 36
20	Do. New	All	...	—
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	57 to 59	61 to 63
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	...	—
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (10 pd.)	20	5 to 7 pm.	5 to 7 pm.
20	Eastern Exchange	3	1 to par	1 dis. to par
50	London Joint Stock	10	50 to 52	50 to 52
100	London and Westminster	20	96 to 98	98 to 100
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	56 to 58	56 to 58
50	Union of London	15	53 to 54 xd.	53 to 55 xd.
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	3½ to 4½ pm.	4½ to 5½ pm.
100	Do. New	23	2 to 3 pm.	3½ to 4½ pm.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	1½ to 1¾ pm.	1½ to 2 pm.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	32 to 34	30 to 32
100	Bank of London	50	155 to 160	158 to 162
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	1¼ to 1½ pm.	1½ to 1¾ pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 4	3 to 4
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	80 to 82	79 to 81
50	Do. New	35	19 to 21 pm.	19 to 21 pm.
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	...	—
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	...	—
5	Bombay Gas	All	5 to 5½	4¾ to 5¼
10	Hong Kong Gas	All	...	2¼ to 1½ dis.
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	8	3½ to 2½ dis.	3 to 2½ dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	¼ dis. to ¼ pm.	¼ dis. to ¼ pm.
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	19½ to 20½	19½ to 20½
1	Oriental Gas	All	1½ to 1¾	1½ to 1¾
1	Do. New	All	¼ to ⅜ pm.	¼ to ⅜ pm.
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2¼ to 2¾	2½ to 3
100	West India Steam Company	60	95 to 97	95 to 97
20	Ceylon Company	7	2½ to 3 pm.	2½ to 3 pm.
20	International Finance Society	5	2½ to 2¾ pm.	2¾ to 2¾ pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2½ to 3½ pm.	3½ to 3¾ pm.
50	London Financial Association	15	8½ to 9 pm.	8½ to 9 pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	1½ to 1¾ pm	1¾ to 1¾ pm.
20	Société Financière d'Egypte	6	1½ to 1 dis	1· to 1½ dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	15¾ to 16¼	16 to 16¼
10	Upper Assam Tea	2½	3½ to 4½ pm.	4 to 5 pm.
10	Do.	All	17 to 20	17 to 20

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—During the past fortnight our market has shown no activity, but there has not been much fluctuation in prices, importers generally having given support to the market. The public sales which commenced on the 17th inst. were larger than for some time past, the quantity without reserve exceeding 30,000 packages; these have occupied the attention of the trade to a great extent, and have tended to curtail business by private contract. Low and dusty kinds of Congou have sold a shade easier. Fair to good common show no material alteration. Flavoury kinds of old import have sold to a small extent at about previous prices. Fair qualities of new season have sold rather lower; good to fine kinds have been well maintained, and finest have been taken in small parcels for export at fully previous prices. Common to fair black leaf

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kinds, both old and new import, have been difficult of sale, and show a decline of ½d. to 1d. per lb. All the better kinds remain much as before, finest being still without inquiry for export. Tayshan and new-make Canton kinds show no alteration. Common to fair Oolongs are without change; there is rather more inquiry for the good to fine kinds at slightly improved prices. Souchongs show no improvement, and quotations are in a great measure nominal. A few fresh arrivals of Flowery Pekoe have found buyers at full prices. Scented Teas continue in demand, both Capers and Orange Pekoes, especially the Foo-Chow kinds of the latter, which are very scarce, and prices have a hardening tendency. Uncoloured Japans have been inquired for at 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per lb., but there are few to be met with at that figure of sufficiently good quality. The public sales of India tea did not go off with the usual, spirit, a large proportion being withdrawn for want of offers nevertheless fine qualities commanded extreme rates. Green Teas have sold to a fair extent, and prices have again ruled rather in favour of buyers for good to fine kinds, whilst the common to fair kinds have sold 1d. to 2d. per pound lower both in Young Hysons and Gunpowder. Hysons, on the other hand, have been in demand, and prices show an advance of about 2d. per lb. In Canton-made kinds there is no alteration to notice, they still being difficult of sale. Besides the usual trade there are 10,500 hf. chests Oolong, 750 coloured and uncoloured Japan, 1,000 Green at about previous rates, 150 common Souchong, 45 cents in bond. The quotations are: Hyson, common to fair, $1.30 to 1.50; Young Hyson, common to fair, $1.15 to 1.35; Gunpowder and Imperial, common to fair, $1.30 to 1.50; Hyson Skin and Twankay, common to fair, $95 to 1.10; uncoloured Japan, common to fair, $1.05 to 1.12; Souchong and Congou, common to fair, $95 to 1.10.

SILK.—See "Latest."

COTTON.—The Liverpool market closed on Saturday the 21st with declining prices. China and Japan had been abundantly offered, and, with a limited inquiry, a reduction of 1d. per lb. was submitted to. This week there has been more inquiry, and business has been done at steadier rates. The London market was characterised by a similar dulness and decline. During the week a sale of 250 bales Japan was quoted at 15d. for fair, and 15¼d. for fully fair. A more active business has been since reported, and prices are ¼d. to ½d. per lb. higher.

SUGAR.—The general decline at the end of the week was fully 1s. and in some cases 1s. 6d. to 2s. per cwt. 1,085 bags Penang were about two-thirds sold, fine brown to low middling yellow, 28s. 6d. to 31s. On the 20th 2,000 bags Manila went at 27s. 6d. No quotable change in value has been effected during the present week.

COFFEE.—Prices have ruled in favour of the buyer. 959 casks, 1,090 barrels and bags Plantation Ceylon in public sale, went without spirit, at a decline of about 1s. per cwt., fine ordinary to low middling, 78s. to 82s., middling to good middling, 83s. to 86s. Only 220 bags native have been offered, which sold rather cheaper, fine ordinary, 71s.; privately, about 1,000 bags have been placed, good ordinary at 69s. to 70s. 100 bags Singapore, fair Bally, 62s. 6d. to 63s., and common, 57s. Of Mocha, at auction, 139 bales mixed clean garbled brought 83s.

RICE.—Extensive transactions have taken place at an advance of 3d. per cwt. On the 20th, 14,674 bags Nakrenzie, offered by auction, were chiefly withdrawn at 9s., only the damaged portion being sold rather cheaply at from 7s. to 8s.; of 2,429 bags Bengal, the sound part, white, was bought in.

CAMPHOR.—Had fallen at the end of the year 7s. 6d. per cwt., but 5s. of the decline was afterwards recovered. Of 1,225 cases China at auction, nearly half sold at 85s. to 87s. 6d. in lead, and 82s. 6d. to 85s. tin; and at these prices the market is at present firm: 48 tubs Japan retired: private business very moderate.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—First quality, being comparatively scarce, has nearly maintained its former value; all other classes are 2s. to 5s. per cwt. cheaper: of 3,595 boxes at auction, half sold at 77s. to 88s. per cwt. for 3rd to 1st pile. Buds: Firm, with inquiry; little offering.

COCOA NUT OIL.—Prices have advanced as much as £2 per ton, with a large business doing, and the market remains very firm. There are buyers of Ceylon at 37s. 6d. per cwt.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: At a decline of 15s. per cwt. have sold largely; and of 1,032 bags at auction three-fourths sold at 74s. to 80s. per cwt. for good. Dragon's Blood: Dearer; and 32 cases at auction sold at £16. 5s. per cwt. for reed; and £5 to £10. 10s. middling to good block. Galangal Root: Steady: 500 bags sold at auction at 15s. to 16s. 6d. per cwt. for good quality. Rhubarb: An active speculative demand arose at the close of last year; a large quantity changed hands, and prices rose 9d. to 1s. per lb. Latterly the market (remaining firm) has become quiet: of 88 chests at auction, one-third sold at 3s. 10d. to 5s. 11d. per lb. for ordinary to fair.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Remains steady; but of 93 cases Sumatra at auction a small portion only sold at £12. 12s. 6d. to £12. 15s. per cwt. for fair 2nd quality. Damar: Very firm; 81 pkgs. sold at auction at 46s. to 47s. per cwt. for fair picked, and 40s. to 40s. 6d. sorts. Gamboge: Remains scarce, and firm; of 17 cases at auction one-third sold at £9. 2s. 6d. to £9. 5s. per cwt. for middling mixed pipe.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Remains very flat; only 3 tons at auction, and two tons sold at 6½d. to 6¾d. per lb., being very cheap. Indin Rubber: Auctions confined to 140 baskets Penang, retired, and 143 bags Assam sold at 9½d. per lb. for middling ball, being a high price: privately about 30 tons have been sold in the month at 1s. 3d. per lb. for fine Singapore, and 1s. 1¼d. to 1s. 2d. middling to good Penang.

HEMP.—Manila: This market has been very animated; large business, partly speculative, done, and prices £2 to £3 per ton higher, and it remains firm at £31 for Sorsogon, and £27. 10s. to £30 common to good roping. 822 bales at auction (chiefly damaged) were mostly quitted upon the advanced terms. 500 bales Lupez retired.

JAPAN WAX.—42 boxes taken in, ordinary and middling saucer at 66s. to 66s. 6d.

OILS.—Anniseed: Has further improved; Business to some little extent done up to 6s. 3d. per lb., at which price the oil is now quiet, with sellers rather than buyers. Of 8 cases at auction, one sold at 6s. 3d. per lb. Cassia: Is dearer, and has sold moderately up to 8s. 6d. per lb, subsequently relapsing to our present quotations of 8s. 3d. to 8s. 4d. Cinnamon: Two cases sold at auction at 2s. 4d. to 2s. 5d. per oz. for good. Mace and Nutmegs: Three cases at auction retired at 3d. per oz. 10 cases Nutmeg Paste sold at 1d.

SPICES.—Cinnamon: We quote 1st sort 1s. 10d. to 3s., 2nd sort 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d., 3rd sort 1s. 6d. to 2s., 4th sort and jungle 1s. 3d. to 1s. 7d. per lb. Little doing. The quarterly sales are advertised for 30th inst. Cloves: Quiet: one case Penang sold at auction at 1s. per lb. for fair; and 179 bags Zanzibar retired; 6 casks Amboyna sold at 6½d. per lb. for good. Ginger: Steady: only 51 cases at auction, sold at 60s. per cwt. for ordinary wormy. Mace: Firm; and of 57 cases Penang, and 8 cases Singapore at auction, two-thirds sold at 1s. 8s. to 2s. 10d. per lb. for middling palish to good pale, and 9d. to 1s. 6d. inferior red to good reddish. Nutmegs: Are again generally 1d. to 2d. per lb. cheaper; and of 266 cases Penang, and 6 cases Singapore at auction, the bulk sold at 3s. to 3s. 8d. per lb. for very fair to good bold, and 10d. to 1s. 7d. ordinary small to good medium. Pepper: Black is ½d. per lb. higher in value, in consequence of good general demand. 5,908 bags Singapore at auction, most sold at 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb., and of 8,089 bags Penang half sold at 3d. to 3¼d. The market closes firm for Sumatra, but quiet for Penang. White is again ½d. per lb. dearer; and 918 bags Sincapore at auction mostly sold at 5¾d. to 6d. for fair to good; and of 667 bags Penang two-thirds sold at 5¼d. to 5¾d. for ordinary to fair.

SAGO.—At length shows some recovery, and 3,800 packages at auction sold at 17s. to 20s. per cwt. for ordinary to very good small, and 18s. to 20s. 6d. middling to fair large. Flour: Is considerably cheaper; 1,721 bags, of recent importation, sold at auction at 13s. 9d. to 14s. per cwt; subsequently considerable business done at 14s. 6d. Tapioca: Of 660 bags good middling Penang, in public sale, about half was taken at 2¾d.; and 36 cases stained Singapore at 1½d. per lb.; 100 boxes pearl tapioca, were bought in above the value. 219 cases Tapioca Flour were only a small part sold at 2¾d. to 3d. per lb.

SHELLAC.—This market remains in the same depressed state that was described in our issue of the 26th ult., and prices have further fallen 5s. per cwt. for all sorts excepting good Garnet, which, being in comparatively moderate supply, retains its value; of 1,808 packages at auction, two-thirds sold; Orange at £6. 2s. 6d. to £6. 7s. 6d.; Livery Orange, £5. 15s. to £6; thin Red Orange, £5. 2s. 6d. to £5. 5s; Liver, £5. 2s. 6d.; Garnet, £5. 12s. 6d. to £5. 15s.; Button, £4. 10s. to £7.; Native, £4. 15s. to £5; and Block, £3. 12s. 6d. to £5. 12s. 6d. Private operations small.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch Pegue: Has contined very flat, with scarcely any business ever since our last; but there is now a little more inquiry. 362 packages at auction all retired. Gambier: Had been very flat, and rather lower; but recently has experienced decided improvement; large operations have taken place, especially for arrival, and prices are now quite as high as when we last wrote; inquiry continuing. Of 1,790 bales at auction, two-thirds sold at 22s. to 22s. 6d. per cwt. middling blocks, and 25s. to 27s. cubes.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Galls: China and Japan firm; of 428 cases China at auction, rather more than half sold at 55s. to 64s. per cwt. for ordinary broken to very good; and 345 packages Japan nearly all sold at 50s. 6d. to 51s. per cwt. for fair rather stalky. Musk: Dearer, especially the better kinds; and 129 caddies at auction, all sold at 22s. to 32s. per oz. for middling to very good Tonquin, and 19s. to 21s. 6d. pickings. Of 8 tins grain, 3 sold at 48s. to 56s. for good to fine Rattans: Large heavy canes in less demand; small of ready sale; 3,155 bdls. Singapore retired, and 3,790 bdls. Penang sold at 4s. 9d. to 11s. per 100. Sapan Wood: Firm, 16 tons Siam sold at auction at £9. 17s 6d. to £10. 10s. per ton; and 32 tons Manila at £7. to £8. 2s. 6d. Mother o'Pearl Shells: Auctions have embraced 306 cases Singapore; two-thirds sold at £7. 7s. 6d. to £7. 10s. per cwt. for good, and £4. 15s. to £6. 2s. 6d. ordinary to middling; of 85 cases Manila, only ten sold at £5. 10s. Soy: Remains firm, and scarce. Star Anniseeds: Again rather dearer: recent importations, 200 cases, at auction three-fourths sold at £6. 5s. to £6. 10s. per cwt. for good, and £5. 15s. to £6 slightly mouldy. Sticklac, Siam: Continues dull, but not without inquiry, although only at low prices. Tortoise-shell: Only three cases Singapore brought to auction, two sold at 12s. 6d. to 15s. per lb. for ordinary to middling. Turmeric: No China offering, as before; nothing doing in Java. Vermilion: Dearer, and in demand; 10 boxes sold at auction at 2s. 8d. per lb., and still buyers thereat.

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

The cotton market has been dull. The Liverpool market has been the immediate cause of depression here, prices having given way in cotton. It is worthy of notice, however, that exporters of cloth do not appear to feel much confidence in the maintenance of prices in these goods in the face of a stock of cotton at Liverpool returned at 509,000 bales (against 264,000 this time last year), in addition to considerable quantities in London and Havre; and a circular, issued privately under the signature "Veritas," headed "Impending fall in Cotton," has evidently done much to produce doubt and depression among the business men in this market.

The Circular of Sam Mendel of 24th says:—

"The market continues quiet, with prices still irregular, and favouring buyers. Stocks are increasing, especially of the lower sorts of yarns and goods. Quotations are, Grey Shirtings, 7lb., 15s., 8lb., 18s. 3d.; Cotton Yarn, Nos. 16 to 24 are at 2s. 3d. to 2s. 4d.; Maddapolams, 6s. 9d.; T-cloths, 11s.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 10s.; nail rod, £9; hoops, £10; sheets, single £10. 15s.; Staffordshire bars, £9; rails, £6. 15s. to £7. 5s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £16.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, 96s. per ton; yellow metal, 8½d. to 8¼d. per lb.

TIN.—97s. for block; 98s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 28s. 6d. per box.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £20. 5s. to £20. 10s.; W.B., £21. 15s.; shot, patent, £23; sheet, £21; spelter, £18. 10s.; zinc, English sheet, £26; quicksilver, £8.

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EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£3,290
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£10,949
Singapore	£2,000	£52,650
Penang	—	—
Yokohama	—	£600

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	—
Penang	—	—
Hong Kong	—	—
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£1,000
Yokohama	—	£1,500

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	—	—
To Saigon	—	—
To Batavia	—	—
To Hong Kong	—	—
To Shanghai	—	—

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per oun	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4
Silver in Bars	0 5 1¼
Mexican Dollars	0 5 0¼

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Jan. 12	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Antonia Petronella	Voorendyk.
— 16	Do.	Do.	Hendrika	Valk.
—	New York	Foo-chow-Foo	Endeavour	
— 18	London	Hong Kong	Coulnakyle	Morrison.
—	New York	Foo chow-Foo	Queensland	
— 23	Falmouth	Bassein	Brodrene	Haggstrom.
— 21	Texel	Batavia	Bellatrix	Haacke.
— 18	Off Dungeness	Do.	Johanna M. Christina	Gorter.
— 21	Cuxhaven	Manila	Voladore	Villavosa.
— 23	Plymouth	Batavia	Alblasserdam	Koen.
—20	New York	Hong Kong	Roslyn Castle	
— 10	Falmouth	Maulmain	Frederik	Hultman.
— 10	Liverpool	Manila	Gondola	
— 7	Brouwershaven	Samarang	Sverige	Rudin.
— 8	Do.	Batavia	Ottolina	Eeleman.
— 8	Do.	Do.	Kortenaar	Schuchard.
— 8	Do.	Do.	Jannetje	Meyerhoff.
—	Brest	Saigon	Japan (str.)	
— 7	Texel	Batavia	President Plate	Julius.
— 7	Do.	Do.	Alexander	Degen.
— 7	Do.	Do.	Honigby	Valk.
— 8	Do.	Do.	Kandanghauer	Zeelt.
— 9	Do.	Do.	Vertrouwen	Vos.
— 9	Zierikzee	Samarang	Liberator	Robertson.
— 11	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Johanna Maria	Dam.
— 11	Do.	Do.	Lichtstraal	Wirikx.
— 10	St. Nazaire	Sumatra	Eucharis and Paul	Dugat.
— 9	Cuxhaven	Bassein	Alexandra	Cedergren.
— 7	Texel	Batavia	Maria Veronica	Schol.
— 13	London	Colombo	George Avery	Reid.
— 13	Liverpool	Yokohama	Vigil	Thomson.
Dec. 24	New York	Colombo	Thames	

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Jan. 18	London	Shields & Singapore	Yeavering Belle	Paine.
— 14	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Scawfell	Thompson.
— 15	Shields	Batavia	Kelio (?)	
— 18	London	Singapore	Dewa Gungadhur	Stratton.
— 16	Sunderland	Shanghai	Fanny	Waters.
— 17	Do.	Hong Kong	Fi Wan	Shield.
— 19	London	Colombo	Princess	Huntley.
— 19	Do.	Yokohoma	Bolina	Russell.
— 5	Shields	Batavia	Jedo	Rosse.
Dec. 20	Pernambuco	Shanghai	Madge Wildfire	Murray.
Jan. 20	London	Sunderland & Galle	Samson	Wood.
— 18	Cuxhaven	Canton, &c.	Jeanie	Washburn.
— 21	London	Colombo	Frances	Hill.
— 20	Clyde	Shanghai	Glencoe	Sands.
— 21	Liverpool	Manila	Iberica	Onato.
— 21	London	Newport & Hong Kg	Salo	Nordgren.
— 22	Liverpool	Galle	Annie Size	Shields.
— 22	Sunderland	Hong Kong	St. Andrew's Castle	M'Bain.
— 24	Liverpool	Batavia & Sourabaya	Silvercraig	Cohn.
— 21	Do.	Shanghai	Red Deer	Bruce.
— 21	Do.	Singapore	Qua Lee	Collins.
— 31	New York	Shanghai	Surprise	
Jan. 9	Sunderland	Shanghai	Coral Nymph	Pile.
— 9	Do.	Do.	Queen's Own	Snowdon.
— 12	London	Hong Kong & Canton	White Adder	Moore.
— 12	Liverpool	Do.	Canton	Leighton.
— 12	Do.	Hong Kong	Chaa Szee	
— 10	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Banian	Shiell.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Nagasaki: Rifleman, Lammermuir. For Shanghai: City of Quebec, Stirlingshire, Solent, Wild Deer. For Hong Kong and Canton: Valdivia, Caractacus, Taeping. For Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: Merse. For Singapore: Helens Bank, Eliza Thornton. For Singapore and Penang: Ferozepore. For Batavia: Admiral de Winter. For Colombo: Empress, Palestine, Evelyn Wood.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Raphael. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Empress. For Shanghai: Kew Kee, Finzel. For Hong Kong and Canton: Everest. For Singapore: Jessie Beazley, Tigris, Der West, Vigil. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Affghan. For Manila: Sales, Peerless. For Colombo: Lizzie Scott. For Colombo and Tuticorin, Liverpool. For Galle: Braunstone, Disraeli.

At GLASGOW.—For Batavia and Singapore: Maythorn.

At NEW YORK.—For Hong Kong: Brem. brig Marianne. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Br. ship, Christian Matthias. For Singapore: Gen. Cobb. At Boston, for Hong Kong: steamer Scotia.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

But little has been doing in export business during the past week, and it is hardly probable there will be much improvement until the year is more advanced. The rates for coal to Manila and Galle are firm, and freights are more freely offered. Homeward freights remain in the same inanimate state, but 75s. per ton has been offered for moderate sized ships from Java to the Continent.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £34 and £1. 10s. For Shanghai: £44 and £2. 2s. 6d. For Manila: £1. 10s. For Batavia; £23 to £24, and £1. 2s. 6d. For Singapore: £26 and £1. 4s. 0d. For Penang: £27. For Galle: £26 and £1. 1s. These rates are from the Wear of Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have engaged freight in the Taeping for the conveyance of Government stores from the river Thames to Hong Kong.

SPOKEN.

FRAMBY (barq.), of Amstm., for Bat., 9 days out, Dec. 28, 39 N., 15 W.
EUSTACE (barq.), Colombo to London, Nov. 13.
ILLEGONDA IDA (Dut. ship.), bound to Japan, Nov. 20, 11 S., 32 W.
HORSA, from Foo-chow-Foo, Oct. 18, 2 S., 107 E.
BREAMER, for Batavia, Dec. 11, 2 N., 24 W.
CORNELIA ADOLFINA, Batavia to Amsterdam, Nov. 27, 14 S., 8 W.
PALMERSTON, of and from London for Colombo, Nov. 25, 6 N., 21 W.
CLARAMONT, Shanghai to London, Oct. 17, in Straits of Sunda.
KURRACHEE, from Ceylon, Oct. 28.
TRITON, Batavia to Rotterdam, Nov. 10, 28 S., 51 E.
HASTY (brig), Sweden to Singapore, 31 days out, Nov. 29, 1 S., 27 W.
CONTINENT, Manila to New York, Nov. 12, 35 S., 20 E.
JANE AND ISABELLA, Yokohama to Liverpool, Sept. 16, 2 N., 131 E.
WILHELMINE (Han. barq.), from Batavia, 52 days out, Dec. 4.
SYREN, Boston to Shanghai, Nov. 22, 22 N., 36 W.
MARY, Shanghai to New York, Nov. 19, 35 S., 24 E.
ISURIUM, for Hong Kong, Dec. 9, 7 S., 35 W.
RIDDERKIRK (Dut. barq.), Ooltgensplatt to Batavia, Sept. 25.
GREAT WESTERN (barq.), Nagasaki to Lon., Oct. 10, in the China seas.
SAM BIRD (?), (ship), Shields to Shanghai, Oct. 11.
NAPOLEON III., Shanghai to London, Oct. 29, 21 S., 72 E.
OCEAN EMPRESS, Manila to Queenstown, Nov. 4, 24 S., 62 E.
OTTO, 1st. d.p., No. 9,270, Newcastle to Java, Nov. 12, 41 N., 14 W.

CASUALTIES.

The Maria Veronica, Schol, from Batavia, arrived at Texel Jan. 7, leaky, with loss of anchors, chains, bulwarks, sails, and other damage, and had pumped up water impregnated with sugar, having been on a lee shore.

The Staatsraad V.D. Houven, Heymericks, from Batavia, arrived a Texel, Jan. 7, leaky, with loss of sails and other damage.

The Lewe van Nyenstein, Borchers, from Tjilatjap and Plymouth arrived at Texel, Jan. 7, with loss of boats and damage to bulwarks, having met with severe weather.

At Table Bay, Nov. 25, from Foo-chow-Foo, John Temperly, Liddle, and sailed 28th for London; 30, from Sarawak, Ione, Brown, and sailed 1st Dec. for Queenstown; 21, Sydpolen, sailed for Batavia.

The Mina (Astrom), from Newcastle for Hong Kong, was towed into Jersey Roads, Jan. 16, with wheel and sails carried away.

The Ferdinand (Brit.), from Bordeaux for Singapore, put into Rio Janeiro, Dec. 12, leaky, having been in collision with the Buenos Ayres, bound from Valparaiso to Havre, which latter vessel sunk with 17 of her crew.

The Disscuren, of and from Hamburg for Hong Kong, put into Rio Janeiro, Dec. 16, with foremast broken, having been struck by lightning.

According to a telegram from Lisbon, news has been received there from Buenos Ayres, under date Dec. 12, to the effect that the Geelong (British barque), Ferrier, from that port to Batavia with mules, in leaving, with a pilot on board, on the night of 8th Dec., struck the stern of the Champlain (Am. ship) and made 8½ feet of water. She had been surveyed and was discharging.

The Helena and Anna, v Aalborg, from Tjilatjap, which arrived at Texel 15th Jan., was leaky, had lost sails, part of bulwarks, and nearly everything off the deck, having encountered a heavy gale from S.S.W. to N.W., 5th Jan., off Egmond, during which she shipped much water and strained considerably.

According to advices from St. Helena, bearing date 2nd Dec., the Luisita, Gordia, from Manila to Cadiz, which had put into that island 23rd Nov., leaky, and discharged about 100 tons of her cargo, had reshipped it, but appeared to be making a quantity of water; she had taken an extra pump and was to sail on the following day.

The Washington (s.), Magrat, from New York for China, put into Rio Janeiro, Dec. 23, for coals.

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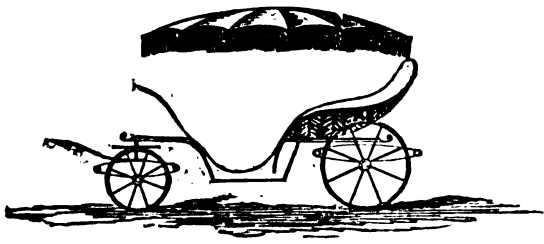

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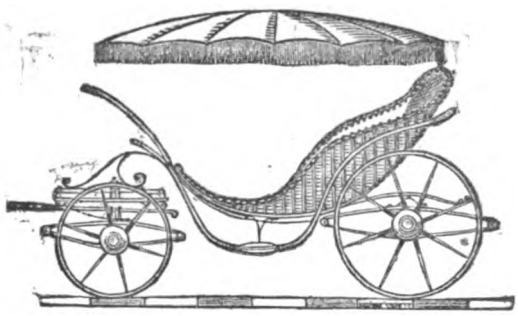

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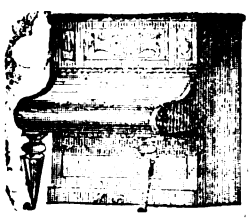

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"CHEMICAL LABORATORY,

"7, BURY COURT, ST. MARY AXE, LONDON, E.C., June 4, 1863.

"SIR,—I have analysed the two samples handed me on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., and found the 'Mixed Pickles' of H. and H. LEDGER, of 14, Mineries, Aldgate, to be quite free from adulteration and made with Pure Malt Vinegar.

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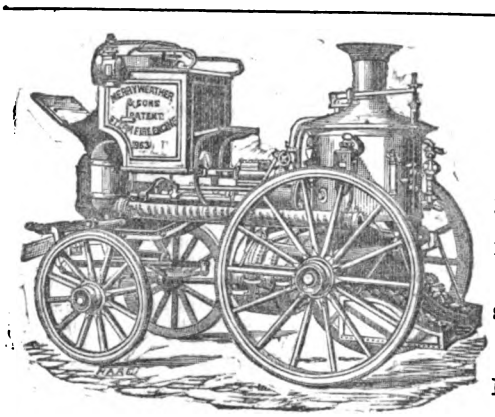
I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient Servant,

"For F VERSMANN F.C.S. Analytical Chemist.—ED. SCHREINER."



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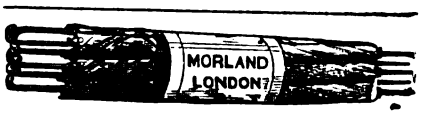

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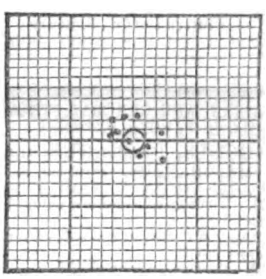

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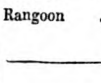

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 163.] LONDON, THURSDAY, FEB. 16, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Oct. 10	Dec. 13	Dec. 18
Nagasaki			
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			„ 9
Chefoo			„ 22
New-chwang			„ 17
Hankow			„ 17
Kiu-kiang			„ 19
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	„ 26	„ 26	„ 26
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 27
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 28
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Nov. 10	„ 24	Jan. 1
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	Oct. 17	„ 15	Dec. 23
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			
SIAM— Bangkok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			Jan. 2
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Nov. 26	Jan. 4	„ 7
Penang	„ „	„ 2	„ 9

The above mails include the French mail, due on the 4th inst. We shall publish a supplementary number to complete the double mail.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, to Marseilles, per P. and O. Co.'s steamer Poonah, arrived Feb. 14.—From Hong Kong: Messrs. W. Breck, Gifford, and Graham. From Singapore: Messrs. J. M. Purvis and N. B. Watson.

To Southampton, per Ellora, expected to arrive Feb. 20.—From Yokohama: Capt. de Courcy and European man servant. From Hong Kong: Lieut. Greig, Mr. Pope, Capts. Hellyer and Matthewson, and six second-class passengers. From Singapore: Lieut. Huntley, R.N., and one second-class passenger.

Per Far East (s.s.), from Hankow: Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, two children, and servant. From Shanghai: Mrs. Eaton, child, and servant, Mrs. Jones, two children, and servant, and Miss Hardman.

Per Queen of Nations.—From Shanghai: Dr. W. T. Page; Mr. H. G. Knight also embarked, but died at sea Oct. 22.

Per Lucknow.—From Yokohama: Marquis of Colloguy.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Pera, from Southampton, Feb. 4.—To Shanghai: Mr. J. Menzies. To Hong Kong: Messrs. W. B. Chalmers, J. S. Young, McDonald, Pittis, Brend, and W. Findlay, Mrs. Stewart and infant, Miss Noble. To Singapore: Mr. J. W. Witham. To Ceylon: Mr. Elles, two Misses Price, Surgeon W. Jeeves, Mr. and Mrs. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Roberts, Capt. Hervey, and five 2nd-class passengers. To Calcutta: Messrs. H. E. Sherwin, T. Bailey, J. Harper, J. Chalmers, W. Bartlett, D. Monroe, Richmond, and N. Woodward, Miss Williams, Mrs. Berkeley, two infants, and European servant, Miss Wallace, Capt. J. Leven, Rev. Mr. McFarlane, Mrs. J. J. Kendall and infant, Surgeon W. Mills, Miss J. M. Pitcaithly, and four 2nd-class passengers. To Madras: Capt. Stuart, Rev. Mr. Anderson, and two 2nd-class passengers. To Suez: Mr. and Mrs. Johnston and infant, and five 2nd-class passengers. To Alexandria: Mr. C. and Miss Lucey, Mr. Gibb, one 2nd-class passenger, and two children.

From Marseilles, Feb. 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. R. Eusden, Mr. G. W. Schwemann, Mr. G. O. Scott. To Penang: Messrs. F. S. Brown and F. Palmer. To Shanghai: Mrs. Brown and two daughters, Mr. J. Carnegie, Mr. Gibdermeister, Mr. E. Pickwood. To Ceylon: Mr. F. W. Gardner. To Calcutta: Mr. and Mrs. Alexander and European servant, Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford, Messrs. W. P. Cowan, Darley, A. Robertson, Bell, and A. Somerville, Mr. and Mrs. W. Perry, Capt. Whiteside, Major Brownlow, R.E. To Madras: Capt. Oakes, Major and Mrs. Baldock, Lieut. Briggs. To Alexandria: Mr. J. S. Welch, Revs. J. Stoughton, H. Allon, J. Spence, and J. Bright, and one 2nd-class passenger.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, from Southampton, Feb. 20.—To Hong Kong: Sub.-Lieut. D. M. Smith, R.N., Mr. W. L. Hunter, Dr. C. C. Wimberley, R.N., Mr. and Mrs. Evans, Dr. W. Patullo, Mr. J. Wilks. To Ceylon: Mr. N. G. Layard, Mr. R. Cunningham, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Anderson, Mr. H. Marsden, Mr. D. Saumarez.

From Marseilles, Feb. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Trautman, Mr. A. Milsom, Mr. Odell, Col. Knox, C.B. To Shanghai: Messrs. Detring, Allin, and Vernimb, Dr. and Mrs. J. Watson. To Singapore: Mrs. Rigg. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Armitage and two infants, Mr. Ratcliffe.

Per P. and O. Steamer, from Marseilles, March 5.—To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. H. Dickinson.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Dates are to the 18th December. The London mail of the 10th October arrived out on the 13th December.

Two of the accomplices in the murder of Major Baldwin and Lieutenant Bird were executed on the 16th December. The actual perpetrators were said to be still at large, but the authorities were on their track. Various measures were also being matured for the purpose of giving greater security to life, by rendering the whole population in the vicinity of any murderous outrage responsible, if they neither succeed in averting a catastrophe or arresting the offenders. There was reason to believe that the decree would be promulgated prior to Sir Rutherford Alcock's departure, and all complicity with the perpetrators of such deeds, before or after their commission, publicly denounced as a crime punishable by law and with the utmost rigour. The official procés verbal in reference to the criminals executed, and the text of the public announcement posted up on the prison, the custom-house, and other places in Yokohama, could not be obtained in time for transmission by the present mail. The execution took place at two o'clock on the day named in the prison yard. The following is an account of the death scene:—

"A considerable number of foreigners walked or rode out in the direction indicated. The very small space of the inner yard of the prison was shortly filled with spectators, a great number of whom were military and naval men, but sprinkled also with several civilians of all classes. At one end of the inner yard of the prison, on the side opposite to where a slight rope of straw indicated the spot to which spectators were to confine themselves, two holes were dug, with a slight elevation of earth covered with mats on the further side. By the side of each hole was a bucket of water, and these were all the primitive arrangements for the awful ceremony about to be performed. A few small officials strutted about and smiled blandly, or looked with stoic indifference about; but none looked in the slightest degree moved by any impression of sadness. The assembly waited with more or less patience until three o'clock, by which time Messrs. John Macdonald, Willis, M.D., and Alexander Siebold arrived from H.B.M. Legation; shortly after three one criminal, quite a young man, perhaps twenty-two or twenty-three years of age, was led in, arm-bound, and eyes bandaged, by four or five attendants. Conducted before one of the holes he was made to kneel upon the mat; his arms were held back; his head stretched forward; the hair pushed over the head away from the neck; a head-executioner strutted forward, drew a large bright two-handed sword from its scabbard; handed it to the actual executioner, who poured a small quantity of water over the blade, and with one sweep in the air brought it down with an amount of precision and effect wonderful—and horrible—to behold; the dissevered head fell into the gaping hole before the eye of the spectator could be closed against the sight. The other criminal was brought forward. He, however, had to be carried; the same followed; his head fell too into the hole prepared for it, and in a few moments the ground was cleared, and those who had witnessed this first act of retributive justice upon the murderers of our departed countrymen were on their return home."

Home readers have already heard, by electric telegraph, of the homicidal attack on two French sailors. The following is the account of the affair given by the *Japan Daily Herald*:—

"We regret to have to report that on Thursday evening a fracas occurred down in the native settlement, in the Gankey quarter, which terminated fatally to one, and, it is feared, probably to a second French sailor. It seems that large numbers of these men had obtained shore-leave during the last three days, it being the French sailors' festival of St. Barbe. Some of these men had resorted to the disreputable quarter we have named in a state of intoxication, and had committed violence at some of the houses. They were assaulted, and, we hear, pursued by a large mob of Japanese, small yakonins, coolies, &c., &c., armed principally with short tomahawk sticks, and by them so barbarously handled that one man was killed on the

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spot, and another dangerously wounded. We hear that the Custom-house authorities have already secured the whole of the mob engaged in this affair, numbering some hundred of the lower classes, and about fifty small yaconins, and that they have now handed over to the French and English authorities some twelve Japanese guards who appear implicated in the matter."

Our contemporary considers that two lessons should be derived from the incident:—"First, the necessity of impressing the Japanese authorities with a just appreciation of the view which European nations take of manslaughter even by the hands of officers of the peace, committed whilst in the exercise of their office, in suppressing riots, defence of property, &c. In all such cases with us where death ensues upon the action of the officers, those officers may be tried for murder, and failing proof that no more force was used than absolutely necessary for securing and bringing to justice the rioter or other offending party, or that it was otherwise possible to secure him or cause him to desist from his riotous behaviour, the great chance would be that such officer would be found guilty of murder. And secondly, that our naval and military authorities should perfect to some greater degree any arrangements for watching and superintending the hordes of men who are continually let loose to reel in drunken bestial insensibility about the Settlement, to the scandal and disgust of our residents—to the almost necessity for the seclusion of our ladies—to the danger of their own lives, and to the risk of the most dangerous collision with the people amongst whom we dwell."

Sir Rutherford Alcock did not, as was anticipated, leave by this mail, and he would probably obtain a man-of-war to be placed at his convenience for proceeding direct to Hong Kong. An address had been presented to him by the British merchants, the only defect in which is that, as complained of by the local press, it should have been sent in as from the "British residents," in which case it is observed, "there is not a British subject in Japan whose name would not have appeared as endorsing the expressions in the text of regret at Sir Rutherford's early departure, and gratitude for the beneficial results of his course of policy." The address, and Sir Rutherford's reply, were as follows:—

"Yokohama, 20th October, 1864.

"To Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B., H.M.'s Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary to Japan.

"Sir,—We learn with sincere regret that it is probable you will soon leave Yokohama, and we are unwilling that you should do so without receiving from us an expression of gratitude for the beneficial results your course of policy has brought to our commerce. It is unnecessary for us to refer to the difficulties of your position since your return at the commencement of this year. Suffice it to say that you arrived at a time when the Japanese Government entertained ideas of forcing foreigners to abandon Yokohama, and had placed such restrictions on trade that this port was virtually closed. The precautionary measures you immediately adopted tended greatly to increase the security of our persons and property, and your determined but wise policy has at last restored trade (that had dwindled away to a nonentity), to its usual channels with unwonted vigour. The principal triumph, Sir, of your success, lies in the fact that you have accomplished all this, not only without causing a collision between H.M.'s Government and that of the Tycoon of Japan, but by actually strengthening the Government from which you obtained the concessions, as well as by acting in such a way as to secure the cordial co-operation of the Foreign Ministers resident at this port.—We have the honour to be, Sir, respectfully your most obedient humble servants,

"S. J. Gower, Agent for Jardine, Matheson, and Co.; N. P. Kingdon, Agent for Dent and Co.; Geo. Barnet and Co.; James S. Downie, Agent for Fletcher and Co.; Louis A. Joseph, Agent for David Sassoon, Sons, and Co.; Macpherson and Marshall, J. M. Jaquemot, Ross, Barber and Co., Aspinall, Cornes and Co., p. pro. G. R. Davies, W. R. Adamson and Co., Jarvie, Thorburn and Co., p. W. Young, Hooper and Clarke, Hughes, Willgoss and Co., p. pro. Shaw, Cull and Co., A. Winstanley, W. Kemptner and Co., Charles S. Bland, H. L. Boyle, Wilkin and Robison, Strachan and Thomas; J. G. Rickard, Agent Oriental Bank Corporation; C. L. Westwood, John W. Henderson, Agent for the Central Bank; Wm. MacDonald, R. Brett, Manager Mercantile Bank; Charles S. Lynell, Agent Commercial Bank of India; Glover and Co., p. T. Smith."

"Yokohama, October 21st, 1864.

"To Messrs. S. J. Gower, N. P. Kingdon, and others:—

"Gentlemen,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th inst., signed by the representatives of British firms at this port, and to thank you very cordially for the flattering expressions of your regret at my early departure. It is very true, as you state, that on my return to my post after a prolonged absence, I found our position in the country unsatisfactory to the last degree. Menaced with attack and expulsion from this port, and all the interests of trade both here and at Nagasaki seriously compromised, it was evident that some determined and consistent action could alone avert a catastrophe. The increasing violence and arrogance of the anti-foreign party threatened Japan with all the calamities of a war, both internecine and foreign; and nothing had more directly and obviously tended to bring on this state of affairs than the long continued immunity of the Prince of Nangato, and the apparent weakness or timidity of the Foreign Powers in checking and punishing his outrages on their flags and commerce. I had the good fortune to find my colleagues, the representatives of France, the United States of America, and the Netherlands, disposed to take the same view; and loyally to unite their efforts to mine to put a stop to this downward descent, and to concert with me the necessary measures to be taken, in communication with the Tycoon's Government. The result of these united efforts has been in many respects all that could be desired. The Prince of Nangato has ceased all hostile action; the Straits of Simonoseki have been opened in a permanent manner, thus relieving the trade of Nagasaki from obstructions which had nearly destroyed it. The Sako party has been greatly discouraged by the evidence afforded of our irresistible superiority in the field; and with corresponding increase of strength and courage to the more moderate and enlightened party in the country favourable to the maintenance of friendly relations with foreign Powers. The opening of this port, which for the three preceding months had been virtually closed by the stoppage of silk, the main staple of its trade, is the first material evidence of an improved position. And recent communications with the Government at Yedo give good hope for further material changes in the whole policy of the country as respects foreigners. I am glad, therefore, before my departure, to be able to congratulate the British residents here and elsewhere in Japan, not only on the attainment of a state of security never before enjoyed, but of renewed commercial activity and promise of continued improvement in all directions, a promise which I earnestly hope may be fully realised after I have left the country, by a continuance of the same combination of firmness and moderation, to which I believe the efforts of my colleagues and myself during the past six months mainly owe their success.—I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant, RUTHERFORD ALCOCK,

"Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in Japan."

The *Herald* denies in the most formal manner the statement, made it appears by the *Japan Commercial News*, on which was based the line in the telegraphic summary to the effect that "the Mikado repudiates the late convention." The former journal expressly names as the authority for the contradiction no less a personage than Her Majesty's representative, Sir Rutherford Alcock. The *Herald* says:—

"So far from insisting upon the foreigners leaving Japan from *any* reason, the direct reverse is the fact. The Mikado's opposition to the treaties, it is generally understood, if not already formally and publicly withdrawn, *is practically at an end*, and the Tycoon's Government have given up all idea of a further mission to Europe with the object of obtaining the withdrawal of foreigners from Yokohama; thus formally abandoning the prosecution of a hostile policy in accordance with former decrees for their expulsion. As to the *endeavour by them to evade engagements entered into by the Japanese, which they had promised to carry out, by simply stating the Mikado withholds his consent*—all this is pure invention—sensational—nonsensical invention. The Mikado's withholding his consent in reference to the recent removal of obstructions to the Silk trade, has never been mooted, or in any way referred to as a cause of difficulty."

A fire that broke out in the servants' quarters, at the rear of the bowling alley attached to the United Service Club, burnt down the whole range of building occupied by the club. The village of Omura, also—the long straggling village situated opposite to the settlement, on the hill side of the creek—has been the victim of a conflagration that left three-fourths of the inhabitants houseless. A list of contributions for their relief (first started by Sir Rutherford Alcock) has been circulated; though it is to be feared without avail, for the Japanese authorities always make a point of thanking us, but expressing their ability and readiness in all such cases to make ample provision for their own people.

Progress is making towards municipal institutions. The residents have now got the length of arrangement as to how delegates shall be nominated, who shall appoint a committee if they think the municipal scheme can be worked.

A Yokohama Institute, having for its objects the same ends as those of Literary Institutions, Athenæums, &c., elsewhere, has been formed and is getting into working order.

The *Herald* of the 3rd December states that the small-pox had again broken out with some virulence, and remonstrates on the fact that no efficient accommodation has been provided for those suffering under it, the natural consequence of which is the increased danger of infection to all; a building, it appears, was some time ago given up by the military authorities to the Consul for the reception of small-pox patients, but it is "not yet organised," and though sufferers may go into it, there is no one to take care of them. One poor Calcutta boy, a servant of the Rev. Mr. Bailey, "was taken up, with bed and bedding, and there left, but—it will scarcely be credited in a community of Christian men—without any one in whose charge to leave him; and but that Lieut.-Col. Brown, with that kindness of heart which so distinguishes him, readily permitted the attendance of the Military Hospital-Sergeant and orderlies, there would have been none to hand him even a drop of water."

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Our local contemporary proceeds :—"Let us not be understood as intending to convey any insinuation of neglect against Dr. Jenkins, the only Civil medical man in the community; on the contrary, he has in all this as in other cases we have ever heard of, in which he could be of service, been the Good Samaritan, and gratuitously given his valuable time and advice. Dr. Willis, the medical officer attached to the Legation, too, we know, would have most willingly rendered service, but as he had no appointment, no authority—as 'the Hospital had not been yet organised'—he could do nothing. And thus, but for the aid of those medical-men, upon whose self-denying and laborious aid the community have already made such heavy calls, and the spontaneous private aid hurriedly gathered together when the danger was actualiy upon us, these poor sufferers would have been obliged to bear unrelieved and unsuccoured their distressing sickness; and not only so, but would have had no resource against communicating their sufferings to all around them: and this would have lasted until it pleased the Consuls to 'organize' the Small-pox Hospital, a building for which had been placed at their disposal."

Under date "Nov. 30" notice is given that the business heretofore conducted in Yokohama by C. D. Mugford, as agent for Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co., of China, will after that date be managed by Mr. Arthur O. Gay. Under date "Dec. 1," J. Eisler and Co. notify that the interest and responsibility of Mr. J. C. Huffnagel in their firm ceases from that date, and that J. V. B. Fagg and G. Batteké, Jun., are admitted partners.

NAGASAKI.

Seven men-of-war, namely, two English, three Russian, one French, and one Dutch, were lying in Nagasaki harbour, so the residents may congratulate themselves on being well protected. The *Argus* had gone to Simonoseki to look after the movements of Chosiu, as it was rumoured that he was reconstructing his batteries.

A correspondent writes a glowing account of an entertainment given on board H.M.S. *Scylla* to the residents at this port. The proceedings opened with a theatrical performance, enlivened by the band of a Russian vessel, which was lent for the occasion, and wound up with a splendid supper amidst a deluge of rain. The pieces performed were "The Village Murder," and "All that Glitters is not Gold." The acting was excellent, and nearly brought down the ship, and its attraction was still further enhanced by the Russian band. The rain, which fell in torrents at supper-time, appears rather to have added to than detracted from the general enjoyment. As our correspondent justly remarks, the only culpability that attached to the hosts in respect to the rain-fall, was through their omission to include it in the programme. Midnight chimed before the band struck up "God save the Queen," when the guests left the ship deeply impressed with the courtesy of their hosts and with the pleasant entertainment that had been provided for them.

Notice had been given that the ground at Desima, with the extensive buildings thereon, having a frontage on the Bay of Nagasaki, formerly the residence and offices of H.N.M's. Consul-General in Japan, would be sold by auction on the 15th January.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

The English mail of the 26th Oct. arrived out on the 17th Dec. The dates are now down to the morning of the 26th. The weather had been very changeable, including a snow storm. The thermometer has not, however, gone below 32 degrees.

The case of the owners of the *General Meslin* against the owners of the *Promise* had been heard, but the verdict was deferred until the 28th Dec.

A report has been made by the Consul at Newchwang, T. T. Meadows, on the silk produced at that district as suitable (although coarse) for export to Europe. Mr. Major, a silk inspector at Shanghai, in a report says :—

Besides this it is requsite to ascertain—

1st. How often does this worm sleep while feeding.

2nd. Is the worm fed on the mulberry leaf, of which Mr. Meadows speaks, of this same species (that feeds on oak leaves), or bred of the usual China silkworm eggs. I should much like to see a few cocoons of worms fed on mulberry leaf there.

3rd. An experiment ought to be made of this breed (eating oak leaves) to ascertain what they come to when fed in a more congenial climate on mulberry leaves. If I could get an ounce of eggs of the first (July) crop, I would willingly attend to their feeding myself. The eggs ought to be sent here during the winter, protected from frost, but not kept near a fire or in a too warm cabin, 66 degrees Fahrenheit would be too hot, or the utmost they would bear.

It strikes me that this species of silkworm may turn out of the greatest consequence in restoring the silk worm breed in Europe, now quite lost, and even in restoring the silkworm of China, which I find also greatly deteriorated, to a more healthful state (this, however, is almost hopeless, considering the Chinese character). In all nature, too much and long continued culture degenerates a breed; then new strength and vigour is acquired by cross breeding with a healthy kind of the same species.

Now this worm gives me the impression of being very strong and healthy. It would be a great boon to the silk trade and industry to introduce any such means.

New seed has for years been tried from all parts of the world in Europe, but to no effect: the whole family of one and the same race seems to have outlived itself by constant generating in the same family at an enormous rate, to supply our augmented and constantly growing luxury.

In Naples I tried, during three years, cross-breeding the old European breed with the usual China worm, and that with very good success. When I left for China I gave all the seed I had thus collected to an English gentleman, who, I fear, has not persevered, or I should have heard something of it; people look too much to immediate benefits.

If this new family is to be introduced for cross breeding, I should recommend feeding them in their first and second stages on oak leaves, and after that only on mulberry leaves.

I beg leave to conclude with my opinion, that great thanks are due to Mr. Meadows for making so great an exception among the consuls in China, by turning his eye and mind towards what may be advantageous to the commerce and industry of the country he represents, and thereby, also, to the country he occupies.

The correspondence between Mr. W. G. Howell, late of Shanghai, and the Foreign Minister, on the subject of the plans, &c., drawn by Mr. Gilbert Scott for the church at Shanghai is published in the *North China Herald* of the 10th Dec. The plans were approved, and the sum of £2,000 contributed by the Home Government.

The case of Rawson v. Russell, for short delivery of goods, ended by the following verdict :—

Judgment: The Court considers that the defendant has not proved delivery of the missing bale marked three i's No. 17, and is therefore responsible for its value. The Court does not hold that the chief officer of the *Canadian* was bound to fill in the boat note sent by Messrs. Wheelock and Co., but having done so, and having made no mention of the bale in question, while he was careful to particularise the delivery of 88 other packages, the said note is *prima facie* evidence that the missing bale was not delivered with the other 88 packages, and the defendant has failed to convince the Court by other evidence that the said bale was put into Wheelock and Co.'s boats as is alleged.

This decision does not carry in the mind of the Court any other imputation against the character of the chief officer than that of carelessness, caused possibly by the haste and difficulties attending the discharge of his duties. The Court has to bear in mind, however, that this want of care on his part was calculated to mislead Messrs. Wheelock and Co., and to deprive them of the opportunity of otherwise tracing the missing property, as it amounted to an assurance from the person most qualified to give it; that no other goods than those named in the boat-note had been given into the charge of their servants. The judgment of the Court is, therefore, for the plaintiff, with costs.

The seventh meeting of the Royal Asiatic Society were held on the 13th December.

Sir Harry S. Parkes, K.C.B., President, in the chair, Dr. Henderson V.P., C. T. Jones, Esq, Acting as Secretary; Dr. Lamprey, 67th Regt., Messrs. C. Alabaster, T. W. Kingsmill, C. Jamieson, W. Gamwell, R. Alex. Jamieson, and others not members. The following gentlemen were then proposed and seconded :—

Proposed by Mr. Alabaster, seconded by Mr. Kingsmill :—W. Cochran, Esq., and R. C. Brown, Esq.

Proposed by Mr. Jamieson, seconded by Mr. Jones :—The Rev. C. H. Butcher, J. McL. Brown, Esq., and W. Saunders, Esq.

Proposed by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Jamieson :—E. Solbe, Esq., and W. H. Tapp, Esq.

Proposed by Dr. Henderson, seconded by Sir Harry S. Parkes :—J. M. Taylor, Esq.

Proposed by Mr. Gamble, seconded by Doctor Henderson :—J. Battison, Esq.

The routine business having been concluded, the paper for the evening by Thos. W. Kingsmill, Esq., on "The Geology of Kuang-tung and the adjacent Provinces," was read and attentively heard. After some interesting remarks by the President and Doctors Henderson and Lamprey, the thanks of the meeting were unanimously voted to Mr. Kingsmill for his valuable contribution to the society's records.

Mr. Jamieson laid on the table a series of barometric and thermometric observations taken by Messrs. Hollingworth and Piry of the Imperial Maritime Customs at Kiu-kiang, with a view to determine the height of the Liu Shan. A description of the scenery was given, and the capabilities of the mountain as a sanitarium enlarged upon. The height of the summit has been found to be 5,040 feet.

Colonel Hough has returned from Yokohama and resumed

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command of the garrison. The *Scylla* has arrived from Japan, to relieve the *Rattler*.

A man named Dodd awaits trial for having shot a native boatwoman, in a moment of passion at finding a crowd of boats in his way. They did not get out of his way fast enough, so he fired his pistol into the midst of the crowd at random and wounded an old woman so severely that she died shortly after.

Two thousand padded coats have been placed by the Taotai in the hands of a mandarin named Yeh, for distribution amongst the poor in the foreign settlements. From the Yunan province we learn through a native source that the Miao-tsze have seized the city of Tien-choo-hsien. The Taotai of Ye-tung, the commander-in-chief of the province, and two mandarins, have marched with a large army to recapture the place.

In a late number we mentioned that the merchants had prepared a memorial to Colonel Gordon. The following is a copy of the document:—

Shanghai, 24th November, 1864.

To Lieut.-Col. Gordon, R.E., &c., &c.

SIR,—On the eve of your departure for your native country, we the undersigned, mostly fellow-countrymen of your own but also representing various other nationalities, desire to express to you our earnest wishes for a successful voyage and happy return to your friends and the land of your birth.

Your career during the last two years of your residence in the East has been, so far as we know, without a parallel in the history of the intercourse of foreign nations with China; and, without entering at all upon the political bearings of the great question with which your name must ever remain so intimately connected, we feel that we should be alike wanting towards you and towards ourselves were we to pass by this opportunity without expressing our appreciation and admiration of the line of conduct which you personally have pursued.

In a position of unequalled difficulty, and surrounded by complications of every possible nature, your have succeeded in offering to the eyes of the Chinese nation, no less by your loyal and, throughout, disinterested line of action than by your conspicuous gallantry and talent for organisation and command, the example of a foreign officer serving the Government of this country with honourable fidelity and undeviating self-respect.

It is by such examples that we may trust to see many of the prejudices which warp the Chinese mind as regards foreigners removed, and from such experience that we may look forward with hope to the day, when, not only in the art of war, but in more peaceful occupations of commerce and civilization, the Chinese Government may see fit to level the barriers hitherto existing, and to identify itself more and more with that progressive course of action which, though springing from the West, must prove ultimately of equal benefit to the countries of the East.

Once more wishing you a prosperous voyage, and a long career of usefulness and success,

We remain, Sir, your obedient servants,

Jardine, Matheson and Co., Dent and Co., Russell and Co., Smith, Kennedy and Co., Turner and Co., Shaw, Bros. and Co., Augustine Heard and Co., Gibb, Livingston and Co., David Sassoon, Sons and Co., Siemssen and Co., Lindsay and Co., Gilman and Co., Thorne Bros. and Co., Hogg Bros., Olyphant and Co., Birley, Worthington and Co., Geo. Barnet and Co., Reiss and Co., Dow and Co., Jarvie, Thorburn and Co., W. R. Adamson and Co., Fletcher and Co., Glover and Co., Reid and Co., Philip A. Myburgh, Chapman, King and Co., Alfred Wilkinson and Co., Watson and Co., Overweg and Co., Johnson and Co., Remi Schmidt and Cie. Bank of Hindustan, China and Japan, C. Colnett, Manager; Central Bank of Western India, Wm. G. Cuthbertson, Agent; Commercial Bank of India, Aug. White, Sub-Manager; Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London and China, R. B. Baker, Manager; Agra and United Service Bank, Ed. Morriss, Manager; Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris, Ed. Morell, Acting Manager; Oriental Bank Corporation, David McLean, Acting Agent; Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, J. P. Lynill, Manager; Wheelock and Co., Wm. Pustau and Co., L. Josephs, John Forster and Co., W. Watson, G. Cumine, Sam. Breoull, Bower, Hanbury and Co., Carter and Co., E. M. Smith, Holliday, Wise and Co., Ellissen and Co., Bourjau, Hubener and Co., Mackenzie and Co., Rothwell, Love and Co., Trautmann and Co., Hall and Holtz.

REPLY.

Shanghai, November 25, 1864.

Gentlemen,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your handsome letter of this day's date, and to express to you the great satisfaction which I feel at the honourable mention you have made therein of my services in China.

It will always be a matter of gratification to me to have received your approval, and, deeply impressed with the honour you have paid me,—I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, yours obediently,

C. E. GORDON.

To Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., &c., &c., &c.

The following from Soochow, &c., is from the *North China Herald*:—

The rigid virtue of Li Futai is well known. We are now informed of a proceeding on his part which some will think extremely wise and others extremely foolish. It appears that the police system in Shanghai has lately proved so fatal to the comfort and pecuniary well-being of brothel keepers, that a large number migrated to Soochow, where they hoped, Wu Tang *regnante*, to increase and flourish. To this end they leased a number of houses and fitted them up with every Chinese luxury. As soon, however, as Li Hung chang resumed the seals of the Futaiship, he had the entire number arrested, and after threatening them with death sent them back to Shanghai.

From Nanking we learn that Tseng Kuo-fan, whose recall to Peking for the receipt of honours and dignities had been officially announced, has been ordered to again assume the Governor-generalship. Li Hung-chang, who had been nominated to the vice-royalty, has resumed the seals of the governorship, and Wu Tang ceases to act as Futai. No reason has been given for this change in the intention of the Government, but it may safely be looked on as ominous of some decadence in the fortunes of Tseng and Li. For some time the tide of prosperity has not set so determinedly as before in favour of these men or of the great families they represent, and it is therefore possible that the Court may have been induced by the northern faction to check Tseng Kuo-fan's and Li Hung-chang's too rapid rise in wealth and fortune.

Natives' accounts from Yunan report that the Miao-tsze, or wild hill tribes, have made a descent into the plain and seized the city of the T'ien Choo-hsien. The Taotai of Yi-tung, the Commander-in-Chief of the province, and two other Mandrians, have put themselves at the head of a large army and marched to attack the place.

House property and the value of land have experienced another severe check by the exodus of Chinese, since the fall of Nanking. It is estimated that nearly one-third of the houses stand empty.

A giant of about 8 feet was detected and captured in the act of committing a burglary. There was a talk of buying him up, and sending him on show to Europe.

Mr. James Cock, a partner in the firm of Watson and Co., absconded to Hong Kong, but it is reported from thence that he has agreed to return at the advice of his friends. Mr. Cock was reputed to have made a fortune at the last races. Perhaps he did, but it was not reported that he lost it. In our article on the excess of prices paid in China for teas, we did not plainly state that it was attributable to speculations, or rather gambling in horse-racing, but there is, we know, a connection, and perhaps the *exposé* of Mr. Cock's affairs will prove it.

HONG KONG.

The English mail of 10th Nov. (bearing the Christmas presents) arrived in good time on 24th Dec. The dates are now down to the morning of the 1st January. The weather had been very seasonable, with the thermometer ranging at 55 to 65 inside; a temperature thoroughly enjoyable.

The *Evening Mail* notices the erection of another theatre. The performance opened to a very crowded house, commencing with Tom Taylor's "Ticket of Leave Man," a drama of high repute on the London stage. This was the first appearance of the Thorne Troupe since their return from Calcutta; and, if we judge by the greetings of the audience, they are held in high esteem by the play-goers of Hong Kong. Generally speaking, the acting was a success. *Bob Brierly* (Mr. Thorne, junr.) was given with perfect ease; and, considering that Mr. Thorne is an American, his rendering of the Yorkshire dialect, peculiar to this character, was excellent; and the *Jem Dalton* of Mr. E. F. Thorne, in all of the different characters he has to assume, was carried out in a very masterly style. The impersonation of *May Edwards* by Mrs. Alicia Thorne was most gracefully and pathetically executed; and, as regards the *Mrs. Willoughby* of Mrs. Hattie Thorne, the audience was thrown into convulsive fits of laughter. The boy *Sam Willoughby* (Mr. Faylor) was done with considerable credit, but we must say that his "get up" seemed anything but juvenile. The drama was succeeded by the aria buffa Largo al Factotum, from "Il Barbiere" (in character), by Signor Grossi, a well-known artist; he, however, seemed a little out of voice on this occasion. The evening's amusement concluded with the ballad of Barney O'Hea, by Mrs. Alicia Thorne. Although there was no addition to the orchestra, their performance was a considerable improvement on the preceding evening's.

Considerable discussion has been created by the report that an Englishman named Stewart, who died on board the French mail steamer *Labourdonais*, had been quietly committed to the deep without the other passengers being informed at the time. An action has been laid, we understand, against the *China Mail*, and subscriptions have been offered by the public to defray the expenses.

The arrangements of the New Dock Company had not been finally completed—at least, in time to announce in the papers.

A row took place between some Shanghai men and a vendor

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of fruit, at the corner of Pottinger and Stanley-streets. It appeared that a boy went to purchase some oranges, and being defrauded in the amount of change returned to him, he called his friends to his assistance. After some words, the fruit-vendor received a blow on the left side of the head. Four Chinese are in custody. The inquest held on the body was adjourned. The European constable who was stabbed in an affray with a West Indian died from the effects of the wound. An inquest on the body was held, and a verdict of manslaughter given against two of the three apprehended.

It is pleasing to note, says the *China Mail*, the strides this colony is making in the march of improvement. The city of Victoria has been supplied with water and with gas in the most successful manner possible, notwithstanding the numerous obstacles that stood in the way of both undertakings. Nor is this all. Arrangements of the most satisfactory sort have been made for the erection of a City Hall on a site that is likely to prove the most convenient which could possibly have been obtained; and the fund for its erection show very well indeed.

The following notification has been issued in regard to the new bank :—

The provisional committee have to intimate that the final date for receiving applications for shares having expired, the allotment of stock is now in course of being carried out, and the result will be made known to applicants as soon as possible.

The bank's offices in Hong Kong will be Wardley House, next door to the Chartered Mercantile Bank.

Mr. V. Kressur will assume the management in Hong Kong on the 1st January, and the bank will open for the transaction of public business at an early date.

The British barque *Glendower*, Captain Wulshaw, was lost on the night of the 7th Dec. The vessel speedily filled with water after striking; and the captain and crew had to take to their boats, soon after which they were picked up by a junk, and brought on to Hong Kong. A Spanish ship in company also drifted ashore close by, and quickly went to pieces. There was a dead calm at the time, and the strong tide drifted them helplessly on the rocks.

A committee has been formed at Hon Kong, for the purpose of relieving those who were made widows or orphans by the wreck of the *Racehorse*. We are unable, however, to state the total collection, as the mail left before the list was completed. The committee intend forwarding a remittance by the next mail.

The Hong Kong police are gradually awakening to a comprehension of the present drain-operations of Chinese burglars, and positively gave notice of an attempt about to be made upon the premises of Mr. D. Lapraik. The passage was found, upon examination, to be quite prepared for an entry into the premises at a moment's notice, and it was evidently intended to perpetrate the robbery when the inmates were absent on a Sunday. Some time ago it was suggested that the drains should have a complement of police to guard them, and the practicability of this rather unsavoury plan was evinced by sundry constables themselves taking the proposed course of the thieves, and arriving at Mr. Lapraik's premises at a moment when several revolvers were in waiting for the expected visitors, which disagreeable welcome they narrowly escaped. Some strong measures ought to be taken at once to put an end to a system of pillage which so effectually does away with all feeling of security.

SIAM.

Special efforts have been made to increase the crop of cotton for the coming season. The profits to the cultivators on this important staple, for the past two years, have stimulated the people to give it greater attention. But with every possible effort, it is not probable the increase can add more than one-fifth to the last crop. The cultivators are too few to expect more than that. According to the Custom-house returns, 17,710 piculs have been exported during the year from Bangkok, up to the 14th November, amounting to 2,334,339 lbs., and worth at a moderate estimate, say 500,000 dollars. The season (in mercantile language) is now over, but it is possible that the whole export for the year may reach 18,000 piculs. Of the amount consumed in the country, it is difficult to estimate, but probably not less than 4,000 piculs. Of the export mentioned above, 3,937 piculs went to Hong Kong; 1,660 to Singapore; 498 to Falmouth; and 11,615 to Hye Lam.

The Government has notified to the foreign Consuls that the embargo has been taken off the importation of fire-arms, and a Royal proclamation has been issued denying any Government interference with the sale or export of paddy and rice, which remains unrestricted.

The British barque *Donna Anna*, of Liverpool, has been wrecked on a reef, on her voyage from Saigon to Hong Kong, attempting to pass between the Cornwallis South Reef and the Cay Merino Reef. The captain (G. Nowell) and crew were picked up near the Natunas, and brought to Bangkok by the Dutch barque *Sophia Louisa*. A Court of Inquiry held at Bangkok had decided that "no blame can be attached to the captain or any other person on board for what occurred."

Messrs. A. Markwald and Co.'s Circular dated "Bangkok, Nov. 24," states :—

Rice has further advanced up to famine prices, and the article has now become so scarce that there is hardly any obtainable. Ticals 104 have already been asked for common to fair cargo rice, and ticals 101 for paddy and we are afraid that prices will go higher still. More reliable news has also been received from the interior. Our former hopes of a good average crop would have been realised, if rains had fallen whilst the grain was beginning to ripen; but for several weeks we had remarkably dry weather, and by all accounts the prospects are now very unsatisfactory, so much so, that no more than three-tenths of the yield of last year's crop are expected this year. Vessels have already been offered large sums, up to 30 cents per picul for cancelling the charter-parties, which were accepted in some instances, whereas others prefer to lay out the rest of their lay days. By far the greatest number of the vessels which are now in port will have to sail during the next two or three weeks, either in ballast or only partly laden.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates hence are to the 7th January. The London mail of the 26th November did not reach till the morning of the 4th January, having been detained about one day at Alexandria, and several days on the way from Suez to Galle, owing to the slow passage made by the steamer *Golconda*. The Messageries Homeward mail arrived from China on the 4th January, and was despatched the same evening. The Messageries steamer with the London mail of the 17th November arrived on the 28th December.

A fire, a somewhat unusual event at Singapore, took place shortly after midnight of the 30th December, and completely burned down one of the European godowns and seriously damaged several others. Singapore has had a singular immunity from disasters by fire, and this is the first that has yet occurred, since the settlement of the island, to the European section of the town. The damage may be thus described :—Messrs. McAlister and Co.'s store and all its contents completely destroyed. The value of the stock it contained is estimated at $45,000, and it is covered in three companies to the extent of $30,000. Mr. Brennand's goods in godown almost entirely destroyed, partly by fire and partly by water; value uncertain, but fully covered by insurance. Messrs. Wilson and Co.'s sail loft and contents destroyed, loss unknown. Messrs. Mansfield and Co. have also lost, by water, pillage, and destruction, the entire contents of their spare godown, in Flint-street; loss entirely covered by insurance. Messrs. Hartwig and Co.'s store in Battery-road was also broken open, and considerable damage done by water and removal. Col. Macpherson, Mr. Dunman, Mr. Vaughan, Capt. MacNair, Capt. Mayne, Mr. Robertson, beside the officers of H.M.'s ships and of the Royal Artillery were present nearly the entire night, and did their best to preserve order and protect property.

The monsoon in the China sea had been blowing with uncommon violence for the last ten days; and several vessels (some of them steamers) which tried to make way against it, had to put back. The weather in Singapore had also been rainy and squally. The British barque *Swiftsure*, Captain Struckmann, which left for Saigon on the 14th December, put back from stress of weather, and arrived in the harbour on the 6th January. The Sarawak steamer *Rainbow*, Captain Howat, which left for her destination on the evening of the 6th, put back, from stress of weather, and arrived in the harbour next morning.

The following gentlemen will form the Board of Municipal Commissioners at Singapore for the year 1865 :—The Resident Councillor, President (ex-officio); Captain Jasper Otway Mayne, R.E., appointed by the Governor to hold office for one year; Mr. Robert Carr Woods, who holds office for two years; Mr. Robert Little, who holds office for one year; Mr. Jonas Daniel Vaughan, who holds office for three years.

The Governor has made the following changes in the Jail department :—Serjeant W. Boyd, Jailer Convict Lines and House of Correction, Malacca, to be Head Jailer Convict Lines and House of Correction, Singapore, vice Mr. S. Burnett, re-

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signed. Serjeant J. Carmoody, Overseer Convict Department, Penang, to be Jailer Convict Lines and House of Correction, Malacca.

Her Majesty's steamer *Tartar*, Captain Hayes, arrived from Hong Kong on the evening of the 30th December.

A summons was issued on the 23rd December, by the Marine Magistrate, against Gerard Peter Schmidt Weymans, pilot, who is charged with wrecking the French mail steamer *Hydaspe*. The defendant holds a certificate of competency as master (No. 209) from the Straits Government.

Intelligence has been received of the wreck of the British barque *Eugenie* on Tree Island. The vessel was commanded by a Nacodah who holds a certificate of competency as master, and left for Penang on the 29th Dec., and became a wreck on the 31st. The crew are saved.

PENANG.

The following gentlemen will form the board of municipal commissioners at Penang for the year 1865:—The resident councillor, president *ex officio*; Captain William Somerville Mitchell, appointed by the Governor to hold office for one year; Mr. Lawrence Nairne, who holds office for two years; Mr. Stewart Herriot, who holds office for one year; Mr. John James Erskine Brown, who holds office for three years.

The distribution of the Indian mutiny medals to the men of the 35th Regiment M.N.I. took place on the Parade Ground, on the 19th of December. It being a matter of considerable interest, there was a very large attendance, and most of the Volunteer Rifle Corps attended in their uniform. The resident councillor, the Hon. Colonel Man, before distributing the medals, addressed the men in Hindustanee.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

BURN—On the 3rd Jan., at Tanglin, Singapore, the wife of Capt. James Burn, Bengal Staff Corps and Resident Councillor of Malacca, of a son.

BARNICOTT—On the 22nd Dec., at Hong Kong, the wife of Wm. Barnicott, of a son.

COUPER—On the 13th Feb., at Whampoa House, Aldwick, Sussex, the wife of J. C. Couper, Esq., of a son.

CHAPMAN—On the 29th Nov., at Foo-chow-Foo, China, the wife of T. H. Chapman, Esq., of a daughter.

CHALDECOTT—On the 7th Feb., at Beomond, Chertsey, Surrey, the wife of Dr. Chaldecott, late of Hong Kong, of a son.

COBBOLD—On the 16th Jan., at the Cliff, Ipswich, Mrs. J. P. Cobbold, of a daughter.

GARDNER—On the 21st Dec., at Canton, the wife of the late John Endicott Gardner, of a son.

HEYDE—On the 29th Dec., at Adelheid Lodge, Singapore, Mrs. F. Von der Heyde, of a daughter.

MURRAY—On the 9th Feb., at Edinburgh, the wife of J. Ivor Murray, Esq., M.D. F.R.C.S.E., F.R.S., H.M.'s Colonial Surgeon, Hong Kong, of a son.

PEREIRA—On the 26th Jan., at 4, Upper Portland-place, the Hon. Mrs. Edward Pereira, of a son and heir.

PUSTAU—On the 31st Jan., at Altona, Palmaille S.S., the wife of William Pustau, Esq., late of China, of a daughter.

PEDDER—On the 24th Nov., at Ten-tsin, the wife of J. N. Pedder, of a son.

ROBERTS—On the 2nd Feb., at Marseilles, the wife of Captain W. H. Roberts, Peninsular and Oriental Co.'s service, of a son.

SANFORD—On the 25th Jan., at Grove Villa, Park-road, Stockwell, the wife of Heaums Sanford, Esq., of a daughter.

SILLAR—On the 17th Dec., at Upper Norwood, the wife of R. G. Sillar, Esq., late of Shanghai, of a daughter.

VAUGHAN—On the 22nd Dec., at Singapore, the wife of J. D. Vaughan, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

AINSLIE—WILSON.—On the 26th Nov., at H.M.'s Legation Chapel, Peking, by the Rev. T. M'Clatchie, acting chaplain, Thomas Alexander Ainslie, M.D., M.R.C.S., Edin., to Helen Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the late John Wilson, Esq., Bagrien, Berwick-on-Tweed.

BAPTISTA—RANGEL.—On the 7th Feb., at the Roman Catholic Church, St. Mary of the Angels, Bayswater, London, by the Rev. Harmas Denny, Joas Severe Baptista, Esq., of Macao, late of Foo-chow-Foo, in China, to Anna Maria, daughter of Fortuno Antonio Rangel, also of Macao, late of Hong Kong, in China, and now of London. No cards.

LAFRAIK—THOMPSON.—On the 28th Dec., at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, D.D., Colonial Chaplain, John S. Lafraik, to Clara, eldest daughter of R. Thompson, of Chelsea, London, and niece of the late Sir John Briggs, R.N. No cards.

MITCHELMORE—THOMPSON.—On the 28th Dec., at John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, George Mitchelmore, to Elizabeth Thompson, both of the ship Music.

STOCKLIN—LEVICK.—On the 5th Jan., at the British Consulate, Cairo, Egypt, by the Rev. Brehon T. Wright, chaplain, Monsieur Jules Stockelin, C.E., of Colmar, to Miss Emma Levick, second daughter of Henry Levick, Esq., H.B.M.'s Packet Agent at Suez. No cards sent.

DEATHS.

BARCHAM—On the 2nd Feb., at Thurgarton Norfolk, of diphtheria, Ellen, the beloved child of Robert and Ellen Barcham, late of China, aged three years and nine months.

COLLINGS—On the 25th Dec., at Hong Kong, Thomas Collings, late of the Water Works, aged 36 years.

CHAPMAN—On the 24th Dec., at Fahchau, Edith Margaret, infant daughter of Thomas H. Chapman, aged 3 weeks and 4 days.

CANNAL—On the 15th Dec., at Hong Kong, on board of H.M.S. Melville, Robert Cannal, stoker of H.M.S. Jumna.

FILBERT—On the 17th Dec., at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, George Filbert, constable, from wounds received in a row in Hollywood-road on the 7th inst.

HARPER—On the 15th Dec., at Kowloon, William Henry Harper, infant son of Sergeant Harper Commissariat Staff Corps.

HOOKER—On the 22nd Dec., at the Government Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, —. Hooker, seaman.

HOGG—On the 2nd Feb., at Far Headingley near Leeds, Charles, son of the late Edwd. Hogg, Esq., of Northand-square, Notting-hill, in the 41st year of his age.

M'ARTHUR—On the 13th Dec., at Hong Kong, on board of H.M.S. Melville, James M'Arthur, Quarter-master of H.M.S. Conqueror.

MOYLE—On the 3rd Dec., at Tanjong Katong, Edith Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr. J. M. Moyle, aged 15 years.

NICOL—On the 8th Dec., at Shanghai, George Glass Nicol, late of Banffshire, N.B., and senior of the firm of Messrs. Nicol and Co., of Hong-que, aged 35.

SMITH—On the 25th Dec., at the Seaman's Hospital, Hong Kong, H. D. Smith, seaman, late of the barque Julia Ann.

STEWART—On the 1st Jan., at his residence, 64, Pleasant-street, Halifax, Nova Scotia, in the 71st year of his age, the Hon. Alexander Stewart, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, and Judge of the Court of Vice-Admiralty of that Province.

TURNER—On the 24th Oct., on board the ship Ben Lomond, from Hong Kong, Thos. Turner, Esq., Registrar-General of Hong Kong, and "Protector of the Chinese," eldest son of the late Thos. P. Turner, formerly of Bedford-row, Esq., and of Mrs. McGregor, of Ampthill square, N.W., aged 37.

WILLIAMS—On the 15th Dec., at the Seaman's Hospital, Hong Kong, Frederick Williams, seaman.

WILSON—On the 13th Nov., at the Yokohama Hospital, William Wilson, formerly of San Francisco, aged about 35 years.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—None.

At SHANGHAI.—From Liverpool: Dec. 12, Morning Star. From Cardiff: 13, Dolphin. From Shields; 19, Thomas Dryden. From Newcastle: 23, William Melmuish. From New York: 13, Resolute.

At HONG KONG.—From New York: Dec. 25, Kahlamba.

At MANILA.—None.

At SINGAPORE.—From Cardiff: Dec. 24, Albatross. From Sunderland: Thurso.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—None.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Dec. 9, Lochleaven Castle; 10, Diligentia. For Liverpool: Nora Greame; 13, Coringa.

From FOOCHOW.—For London: Dec. 21, Violet, and Birchgrove. For New York: 14, White Eagle.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Dec. 14 (*via* Macao): Juanpore.

From MANILA.—For Liverpool: Dec. 7, Therese, and *via* Lebu, Express of India. For Falmouth, 10, *via* Lebu, China.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Dec. 28, Edwin Fox. For Falmouth: 23, Mathilde.

LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Alfred Hawley, Pembrokeshire, Medina and Bachante. For Liverpool: Gabalva.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Canadian, Countess Russell, Bosworth, Spirit of the Deep, Naomi, Spirit of Trade, Spray of the Ocean, Jubilee, Anglo Saxon, James Russell, Courier, and Bedfordshire. For Liverpool: Gitana, Silvia, Yorik, Spec, Anna Helen, Sailors' Home, Constance, and Her Majesty. For New York: Finella. For Montreal: Princess of Wales.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Laurel, Dilkhoosh, Sydney Eggers, Star of the North, Maiden Queen. For New York: Queen of the Seas.

At HONG KONG.—For Portsmouth: Hindustan.

At MANILA.—For London: C. David, and O. Shyen. For Falmouth: Hampton Court, Monarchy, and Vectis.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Maury, Charlotte Jane, and Alexander. For Liverpool: Sharpshooter, Restless, Indiaman, and Lady Bowen. For Cowes: Boreas. For Copenhagen: Maria Aguste.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—Confucius, Dec. 10, Sunderland to Singapore; 15, V. D. Palm, Rotterdam to Samarang; 16, Marinus Willem, Newcastle to Batavia; 17, Hebe, Newcastle to Batavia; 18, Peiho, Newcastle (order); 20, Yokohama, Amsterdam to Japan; 24, Johana Maria, Rotterdam to Batavia.

From CHINA, &c. to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—Dec. 10, Anna Maria, Japan to London; 14, Esperanza, Foochow to London; 16, Obey, Singapore to Glasgow; 19, Bernard and Agnes, Batavia to Holland; 19, Marie, Singapore to Bordeaux; Norden, Macao to Falmouth; Suzenne, Singapore to Falmouth; 20, Persia, Foo-chow to Falmouth; 21, Marie, Hong Kong to Bordeaux; Therese, Manila to Liverpool; Otilie, Manila to London; 22, North, Lebu to Liverpool; 23, Langdale, Foochow to London.

From CHINA, &c. to UNITED STATES.—Dec. 19, Bonnie Lassie, Foo-chow to New York.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

YOKOHAMA.—To London, cotton and tea, £3 to £3. 10s.; silk, £4 per ton of 50 cubic feet.

HANKOW.—To Shanghai, per steamer, 2 taels per ton; better rates were shortly expected.

SHANGHAI.—To London and Liverpool, £3 per ton; little demand for tonnage.

FOO-CHOW.—To London, the rate has declined to £2 per ton, with very little freight offering.

HONG KONG.—The circular of George Holmes gives the following settlements:—Hindoostan (1,262 tons), for Portsmouth, with invalids and troops, £5,500 in full; Welf (335 tons), to Hamburg, £3; Lombard (450 tons), Macao to Havana, with coolies, at £12. 10s. per head. To Rangoon or Bassein and back: Several charters have taken place at 70 to 75 cents per picul, 20 to 25 cents extra if ordered north. To Saigon and back the rates are 37½ to 40 cents per picul.

MANILA.—There are no settlements to report for the United Kingdom. The current rates, which are nominal, are £3. 10s. for sugar and £4. 10s. per 20 cwt. for hemp, being those last paid. The American ship Game Cock loads for New York at $10 and $17 currency for sugar and hemp respectively.

SINGAPORE.—There is less demand for tonnage, owing to large arrivals and unfavourable news from the rice ports. The rates to London for dead weight is £3 and £3. 15s. to £4 measurement of 50 cubic feet.

CASUALTIES.

JAPAN.

The British ship Ashmore, which left Hakodadi on the 14th of November, was wrecked on the 24th on Low Island, about twenty-five miles distant from Hakodadi. The British and American Consuls left for the scene

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of the wreck on the 27th, and up to the 2nd of December these gentlemen had not been heard of. The captain and crew are supposed to be safe on the island.

FOO-CHOW.

An explosion took place on board the steamer Zingari, supposed to have been occasioned by powder concealed in the forecastle by the crew. The fore part of the vessel was destroyed by the explosion. She was afterwards burnt to the water's edge, and sunk. Five Chinese died from the effects of burns.

The British barque Glendower, from Bangkok, and the Spanish brig Perfecta, from Manila, have been lost on the Pratas shoal; the former on the 7th and the latter on the 8th December. Four of the crew of the Perfecta were lost; the remainder of the crews arrived safely at Hong Kong in a China boat.

SINGAPORE.

The British schooner Julia Ann, Captain Asmussins, from Cheefoo, has arrived at Singapore, under jury rig, she having lost her masts in a typhoon five months ago, reports having experienced very severe gales throughout.

COMMERCIAL.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—The only transaction reported during the fortnight in this article is the sale of 5 bales No. 16 at $66 66 per picul, and prices remain as previously quoted. Grey Shirtings: The sales of these manufactures in this colony during the past fortnight have reached a moderate amount, and consist of about 12,000 pieces; a considerable portion of these have, however, been taken by a foreign buyer, and an advance of 5 to 10 cents per piece may be quoted on the qualities most in consumption. Sales of 950 pieces 8¼ lbs. goods are reported from Foochow at $5.20 per piece. White Shirtings: There have not been any sales effected in the Hong Kong market, but from Canton we hear of 550 pieces having changed hands. T-Cloths: The bulk of the fortnight's transactions in these goods consists of the public sales of Spotted and Mildewed Cloths, and the total sales amount to about 8,000 pieces. American Drills: The market continues quite bare of these goods. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., White and Coloured: All these goods have remained without any inquiry during the past fortnight, and there is not a single sale to report; quotations remain nominally unchanged. Handkerchiefs: A small sale of 1,600 dozens of these goods is reported, but prices are very low when compared with the rates ruling for other goods of cotton manufacture.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: The sales of these fabrics which have been reported during the past fortnight amount to not more than 72 pieces of Spanish Stripes, and 90 pieces of Medium Cloths. Long Ells: A moderate amount of business has been transacted during the fortnight in these goods, but there is not any improvement to notice in quotations. Settlements are put at 1,500 pieces. Camlets: There are not any sales to notice. Lastings: Have remained entirely without inquiry, and prices are nominally as before. Blankets: The sales of the fortnight are confined to 100 pairs at previous rates.

METALS.—Iron Flat, &c.: Without change to notice in value, the sales of Iron amount to 850 piculs of Nail Rod, and there are not any sales to report from Canton. Lead: The price of Lead continues extremely low, and there is hardly any inquiry for the article, the sales in this colony are limited to 270 piculs, and 700 piculs have found buyers in Canton. Tin: The settlements of the fortnight amount to 280 slabs. Tin-Plates: 100 boxes have changed hands.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—CANTON.—Congous: Two more chops of country tea have come to hand, making 34 chops in all for the season to date. The holders are more reasonable in their demands than they were, but they still ask much above home rates. They have no doubt had to pay excessive transit dues. Canton Congous and Scented Teas have been quite neglected. In Canton Greens a little business has been done in Gunpowder at previous rates. Country Greens continue to come forward, but are firmly held at higher rates than exporters can pay. The quantity likely to come forward may exceed 30,000 pkgs. The following comprise the settlements of the fortnight. Canton Gunpowder: 200 half-chests, and 3,000 boxes at 14 to 19 taels. Stocks are reported as under. Country Congous, 24 chops. Canton and refined do. 3,000 half-chests, Oolong, &c. 4,000 half-chests. Scented Orange Pekoe 5,000 boxes. Scented Caper 15,000 do. Canton Gunpowder and Imperial 30,000 boxes. Country Greens, 6,000 half-chests.

FOOCHOW.—The commoner grades have remained about the same as last advised. Supplies from the country have for the moment almost ceased, only 400 ch. having come down for the past week. Compared with the last season, the arrivals to date of Congous and Souchongs fall short some 52,000 chests. The settlements of the fortnight are reported as under:—Congou: 11,940 ch., 12,111 hf. do., and 400 boxes, at 6 to 13½ taels for dust and broken leaf; 13 to 16½ taels for common to good common; and 15½ to 20½ taels for flavoury to good flavoury. Souchong: 406 ch. and 230 hf. do., all common, at 15 to 17¾ taels. Pekoe: 145 ch. common to fair, at 17 to 20 taels. Oolong: 10,565 hf. ch. and 629 boxes, at 12½ to 13 taels for inferior; and 14½ to 17 taels for common to fair cargo.

SHANGHAI.—Black: The settlements immediately after the arrival of the 26th October mail, of two chops of second crop Oopacks at 23 tls. to 25 tls., established a decline of fully one and a-half taels on previous quotations, but purchases made within the last few days are again fully up to last mails prices. Settlements have been: 9 chops Oopack, at 23 tls. to 26½ tls., 7 chops Oonahm, at 17⅓ tls. to 18½, 17 chops Ningchow and Howhow, at 17 tls. to 24½ tls., in all 33 chops: the reshipments on owners' account amount to 14 chops, making together the transactions of the fortnight 47 chops or 18,500 chests. The stock awaiting shipment and for resale amount to 18 chops or 5,200 chests. The quotations are hird crop Oopack, 23 tls. to 26.5.0 do.; Ninchow, 20 tls. to 24.5.0 do.; Oonahms, tls. 17.5.0 to 22 do.; Hohows, 16 tls. to 20 do. The stock which is now over 5,000 chests, is firmly held. Green: A fair amount of business has been transacted for the Montreal market during the past fortnight, and 7,000 quarter chests have been taken at 36.5.0 to 40 taels proportion for common to fair Moyune teas. The demand is, however, limited, and in the face of such a large stock lower rates are expected. In Pingsuey and Shanghai packed little has been doing, as supplies are now falling off. Reshipments and settlements: 6,976 half-chests Fychow, &c., 1,483 half-chests Pingsuey, 2,794 half-chests Japan and Shanghai packed; in all 11,253 half-chests, making total to date 131,225 half-chests. Stock of Green Tea is estimated at 41,000 half-chests Fychow, &c., 6,000 half-chests Shanghai packed Japan, 2,300 half-chests Pingsuey: Total, 49,000 half-chests.

HANKOW.—Dates from this port come down to the 17th inst, the Tea market might be considered closed, only three chops having been settled during the fortnight at a considerable rise, which was compensated by the fall in Exchange on Shanghai. Nine chops remained in stock, most of them under advance to foreigners. Teamen were looking forward to the rebel movements in Fohkien causing a considerable decrease in the supplies to Foochow and Amoy next year. In the absence of business quotations are useless. Total settlements and shipments: 363,000 chests or 36,200,400 lbs., against 358,000 chests or 34,880,500 lbs., last year.

KIUKIANG.—Green Teas: A very few purchases had been made for Canada at prices which had not been published; Tls. 32 to 34 were said to have been given for medium Moyunes, but there was very little general disposition shown to operate at these prices. Teamen were paying such high interest for their advances and were becoming so hard pressed for money, that they would without doubt have to give way shortly, and a large business at low prices might be expected before next mail, if foreigners remained firm.

YOKOHAMA.—The demand for this staple has steadily kept up although no great amount of business has been done. In the earlier part of the fortnight the high prices which the teamen continued to demand checked business somewhat. Prices for the better grades have ruled slightly higher, the inferior remaining unchanged.

RAW SILK—SHANGHAI.—After the receipt of 26th October mail, dealers became anxious to realise, and have since submitted to a reduction of about 5 tls. to 10 tls. per picul. The settlements estimated at 600 bales have been confined to Tsatlees and Taysaams; the unfavourable home advices for Yuenfas and Hainings having caused them to be neglected. The receipts from the interior have amounted to 1,000 bales, the late high prices having induced the growers to hurry forward all available supplies.

YOKOHAMA.—The business within the past fortnight has been of a more quiet character. The firmness of the Japanese dealers as well as the extreme elevation of prices have alike contributed to check the demand. Nothwithstanding the favourable nature of the advices received by the last mail from Europe and the continuation of low exchanges, very few of the buyers are disposed to go on at the present rates. We estimate the settlements to date at 8,000 bales, against 11,400 at the same time last season. The unsold stock on the market amounts to about 500 bales. The coarse kinds of Silk are excessively scarce; in default of them some houses are turning their attention to Dappionis and other lower stuffs, which bring now prices more than double those of last year.

COTTON.

SHANGHAI.—A small business has been transacted at 16 to 16½ taels for fair quality, the difficulty of obtaining the staple dry being still felt. There is but a small stock of desirable cotton now at market, but there is little doubt that the article would come forward freely should any advance in rates take place.

NINGPO.—The article is neglected, and no reliable quotations can be given.

HANKOW.—In full supply and difficult of sale. The nominal quotation is taels 16½ to 17.

HONG KONG.—The demand for native consumption still continues; supplies from the northern ports have fallen off, and the demand fully keeps pace with the supply. Quotations are about the same as those last given. There is no vessel on the berth for Liverpool, and very little is under shipment for Europe. The exports will certainly exhibits a considerable falling off as compared with last season's tables—unless something unexpected should occur, the export of this article from China will hardly be half what it was last year.

YOKOHAMA.—There has been an entire absence of demand for this staple, and none of the new crop has been brought forward. The stock consists of a few parcels of old, and the nominal quotation is $26 to $26½. The export has been 22,780 bales this season, against 37,800 do. same period last season, and 4,600 the season previous.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	6s. 5d. to 6s. 5½d.	6s. 6d. to 6s. 7d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 8½d. to 4s. 9d.	4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.
At Singapore	6 ditto	4s. 9d.	4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.
At Manila	6 ditto	4s. 5d.	4s. 6d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 307 to 308 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 323 to 324 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 7 to 8 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 72 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 26 to 27 discount.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Feb. 6, at Texel, from Batavia, Mathilda, Loevesteyn; from Tjilatjap, Batavia; 9, at Falmouth, from Hong Kong, Jupiter; 9, at Plymouth, from Nagasaki, Great Western; 9, off Torbay, from Japan, Castleton; 9, off Folkestone, from Shanghai, Sarah Newman.

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DEPARTURES.—Feb. 5, from Rotterdam, for Batavia, Burgemeester Hoffman; 8, from Plymouth, for Hong Kong, Florence Braginton; Jan —, from Amsterdam, for Batavia, William Hendrick; Feb. 9, from London, for Singapore and Penang, Ferozepore; 8, from Harwich, for Hong Kong, Diamond (after repairing); 9, from Liverpool, for Manila, Peerless.

SPOKEN.—Zelia (Dut. barq.), Rotterdam to Batavia, 11 Jan., 6 N., 26 W.; Watergeus, Newcastle to Singapore, 19 Nov., 9 S., 30 W.; Abeona (Fch. ship), Batavia to Nantes, 25 Nov., 36 S., 21 E.; Arab Steed, London to Hong Kong, 24 Nov., 30 S., 32 W.; Mount Stuart Elphinstone, Hong Kong to Liverpool, 7 Nov., in Gaspar Straits; Brazilie Packet, Batavia to Middelburg, 42 days out, 12 Dec., 35 S., 20 E.; Zes Gezusters, Batavia to Amsterdam, 29 Dec., 10 S., 12 W.; Maravi, Shanghai to London, 2 Jan., 5 S., 18 W.

CASUALTIES.—The Diamond, Robertson, from Newcastle for Hong Kong, which was towed into Harwich December 18, after having been in collision, has been repaired there, and on the 8th of February proceeded for her destination.

The Mathilda, Fekkes, from Batavia, arrived at Texel, February 6th with decks swept and other damage.

The Loevesteyn, Hulshof, from Batavia, arrived at Texel, February 6th, with loss of sails, bulwarks, and other damage.

Nothing has been heard of the Castle Howard since her departure from China for London in July last. Eighty guineas premium has been offered at Lloyds, but has been refused.

Laid on at Liverpool for Manila, Labrador. For Shanghai, Sarah Scott.

DESPATCHES ON JAPAN.

The following despatch from Earl Russell to Sir R. Alcock dispels the doubts which exist as to the approval of the attack on Simonoseki.

Foreign Office, Jan. 31, 1865.

Sir,—I have received your very full and able despatch of the 19th of November.

Your former despatch contained a satisfactory justification of the course which, in co-operation with the representatives in Japan of the other Treaty Powers, you have so successfully pursued. Your despatch of the 19th of November makes this justification complete.

The despatches from this office of which you speak, were written in the belief at that time that trade was uninterrupted, and that no serious attack on Yokohama was in contemplation.

Circumstances on the spot were of a totally different complexion. The energetic course you pursued in concert with the representatives of the other Treaty Powers in these altered circumstances has been entirely approved by Her Majesty's Government, as you will have found by my despatch of the 2nd of November.

You were ordered home that you might in person give to Her Majesty's Government fuller information as to the state of things in Japan than mere despatches could convey, and that thus Her Majesty's Government might be able to come to a satisfactory decision as to the course of policy which it might be best to pursue with respect to Japan; but the order given to you to return home for that purpose was by no means to be understood as implying your removal from your post.

On the contrary, after hearing from you your explanation of the present state of affairs in Japan, I shall wish you to return at once to Yokohama, to perform in Japan such additional meritorious services as may be expected from your tried ability and long experience.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) RUSSELL.

SIR R. ALCOCK'S DESPATCH.

(*Standard*—Opposition.)

The last despatch of Sir Rutherford Alcock, written, as he says, on the eve of his departure from Japan, is a sad commentary on the whole infortunate history in which that zealous diplomatist has taken so energetic a part. The barbarous murder of two British officers—one a man in the crime of life, the other a mere youth—whilst riding together on an excusion of nineteen miles to a well-known and much-visited spot in the vicinity of Yokohama, is a confirmation of the melancholy admission of the British Minister, that "every foreigner who comes to Japan carries his life in his hands." The tokaido of Kanagawa and the precincts of the Embassy at Jeddo have been stained with the blood of Englishmen; the temple of Kamakura has now attained the same sad celebrity, and the colossal image of Buddha has been propitiated by a human offering. Whatever the Japanese Government may do or say, whatever anxiety the Tycoon may feel, or profess to feel, to carry out the treaty and maintain the security of Europeans, whatever apologies Hidano Kami may be instructed to offer for outrages which cannot be atoned for, it is clear that in the hearts of the great majority of Japanese there exists the most invincible repugnance to the presence of foreigners in their country. Every two-sworded ruffian who swaggers along the high road seems to think that he is only doing his duty to himself and his country if he can waylay and hack to pieces one of the hateful strangers whose presence in Japan he looks upon as an intolerable insult which is only to be wiped out in blood. Before the murder of poor Major Baldwin and Lieutenant Bird there had been no less than twelve murderous attacks made upon foreigners between Yokohama and Jeddo during the short time that has elapsed since Lord Elgin's mission. This murder makes the thirteenth in the bloody catalogue, and the last mail informs us of the assassination of two French sailors.

The Government of the Tycoon has always professed the utmost willingness to give redress, but with such indifferent success has it proved its zeal that in none of the murders preceding that of Baldwin and Bird have any of the assassins been executed, or even arrested. Three men, it is true, were beheaded for the attack on the legation—that is to say, on the British Minister was informed that that was the cause of their execution; but the Government in exposing their heads did not venture to declare their crime to the people as having consisted in an attack upon foreigners; and there is reason to believe that they were criminals who had already been tried and condemned for some other offence. The two men who, we are told, have been executed for the murder of these two officers, may, for all we can tell, have no more to do with the outrage than the man in the moon. The British functionaries at Yokohama and Jeddo have to take the word of the Japanese authorities in all such matters, and the communications of those personages are couched in such mysterious phraseology, are such grotesque Oriental exaggerations of the dispatches of the "Circumlocution Office," that the simple European mind is utterly at a loss in the effort to comprehend them or gainsay them. Our dealings with the Japanese have taught us as much as this—that this people is treacherous, cruel, revengeful, and barbarous at heart. It is beyond the power of our diplomatists to enter the lists against such duplicity and cunning. The retiring Minister, who knows more of Japan than most men, tells his Government that if our position in these islands is to be maintained at all, its security must be assured "by other means than any yet resorted to." What does Sir R. Alcock wish, and what does he advise? Are we to emulate the exploits of the American officers at Wilmington, and explode some mine which shall blow these forty millions of Japanese into another world? Are we to send a mighty army and fleet to Japan, bombard its seaports, pillage its towns, devastate its fertile fields, massacre its population, behead the Tycoon, and carry off the Mikado to Hong Kong? Are we to make a desert solitude of a country that was happy before we came there, that amidst charred wastes and smoking ruins we may establish ourselves and be at peace? To place matters on a satisfactory footing we must do something desperate of this sort. The alternative is in long years of trouble and strife, Englishmen assassinated and outraged armies and fleets set in motion in the vain effort to avenge them, the murderers escaping, the wrong men put to death or self-immolated by the "happy dispatch," Japanese and foreigners growing daily more hated and more hateful, the foreigners gaining ground, the natives dying out of the world, till the drama of Indian empire is repeated, or the tragedy of Australian or American aborigines finds its parallel on a large scale. It becomes clearer and clearer every day, that neither Chinaman nor Japanese can long exist on a footing of equality or in the same polity with the European. Once bring them in contact and the struggle of race begins—the struggle that can only end in the extermination of the weaker, or the cruel supremacy of the stronger breed of man. Let it end how it may such a contest is an evil—a disgrace to us, and we not unnaturally ask, for whose advantage is it commenced or carried on? For the men to whom human life and happiness are of small account when put in comparison with the possible acquisition of wealth; who see, with Mr. Bright, in the expansion of trade and commerce the millennium of mankind. The British Government can earn no honour or glory in these wars with barbarians. It may be put to an immense expense in carrying them on, its officers and servants may lose their lives in obedience to its behests, but in the sequel no one will be benefited but the trader, who, for selfish reasons of his own, has thrust himself into this *terra incognita* of the Eastern seas.

There was a period in English history, between the days of Elizabeth and the latter part of the reign of George the Third, when these remote enterprises were carried on at the sole cost and risk of the persons who alone could gain by them. There was once a "Company of Merchants trading to the East Indies," which, without aid of any kind from the British Government, built up an Empire for which Alexander and Tamerlane sighed in vain. If our rich merchants of to-day desire to carry on a trade with China and Japan, why do they not relieve us of the responsibility of making yearly encroachments upon the territories of those ancient empires? Why are they not suffered to take matters into their own hands, establish a Chinese and a Japanese Company, wage war as they please on their own account, accepting, without reference to us, the sweet fruits of victory or the sour apples of failure? The old independent system of aggression in the East was far more advantageous to the Empire than the modern method of making the central Government pay for all, bear all, and suffer all, involving it in manifold danger and trouble for the benefit of the merchants who may find various black and brown potentates in the way of their trade. For the moment it is demanded, and not without good reason, that the latest outrage in Japan shall be avenged in an exemplary manner. For the future we object on principle to any appropriation of Imperial money, any use of Imperial forces, in the eternal quarrels between our merchants and the peoples of China and Japan. Those who trade in these parts should count the cost as well as the gain; they should be prepared to defend themselves, and maintain by their own sacrifices the position which they have assumed. If we hesitate to spend a million of money, and sacrifice a thousand lives or so, that they may earn a million by their traffic, and gain a thousand acres, they cannot fairly find fault with us. The system of Lord Palmerston's Government has been radically wrong, and a reconsideration of the whole subject is necessary. It is melancholy to think that we are dividing our force, and frittering away our strength in these miserable conflicts in remote and semi-barbarous countries. There is a great British fleet in the waters of China; there is a powerful naval force in the Bay of Jeddo; and why? Because it seems likely enough that the central Government of Japan, or its officers, has been implicated, directly or indirectly, in this murder of two Englishmen; because, however friendly the Tycoon may seem to be, the Mikado, or spiritual ruler of Japan, and the Daimios, or nobles, are known to be inspired by the most deadly hostility to foreigners; because the local officials who sent to Yokohama the news of the attack on Baldwin and Bird, were not only guilty of equivocation, but waited until such time as they were assured that the victims were dead; because there is distinct evidence that after Lieutenant Bird had been groaning and weltering in his blood for eight long hours he was deliberately finished by a swordcut across the bones of the neck, being at the time in the keeping of the local officers at a sort of public hostelry. It is because all Japan seems in league against us, and banded together in this and other cowardly outrages, that we seem called upon to strike some blow in self-defence that shall resound through the length and breadth of the East. But why did we ever go there, or, being there, did we not retire when we found that our visit was so unwelcome? It is the rule with gentlemen in most European countries, when they find their company undesired, to refrain from pressing it further on an unwilling host. The custom which prevails in private life might be carried out between nations, with much advantage to the peace and comfort of the world.

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COTTON SUPPLY FOR 1865.

(ECONOMIST.)

Our estimate of the probable supply and consumption of cotton during the year just commenced appears to be regarded by those qualified to judge to be as correct as such conjectural calculations ever can be. On two points only have we received criticisms which appear to suggest some slight modification of the anticipations we expressed.

1. We are reminded that a considerable proportion of the increased supply which we have obtained from the three Indian Presidencies since 1860 is owing not altogether, nor perhaps principally, to increased production, but in a very considerable measure to the diversion to our markets of the large quantities which used to be exported to China, but which during the last four years have been attracted hither by our high prices. For example, the real increase of exports from Bombay has not been from 508,000 to 1,043,000 bales, but only from 710,000 bales to 1,043,000; and a similar remark may be made with even greater force in reference to the Madras and Bengal exports. It is probable, therefore, that the augmented growth in India may not be as large as has been believed, and that our calculation of the supply thence may be a little over sanguine.

2. It is thought by some competent observers that we have over-estimated the dispersion of the factory population by migration and permanent absorption into new occupations. The most careful inquiries have, we are informed, only been able to trace the disappearance of about 40,000 persons; and this number includes young children as well as actual factory hands. Still, we incline to doubt whether the residual numbers could work up more than 40,000 bales a week of such cotton as now constitutes the average of our imports.

(MONEY MARKET REVIEW.)

Up to 1860 the sum paid by Europe for the cotton exported from India did not exceed seven millions a year. In 1860-61 the bullion imported into Bombay alone, for the most part in payment for cotton, exceeded six millions; and, in the four years since that, the amount of the precious metals thrown into that one city has been at least sixty millions sterling, and nearly all for cotton. To India combined, Europe has of late paid about forty millions a year, of which more than half is in bullion for cotton. The effect of this new state of things in Western India is described by the *Times'* correspondent in his letter of the 30th December, and his description is pregnant with instruction alike to the dealer in cotton and the dealer in money. We are told that in Bombay many Parsee and Hindoo, and a smaller number of English, or rather Scotch, merchants find themselves possessed of sums which are reckoned by millions, and speak with contempt of so small an amount as a lac of rupees, or £10,000. Hindoos and Parsees, who were a short time ago petty brokers or shopkeepers, are now millionaires. A Hindoo clerk, recently employed in an English counting-house at £30 a-year, has become suddenly possessed of about two millions sterling. The second son of Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy has become the millionaire of Bombay, his capital being computed at 2½ millions sterling; and if the present price for raw cotton should continue for another two years, this 2½ millions may be doubled. These are only two cases out of twenty of the same nature, and all classes have grown more or less rich out of our cotton famine. The peasantry are rolling in wealth, and the occupation of the usurer is gone, while the housing and feeding of the agricultural class put England to shame. One agricultural labourer prides himself on his fine breed of bullocks, for which he has paid five times the old price; another rides his horse, a third makes the tires of his cart wheels of silver, and a fourth carries large bags of rupees at the ends of poles in a festive procession. Even in Kandeish, the only country not recovered from the Mahratta devastations, the *Times'* correspondent saw a crowd of peasants squatting round two agents from Bombay, one with 40,000 rupees and the other with 30,000, "paying for the growing crop at enormously high rates."

Parliamentary Intelligence.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

The seventh session of the present Parliament was opened on the 7th Inst. As it was known that it was to be opened by commission there was not that interest that is usually manifested when Her Majesty herself presides at the opening of the great council of the nation. Notwithstanding the drizzling rain which had been falling all the morning, a few hundred persons had assembled in Parliament-street, Palace-yard and Westminster-hall, curious to see the members as they passed in. In the House of Lords three of the back benches on the Opposition side were filled with ladies in morning costume, as was also the gallery, but the attendance of peers was scanty. At two o'clock, when the Commissioners made their appearance, there were not more than ten or twelve peers present, amongst whom we observed the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop of York, and the Bishops of Lincoln and Ely, the Earl of Dalhousie, Lord St. Maur, and Lord Redesdale. The Lords Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Somerset, Earl of St. Germans, Lord Stanley of Alderley, and Viscount Sydney.

The Commissioners having taken their seats, the Lord Chancellor requested the attendance of the Commons, to hear the Royal speech read, and a minute or two afterwards a tumultuous noise was heard, and the Speaker of the House of Commons, accompanied by a number of members, appeared at the bar.

The LORD CHANCELLOR then read, as follows—

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

"*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

"We are commanded to assure you that Her Majesty has great satisfaction in recurring again to the advice and assistance of Her Parliament.

"The negotiations in which the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia were engaged with the King of Denmark were brought to a conclusion by a Treaty of Peace; and the communications which Her Majesty receives from Foreign Powers lead her to entertain a well-founded hope that no renewed disturbance of the peace of Europe is to be apprehended.

"The civil war in North America still unhappily continues. Her Majesty remains steadfastly neutral between the contending parties, and would rejoice at a friendly reconciliation between them.

"A Japanese Daimio, in rebellion against his Sovereign, infringed the rights accorded by Treaty to Great Britain and to certain other Powers; and the Japanese Government having failed to compel him to desist from his lawless proceedings, the Diplomatic Agents and the Naval Commanders of Great Britain, France, the Netherlands, and the United States of North America, undertook a combined operation, for the purpose of asserting the rights which their respective Governments have obtained by Treaty. That operation has been attended with complete success; and the result has afforded security for foreign commerce, and additional strength to the Government of Japan, with which the relations of Her Majesty are friendly.

"Papers on this subject will be laid before you.

"Her Majesty regrets the conflict with some of the native tribes in New Zealand has not yet been brought to a close, but the successful efforts of Her Majesty's regular forces, supported by those raised in the colony, have led to the submission of some of the insurgents, and those who are still in arms have been informed of the equitable conditions on which their submission would be accepted.

"Her Majesty has had great satisfaction in giving her sanction to the meeting of a Conference of Delegates from her several North American Provinces, who, on invitation from Her Majesty's Governor-General, assembled at Quebec. Those Delegates adopted resolutions having for their object a closer union of those provinces under a Central Government. If those resolutions shall be approved by the Provincial Legislatures, a Bill will be laid before you for carrying this important measure into effect.

"Her Majesty rejoices at the general tranquillity of her Indian dominion, but Her Majesty regrets that long-continued outrages on the persons and property of subjects of Her Majesty, and for which no redress could be had, have rendered it necessary to employ a force to obtain satisfaction for the past and security for the future.

"Her Majesty deeply laments the calamity which has recently occasioned great loss of life and property at Calcutta and at other places in India. Prompt assistance was rendered by the officers of the Government, and generous contributions have been made in various parts of India to relieve the sufferings which have thus been occasioned.

"*Gentlemen of the House of Commons,*

"Her Majesty has directed the estimates for the ensuing year to be laid before you.

"They have been prepared with every attention to economy and with due regard to the efficiency of the public service.

"*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

"Her Majesty commands us to inform you that the general condition of the country is satisfactory, and that the revenue realises its estimated amount. The distress which prevailed in some of the manufacturing districts has greatly abated; and the Act passed for the encouragement of public works in those districts has been attended with useful results.

"Ireland, during the past year, has had its share in the advantage of a good harvest, and trade and manufactures are gradually extending in that part of the kingdom.

"Various measures of public usefulness will be submitted for your consideration.

"Bills will be laid before you for the concentration of all the Courts of Law and Equity, with their attendant offices, in a convenient site; a measure which Her Majesty trusts will promote economy and despatch in the administration of justice.

"The important work for the Revision of the Statute Law, already carried to a considerable extent by recent Acts of Parliament, will be completed by a Bill that will be laid before you. Her Majesty hopes that this work may be a step towards the formation of a digest of the law.

"Bills will also be submitted for your consideration for the amendment of the laws relating to patents for inventions, and for conferring on the County Courts an equitable jurisdiction in causes of small amount.

"Your assistance will also be invited to give effect to certain recommendations made to the House of Commons, after inquiry, directed by that House, into the operation of the laws regulating the relief of the poor.

"A Bill will be laid before you founded on the Report of the Commission for Inquiring into Public Schools; and Her Majesty has directed that a Commission shall be issued to inquire into endowed and other schools in England which have not been included in the recent inquiries relating to popular education.

"Her Majesty commits with confidence the great interests of the country to your wisdom and care; and she fervently prays that the blessing of Almighty God may attend your councils, and may guide your deliberations to the attainment of the object of her constant solicitude—the welfare and happiness of her people."

CHINA, JAPAN, AND SIAM.

Mr. S. FITZGERALD gave notice that on the first supply day he should move for a return of the expenses of the diplomatic and consular establishments in China, Japan, and Siam, since the date of the treaty of 1842, of the indemnities received from the Japanese Government, of the expenses of military operations in China, and of the fees received by Her Majesty's consular and other servants in China.

THE CHINESE COOLIE.—In our last issue we noticed the increased demand for Chinese coolies, and by the mail since arrived we have advices of the despatch of a vessel with 337 for Tahiti, on behalf of the Tahiti Cotton and Coffee Company (Limited). About 250 acres of cotton have been planted, and a cargo may shortly be expected here. It appears probable that at no very distant period a direct trade will spring up between China and the Pacific ports of Mexico. An active trade formerly existed between Acapulco and Manila, and with the rising fortunes of Mexico, a certain increase in European and American immigration to that country and the further development of its resources, there is no reason why commercial relations should not be extended to the Eastern continent. Good roads lead from the Pacific ports both to the city of Mexico and to Vera

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Cruz, touching on the route at numerous important towns. There is every probability, too, that a demand for Chinese coolies will shortly be created for the cultivation of cereals and other products in the great longitudinal valleys—a work for which this race is eminently suited.

OUR NAVAL YARDS.—Mr. King has lately published his report for the Government of the United States. He was deputed to make an examination of our yards. Mr. King, the Federal Commissioner, addresses his observations principally to the resources we possess for the construction and equipment of an iron-clad navy. He does, it is true, describe the situation, extent, and general capacities of all our national establishments, and he gives an account of our navy and its composition as necessary to the completeness of his report; but the object of his inquiry, as we shall presently explain, was a special one, and it is curious to see the manner in which it is reached. His admiration was evidently excited by the resources of our private yards. He enumerates the great commercial companies engaged in iron shipbuilding, and says that no such establishments are to be found out of Great Britain. The yards on the Thames actually produce, he observes, 117,000 tons of iron vessels yearly; those on the Clyde, 120,700 tons; those on the Mersey, 80,000. Altogether, and including smaller establishments, our private yards could turn out in a single year iron ships to the extent of 400,000 tons and upwards; indeed, Mr. King is of opinion that the actual product of the kingdom in the year last past was not less than 500,000 tons. At Millwall the Commissioner found ten heavy iron vessels on the stocks at once, the largest being the *Northumberland*. In Messrs. Laird's yard he found six such ships, with the *Agincourt* at their head. "In the event of war," says he, "the British Admiralty could have at command and employed in the construction of iron ships more than forty extensive iron shipbuilding yards, and as many engine factories, besides any number of iron rolling mills." Nevertheless, despite the impression produced by these spectacles, the Commissioner's thoughts are evidently elsewhere. His heart is set upon a great Government establishment, and, after candidly describing the resources of our private yards, he carefully adds that we regard them as insufficient, and have established a public yard by way of check or supplement. Chatham delighted him, and he expatiates with infinite zest on the qualities of the *Achilles*. She was "the first iron ship," he tells us, "built in a British dockyard;" in fact, with the exception of two French frigates, the *Couronne* and the *Héroine*, she is "the only iron ship built in any public yard." Yet she is a miracle of success. "She has been afloat ten months, and during that time, I am informed on reliable authority, not as much as a wineglass of water has leaked into her. This is a circumstance unparalleled in the history of shipbuilding, and unless she should be run on a hard bottom there is no reason why she should not remain tight for many years." Here Mr. King evidently finds his ideal of a dockyard realised. He frankly admits that Messrs. Laird's yard has advantages even over Chatham but he is not content with private yards at all. As for his own country, "under existing circumstances," he says, "the best of our private yards could not construct one such vessel as the British frigate *Achilles* within three or four years; several iron gunboats which were contracted for more than two years ago are not yet completed, and will not be for some months." Indeed, he declares that "the capabilities of all the iron yards" in America are not equal to those of the best private yard on the Thames.

THE ISTHMUS OF SUEZ CANAL.—The following letter has been forwarded by M. Ferdinand de Lesseps to all the chambers of commerce in Europe:—"Paris, Jan. 31st—Gentlemen,—A first communication is now open between the Mediterranean and the Red Sea. Since the 1st of January a daily boat service has been established from Port Said to Suez, and between Ismaila and Zagazig. At the same time it serves all the intermediary stations of the Isthmus. I have recently made several journeys along the line of works. During each of these I have established the facility of transit and have also clearly obtained its recognition by the numerous visitors who have done me the honour to accompany me. In a large barque carrying from 25 to 30 persons and tugged by a steamer, for which the company is indebted to the liberality of his Imperial Highness Prince Napoleon, we accomplished the 150 kilometres separating the two seas in 24 hours. These facts appeared to me of a character likely to attract the attention of the different chambers of commerce which, in so many ways, are interested in the completion of the Suez Canal. The time has arrived when commerce must be prepared for the opening of this maritime canal to vessels of large burden, and the Suez Company calls upon it henceforth to study with it the means of making use of a boat service, which can already transport goods and passengers between the two seas along a continuous line of water at least one metre twenty inches in depth and fifteen metres in breadth. With this object, gentlemen, the administration of the company has the honour to propose that you make choice of a representative to proceed to Egypt in order that he may report to you upon the actual state of the works, upon the prospects presented of their approaching conclusion, and more especially upon the resources at present furnished to commerce by the establishment of a daily service for the transport of persons and merchandise. In view of these operations the company has ordered six small steam tugs, to be delivered upon the spot in four months. I trust these circumstances will arouse the attention of the Chamber of Commerce of ———; and if it will afford us the assistance asked for, it would be convenient that the delegate it may choose should be at Alexandria upon the 6th of April next. I myself shall be in Egypt to receive the delegates, and shall endeavour to afford them every facility for inspecting the works on the Isthmus, and will place at their disposal all information which they may judge necessary for the accomplishment of their mission. Receive, gentlemen, the expression of my sentiments of high consideration.—(Signed) Ferdinand de Lesseps, President of the Universal Company of the Suez Canal." This circular has been addressed to the chambers of commerce of twenty-eight cities. London, not possessing a chamber of commerce, an analogous letter has been addressed to the Lord Mayor, with a request to communicate it to the Common Council of this city.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON BOARD THE "FAR EAST."—Mr. Richards held an inquiry at the Spotted Dog Tavern, Poplar, respecting the death of Edwin Godolphin, aged twenty years, who was killed on board the China steam-ship, *Far East*. Mr. Wm. Stephenson, the chief officer of the ship, said they arrived in the Thames from China. The deceased, who was an ordinary seaman on board, was ordered to go aloft to reef the signal halyards that the flags might be displayed. For that purpose he went to the extreme top of the mast, a height of 189 feet, and while engaged in his duty he fell off and came headlong down on to the deck. He pitched on his head on to a boat which was bottom upwards, and so great was the force with which he fell that he smashed in the bottom of the boat. His skull was crushed in, and he was of course killed on the spot. The witness did not know how the deceased came to fall, unless it was through the extreme cold having benumbed his hands. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

THE SUEZ CANAL.—The *Moniteur* contains the following statements:—The city of Suez appears destined to assume considerable importance within a short time. Four great companies have already constructed workshops there, and one of them, the Egyptian company, the Azizié, formed for working the commerce of the Red Sea, has its principal establishment at Suez. Numerous houses are being erected to supply the wants of an ever-increasing population of merchants, assistants, and workmen from all countries. It is easy to foresee, however, that the future city will not be built on the present site. A bank which becomes dry at low water extends for a mile and a quarter opposite Suez, and at the extremity of this bank the maritime canal will empty itself; and here also the Messageries Company will build its basin for the repair of its vessels. A jetty which is finished will soon bring the basin into communication with the Cairo railway by means of a tramway. All these works constitute the nucleus of a new city which will be established on the bank itself, and, thanks to the development of the shore, under circumstances more favourable to commercial interests. Suez owes its growing prosperity principally to the Universal Company of the Isthmus of Suez and to that of the Messageries Impériales. The portion of the fresh water canal which the first of these companies has to construct is terminated, with the exception of the sluices, in the formation of which no time is lost. Their speedy completion will allow merchandise to be conveyed by the canal from Port Said to Suez in vessels of a light draught of water. The company of the Messageries Impériales, which, with eleven steam vessels, conveys traffic from India and China, has been in regular operation from Oct. 27, 1862, and has no occasion to envy the rival service of the English company. The two places where the repairs of vessels are principally carried on are Suez and Saignon. At Suez a basin for repairs, capable of receiving vessels of the largest size, will be finished in fifteen months. A large workshop has been established in the midst of the sands, and surrounded by workmen's cities for both Europeans and Arabs. From the present time the company will possess the means of effecting the most important repairs of machinery. Fresh water from the canal is conducted to the workshops and into the city by pipes a mile and a quarter in length, and in a short space of time fountains will supply every person with all the water he may need, to the great astonishment of the Arab population.

WRECK OF THE "ASSAYE."—A very disastrous shipreck has taken place on the extreme portion of the south coast of Ireland, in Ross Bay, near Galley Head, between Cape Clear and the old Head of Kinsale. The unfortunate vessel was a fine large teak-built ship, called the *Assaye*, originally constructed as a steam frigate for the East India Company. She was launched at Bombay, and was of more than 1,500 tons burden. The *Assaye* left Bombay, with a most valuable cargo of East India produce, for Liverpool in the course of last October, and nothing was heard until the receipt of the telegram on the 30th ult., intimating that the ship had been cast on the rocks in Ross Bay early that morning, and that the commander had been drowned in endeavouring to reach the shore. The first despatch left some hope that the cargo would be saved, but a subsequent telegram announced that the ship had gone to pieces. The cargo, which comprised 6,254 bales of cotton, 556 bales of wool, 200 bales of jute, 99 tons of linseed, and other merchandise, is strewn on the shore for miles. The ship was valued at £40,000. Both vessel and cargo were largely insured at Lloyd's, and in the different marine insurance-offices in London, Liverpool, and Glasgow. The *Assaye* was the property of E. M. de Bussche, Esq., late of Shanghai, and others.

HENRY DALGLEISH, LATE OF HONG KONG.—ONE HUNDRED POUNDS REWARD.—To Hotel, Lodging-house keepers, Shipping Agents, and others.—Absconded, in May last, having in his possession about £3,000, the property of his employers, the Borneo Company (Limited), Hong Kong, Walter Henry Dalgleish, formerly their clerk. He arrived at the International Hotel, London-bridge, on the 29th of April last, and left for Scotland on the 5th of May; he went to Glasgow, where he passed under the name of Ralph Ensign, thence to Ayr, where he assumed the name of Charles Walter Thorne; he afterwards re-appeared in London about the 22nd of May as Henry Grey and Henry Browning, staying at a private hotel near King's-cross in the latter name; he then went to Canada in company with a female, about 18 years of age, and of small stature; while at Canada he purchased some bills of exchange in the name of Henry Raleigh; he then appeared on 25th of August at Cork as Henry Stewart, Henry Hudson, and Henry Raleigh; from thence he appears at Dublin, Belfast, and Kingstown, and at the last mentioned place, where he was on the 17th September, at which time he had in his possession (it is supposed) about £1,500 in Scotch bank notes, was known as Henry Pollard, and it is supposed that he has gone to Canada or some other colony. Description of Dalgleish—age 25 years, height 5 feet 11 inches, dark complexion and hair, slight beard and moustache, very dark eyes, slight scar on side of nose or over the eye, in delicate health. The above reward will be paid by the Borneo Company (Limited), 7 Mincing-lane, London, to any person giving such information as shall lead to the apprehension and conviction of the said Walter Henry Dalgleish. Information to Sergeant Palmer, detective department, Great Scotland-yard, London.

S. GREGSON, ESQ., M.P.—This gentleman, so well known as the founder of the house of Gregson and Co., in the East India and China trade, and chairman of the East India and China Association, died on the 8th inst., in his 70th year. He had attended in his place at the House of Commons the previous evening, had dined at the House, and returned home apparently in his accustomed health and spirits, but died in the morning at four o'clock.

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A COURIER'S DANGER IN COCHIN-CHINA.—A letter from Cochin-China mentions that the arrival of letters at Barriah from Saigon was recently delayed by a singular incident. The native who acts as courier being some time overdue, the commander of the place sent a detachment to see what had become of him, when, after an hour's march, the troops found the unfortunate Indian perched at the top of a high bamboo, while two enormous tigers were at the foot rolling over the letter-box. The courier was then released from his uncomfortable position, and enabled to continue his journey.

THE REBELS AT AMOY.—The following extract from a letter has been published in *The Times*:—"I dare say you know from ——'s letter that we have got the Taipings very near us; in fact they are now within 15 miles of this place. They have defeated the forces of the native authorities in two engagements, and there is nothing (as far as they are concerned) to prevent their taking Amoy as soon as they please. We have four boats and a large corvette for the defence of the foreign community. I don't see, if the Taipings land on Amoy and set fire to the city, what is to save the Hongs, especially as the prevailing winds at this time of the year are generally north-east, which would blow the flames right upon them. The only way to save them would be to land a sufficient force of marines and blue-jackets to blow up the Chinese houses in the immediate vicinity of the Hongs. In the event of there being a disturbance at Kulangsen a party of marines are to take the women and children up to the Consulate, the entrance to which is defended by an Armstrong 12lb. gun. I suppose, in such a case, the inhabitants and marines would have to try and prevent the other houses on the island from being plundered. These are all measures of precaution which I hope may not be needed. Still it is necessary to be prepared for whatever may occur."

THE REBELS NEAR AMOY.—The following letter has been published dated Amoy, Dec. 12, 1864. You have heard lately of the taking of Changchen by the rebels. They still hold the city in force, and not a single one of those native Christians who were in the city when it was taken has succeeded in escaping. About ten days ago the rebels made a sally in force, and attacked the Imperial forces, who were posted near Chioh-bey. The rebels completely routed them and scattered them in all directions. Of course such a defeat as this caused a complete panic over all the region near the scene of battle. Chioh-bey is almost completely deserted, and only one or two persons remain of what was a flourishing church in that place. As to Amoy we have little fear, for at present we have four gunboats and one large man-of-war to protect us. It is needless for me to say that the present state of matters proves very hindering to every part of our work. The country is in such a very disturbed state that access to most of our stations is for the present entirely out of the question. We can still visit, with comparative safety, the Pechnia and the Bay-pay regions, but beyond we dare not go. We have no definite idea of what the rebel force is, as to numbers, but we fear they are much more numerous than we were at first inclined to believe. The mandarins seem to be incapable of grappling with a danger of such magnitude, and there seems to be no call for foreigners interfering any further than is necessary for the protection of life and property, so that at present, in these circumstances, we cannot form any opinion as to what the result may be. Notwithstanding all this, I have news of a most cheering and encouraging character to communicate. Sabbath, the 4th inst., was a day long to be remembered in Bay-pay. It was our Communion Sabbath there, and Mr. Cowie, Mr. M'Gregor, and I went there together. You have heard that for some time past there has been a large influx of interested persons at Bay-pay, and you were also made aware of our hopes and fears in regard to them. We feared much that in the present disturbed state of the region numbers of them would have drawn back. Such, however, has not been the case; they come in the usual numbers without any abatement. I can imagine with what feelings of joy you, Sir, would have looked upon our congregation on the 4th inst. Our little chapel was not merely crowded; it was packed by a body of nearly 200 persons. There was not an inch of room to spare, and all these were persons who are in the habit of keeping the Sabbath and attending the means of grace. In the forenoon I baptised five male adults, and in the afternoon Mr. Cowie dispensed the Communion. It was a cheering sight to us and our native brethren. May it stir up all our dear friends at home to more prayer on behalf of this mission! I cannot help saying in one word more that the whole aspect of things at Bay-pay is something for which the committee have great reason to thank God, and more especially as time and trial are most severely testing those who desire to cast in their lot with the people of God.—W. S. SWANSON.

THE HORRORS OF WARFARE IN CHINA.—A letter from a gentleman in China, dated "Amoy, October 27, 1864," contains the following:—"You will be surprised when I tell you that the Nankin rebels have appeared in large force in this immediate neighbourhood, causing the greatest excitement both among Chinese and foreigners. On the 14th instant the large district city of Changchow, one tide only distant from Amoy, fell into their hands, and that place is now one mass of blood and fire. The place contained some 700,000 people. The rebels got into the city in disguise, and when their time was come, they closed all the city gates, and commenced an indiscriminate slaughter, at the same time firing the city in several places. A few have escaped to tell the tale of horror. The place is still burning, and dead bodies fill the streets—in some places four feet deep. The rebels, in their march, take all the young and good-looking girls as cooks and mistresses; the young and able-bodied men as coolies to carry their luggage; while the ill-looking or less-favoured women, and the sick, old, or infirm, of both sexes, they slaughter without mercy. We fully expect and have been looking for their appearance here for some time, and would not feel surprised any night to be aroused by the alarm of fire. We are, however, preparing to receive them. We have formed ourselves into a volunteer corps, and every afternoon go through the regular manual and platoon exercises. Every afternoon we meet on the jetty, and march up to our house with the rifle and bayonet. Our appearance, we fondly imagine, is calculated to strike terror into the minds of the unsophisticated yet lawless natives. The commissioner is our drill-sergeant, he having been connected with the volunteer movement in London since its commencement. We are divided into watches throughout the night. On Sunday Her Majesty's ship *Adventure* called in, on her way to Japan, with instructions to wait and see if any assistance was required. Her Majesty's gunboats *Flamer*, *Opossum*, and *Janus*, will be here in a day or two, so we have now material aid quite sufficient to protect us from everything but fire and assassination. The Chinese themselves are utterly helpless. The mandarins collect the thieves daily, and give them each a quantity of cash to be 'good boys' at the present time. The Chinese merchants are preparing to flee, chartering vessels at exorbitant rates in order that they may save themselves and treasure at any moment. Foreigners, too, have their office-books in small boxes for convenience of carriage; and their treasure is likewise packed ready for shipment at a moment's notice. Trade has quite stopped, and this port, only last month one of the most prosperous in the south of China, is now quite paralysed, and will take a long time—some think years—to recover."

THE MURDER OF MAJOR BALDWIN AND LIEUT. BIRD.—The following is an extract from a private letter from Shanghai, dated Dec. 8, 1864:—"The news from Japan which has come to hand is dreadful. Two officers—Major Baldwin and Lieut. Bird—of the 20th, were on a visit to Daibooto, which is a temple at Kamukura, about twenty miles from Yokohama. They were attacked while sketching in the ground, and cut to pieces. There was no Tokaido business. They were where they had a right to be; and the murder is one of the most atrocious yet in the annals of our intercourse with Japan. Sir R. Alcock, the British Minister, has not left, and I am glad to think he means to take strong measures. Yedo ought to be destroyed. If the Summer Palace was destroyed at Peking for the murder of Brabazon and others, most distinctly should some such steps be taken in regard to this affair. A man's life should not be valued at so many dollars. For, if the Japanese think we will only ask them to pay so many thousands for a man being cut down, these hideous murders will always be on record. This one is a horrid business. It is worse than Richardson's—and that was bad enough; but for two gentlemen, beloved by all who knew them, to be butchered in cold blood, and cut and hacked to pieces in a manner too disgusting to narrate, is a fate no one would wish to meet with. There is no need now to treat with the Mikado, the Tycoon, or the Gorojio; it is useless. Strong retaliation, swift vengence, and severe punishment should be the award for such a people. I am not inclined to be hasty; but this is too much. And if our Home Government does not order immediate steps to be taken, then the lives of all of us in Japan are not worth a rush, and the fiendish spirit of the Japanese will only be shown too often if we accept dollars as the redress for men murdered in cold blood, and for no cause."

SALE OF CHINESE ARTICLES OF VERTU.—Some time since we noticed a correspondence of Sir Frederick Bruce in expelling a gentleman who was engaged in and near Peking in making purchases of curiosities. A sale was lately held at Mr. Phillip's rooms, New Bond-street, which constituted a portion of this collection which was much admired by the gentlemen in London who are acquainted with this branch of rare goods. It included a selection of objects of the rare Cloissonné enamel, and other pieces of fine quality, peculiar to the country. Among the more valuable specimens, the following are worthy of notice:—Lots 32 and 5. A pair of turquoise vases, 13in. high, of rare quality; a suite of five richly enamelled porcelain joss ornaments, on a delicate green ground, with coloured raised flowers; a pair of oblong incense-burners, of similar design, with covers and kylinhandles, pencilled in dragons and other devices; and a porcelain bottle, with beautifully pencilled flowers and quails in colours, on a delicate green ground engraved over—£61. 15s. (Woodgate). 50. A superb Pilgrim's bottle, of the rarest Cloissonne enamel, the sides beautifully enriched with flowers and other devices in lapis, with metal handles and rim, 19in. high, on carved wood stand—£80 (Addington). 51. A pair of china fonts, richly enamelled round the belts and borders—20 guineas (Russell). 55 and 56. A picture in Cloissonne enamel, of exquisite workmanship, representing buildings, intersected by a river and gardens; in the foreground are portrayed dogs, poultry, &c., another similar in subject forming the companion—£82 (Wareham). 60-1. A suite of porcelain ornaments comprising a centre urn, a pair of vases, a pair of candlesticks, richly pencilled over in raised flowers; a circular font of the rare turquoise porcelain, 11in. deep; and a pair of richly enamelled jardinieres—£44. 5s. (Welch). 70. A pair of splendid square enamelled bottles with high necks, formed of the finest Cloissonne work, inlaid all over with white daisies, and chased gilt panels introduced into the sides, on wood pedestals—£69 (Marks). 71. A pair of magnificent figures of warriors, dressed in rich costumes, and wearing the insignia of office, the whole formed of the richest Cloissonne enamel, mounted on costly stands of the richest character; these splendid figures may be regarded as unique—£155 (Wareham). 72. An elegant pair of fish fonts, of porcelain, with ornaments in colours, borders, &c., 13in. deep—22 guineas (Page). 76. A magnificent circular table top, formed of the rarest Cloissonne enamel, in which are introduced a number of figures in conference, seated in the foreground, various buildings filling up the background, 3ft. diameter—£85 (Durlacher). 79, &c. A pair of noble china vases, with large figures and other devices, 3½ft. high; a suite of costly joss decorations as a centre for incense; a pair of altar candlesticks; a pair of vases, very richly designed, and enamelled with various devices; and a large Cloissonne enamelled vase, inlaid with flowers on blue ground—£53. 10s. (Nixon).

COLE V. THE AGRA AND MASTERMAN'S BANK.—Mr. Selwyn (with whom was Mr. Begg) moved for an injunction in this case to restrain the Agra and Masterman's Bank from prosecuting an action against the plaintiff, Colonel Arthur Lowry Cole, in respect of a three-months' bill for £10,000, which Colonel Cole, a Mr. Druce, and Messrs. Shield, the railway contractors, made themselves jointly and severally liable to pay. The application was based on a statement by the plaintiff that the manager of the bank, at the time the note was negotiated, distinctly understood that Colonel Cole was not to be looked upon as further responsible on the note than to see that it was eventually paid out of the Daventry Railway Company's funds, when such company should be sufficiently established to honour the advance made upon the security in question. This representation of the plaintiff was distinctly denied by the defendants, and the plaintiff's counsel not being instructed to undertake to pay the money into court to abide the issue, his Honour refused the motion without hearing the other side. Mr. Baggallay and Mr. Dickinson appeared for the Agra and Masterman's Bank.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, THURSDAY, FEB. 16, 1865.

THE JAPANESE POLICY OF INTIMIDATION.

IN our issue of the 26th ult., we briefly commented on the terrible tragedy enacted in the environs of Yokohama, expressing the hope that matters would be promptly adjusted, instead of being allowed to remain over and gather strength, as in the case of Mr. RICHARDSON,—indicating the results to be anticipated from shaping our course in Japan in the light of that experience we have gained in dealing with the Chinese, in critical junctures, during the last twenty years. There is no material difference between the Japanese and Chinese. It is to be hoped that Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK did not suffer the fact of his recall to interfere with demands for large redress, and that such demands were not limited to the delivery of the murderers to the British authorities. The author and abettors of the bloody deed, and the motives by which they were actuated, is no impenetrable mystery. As to the two-sworded assassins, we know whence they came and whither they went. Emissaries of the MIKADO, they but did their master's bidding, choosing their own time and selecting their own opportunity. The implicit obedience of the Yaconins to superior authority excludes the idea that they sought to gratify their own personal resentments. These murders constitute a State crime, for which the State must make atonement; and this, to be effective, must be such as the Government and the whole empire will feel keenly and acutely, otherwise we have but to anticipate a repetition of like deeds, deadly attacks on foreign residents similar to those made on merchants of Osaca to restrain any dealings with us through their Yokohama agents. The refusal of the MIKADO to ratify the arrangements made with the TYCOON's Government after the forcing of the Simonoseki Straits, even to the extent of paying the indemnity, proves that late events have but quickened the hostility of the Court of Kioto, and that no means will be spared that malice and cunning can suggest to extract from new concessions all their value. In the abstract, it is of little concern to us what this Spiritual EMPEROR approves or disapproves; possibly we should have gone to him at the first instead of the TYCOON; but having recognised the latter as Sovereign of the empire, we abide by this recognition, and refuse, so far as our own action is concerned, to await the endorsement of the MIKADO. As surely as a crisis in affairs arises, as surely the MIKADO seeks to stretch his prerogatives at the expense of the TYCOON, aided in this by a powerful combination among the leading maritime Daimios. To touch this throned assassin to the quick, no means would be more effectual than that of giving the TYCOON assurance that we would espouse his cause, at all hazards, to the damage of his too encroaching rival, and against any hostile Daimios, and avert from him all dangerous consequences from his concessions. This, however, will be the work of time, and instant retribution is demanded. Our business is to take material guarantees should other satisfaction fail. We long since urged the military occupation of the island at the entrance of the Simonoseki Straits. There are other commanding positions within the Samuda Sea which might be seized with equal advantage, and held with still greater ease; whilst the blockade of the embouchures of the great rivers which empty themselves into this inner sea, would place two-thirds of the archipelago at our mercy. All this should have been done and done quickly, not in the blind and uncalculating spirit of vengeance, but in the interests of civilisation, the protection of that which we hold most sacred—the lives of British subjects. All the great Powers are of one accord in checking, by whatever means may be requisite, the Japanese policy of intimidation. Is it that they are to be foiled by superior cunning? Blood must be made to pay the price of blood even in Japan, and its barbarous rulers be compelled to eat, at the dictate of the hated foreigner, the fruit of their own doings. We understand that our Government sends out specific instructions to its representative in Japan in reference to the terms of reparation, and the means by which the satisfaction demanded is to be secured. These instructions include the demand for a heavy indemnity to the families of Major BALDWIN and Lieutenant BIRD. In the *Patrie* we find these demands detailed as follows, but we cannot endorse them:—

"We are assured that the English Government has sent imperative orders to its Minister in Japan to obtain immediate reparation for the murder of Major Baldwin and Lieutenant R. Bird, assassinated near Kamakura. This reparation will consist in a sum of not less than a million francs (upwards of £40,000) for the families of the two victims, and in the exemplary punishment of the guilty parties. To obtain this reparation as promptly as possible, the English Admiral will hermetically close the ports of Osacca, Yedo, and seize all the Japanese ships which may be found there."

THE JAPANESE QUESTION IN PARLIAMENT.

THE Parliamentary papers on Japan which have just been published, contains the correspondence of Sir R. ALCOCK detailing the reasons for attacking Simonoseki, and the convention made with the Prince of NAGATO and the TYCOON. These despatches will be noticed in our next issue. The last despatch of Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK relative to the murder of Major BALDWIN and Lieutenant BIRD constitute a summary of all the information we have of this tragedy. It is remarkable that Sir RUTHERFORD, with his knowledge of Japan, should regard the event as the mere result of a sudden and uncontrollable outbreak of temper on the part of the Yakonins. The contents of this letter, together with the circumstances attending the Simonoseki expedition, the subsequent arrangement with the Tycoon's Government, the motives which led to there call of Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, the retribution and compensation demanded for the murder of the two British officers, and the character of the governmental policy to be applied to Japan, will constitute one of the inquiries to be addressed to Ministers. Rumour points to Mr. DISRAELI as the interrogator, and, doubtless, correctly, unless the honourable member should be anticipated by some too forward Liberal below the gangway. An active, and, possibly, acrimonious debate on our relations with Japan is imminent. The following is a summary of Sir R ALCOCK's despatch alluded to:—

The despatch from the British Minister adds some very important details to those previously known in England of the unhappy event it refers to, and much aggravates the horrible nature of the murders. As regards the actual commission of the offence, Sir Rutherford points to the evidence of a little boy, about eleven years old, as by far the most explicit and trustworthy. "He says he saw the two officers riding leisurely one after the other, the younger (Lieutenant Bird) first; and then two samurais, who had already roughly warned him to go away as there was danger, draw their swords and rush upon the unsuspecting travellers. The first was instantly dismounted, when the boy in terror took fright, and saw no more." What immediately followed remains in some degree veiled in mystery. The dead, it would appear, were removed, after an uncertain interval of an hour or two, to the vicinity of a tea-house, and there laid together on mats stretched on the ground, and a bamboo shed raised over them. Intelligence was sent to the head man of the nearest village, and from about 5 P.M. (the murders having been committed about 2 P.M.) they must be held to have been in his custody. A Japanese doctor was sent for, and he and others "depose to have been with the survivor, to have heard him speak, move his head, drink, or seem to drink, the medicine—until about 10 o'clock, when they say he died." "The horrible circumstance connected with these facts (continues Sir R. Alcock) is the evidence of the surgeons, after careful *post-mortem* examination of the wounds, that one which Lieutenant Bird received across the back of the neck had divided the spine across the bones of the second and third cervical vertebræ, completely severing the spinal cord at that point; and they declare that after receiving such a wound he could not have survived, but must have died almost instantaneously. The only inference upon such evidence is, that this unhappy victim of Japanese treachery received his death wound while in the custody of his keepers, and many hours after the first onslaught. . . . . The assassin must have turned over the helpless body of his victim and struck a savage blow down through the spine, so exactly in the line of the original wound as not to be distinguishable from the first, or thrust a sharp-bladed knife into the first wound, dividing the cord, and that only, almost with surgical precision. But this implies a degree of forethought and calculation, if not of scientific knowledge as to the functions of the spine of which I do not believe Japanese samurais capable." What could have been the motive for such consummate ferocity? The impulse that dictated it is no doubt

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the one suggested by Mr. Consul Winchester, who says:—"The inference from these premises (if they can be depended on) is very sad, viz., that the ruffians, finding the prolongation of Mr. Bird's life rendered it possible that he might live to tell his story to some passing foreigner (for besides Mr. Wirgman's party at Fusisawa there were three or four Dutch naval officers who arrived at Kamakura or Fusisawa before dark, and remained at a tea-house about a mile distant from the spot), finished the hours of the unhappy youth by the *coup de grace* on the neck."

The difficulties that lay in the way of obtaining a correct and circumstantial account of what occurred are insurmountably augmented by the Japanese practice in such cases. The Governor of Kanagawa received intelligence of what had occurred between nine and ten o'clock the same evening, but he does not communicate with Mr. Consul Winchester till one o'clock the next morning, assigning very plausible reasons for the delay—such as having to find the Vice-Governor, having to walk two miles to the Consul's house, &c. The despatch observes:—"This was not very satisfactory, but unfortunately it was not without many precedents. It appears to be the invariable rule, in all cases where foreigners have been murdered, in the first place to send, for instructions no doubt, to the Government at Yedo, and despatch their own emissaries to the scene. The last step is taken, I believe, with the object principally of securing what evidence is to be had on the spot, and providing against any being given to the foreign Consuls, other than such as they, the authorities, shall deem fitting or expedient." Such a system on the part of the Government of course has its effect on the behaviour of the people. "The keeper of the tea-house and his wife obstinately refused to give any information." Mr. Consul Winchester pointed out to the examining officer that "the wounded men must have been discovered by some one person or party in the first instance, and that no one had been produced as first giving the alarm. He admitted this, and said that they had been actively trying to discover who the person or persons were. Also that the priests or officers of the great temple ought to be in a condition to give some account of the two samurai [supposed to be the actual murderers] stated by the sweetmeat seller to have gone up to the shrine to pray. The answer to this was an admission that such inquiries had not been made, and that they would at once be set on foot."

Sir Rutherford considers that the Tycoon and his council alike deplore the perpetration of such a crime, at this time more especially, and he thinks it very probable to be the act of those who are equally hostile to the Tycoon and to foreigners.

THE TAIPING REBELS AT AMOY.

EVIDENTLY the remnant of the Taiping hordes, dispersed after the capture of Nanking, are concentrating near the treaty port of Amoy, and committing the same murderous devastation in the surrounding country as they perpetrated within the environs of Shanghai. Fortunately for the British and other foreign residents at this port, they occupy an isolated position on the island of Amoy, which renders them comparatively secure from attack, should the rebels make a descent from the mainland. And if they are forced to leave their residences there they can retreat to the rocky islet of Koolangsoo, where, under the protection of four gun-boats and a corvette, their limited number may be safely lodged Meanwhile the merchants' hongs and property at the city of Amoy would be exposed to destruction by fire and *loot* if the rebels succeed in defeating the Imperial force in garrison at that place. Then will come again the question of defending this treaty port, and driving the enemy beyond a thirty-mile circuit with British and French bayonets, as at Shanghai and Ningpo. To do so would be an interference without doing much benefit to our relations in China; and it is quite consistent with the policy hitherto adopted by the PALMERSTON administration to exercise in this second outbreak the strict rules of non-intervention. Leave the business of driving them from Amoy and the province of Fohkien to the Imperial authorities, letting them understand that our forces will act only in defence of British life and property, and they will make greater exertions to send soldiers, disciplined and undisciplined, to the seat of war. If the mandarins calculate upon foreign assistance to quell this new insurrection, then with true Asiatic cunning they will step back from the work to save men and money. It is important therefore for them to know that, as far as England is concerned, they cannot reckon upon the aid of one British soldier or sailor to fight in their cause; and we understand that instructions to that effect have been sent to the Consul at Amoy, and the military and naval authorities at Hong Kong. The only awkward feature in this case is that the merchants' hongs are built up among the houses of the native city, not located in a separate settlement as at Shanghai and Ningpo. Consequently, if the Taipings attack Amoy, and the English forces are to defend the property of British subjects, they must to all intents and purposes guard the property of the Chinese, and repel any attack on the city, thereby virtually taking part in the civil war as before. Under these circumstances our representatives in China should peremptorily demand from the Imperial authorities a strong garrison for the city, to defend it at all hazards; otherwise, in the event of capture and destruction of British property by the enemy, they should be held responsible for the damage. This unsettled state of affairs at Amoy comes unfortunately upon the residents connected with the commerce of that port, at a time when it was just beginning to improve in the extent of its import and export trade, after struggling for twenty years—since 1844, when the port was first opened—to maintain a profitable traffic.

THE PRESENT AND FUTURE OF CEYLON.

THE last China mail brought the acceptance by Sir HERCULES ROBINSON of his Excellency's appointment as Governor of Ceylon. Sir HERCULES may be expected to leave Hong Kong in March or April. His Excellency's departure from Hong Kong will be regretted by many of the residents, for he has zealously worked at promoting the interests of the colony. It is evidently the intention of our SECRETARY of STATE to allow Mr. MERCER, the Colonial Secretary, to take charge—if only temporarily—from Sir HERCULES ROBINSON. Ceylon offers a fine field for his services. The effective admininstration of her Government, the extension of works of internal improvement, and other means of permanently benefiting the colony, demand an increase of revenue, not to speak of the claim lodged by the Home Government in the shape of a large annual charge for her defence. Notwithstanding the reputed wealth of the colony, the value of her products at prices not determined by cost of production but as appraised in distant markets, the large amount of specie she has received of late years from all parts, representing many millions of pounds sterling over and above what her residents require for the purchase of our manufactured products. It is to be remembered that a very considerable portion of her capital is owned in England, and remittances on this account make up a large proportion of her bank drafts. Ceylon has been admirably compared to a sieve which retains none of the golden grains that pass through it; she is for ever in the act of heaping up riches, which strangers gather. European residents, after speedily acquiring fortunes, take to flight; even the Malabar coolies make a point of regularly returning to India with their gains. With all the numerous plantations cultivated to such profit, a large region remains, like unavailable assets, untouched. With all the capital invested, capital is what is most required, and with upwards of two and a-half millions of natives, labour must yet be imported. Is it any wonder that in reference to ability to increase the revenue to meet the charge made by this Government upon her, and for other urgent purposes, misgivings should be entertained? What is the remedy for all this? Manifestly to turn the labour of the natives to account, to rouse them from their lethargy by adequate motives, making the Kandyans and Cingalese pay for the protection they enjoy, at least from the attacks of one another. The following are the antecedents of Sir HERCULES ROBINSON:—For some time he served in the 87th Fusiliers, after which he was actively engaged during the Irish famine, 1846-9, under the Commissioners of Public Works and Poor Law Board in Ireland. He was made Chief Commissioner in 1852 to inquire into the Irish fairs and markets. His next appointment was that of President of Mont Serrat, which he held until 1854, when he was made Lieut.-Governor of St. Christopher, with a dormant commission of Governor-in-Chief of the Leeward Isles. Since 1859 he has been Governor, Commander-in-Chief, and Vice-Admiral at Hong Kong, until he was translated to the Governorship of Ceylon last year. He was also a member of the commission appointed in 1863 to inquire into the financial position of the Straits Settlement. Sir HERCULES ROBINSON is not the man to be swayed by that weak sentimentality which would sanctify laziness rather than give a shade of compulsion to labour. We are very confident that the policy he will inaugurate will be that of taxing the natives up to a point that will compel them to forego their day dreams under cocoanut trees, and otherwise stimulate them to contribute their aid to the cultivation of the leading island staples. This Pandora of islands will, under a vigorous rule directed to the organisation of native labour, enter on a new career. Abundance of labour will do much to invite additional capital, to be followed by a greater influx of Europeans and the introduction into society of more permanent elements. The position of Ceylon, her varied resources, her climatic advantages, are a guarantee for her future; but her rate of progress altogether depends upon the mode in which the Government shall deal with that gigantic evil which crouches behind her acknowledged resources. The following comments are from a contemporary:—

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"The limited liability companies established last year in London, for purchasing various coffee estates, bringing them under one management, and extending the area of cultivation, cannot fail, if judiciously conducted, to secure high dividends for their shareholders, judging by the large returns to individual proprietors. We have reason to know that arrangements are being made for additional combinations, bringing together adjacent plantations. There are millions of acres of fine forest land awaiting the enterprise of additional companies—land suitable for the cultivation not only of coffee, but spices, indigo, and other valuable products. A Ceylon dye-wood or plumbago company, with practical managers, would give high returns, and an additional opening for good profits will be found in the extraction of cocoa-nut oil. Had the resources of this island been better known, more capital would have been turned upon it. Individual fortunes are there proverbially acquired with rapidity, yet such is the want of monied accommodation in operations connected with its trade, that from 10 to 12 per cent. discount is charged by the local banks on good mercantile bills, whilst in the Colombo bazaar it is no less than 25 per cent.; and this in a colony which can obtain returns from Madras and Bombay in two weeks' time, and which, within the last fourteen years, has received £12,000,000 in specie from the mints of India and the gold-fields of Australia. The amount of foreign bills negotiated at Colombo reaches £4,000,000 per annum. The local circulation of the Oriental Bank Corporation and Chartered Mercantile Bank of Ceylon, which are authorised to issue notes against a reserve of cash equal to one-half of their weekly average circulation, exceeds £300.000 and the floating and permanent balances of customers of these institutions £1,250,000.

DEATH OF COLONEL GORDON'S OFFICERS.

We notice with great regret in the latest advices from China that two of the gallant fellows who held prominent positions in Colonel Gordon's force have succumbed to disease, which has laid them low after passing unscathed through all the extraordinary perils from which neither Gordon nor the best of his officers seem ever to have shrunk. Captain Charles Davidson, who commanded the steamer *Hyson* from first to last, and Colonel Tumblety, who latterly succeeded to the command of the 1st Regiment, are the two officers whose loss we have to record. Both, we are informed on good authority, were highly respected and trusted by Colonel Gordon, who was not too well provided with men whom he could either trust or respect. Captain Davidson was Irish by birth, and possessed, under a rough exterior, the most distinguished attributes of a truly gallant sailor. We cannot do better, in seeking to commemorate his services, than by extracting from an article in the *Cornhill Magazine* for November last, the following paragraph on this subject:—

"The undaunted captain of the *Hyson*—a man more capable of fighting a battle against enormous odds than of subsequently penning a report of his victory, but utterly inaccessible to the bribes which were frequently offered him as the price of desertion with his vessel—handled this curious little war vessel with such daring and discretion, that the mere sight of the smoke from her funnel was sufficient to put to flight a rebel army."

The *Hyson*, indeed, throughout the whole of Colonel Gordon's campaign, was constantly spoken of as rendering most invaluable assistance. We have seen a private letter of the gallant Colonel's, in which he says:—

"Captain Davidson contributed most materially to nearly every action, more especially in the capture of Quin-san, Soo-chow, Ye-shing, and Le-yang. The evacuation of Hoo-chow-fu may also be attributed to his skill and courage, since, pushing his steamer over the barriers in the creek, and passing the forts at full speed, he took them in rear and compelled their surrender, which subsequently entailed the abandonment of the city. He was a gallant, hardworking, zealous, and trustworthy man, and I deeply regret his loss."

Colonel Tumblety was one of those brave and self-taught characters who rise literally from the ranks, having been at the outset a private in H.M.'s 99th Regiment. Taking his discharge from the Queen's service, he obtained a position in Colonel Gordon's force, and rose eventually to the command of the 1st Regiment. Previously to this he had on more than one occasion been entrusted with the command of detached expeditions, in which his conduct gave uniform satisfaction, and at the time of the dissolution of the force he was one of the officers of longest standing. It is with the most genuine regret that we discharge the mournful duty of recording the untimely end of both these gallant fellows; but their friends we trust, will feel it a comfort to know that the memory of their brave and honest work has not passed out of sight. We have little doubt that the intelligence of their death will be most regretted by Colonel Gordon, who was the best able to judge of their services.

OPENING OF THE LINE BETWEEN BAGDAD AND BOMBAY.

The completion of telegraphic communication between Bagdad and Bombay is likely to give an impetus to the scheme, long advocated in these columns, of an overland line from India to Western China, thence branching to the foreign Chinese settlements. The route has been, we understand, pronounced practicable by competent engineers, whilst an overland line is peculiarly free from the dangers that attend oceanic telegraphy. Absolute confidence cannot, after past experience, be felt in the new transatlantic cable, but, even if successful, and with a line stretching to the extreme north, along the Pacific shores, we shall yet be dependent—to our own disadvantage—on the Russian system of communication about being extended over the Manchurian Plain. The arrangements between Bagdad and Constantinople are not yet completed, and hence messages from London to Bombay cannot yet be sent.

A LEGAL VICE-CONSUL FOR SHANGHAI.

We understand that it has been quite decided on to appoint a gentleman versed in legal lore to preside over the numerous cases that now present themselves at the Consular Court in Shanghai. This step has been long advocated by us, but we doubt if the present incumbents of the Consulate, or the community, will when it comes to work be so well satisfied as with the present state of things. We trust, however, that the appointment may fall on a gentleman who will discharge the duties with urbanity, and a due regard to the experience of the older functionaries in the Consulate. This is the danger.

THE NEW CONSUL FOR THE PHILIPPINES.

George Brackenbury, Esq., recently appointed Consul at the Philippines, served in the Consulate at Cadiz from January, 1848, to May, 1852; was Acting-Consul from May 26 to October 4, 1851; was secretary at Kadikoi to the honorary agents of the Crimean Army Fund from December, 1854, to June, 1855; was appointed clerk to the mission and Consul at Madrid, May 12th, 1858; and appointed Consul at Charente, January 1, 1864.

Appointments.—The Queen has been pleased to approve of Mr. Gustavus Overbeck as Consul at Hong Kong, for His Majesty the Emperor of Austria. Mr. Henry Calice as Consul at Liverpool for His Majesty the Emperor of Austria, and M. Hussein Lebbé Marcair as Consul at Colombo for His Imperial Majesty the Sultan. The Queen has been pleased to appoint Martin Crofton Morrison, Esq., now Her Majesty's Consul at Tangchow, to be Her Majesty's Consul at Kiu-Kiang; and Mr. Robert Swinhoe, now British Vice-Consul at Taiwan, to be Her Majesty's Consul at Taiwan.—The Queen has been pleased to approve Mr. Giovanni Edoardo Leveson as Consul at Singapore for His Majesty the King of Italy; and Mr. Julius Menke as Consul at Hong Kong for His Majesty the King of Hanover.

SAM MENDEL'S TABLES.

The value of comparative statistics, as affording data for future calcuation, has never been more fully recognised than at the present time. The labour they involve may be overlooked, but the results are amply appreciated where applying to commercial and financial affairs. Sam Mendel's tabular statistics of exports to the East from our chief ports of plain cottons and yarns, and of their average monthly prices, together with the corresponding average of Bank rates, price of Consols, and the bullion held throughout the last ten years, are for this and other purposes of especial value. Our available stock and export of specie necessarily affect the value of our productions, touching the pockets of manufacturers, and controlling the profits of our merchants. As to the probable demands of distant markets, from time to time, these can now generally be estimated with marvellous accuracy, an operation materially aided by extended telegraphic and steam communication, and improved acquaintance with the demands of our foreign customers. The export of plain cottons to Hong Kong in 1864 was 21,035,013 yards, being nearly 8½ million yards in excess of the quantity sent out in 1863, but falling short by one-third of the shipments of 1861 and 1860, and also below that of several previous years; indeed, in 1864 we hardly sent out more than in 1855. To Shanghai 36,674,459 yards were exported, an excess of 13,000,000 yards over 1863, but under the quantities despatched in any of the previous eight years, in which our shipments of plain cottons to this port have ranged from upwards of 44,000,000 to 158,000,000 yards. The quantity sent to Manila last year was 6,454,608, an improvement over 1863, but a heavy decline in the shipments of the previous eight years. The quantity of plain cottons shipped to Ceylon last year was 7,261,798 lbs.; less than half the export of the previous year, and still more disproportioned to each of the years from 1858 to 1861, inclusive. Batavia shows a large falling off in demand throughout the series of years, the exported quantity in 1864 being but 7,541,574 yards. Of yarns, the export to Hong Kong last year was 1,601,810 lbs.; two-thirds of the amount shipped in 1863, and a still smaller fraction of the quantities sent in the previous years up to 1858; in 1859 we despatched upwards of 9½ million lbs., and in 1860 upwards of 7½ million lbs. of yarns to that part. Our export of yarns to Shanghai in 1864 was 157,249 lbs.; exceeding that of any previous year, except 1858, when 274,400 lbs. were shipped. The export of yarns to Singapore in 1864 reached 1,249,492 lbs.; half a million pounds less than in 1863, and a heavy decline on many previous annual shipments. To Manila, 122,980 lbs. were exported last year, being four times the quantity of 1863, though falling short of that sent out in several previous years. To Batavia, the annual shipment has fallen off one-half, the quantity for 1864 being 294,925 lbs.

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To Ceylon, the yarns exported in 1864 reached the merely nominal figure of 183,639 lbs., whereas the export for 1863 amounted to 678,649 lbs., the nearest approaches to which latter figure were in the years 1860, 1858 and 1856. The large shipment for 1863 fully accounts for the falling off.

EXPORT OF BULLION.

The circular of F. M. Page, just issued, exhibits last year's shipments of specie to the East, the points of distribution of what, for the most part, must be considered as an adverse balance of trade, which we have been unable to discharge by the export of manufactures. The total sum thus sent out in 1864 reached in value £24,318,189 against £21,455,844, or a sum equal to the annual produce of the mines of Australia, California, and British Columbia! Nor does this aggregate really include the whole discharge of that indebtedness which our purchases and investments in the Far East have entailed; consignments of gold, upon British account, being now sent thither direct from the Pacific gold fields. The shipments to China and Japan in 1864 reached in value £2,199,156, of which sum £49,368 was in gold, £1,539,961 in Mexican dollars, and £609,827 in bar silver and coin; as compared with shipments of the previous year, there is a decrease in those of 1864, amounting to £877,208. The sum sent to Ceylon in 1864 was £79,632, against £116,921, and was chiefly for transmission to Australia, from which country together with India, Ceylon obtains directly those large sums of specie received for her chief staples. To Singapore, for payments at Penang, Batavia and Saigon, we shipped in 1864 the sum of £965,780, against £796,501 in 1863. Not a single Mexican dollar was sent to India; the amount of these coins shipped for Penang, Batavia and Saigon was £900,063, being more than half the amount taken up by China and Japan.

MURDERS IN JAPAN.

(THE TIMES.)

Japan has not failed to contribute by this mail its periodical tale of murder. About every three months we seem regularly to receive from that part of the world intelligence of some unprovoked and sanguinary outrage, to which one or more of our countrymen have fallen victims. Sometimes these Japanese swordsmen attack our Embassy House; at others they cut down a riding party of European ladies and gentlemen; upon this occasion they have cut to pieces two English officers who were engaged in sketching the caves and temples in one of the most picturesque spots among the Japanese islands. It was not an act of robbery, for the watches and other property of the victims were untouched. It was not a quarrel and a fight, for the arms of the murdered men were found loaded. It was a sudden surprise and a murder of malice. It had, in fact, all the characteristics of an ordinary Japanese murder, such as we are always vainly endeavouring to punish. All the circumstances are brought out clearly in the investigation held by the British Consul, acting as coroner, and no mystery can be fairly said to exist as to the manner in which this murder was committed. One fact is remarkable, and that is that, although the country people cannot be made to tell who the Japanese officers were who committed this atrocity, they seem to have felt sympathy for the sufferers, and came in immediately to communicate the fact. When the swordsmen had surprised and murdered their victims and mangled their bodies, and had left them on the road, the peasantry came about them with kindly intentions, and the property upon the persons of these murdered men seems to have been safer than it would have been in some more civilised countries. Let us not, then, involve all the Japanese people in our cry for vengeance. It is plain enough that this is only another explosion of that fanatical hatred of foreigners which exists among the old feudal chieftains of Japan. When a Japanese chief and his swordsman come upon a foreigner his first instinct is to set his swordsman upon him and put him to death. If the European happens to have taken up part of a tea-house or priest-house in which it was the chief's pleasure to lodge, the incentive to homicide is greatly increased; and if he has been obliged to pass on quietly, under awe of the revolvers of a party with whom he could not cope, he will probably give way to the first safe opportunity of indulging his hatred and his love of blood. It is not difficult to relate how this murder took place and to account for the feelings by which it was brought about; but to explain an act is not to justify it, and to account for it is not to punish it. The question is how in such cases we can exact punishment for the past and security for the future. We cannot go to war with a whole people every time a barbarous chief commits a murder. Yet we cannot allow our countrymen to be cut to pieces by any Japanese savage who may choose to resent their being on the same road with him. Sir Rutherford Alcock is said to have taken up the matter with resolution, and we hope we may bring it to the only conclusion which can be satisfactory; that is to say, the apprehension and condign punishment of the persons who perpetrated this murder, and also of those who instigated the crime.

COLONEL SYKES ON CHINA.

The following letter appeared in the *Star*, signed M.:—"In your issue of the 31st ult. I observe the redoubtable Colonel Sykes has again taken the field—of Chinesse politics, and gravely informs your readers that 'in case San-ko-lin-sin, the Chinese Commander-in-Chief impeaches Tseng-kuo-fan, a statesman of high rank, there will probably be bloodshed and a *coup d'etat*, and as both are hostile to foreigners the position of Europeans in Peking during the struggle will be critical.' I will not, in reply to the gallant colonel, remark that 'in case' the sky should fall it would 'probably' be all over with the larks, but I would ask him simply whether anything is more likely to secure the safe position of foreigners in Peking than that those hostile to them should quarrel among themselves? We have already had one *coup d'etat* in Peking since the war, and Shun-paou, a statesman of the highest rank, was beheaded; but, so far from the foreigners there being endangered thereby, one of the most inqusitive of their number actually went to see the execution. The state of China is, indeed, but too lamentable. Disorder prevails in many parts, and it is hard to say whether the old Government can ever again recover its former power. But if we wish the people of China ever again to enjoy the blessings of peace and security, it will be well for us, who will have one day to answer for all the evil we have done to that country, to refrain from giving any sympathy to the lawless and turbulent among them, who, emboldened by the weakness of the authorities, raise their hands against all order and society. Corrupt, indeed, the Chinese officials are, but these leaders of the rebel bands are almost, without exception, incarnate demons, who shed the blood of their own countrymen without any feeling whatever, and for no other end than that they themselves may riot for a while as chiefs—may have a 'merry life' if a short one. Our interest, then, clearly lies in supporting the policy pursued by Sir Frederick Bruce during the last four years; namely, not only to abstain from encouraging revolt, but to lend all the aid in our power towards strengthening the Chinese Executive, so far and in such a way as may be consistent with our honour and the sovereign rights of the Chinese nation."

Naval and Military.

The following, we find, are the particulars of the Princess Royal, the flag-ship of Admiral King, at present serving on the East India and Cape Station, who has been appointed successor to Admiral Kuper, on the China Station. The Princess Royal is a steam-ship of 3,129 tons, 73 guns, and 400-horse power. The following is a list of her officers:—Rear-Admiral Geo. St. Vincent King, C.B.; Flag-Lieut., Richard H. D. King; Secretary, Frederic Penfold; Clerks to Sec., C. T. Dawson, A.P., C. Mackern, A.P.; Captain, William S. Jones; Commander, Alexander Buller; Lieutenants, G. W. Carter, Geo. Rivington, T. H. Royse, T. F. P. Maclear, Lord W. T. Kerr, F. W. Lowther; Master William F. Hains; Captain Marines, John F. Sanders, 1st. Lieut. Marines, G. A. G. Martin; 2nd Lieut. Mar. Art., Augustus J. Hill; 2nd Lieut. Mar., Archibald M. T. Gibson; Chaplain, Rev. Henry E. Yeoman, M.A.; Surgeon, Francis E. Toms; Paymaster, James F. Phillips; Nav. Inst., J. W. Lawless; Chief Engineer, Edwin Boulton; Sub. Lieuts., W. C. J. Blount, H. W. Dowding; Additional, Nesbit G. Willoughby, Dudley C. Stuart; 2nd Master, Thomas L. Morinlyan; Asst.-Surgeons, Robert Hague, Alex. Goodall (act.); Asst.-Paymasters, Francis P. Lyne, John S. Scriven.

It appears that, as we are not prepared with a line-of-battle ship to replace the Bombay, destroyed by fire, we have been compelled to fall back upon a frigate, and in consequence the Narcissus, which was we believe originally intended to relieve the Euryalus, on the China station, has been selected to proceed to the Brazils, to receive the flag of Rear-Admiral the Hon. Charles G. J. B. Elliott, C.B. The Narcissus was only admitted into the first-class steam-reserve last October, so she will not be ready for sea for some weeks.

We understand that Captain Jasper H. Selwyn (1858) has applied to the Admiralty for the command of one of the vessels which may be ordered to accompany the Great Eastern on her approaching trip across the Atlantic.

The following notification relative to the increase of pay of regimental sergeant-majors has just been issued:—"Victoria R.—Whereas, it has been represented to us that it is expedient to us to improve the position of regimental sergeant-majors of regiments and battalions of our infantry of the line, our will and pleasure is, that the pay of such sergeant-majors shall, from the first day of January, 1865, be raised from three shillings and twopence to three shillings and fourpence a day. Given at our Court at St. James's, this 7th day of January, 1865, in the 28th year of our reign. By Her Majesty's command, De Grey and Ripon."

The 8th company of Royal Engineers, which recently arrived at Chatham garrison from China, has been raised to its proper complement from the depot and other companies at Brompton barracks, and will shortly leave the Royal Engineer establishment for Woolwich, there to relieve the 9th company. The 8th company, from its lengthened service in China, returned to this country more than one-half below its proper strength.

Col. Elmhirst, who has lately been in command of the Depôt Battalion at Colchester, has been appointed Deputy-Quartermaster-General at the Cape of Good Hope. The depôts of the 63rd and 84th are expected to arrive at Colchester this week. On the breaking up of the 9th Depôt Battalion a rearrangement of the camp accomodation is to be carried into effect; the 10th Depôt Battalion will occupy A, B, and C ranges, and the 4th Depôt Battalion D, E, and F ranges.

The following promotions are gazetted in the 20th Regiment, owing to the death of Major Baldwin and Lieutenant Bird:—Captain G. E. Francis to be major, vice G. W. Baldwin, murdered in Japan; Lieutenant H. F. G. Webster to be captain, vice Francis; Ensign C. T. Doorly to be lieutenant, vice Webster; Ensign H. H. Leeming to be lieutenant, vice R. N. Bird, murdered in Japan; Ensign W. R. L. Brackenbury, from 100th Foot, to be ensign, vice Doorly; Ensign W. F. Rudman, from the Military train, to be ensign, vice Leeming.

Literature.

The great event in the literary world is *The Life of Cæsar*, by LOUIS NAPOLEON, which is expected to appear about the end of this month, although crowned heads and other celebrities will have received copies previously to that time.—Messrs. Moxon publish *Evenings in Arcadia*, by Mr. JOHN DENNIS, being a series of criticisms on history, and Messrs. Tweedie a volume on *The Study of the Human Face*, by Mr. WOOLNOTH, purporting to show how you may judge of a man by his appearance.—There is a new edition of Mr. SALA'S *My Diary in America in the Midst of War* (Tinsley), containing some additional notes

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by the author, who is very severe on the Northerners.—Mr. Byron, who has hitherto been chiefly known as a very successful and amusing burlesque writer, has appeared in a new light. His novel, *Paid in Full* (Maxwell), is very clever, and shows great knowledge of the world.—We have received a copy of *The Book of Perfumes* (Chapman and Hall), by EUGENE RIMMEL, which is one of the prettiest books of the season, being well bound and illustrated by good artists. It is, moreover, beautifully scented, thereby carrying with it a proof not only of Mr. Rimmel's powers as an author, but also in the art of which he is so thorough a master.—There are several aspirants to poetical honours, among whom Miss EDWARDS, authoress of *Barbara's History*, prominently figures, although we think she has mistaken her vocation in relinquishing prose writing for verse.—*Chambers's Journal* of January 28, among other articles, contains an interesting notice, entitled *Four Weeks with the Mongols*, describing the habits and mode of living of that wild people.—We have received a copy of a work entitled *The Joint-Stock Companies Directory*, published by Messrs. Barker, Birchin-lane, which contains a list, alphabetically arranged, of all the companies, with their directors, amount of capital, place of business, &c. These companies include railways, banks, finance, insurance, mining, hotels, &c. It is a most laborious compilation, and one which must prove useful. Messrs. Longman and Co. have a number of classical works in the press which will now very shortly be forthcoming.—*Fraser's Magazine* for February contains an article on rebellion, diplomacy, and progress in China, which is evidently written by an old resident in China, and one who thoroughly understands his subject.

Sequel to Life in the Far East, by J. T. THOMSON, and *Our Tropical Possessions in Malayan India*, by JOHN CAMERON, a resident at Singapore, have just been published, and will be reviewed in our next.

The Chinese and Japanese Repository for February far exceeds its usual standard as regards interest for the general reader. The number opens with "a Sketch of the Corean Language and Grammar," from the French of M. Leon de Rosny, from which we learn that the Coreans, unlike the Chinese and Japanese, possess a real written alphabet, that is to say, a series of distinct vowels and consonants—thirteen of the first and fourteen of the latter. The language, as might be expected, contains a considerable admixture of Chinese and Japanese words. The paper by Mr. T. Braddell, on "the Ancient Trade of the East and the Indian Archipelago," gives promise of being, when completed, a most excellent summary of what is known on the subject. The Port of Iloilo, in the Philippines, has become such an important place of trade that Mr. Vice-Consul Loney's instructions for safe navigation in those waters are exceedingly opportune. Another valuable paper is a translation of nearly the whole of a Chinese work "on Cultivating the Mulberry and Rearing the Silkworm;" and we have, lastly, two or three pages of amusing extracts from Chinese Histories and Fables.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, FEBRUARY 8.

Mr. J. P. Hofstede, our Postmaster-General, is about to leave for Brussels to negotiate a new postal treaty with the Belgian Government.

Some days ago Multatuli's drama, "De Bruid Daarbaven" (the Bride in Heaven), was performed at our theatre, and also at Utrecht. The houses were crowded, and the success was complete. I have seldom seen a dramatic piece better performed in all its parts, or more finished and satisfactory in its *ensemble*. The only fault that could be found in the first night's performance was that the piece was too long, but this objection has been removed by the process of excision. At Utrecht Mr. Douwes Dekker received a serenade from the students.

The scandal caused by the article inserted in our periodical, *De Gids*, has not yet ceased, notwithstanding the author, Mr. Busken Huet, is not to contribute in future to that periodical. Several severe pamphlets have been published during the past week.

Per last mail three Japanese officers arrived at the Hague. They will return direct to their country, after having ordered a quantity of machinery for account of their Government, which will be manufactured in our principal establishments.

His Majesty has superseded at his own request Mr. G. Kohler, Consul-General at Sydney, New South Wales.

Mr. H. Rochussen is appointed Consul for Portugal at Batavia.

LAUNCHES.—At the yard of Mr. J. Smit Cs, at Alblasterdam, the clipper frigate Koffyboom (675 lasts), built for account of Mr. F. Fokkens, of Delfshaven. And at the yard of Jan Smit the frigate Cornelis Wernard Edouard, for account of Messrs. W. Ruys and Zonen of Rotterdam. Both vessels are destined for the East India trade.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The communication of the Trading Company, that on the first public auction, which will be held on the 15th of Feb., 87,200 bags will be offered, and that in the four following months the same quantities are to be sold, made a very favourable impression in the market. Several transactions took place, almost at unaltered quotations. 760 b. Java, ex Ida Elizabeth, changed hands at prices that did not transpire; 1,450 b. ditto, ex Sverige, were sold at 47½c., and 350 b. ex ditto, at 48½c.; 1,000 b. Padang, ex Vooruit, at 45½c., 800 b. ex ditto at 45¼c., and 370 b. at 50c.; 1,000 b. Brazil, ex Virginie, were willingly taken at 35c. to 38c., likewise 1,000 b., ex Sverige, at 45c. On the 1st inst., 13,800 b. were offered here at private auction, which were sold at 44c. to 49c. General stock in Holland, 626,800 bags.

TEA.—The market is not so firm; 204 ¼-ch. finest Kaiston Congou, mark AD, were sold at 110c., and 108 ¼-ch. and 109 ½-ch., fine Congou, [B], at 80c. For the lower sorts there is more inquiry. Actual stock, 11,700 ¼ch., against 13,600 ¼ch. in 1864.

SUGAR (Raw).—The market remains in a very unsatisfactory condition. There are but a few transactions, because the sellers decline to operate without an advance in price. The quotation now is 2f. lower than at the end of December, as an improvement cannot be waited for, as the stock, both in Europe and America, is not favourable for an improved condition of the market. Our stock in entrepot consists in 21,000,000lbs., at the Trading Company's, 36,148 Kranjangs, and in the first hand, 34,072 Kranjangs; total, 70,220 kr. Refined sugar was in more request at the somewhat lower quotations.

RICE.—Very calm; only 879b. Java, ex Henriette, were sold at a very high, but secret, price. Importers have shown, in consequence of the high quotations at London and Java, and seeing the quantity afloat reduced to 41,200 bags, great firmness.

SPICES.—Dull; only 825 bags pepper, ex Balder, were sold at 20 c. *entr.* The unsold quantities of the Trading Company consist in 2,247 c. nutmegs, 571 c. mace, 1,422 c. cloves, 1,155 fard. cinnamon, and 843 b. pepper.

TOBACCO (JAVA).—The market is rather more active; on the 10th inst several parcels will be offered at public auction, besides a large quantity of Manila cigars.

COTTON.—Influenced by the unsatisfactory state of affairs in America, there has been no speculative inquiry since our last report, and scarcely any demand for export.

BANCA TIN.—The market which was very dull in the first days after last report, with scarcely any demand at 55½f., is now very agitated, by the disposition of the Minister of the Colonies that only one public auction will be held this year in the month of June, instead of four quarterly auctions, as it was stipulated before, and on which determination speculation was founded. The prices suddenly mounted to 60f., and notwithstanding advances are willingly offered, holders decline to operate. Stock in second hand on warrants 62,677 bl. Stock at the Trading Company's for the following auction 108,598 bl.; delivered since the last auction 117,594 bl. In other metals there is nothing doing.

INDIGO.—There are no transactions to report the market, however, remains in a firm condition.

COCHINEAL.—Prices are very firm, with more demand.

COCOA OIL (COCHIN).—Is paid with 25½f.

ARAK.—The quantities offered here by inscription, consisting of 181 casks ex Frederick Warren, 40 do. Batavia, ex Dixon, and 100 do. Sourabaya, ex Ajax, are not sold.

RATTANS.—Only a limited business is transacted, consisting of 2,445 bundles ex Tweelingen, and 2,325 bundles ex Affiance.

SAGO MEAL.—Sold 1,999 c. ex Voor uit from Padang, at prices kept secret.

GUMMI D'AMAR.—Sold 200 ch. at higher prices, and 33 ch. Gum Elasticum.

MONEY.—Discount: Bank rate for acceptances, 5 per cent., for bills; 4½ per cent.; open market, 4¼ per cent. Money was easy. N.W.S, 2½ per cent., 62½ per cent.; 3 per cent., 73¾; 4 per cent., 96¾ per cent. Handelmaatschappy, 142; Central Railway Co., 112; Dutch-Rhenish Railway (shares), 309½ to 311; Netherl. Bank, 230; Neth. Ind. Bank, 93; European Bank, 101. Thus far the fall in the value of money has not given the usual stimulus to the prices of public securities. This must apparently be sought in the condition of trade throughout the country, and in the recent movements of speculations.

CHANGE on London, 3 m., f.11.58; 2 m., f.11.63; short, f.11.73; on Paris, 3 m., f.46.01; 2 m., f.46.15; short, f.46.65; on Hambro', 3 m., f.34.87; 2 m., f.35.00; short, f.35.18.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.—Jan. 30: At Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Orange Nassau; at Texel, from Samarang, Anna. Jan. 31: At Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Henriette Gerardina. Feb. 1: From Padang, Prinses Amalia. Feb. 2: From Batavia, Kosmopoliet, Almonde, Batavia, Minister Thorbecke, Bastiaan Pot. Feb. 3: At Texel, from Batavia, Eliza Henriette. Feb. 5: At Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Alblasserdam, Ary Scheffer, Johannes Lodewyk. Feb. 6: Maria Elizabeth, Kanagawa. At Texel, from Batavia, Cornelia Adolphine, Amsterdam, Loevestein. Feb. 7: Mathilde, from Tjilatjap, Batavia.

DEPARTURES.—Jan. 21: From Hellevoet to Batavia, via Capetown, Maria Johanna. From Texel to Sourabaya, Willem Daniel. To Batavia, Willem Hendrik. Jan. 26: From Brouwershaven to Batavia, Whampoa.

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Feb. 1: From Brouwershaven to Batavia, Triton. Feb. 4: From Hellevoet to Decima, Japan Packet. Feb. 6: From Hellevoet to Samarang, Maria Magdalena. Feb. 4: From Texel to Sourabaya, Capella. Feb. 5: From Zierikzee to Melbourne, Burgemeester Hoffmann. Feb. 7: From Hellevoet to Samarang, Maria Magdalena.

LOADING AT AMSTERDAM.—For Kanagawa and Decima, D. T. Visser, Jacqueline and Elise, Julie. For Padang, Pauline Constance, Eleonore. For Batavia, Ferdinand and Louis, Almelo, India Packet, Staatsraad van Ewyck, Krunpenerwaard. For Batavia and Samarang, Galilei, Madura, Koning Willem II., Verhouwen. For Batavia and Sourabaya, Anna and Sophia, Maria Regina. For Samarang, Estafette, Sliedrecht, Stad Leyden. For Sourabaya, Baltimore, Petronella, Quintet.

READY TO SAIL.—Wilhelmina, for Batavia; Quatre Bras, for Macassar; Concurrent, for Batavia, via St. George d' El Mina.

Monetary and Commercial.

At the meeting of the London and County Bank the available total, including a previous balance of £21,726, was stated at £141,158, and a dividend of 6 per cent., with a bonus of 12 per cent. (making 18 per cent. for the half-year), were declared, leaving £18,629 to be carried forward. The paid-up capital is £740,675, and the reserve fund £240,675, and the liabilities are £12,211,353, of which £9,779,754 is for deposits and £2,431,599 on acceptances.

The proprietors of the National Bank have held their 30th annual meeting; Mr. J. N. M'Kenna in the chair. The report, which showed £104,009 net profits carried forward on the year, after paying the usual dividends, was unanimously adopted; and the directors announced that out of their present rest, which amounts to £773,000 they will recommend an allocation to capital of £300,000 in 10,000 shares, £30 paid up, to be presented to the shareholders at Midsummer free of charge. We noticed lately that this bank had entered into arrangements for the Bank of Hindustan to draw upon them. The standing of the National is such that the £30 share is now worth £90.

The Asiatic Banking Corporation have notified their intention to increase their paid-up capital from £500,000 to £1,000,000 by an issue of 25,000 new shares, of £20 each, of which 5,000 has been taken up in London, at a premium of £15.

The dividend of the Comptoir d'Escompte for the half-year ending the 31st December, is 27f. 50c. per share. It is larger than from the troubled state of commerce in the last six months was to have been expected. For the whole of the year 1863-4 (the year ends the 30th June) the Comptoir distributed 59f.; in 1862-3, 42f.; in 1861-2, 39f.; and in 1860-1, 44f.

The Labuan Coal Company and the China and Japan Steam Navigation Company have agreed to amalgamate under the title of the China Steam Ship and Labuan Coal Company. A prospectus has been issued, which appears in our advertising columns, inviting the subscription of shares. This amalgamation is in every way discreet and beneficial to the shareholders.

The report of the directors of the Telegraph to India Company (Limited), submitted on the 6th Feb., stated as follows:—"The directors have to inform the proprietors that they have received the half-yearly payment of £1,250 from the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company, for the rental of the company's line in Egypt to 31st December, 1864, and recommend that a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, be paid to the shareholders for the half-year ending the 31st December, 1864, payable on and after the 15th instant."

The telegraphic business which Mr. Julius Reuter, with remarkable energy and sagacity, has been organising for fifteen years past, is now transferred to a joint-stock limited company. The services of Mr. Reuter as managing director have been secured for a term of years. The directors include John Dent, Esq., of Messrs. Dent and Co., China. The capital is £250,000, in 10,000 shares of £25 each, with a first issue of 4,000 shares, of which more than one-half have been already subscribed. The amount of the purchase money is not stated.

The last biddings for 30,00,000 rupees (£300,000) in bills on India took place on the 1st inst. The proportions allotted were—to Calcutta, 16,27,000 rupees; to Bombay, 12,00,000 rupees; and to Madras, 2,22,000 rupees. The minimum price was as before, viz.:—1s. 11½d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11¾d. on Bombay. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 1s. 11¾d. receive about 27 per cent.; and on Bombay at 1s. 11½d., about 41 per cent. All above these prices i full.

The report of the Mediterranean Extension Telegraph Company, presented on the 3d. inst., shows an available total, including a previous balance of £498, of £7,047, and recommends a dividend on the ordinary shares at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum. The revenue for the past half-year has considerably increased.

A heavy loss of £300,000 on the underwriters and marine insurance offices was posted at Lloyd's. The fine teak-built ship *Assaye*, 1,599 tons register, Captain Thomas which sailed from Bombay for Liverpool with a cargo of 6,254 bales of cotton (valued at from £45 to £50 per bale), 555 bales of wool, 200 bales of jute, and 99 tons of linseed, went ashore on the rocks off Ross Bay, near Gallyhead.

Mr. W. H. F. Elliot, late of the firm of Elliot and Co., whose affairs are now being wound up, has issued a circular announcing himself as a buyer for houses in the China and Japan trade. A circular of prices current is prepared for constituents.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Pera*, from Southampton on the 4th inst., was—In gold, to Galle, £215; to Madras, £1,220; to Calcutta, £49. In silver, to Madras, £15,637; to Singapore, £24,620; to Hong Kong, £44,620; to Shanghai, £4,420. Total in gold, £1,484; in silver, £89,297.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Notwithstanding the heavy tone that has pervaded the market during the past month, an average business has been done, a full proportion being out of the public sales, at which 60,000 packages were printed without reserve, the series commencing Wednesday consisting of 29,000 packages. The arrivals during the past ten days have been numerous, amounting to twenty vessels, with fifteen millions lbs. weight. The export trade to all parts continues most limited, especially to Russia, the transactions for that market being confined to a few common flavoury Hokow and Ningchow kinds. These advices will reach China at a time when preparations are being made for the new season, and it will save operators from another year of loss if some regard is paid to the requirements of the home trade instead of giving the Chinese any anticipated advantages arising from the export trade; that to Russia has this season proved a fallacy, and recent advices intimate that there is no chance of revival for some time yet, at any rate none to warrant its being the basis of operations for 1865-6. The present scale of prices ruling here is, with the large stock and increased export from China and India, quite high enough, and may therefore serve as a safe basis for operations for next season, with the exception of fine and finest grades, which should show 1d. to 3d. per lb. margin. The deliveries for the month are in excess even of last year, speaking well for the steady and increasing home consumption, and stand thus:—

		1865.	1864.
Home Consumption	for London from 1st to 31st Jan.	5,420,000	5,119,000
Export	from do. ... ... do.	1,500,000	1,300,000
Sent Coastwise	from do. ... ... do.	2,200,000	2,500,000
		9,120,000	8,919,000

BLACK.—Dusty, broken and good leafy kinds have not been in excessive supply, and most offered of this season's import have been taken at 7¼d. to 9d. per lb., but the cargoes now unloading have brought rather large supplies; Common Congou is neglected, with but little on sale. The inferior to good flavory, and also Kaisow kinds, the trade have been surfeited with samples, and have steadily refused to enter into fresh risks until previous purchases have been worked off; in some instances no concession in price will induce business, therefore importers are compelled to hold. Medium to fine Kaisow is beginning to be more inquired after, the small quantity in first hands is firmly held for fully opening rates of the season, and the proportion ex late arrivals is very small. In finest Kaisow there is nothing doing. In Amoy kinds there has been a better inquiry than for some time past, but prices rule in favour of buyers; nearly the whole cargo of the Willie has been worked off at 1s. to 1s. 3d. per lb., and old imports of fair to good Souchong flavour have sold from 10½d. to 11½d. per lb. The transactions in imitation Kaisow made from Tayshan leaf have not been large, the last imports being deficient in quality. Black-leaf of common to fair description continues particularly heavy of sale; good useful kinds in sale fetching only 10½d. to 1s. 0½d. per lb.: in medium the sales show 1d. per lb. decline, whilst fine and finest maintain previous rates, but the demand the last ten days has been limited. The transactions in Souchong have been mostly in the finer grades over 2s. per lb. In Oolong but little has transpired. Scented Tea: Canton make of Orange Pekoe continues in request, and prices keep well supported. Caper has also been in good demand, medium qualities commanding most attention; the arrivals the last few days are heavier than for months past, but not more than our actual requirements; and the quantity now on the way is very small. Foochow Orange Pekoe of good to medium qualities are scarce, and the late arrivals have been speedily disposed of; fine and finest are rather more difficult of sale, and prices a shade easier. The supply of Caper is much less than former years. Green: Considerable supplies of Ping Suey kinds have come to hand, and prices have somewhat given way, say, for Young Hyson 1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d. for No. 4 or fair to good, 1s. 5d. to 1s. 8d. for No. 3 or medium, 1s. 9d. to 2s. for No. 2 or fine, and 2s. 1d. to 2s. 4d. for No. 1 or finest. There have been no arrivals of New Fychow or Moyune kinds, of this season's growth. A few fine Hysons were taken the early part of the month, for South America. Japan growth either coloured or natural is not inquired for.

At New York the report is:—The market for Black is depressed and

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rices favour buyers, but Green remains steady at about previous rates. The sales are, 628 half-chests Green, in English order, 800 uncoloured Japan, and 200 Oolong. Prices current :—Hyson, common to fair, 1.30 to 1.50; Sound do., 1.15 to 1 35; Gunpwder and Imperial, common, to fair, 1.30 to 1.50; Uncoloured Japan, do., 1.20 to 1.25; Oolong do., 1.05 to 1.12; Souchong and Congou do 95 to 1.10.

SILK.—Messrs. Durant and Co.'s report states :—During the first three weeks of the year we had active business and large purchases, at improving prices, but all this ceased about the 19th January, and since then we have merely had moderate business. Consumers, both here and on the Continent, are apparently determined to resist the avdance in prices—looking upon it as very much the result of speculative moments. We fear, too, they are especially influenced by the inability to establish any approximate advance upon their manufactured goods. The deliveries during January were fairly up to previous months, bnt now show a diminution. China Silk maintains the full advance of 1s. upon the prices of the 1st of January, but Japan Silk, which at one moment was sold at an advance of 1s. 6d. to 2s. upon the prices of December, has receded about 1s. under the infiuence of the large arrivals present and immediately prospective. See "Latest."

	Ordinary,		Superior.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Tsatlee, No. 1 and 2	26 6 to	28 6		
„ No. 3 and 4	24 9	26 0	26 0	26 6
„ No. 5	23 9	24 6		
Ditto, Haag-Chow	23 6	24 6	23 0	23 6
Yuenfa	16 6	23 6	24 6	25 0
Taysaam	19 0	23 0	24 0	25 0
Ditto, skeins	None.			
Ditto, long reel	21 0	22 0	23 6	
Canton	14 6	20 6	21 0	22 0
Chinese Thrown	19 6	21 0	21 6	22 6
Maibash, dyepot Japan	26 0	27 0	27 6	28 6
Ida, bricks	23 0	25 0	25 6	28 6
Sodai „	23 0	24 6	25 0	26 0
Oshu, re-reeled	25 0	26 0	26 6	28 0
Koshu, Selé	24 6	25 6	26 0	27 0
Archezan, slips	22 6	23 6	24 0	25 6
Mashtah „	22 6	23 6	24 0	25 0
Hatchojee, Tussah	15 0	17 6	20 0	24 6

COTTON.—The Liverpool market was greatly affected immediately after our last report by rumours from New York of peace negotiations. East India descriptions also fluctuated considerably. China and Japan were in good request, but closed on the 3rd ⅛d. to 1d. per lb. lower than on the preceding Friday. The quotations might be taken as follows :—China : Middling, 11½d. ; fair, 12½d. ; good fair, 13d. ; good, 14d. ; fine, 16d. This week the market has been steady, without change in prices ; sales on the 8th, of China, 14d. to 15d. ; Japan, 15⅞d. to 16d. The report of the London Cotton Brokers' Association for the first week in February states a dull market and prices irregular, with China ¼d. and Japan 1d. lower ; quotations of China varying from 11½d. to 14d., and of Japan from 12½d. to 16d.

SUGAR.—The arrivals in London since the close of the year have been comparatively liberal, but as the clearances have much improved, the stock has somewhat diminished, and the relative surplus over 1864 is also rather less, viz., 30,000 tons instead of 33,800 tons on the 31st December last. Messrs. Carey and Browne state in their circular, reviewing the proceedings of the market since the 9th January :—The stock of Penang being still mostly held from the market, the business in this description has been very limited. Manila has met some inquiry, but few holders being disposed to accept the reduced prices obtainable, transactions in Clayed have been on a narrow scale at a decline of 1s. 6d. per cwt., and in Unclayed no sales are reported. A small parcel white Siam, recently offered in auction, was realised at the current value. The total business of the month includes 30 tons Penang, fine brown to low middling yellow 28s. 6d. to 31s. ; 1,400 tons Clayed Manila at 27s. 6d., to 28s. ; and 25 tons Siam, good middling and good white, at 36s. 6d. to 37s.

RUM.—We have to report a sale of 350 puncheons Penang, at 1s. 5d. 1s. 5½d. per gallon, proof.

COFFEE.—Prices were still in favour of the buyer to the end of last week. On the 8th, 1,900 bags and 130 casks of native Ceylon sold freely in public sale at firmer prices ; good ordinary to superior greenish, 69s. 6d. to 73s. ; inferior, 66s. to 66s. 6d. Privately, plantation Ceylons commanded full rates. The sales of the month since the 9th January comprise 2,800 casks, 3,000 barrels and bags plantation Ceylon ; fine ordinary to low middling 78s. to 82s., middling to good middling colory 83s. to 86s. ; 600 casks, 10,000 bags Native, good ordinary 69s. to 70s. ; fine ordinary to superior 70s. 6d. to 73s. ; small 64s. to 66s. 6d. : 600 packages Mocha, fair to fine clean garbled 93s. to 102s. ; common mixed 83s. ; common to good long berry 94s. to 99s. ; 1,000 bags Singapore, common Bally 57s., fair 62s. 6d. to 63s., bold yellow Bonthyne 76s. The landings in the port of London since our last, have been 1,000 tons lighter than in the corresponding period of 1864, and notwithstanding that both the home and export deliveries have also been on a more contracted scale, our stock has been partially reduced, being now 500 tons less than at the same time last year. The Netherland's Trading Company have declared only 87,200 bags for their next monthly sale on the 15th inst., and also announce that not more than about the same quantity will be brought forward each month until June ; no sale to take place in July, and only about 80,000 bags each month following ; the valuation for good ordinary is fixed at about 45 cents.

RICE.—The advance noticed in our last checked business, and in some instances lower prices have been accepted. 3,000 bags white Bengal sold on the 8th, at 11s. 9d. to 12s. 6d.

CAMPHOR.—Has recovered its value to the extent of 2s. 6d. per cwt. : moderate business done up to 90s. per cwt. for fine China in lead. Of 660 chests at auction, a few sold at 90s. Nothing reported in Japan.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Very quiet ; and of 600 boxes at auction only one-third sold at 77s. per cwt. for 3rd pile. Buds : Scarce, wanted, and dearer ; no auctions ; our higher and advanced quotation realised privately.

CINNAMON.—Supply much more adequate, and demand rather languid ; and at the quarterly sales prices declined as follows :—1st sort 3d. to 6d. per lb., 2nd sort 2d. to 4d., 3rd sort 1d. to 3d. ; 4th sort 2d to 4d., Jungle 3d. to 6d. Of the following 2,070 bales brought forward, three-fourths sold, viz. : 419 bales 1st sort at 1s. to 2s. 7d., with superior at 2s. 10d. ; 1,115 bales 2nd, 1s. 5d. to 2s. 3d. ; 376 bales 3rd, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 10d ; 100 bales 4th and Jungle, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 5d. for 4th, and 10d. to 1s. Jungle.

COCOA-NUT OIL.—Large business was doing at the date of our last, which led to increased firmness in terms : latterly the market has become rather more quiet. 483 casks Cochin, 224 Ceylon, and 129 Sydney at auction.

DRUGS.—Cubebs : Some inquiry at present low rates. Dragon's Blood : Only 2 cases at auction, and those retired. Galangal Root : Flat, and nothing doing. Rhubarb : Has remained very quiet, and previous extreme prices have not been thoroughly maintained. Of 144 chests at auction, half sold at 2s. 3d. to 3s. 8d. per lb. for inferior to ordinary flat, and 2s. 6d. to 3s. 5d. round.

GUMS.—Benjamin : Remains steady ; of 45 cases Sumatra at auction, one-fourth sold at £13 per cwt. for good 2nd quality. Damar : Steady, 50 cases sold at auction at 45s. per cwt. for middling picked. Gamboge : Remains scarce, and firm. Nothing of consequence doing.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Remains very flat : 22 tons at auction all retired, private business very restricted. India Rubber : This market is quiet, without the least improvement in rates : 77 baskets Singapore, 225 baskets Penang and 408 packages Assam at auction all retired. Limited sales effected privately in good Singapore at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 3½ per lb., and Assam ball at 10d.

HIDES AND HORNS.—The sales during the month of January comprised 1,200 Batavia Buffalo Hides at late prices ; Best Yellow 6⅛d. per lb. ; Dark 5¾d. per lb., Java 4⅞d. to 4¾d. per lb. During the same period 7,547 Penang and Singapore Cow Hides and 3,208 Buffalo Hides were sold at full prices. Cow Hides Light 5½d. to 8¼d. per lb. ; Heavy 4¾d. to 6½d. per lb. ; Extra Heavy 4½d. to 5½d. per lb. ; Small 6½d. to 8¾d. per lb. ; Thirds 4d. to 5½d. per lb. ; Buffalo Best 5d. to 5⅛d. per lb. ; Light 5⅛d. to 5⅞d. per lb. ; Seconds 4⅛d. to 4¼d. per lb. 13 tons Deer Horns realized 47s. 6d. to 51s. 6d. per cwt. for Ceylon, and 76s. to 104s. per cwt. for Japan.

HEMP (Manila).—This market has again been active, considerable sales effected at £28 to £29 per ton for fair roping, and up to £31. 10s. for Sorsogon. 2,073 bales brought to auction, and all retired.

JAPAN WAX.—Firm, with little offering ; 40 cases at auction retired.

OILS.—Anniseed : Very quiet at the quotations of 6s. 2d. to 6s. 3d., with scarcely a transaction. Cassia : Very dull, with little if any enquiry. Cinnamon : Nothing doing. Mace and Nutmegs : Nothing doing.

SPICES.—Cloves : Firm, and 1,464 bags Zanzibar at auction mostly sold at 3⅛d. to 4d. per lb. for middling to good. Nothing doing in Penang and Amboyna. Ginger (Calicut and Cochin) : 1s. 2d. per cwt. cheaper, and 376 cases at auction all sold subsequently to sale at 58s. per cwt. for ordinary wormy. Mace : Steady, and 27 cases Penang, and 5 cases Batavia at auction, mostly sold at 11d. to 1s. 7d. per lb. for ordinary red to very good reddish. Nutmegs : Flat at previous low prices : and 128 cases Penang sold at auction at 1s. 11d. to 3s. 1d. per lb. for medium and bold mixed to fair bold, and 10d. to 1s. 6d. ordinary small to good medium. Pepper : Black : Market flat, and the recent advance scarcely maintained. Of 2,474 bags Singapore at auction, one-third sold at 3⅛d. per lb. for the sound, with damaged in proportion, and 683 bags Penang retired. White : Firm, and of 549 bags Singapore and 93 bags Penang at auction, three-fourths sold at 5¾d. to 5⅞d. per lb. for fair.

SAGO.—The transactions of the whole month, since 9th January, are as follows :—2,900 boxes have been offered by auction during the month, and nearly all sold at somewhat better prices,—fair to fine small Pearl, 18s. to 19s. 6d., fair medium, 18s. to 18s. 6d., common to good large grain, 19s. to 20s. 6d. Of Flour, sales have been effected at 14s. to 14s. 6d. Tapioca : In public sale, 1,951 bags Penang have been offered, and barely half has been taken off at about steady rates ; middling and good middling, 2¼d. to 2⅜d., very common dingy, 1d. to 1¼d. A small parcel stained Singapore sold at 1¼d. per lb. 370 packages Pearl Tapioca, of middling to good quality, were realised in the early part at 22s. to 23s. per cwt. 219 cases Tapioca Flour were partly disposed of at 2⅞d. to 3d. per lb.

SHELLAC.—Is rather better on the whole, and fine Garnet decidedly dearer ; of 682 cases at auction, one-third sold : Orange at £6. 2s. 6d. ; Liver, £5. 7s. 6d. ; Garnet, £5. 12s. 6d. to £5. 15s., with very fine up to £6. 5s. ; Button, £5 to £6. 7s. 6d ; Native, £4. 17s 6d. to £5. 5s., and Block £4. 15s. Private operations moderate, but at some improvement upon the previous value.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue : Is still very flat, with scarcely any business. 200 bags and 80 tons at auction all retired. Gambier : Steady ; 1,210 bales at auction mostly sold at 22s. 6d. to 23s. per cwt. for middling to fair block, and moderate business accomplished privately upon similar terms.

TOBACCO.—Manila Leaf : Neither price nor quality can tempt the trade to use much of this growth. Manila Segars : prices remain firm, Java : Several old but fair parcels have come from the Continent, and help to keep up the stock of this useful substitute ; inferior very unsaleable. Japan : Snpplies are much wanted ; orders to some extent are waiting to be carried through for lack of the article. Quotations : Manila Cheroots and Segars, 8s. to 9s. 3d. ; Manila Leaf, 7d. to 3s. ; Java, 6d. to 1s. ¼d. ; Japan 4d. to 7d.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Galls : Are very scarce, and commanding extreme rates ; as much as £10. 10s. per cwt. paid for a few bales Turkey. Chiua less active, and cheaper : of 436 cases at auction, only one-fourth sold at 60s. to 60s. 6d. per cwt. for good. Rattans : Of 7,000 bundles Singapore and 3,833 bundles Penang at auction, about half sold at firm prices, 3s. 5d. to 6s. 9d. per 100 ; the remainder (Singapore) retired above present worth. Sapan Wood : Flat ; 7 tons Siam, 14 tons Manila at auction all retired : nothing doing privately. Mother o'Pearl Shells : Quiet ; 180 cases Singapore at auction, all retired. Soy : Remains firm, and scarce ; 20 hhds. at auction retired. Star Anniseeds : Rather cheaper, 30 cases at auction having sold at £6 per cwt. for good. Sticklac, (Siam) : Continues dull, and 122 cases at auction were all retired. Turmeric : No China offering, Java also scarce, and 20 bags sold at auction at 16s. per cwt. Vermilion : Firm, and in demand at the quotation.

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ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 10s.; nail rod, £9; hoops, £10 to £10. 5s.; sheets, single, £10. 15s. to £11; Staffordshire bars, £9 to £9 10s.; rails, £6. 10s. to £7.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £16.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £95 to £96 per ton; yellow metal, 8d. to 8¼d. per lb.

TIN.—95s. for block; 96s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 28s. to 29s.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £20. 5s. to £20. 10s.; W.B., £21. 15s.; shot, patent, £23; sheet, £21; spelter, £19 to £19. 10s.; zinc, English sheet, €24. 10s.; quicksilver, £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—It is many years since the metal trade has experienced so dull a January as that just passed; notwithstanding prices are very low compared with many years preceding, and money is abundant, there is little disposition amongst dealers to get into stock. Iron: A moderate business has been transacted at rather easier prices both for Welsh and Staffordshire; Scotch Pig has varied but slightly during the month. Copper continues very flat, and the price has given way £2 to £3 per ton; the large quantity advised from the West Coast of America by the last mail has a very unfavourable influence on prices. Tin: Until the last few days both English and foreign were very depressed, but the announcement made on the 1st inst., that the Dutch Company would not hold their sale until June next, caused a sudden spring in the price of both Banca and Straits of from £4 to £5 per ton; English also is rather firmer. Tin Plates continue without activity; the shipments last month were 62,000 boxes, against 78,000 in 1864. Lead has experienced but little fluctuation, and has been in moderate inquiry. Spelter, the past month, was exceedingly quiet; the last day or two we have had more inquiry, and the price is stronger; stock in London is 10,344 tons, against 6,177 in 1864.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£7,710
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£55,560
Singapore	£2,000	£77,270
Penang	—	—
Yokohama	—	£600

FROM MARSEILLES.
(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£8,466
Penang	—	—
Hong Kong	—	—
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£1,968
Yokohama	—	£1,500

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£56	—
To Saigon	—	£3,360
To Batavia	£1,032	—
To Hong Kong	—	£14,860
To Shanghai	—	£4,120

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per oun	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0	to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4	
Silver in Bars	0 5 1½	
Mexican Dollars	0 5 0½	

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Jan. —	New York	Foo-chow-Foo	Redford	
— 29	London	Shanghai	John Banks	Cobb.
— 29	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Harkaway	Thirkell.
— 29	Do.	Hong Kong	Ben Lomond	Smart.
— 30	Deal	Canton, &c.	Cathaya	Stewart.
— 28	Off the Lizard	Foo-chow-Foo	John Temperley	Liddle.
— 26	Off the Wight	Batavia	Anna	Bok.
Dec. 14	Callao	Macao	Camillo Cavour	Landorasc.
Jan. 30	Queenstown	Maulmain	City of Glasgow	Cavanagh.
— 17	New York	Manila	Continent	Howland.
—	London	Shanghai	Queen of Nations	Mitchell.
— 31	Do.	China	Far East (s. s.)	Jones.
— 31	Deal	Shanghai	Marchss. of Londondy.	Kinney.
— 21	Do.	Canton	Aboyne	Grant.
—	Queenstown	Sarawak	Ione	
— 28	St. Nazaire	Batavia	Vauban	Sanpin.
— 14	New York	Manila	Franklin	Nelson.
— 31	London	Shanghai	Yaratilda	Donough.
— 31	Do.	Penang	Golconda	Montgomery.
— 31	Queenstown	Maulmain	Clifton Belle	Bird.
—	Do.	Do.	Jessie Coffin	
Feb. 1	Deal	Foo-chow-Foo	Carausius	Baird.
— 1	Do.	Do.	Horsa	Markwell.
— 1	Do.	China	Napoleon III.	Dobbie.
— 1	Do.	Colombo	Channel Queen	Marquand.
— 1	Plymouth	Batavia	Ocean	Sandstrom.
— 1	Liverpool	Japan	Gyrn Castle	
Jan. 31	Off South Foreland	Batavia	Bastiaan Pot	v.d. Kooy.
Feb. 2	Falmouth	Maulmain	Falkland	Muir.
— 1	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Lord Dalhousie	Hardy.
Jan. 30	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Orange Nassau	Hees.
— 31	Do.	Do.	Hendr. Ger. Susanna	Sissing.
Feb. 2	Deal	Manila	Julie	Perren.
— 2	Do.	Shanghai	Southern Cross	White.

ARRIVALS—*continued.*

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
— 2	Do.	Batavia	Amsterdam	Docksen.
— 2	Do.	Do.	Johannes Lodewyk	v.d. Waal.
— 2	Do.	Do.	Minister Thorbecke	Kannegieter.
— 2	London	Shanghai	Cleveland	Bannister.
— 2	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Gauntlet	Hudson.
— 2	Do.	Macao	Peterborough	Orchard.
— 2	Deal	Philippine Isles	Rutlandshire	Farley.
— 2	Do.	Shanghai	Beemah	Johnston.
— 2	Do.	Batavia	Mary and Elisabeth	Bonjer.
— 1	Off Plymouth	Colombo	Thracian	Tyacke.
— 2	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Edwd. Percy	Stewart.
— 3	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Veronica	Douglas.
— 1	Off Folkestone	Batavia	Almonde	Surie.
— 3	Liverpool	Manila	*Derbyshire	
— 3	Do.	Shanghai	Patna	Lewis.
— 1	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Triton	Russman.
— 1	Do.	Padang	Princes Amalia	Alkemade.
— 2	Liverpool	Manila	Frederick	
— 3	Deal	Shanghai	Leichardt	Gething.
— 2	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Kosmopoliet	Koning.
— 4	London	Foo-chow-Foo	Rajah of Cochin	Burkett.
— 5	Deal	Manila	Seaforth	Hall.
— 4	Falmouth	Do.	Malvina Vidal	Kessel.
—	Deal	Japan	Lucknow	Leslie.
— 5	Falmouth	Singapore	Juno	Ibbeken.
—	Queenstown	Shanghai	Elisabeth Bonneberg	
— 3	Texel	Batavia	Elise Henriette	Deterding.
— 2	Brouwershaven	Do.	Batavia	List.
— 7	Deal	Foo-chow-Foo	Lord Raglan	Pope.
— 7	Do.	Canton	England	Robson.
— 6	Falmouth	Batavia	Para	Dehle.
— 6	Liverpool	Bassein	Brodrene	Haggstrom.
— 7	Do.	Singapore	Simcom	Creunell.
— 4	Texel	Batavia	Cornelia Adolphine	Roever.
— 7	Deal	Singapore	Wm. Simpson	Napier.
— 7	Do.	Shanghai	Camilla	Jeffrey.
— 7	London	Hankow	Dovercourt	Heigho.
— 7	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Cœur de Lion	Forster.
— 7	Falmouth	Batavia	Saweley Chludow	Bosse.
Dec. 23	Buenos Ayres	Hong Kong	Southern Belle	Benson.
Jan. —	New York	Shanghai	Mary	
Feb. 7	Deal	Singapore	St. Oswin	Atkinson.
— 5	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Ary Scheffer	Kunst.
— 6	Do.	Do.	Kanagawa	Ouwe.

* With cargo ex Teide.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Jan. 23	Hamburg	Singapore	Jeanie	Washburn.
— 26	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Valdivia	Skelley.
— 28	Do.	Amoy & Foo-chow-Foo	Merse	Rea.
—	Hamburg	China	Elisabeth	De Boer.
— 30	London	Shanghai	City of Quebec	Downie.
— 26	Newport	Singapore	Janna Meyer	Loesewitz.
— 29	Cardiff	Shanghai	Hurricane	M'Ilwrath.
Feb. 4	Liverpool	Singapore	Jessie Beazley	Mills.
— 2	Do.	Galle	Disraeli	Wilkinson.
Jan. 19	New York	Hong Kong	Mary Ann	Dickman.
— 19	Do.	Shanghai	Corea	Lambert.
Feb. 3	London	Colombo	Palestine	Park.
Jan. 30	Rotterdam	Batavia	Whampoa	Metz.
Feb. 4	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Taeping	M'Kinnon.
— 6	Do.	Do.	Caractacus	Murray.
— 6	Liverpool	Colombo	Lizzie Scott	West.
Jan. 9	Rio Janeiro	Do.	Otodini	Hill.
Feb.	Clyde	Galle	Storm King	
Jan. 20	New York	Shanghai	Christian	Matthias.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

LOADING.

—At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Thomas Blythe, Simon Hobley. For Nagasaki: Rifleman, Lammermuir. For Shanghai: Stirlingshire, Solent, Wild Deer, Peterborough. For Hong Kong and Canton: Cathaya, Yaratilda. For Singapore: Helen's Bank, Eliza Thornton. For Singapore and Penang: Ferozepore. For Batavia: Admiral de Winter. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Ilma. For Colombo: Evelyn Wood. For Colombo and Trincomalee: Empress.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Raphael. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Empress. For Shanghai: Kew Kee, Finzel, Patna. For Hong Kong and Canton: Everest, Veronica. For Singapore: Tigris, Der West, Vigil. For Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Yokohama: Shaftesbury (s.). For Batavia and Sourabaya: Affghan. For Manila: Sales, Peerless. For Manila, via Cardiff: Fanny. For Colombo and Tuticorin, Liverpool. For Galle: Braunstone, C. H. Soule.

At GLASGOW.—For Batavia and Singapore: Maythorn. For Singapore and Penang: Priam.

At NEW YORK.—For Hong Kong: Samuel Russell. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Amaranth For Batavia: Salamander.

SPOKEN.

JON DIXON (?), (Dut. ship), Bat. to Rot., Dec. 30, 29 N., 41 W.
JUPITER, Hong Kong to Falmouth, December 10, 34 S., 28 E.
ELISE EDUARD (Brem. ship), Bat. to Ams., Dec. 21, near Ascension.
OCTAVIA (barque), Batavia to Nantes, Dec. 20, off Cape of Good Hope.
PATRICIAN, Liverpool to Galle, October 21, 6 N., 23 W.
EDUARD AND MARIE, Rotterdam to Sourabaya, Nov. 19, 30 S., 19 W.
SEA-KING, Batavia to Amsterdam, December 15, off Algoa Bay.
CONSTANCE (ship), Manila to London, December 12, 35 S., 27 E.
BRECHIN CASTLE, Canton to Demerara, December 17, 35 S., 19 E.
CUMBERLAND, China to London, December 19, 35 S., 18 E.
DEUTSCHLAND, Singapore to Falmouth, December 19, 35 S., 18 E.
GEORGE LEE, Foo-chow-Foo to London, December 8, 33 S., 32 E.
TEVIOT (barque), from Colombo, November 28, 27 S., 29 W.
EUPHRATES, Cardiff to Galle, October 12, 29 N., 19 W.
MARTIN V. ROSSEM, Rotterdam to Padang, November 16, 19 S., 30 W.
SEA WITCH, London to Japan, October 22, 13 N, 20 W.
KIRKLAND, from China, December 15.

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VOLUNTEER, Shields to Shanghai, November 8.
FONTENAYE (ship), for Singapore off East London.
RATTLER, Manilla to New York, Oct. 23, in Gaspar Straits.
ST. BEDE, Batavia to Queenstown, Dec. 15, 35 S., 20 E.
EERSTELING, Rotterdam to Batavia, Oct. 4, 42 N., 15 W.
OCEAN PEARL, Sunderland to Singapore, Oct. 12, 33 N., 19 W.
HERMAN DE REUTER, Ams. to Samarang, Dec. 2, 36 S., 16 W.
DESDEMONA, Cardiff to Hong Kong, Dec. 3, 37 S., 13 W.
VAN BOSSE (Dut. ship), Batavia to Amsterdam, off Cape Agulhas.
THOMAS HATFIELD, Amoy to London, Nov. 24, 34 S., 18 E
MINERVA (Ham. barque), from Macao, Nov. 2, in Straits of Sunda.
COREA, Foo-chow-Foo to New York, Dec. 13, off Cape Agulhas.
WEST DERBY, Foo-chow-Foo to London, Nov. 2.
ALICE (barque), Nagasaki to London, Nov. 2.
GENERAAL DE STUERS, Batavia to Rotterdam, Nov. 21.
SOUBURG, Siam to Amsterdam, Nov. 21.
SARAH PETTIGREW (?), Amoy to N. York, Nov. 22, 36 S., 22 E.
HADES (?), (ship) Amoy to London, Oct. 17.
MARIA ELIZABEH, Batavia to Amsterdam, Dec. 3.
ST. PAUL, Manila to Queenstown, October 12, 15 N., 102 E.
ELIZA SHAW, London to Japan, January 4, 5 N., 20 W.
VESTA, Rotterdam to Batavia, October 9, 36 N., 18 W.
CAROLINE, Foo-chow-Foo to London, December 24, 7 N., 24 W.
PROVIDENCE, Shanghai to Lon., 38 days out, Nov. 1, 5 S., 107 E.
SISTERS (? Zes Gezusters), Bat. to Rottm., 45 days out, Dec. 8, 22 E.
ROTTAR (?) (Amer. ship), Manila to N'Yk., Oct. 11, lat. 6, lon. 10 E.
RUTNER (?), Shanghai to Liverpool, December 12, lat. 33, lon. 16 E.
DUTCH SHIP, 3rd d.p., No. 0264, Bat. to Rottm., Nov. 28, 25 S., 5 E.
G.H. BRIGHTMAN (?), Newport to Shanghai, Oct. 16, 6 S., 106 E.
OCEAN EMPRESS, Manila to Queenstown, January 3, 6 N., 24 W.
GONDOLIA (?), Nagasaki to Lon., 82 days out, Dec. 2, 3 S., 20 E.
FORERUNNER, Sunderland to Shanghai, December 31, 2 N., 3 (?) W.
DELHI, Hong Kong to Liverpool, in the Straits of Sunda, October 29.
CARLETON (? Castleton), from Nagasaki, Nov. 6, 16 S., 83 E.
GREAT WESTERN, Nagasaki to London, Dec. 24, 14 S., 8 W.
D. CATHARINA, Liverpool to Sourabaya, Jan. 8, 9 N., 26 W.
CLARAMONT, Shanghai to London, Nov. 11, 29 S., 45 E.
FANNY (Oldenbg. barq.), Bremen to Singapore, Jan. 1, 18 N., 30 W.
ST. JAN (Dut. barq.), Holland to Batavia, Jan. 8, 8 N., 23 W.
MARY LAWSON, Sunderland to Ceylon, Dec. 3, 24 S., 26 W.
PIONEER, Cardiff to Singapore, Dec. 14, 27 S., 30 W.
COUNTY OF AYR, Clyde to Batavia, Nov. 21, 24 S., 27 W.
ALIDA (Hamb. barq.), Hong Kong to Queenstown, Dec. 30.
ST. FILLAN, Manila to Queenstown, Dec. 12, 35 S., 25 E.
TAMATARE, Bordeaux to Saigon, Jan. 9, 1 N., 23 W.
CHALLENGER, London to Shanghai, Jan. 9.
TEROLUS, Rotterdam to Batavia, Jan. 11, 1 N., 24 W.
RAVENSWORTH, Foo-chow-Foo to New York, Nov. 20.
RIFLE (barq.), Shanghai to London, Nov. 24.
NEVILLE, Liverpool to Shanghai, Jan. 8.
GUINEVERE, London to Shanghai, Jan. 2, 1 N., 26 W.
NORFOLK, London to Japan, Nov. 2.
CESAR (Fch. ship), Havre to Cochin China. Jan. 21, 4 N., 29 W.
GEO. WASHINGTON, Amoy to New York, Nov. 7, 32 S.. 36 E.
COMUS (barq.), Yokohama to London, Dec. 15, 24 S., 62 E.
CAMBALU (ship), Canton to London, Dec. 17, 23 S., 60 E.
MARY SPENCER (barq.), Rio Janeiro to Singapore, Nov. 29, 37 S., 35 E.
DANE (?), Foo-chow to Fecamp (?), 32 days out, Nov. 30, 27 S., 108 E.
CASSITERIDES, Hong Kong to New York, 22 S., 79 E.
THOS. SEDDON (ship), Liverpool to Shanghai, Nov. 23, 34 S., 8 W.
ADELINA (ship), Shields to China, Dec. 5, 40 S., 34 E.
ESPERANCE (Fch. ship), Bordeaux to Saigon, Nov. 18, 28 S., 26 W.
GRAF VAN HOOGENDORP, Bat. to Rotm., 28 days out, Dec. 26, 27 S., 60 E.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Notwithstanding the recent numerous arrivals from the Eastward, a slight improvement has taken place in outward freights, vessels of moderate tonnage being scarce and in demand. In coal freight rates continue firm, especially for Galle, and for the leading ports show an upward tendency.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 22s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £35 and £1. 11s. For Shanghai: £45 and £2. For Manila: £1. 10s. For Batavia; £23 to £24, and £1. 2s. 6d. For Singapore: £26 and £1. 1s. 0d. For Penang: £27. For Galle: £26 and £1. 1s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 800 hhds. of porter and 92 tons naval stores, including a few combustibles from the river Thames to Hong Kong, and have ordered the Cathaya to be surveyed for that purpose.

The P. and O. Company have made new contracts for coals for Shanghai, also for a small quantity for Yokohama.

CASUALTIES.

The Lichtshaal (Dutch ship), from Batavia, ran aground 25 Jan., in the river between Newsluice and Rotterdam, but floated off again.

The Johannes, Rademakers, from Batavia for Rotterdam, put into Simon's Bay, Dec. 6, leaky, and with rudder damaged on discharging Jan. 20, part of her cargo was found damaged, and would have to be sold.

The Cornelia and Geertruida, Wielema, from London to Batavia, put into Simon's Bay, Dec. 1st, leaky, and with loss of bulwarks and other damages; on discharging part of her cargo was found to be damaged, and would have to be sold.

The Elizabeth de Boer, from Hamburg for China, has put into Niewe Diep, leaky.

The Jeanie, of Melbourne, Washburn, from Hamburg for Singapore, arrived at Deal Jan. 26, with topsailyard sprung, but proceeded on the 28th, and put into Plymouth, Feb. 5, with master sick.

The St. Fillan, from Manila to Queenstown, was spoken with Dec. 12 in lat. 358, lon. 25 E., with scurvy on board.

The C. S. Lemon, Campbell, from Manila for Liverpool, put into Mauritius, Dec. 21, to repair rudder. Another account states that, 24 hours after leaving Manila, she experienced a typhoon which lasted three days, during which she split her rudder and lost her foreyard.

The Fernand, Giles, from Bordeaux to Singapore, which put into Rio Janeiro, Dec. 12, leaky, was discharged and placed under repair there.

AT ST. HELENA.—Dec. 3, from Penang, Golconda, Montgomery, and sailed, 4, for London; 9, from Padang, Prinses Amalia, Alkemade, and sailed for Rotterdam; from Foo-chow-Foo, Harkaway, Thirkell, and sailed, 10, for London; 10, from Shanghia, Marchioness of Londonderry, Kinney, and sailed for London; from Batavia, Ocean, Sandstrom, and sailed for Falmouth; 11, from Foo-chow-Foo, Carausius, Baird, and sailed, 13, for London; from Hong Kong, Lord Dalhousie, Harvey, 12; from Manila, Ocean Empress, M'Donald, and sailed 13, for Liverpool; Seaforth, Hall, and sailed, 13, for London; 15, from Batavia, Kosmopoliet, Koning, and sailed, 16, for Rotterdam; Elise Henriette, Deterding, and sailed for Amsterdam; 16, from Manila, Staffordshire, Cameron, and sailed, 17, for London; 20, from Nagasaki, Great Western, Robson, and sailed, 22, for London; 23, from Shanghai, Patna, Jones, and sailed, 24, for Liverpool; 25, Maravi, Anderson, and sailed, 26, for London; from Colombo, Lizze and Kate, Morton, and sailed, 27, for London; 26, from Macao, Peterborough, Orchard; from Yokohama, Lucknow, Leslie, and both sailed for London; from Yokohama, Jane and Isabella, Cole, and sailed for Liverpool. 27, from Hong Kong, Alida, Hess, and sailed for Queenstown; 28, from Shanghai, Camilla, Jeffrey, and sailed, 29, for London; Leichhardt, Gething, and sailed, 30, for London; from Penang, Isabella, Bruce, and sailed, 29, for London; from Shanghai, Sarah Neumann, Thomas, and sailed, 30, for London; 29, from Macao, Gustav and Ernst, Voigt, and sailed for Hamburg; 30, from Hankow, Dovercourt, Heigho; from Hong Kong, Amoy, Dewar, and both sailed for London; from Manila, Malvina Vidal, Kessal; from Batavia, Java, Dehle, and both sailed, 31, for Falmouth; 31, from Hong Kong, Samarang, Richardson, and sailed for Liverpool.

Off ST. HELENA.—Dec. 10, from Batavia for Rotterdam, Minister Thorbecke; 26, for Middelburg, Stad Middelburg; from Foo-chow-Foo for London, Lord Raglan; 28, from Shanghai for London, Beemah.

AT TABLE BAY.—Dec. 14, from Hong Kong, Far East (s.), Jones, and sailed, 15, for London; from Macao, Medoc, Dutril, and sailed, 15 for Havana; 6, Hazard, Tragarth, and Margaretha, Moller, both sailed for Batavia; 12, Emma, Broberg, sailed for Batavia: 15, Baron v. Hardenbrock, Rossow, sailed for Batavia; 4, from Rotterdam. Kaapstaad Packet, Nieveld, and sailed, 8, for Bankok; 6, From Foo-chow-Foo, Rajah of Cochin, Birkett, and sailed, 7 for London.

AT SIMON'S BAY.—Dec. 6, from Batavia for Rotterdam, Johannes, Rademaker, leaky and with damage; 17, H.M.S. Tamar, sailed for China.

AT ALGOA BAY.—Dec. 2, Fontenaye, Thompson, sailed for Singapore.

AT MAURITIUS.—Dec. 21, from Manila for Liverpool, C. S. Lemon Campbell (with damage); 31, Seringapatam, Wyatt, sailed for Japan.

THE DOUBLE SCREW-STEAMER "FAR EAST."—The twin-screw steamship Far East, Henry Jones, commander, from Hong Kong and Shanghai arrived off the Isle of Wight on the 29th ult. She brings the following passengers:—Lieutenant Grant, 85th Regiment, from Capetown; Lieutenant Taubman, 5th Regiment from Capetown; Mr. Wilson, Mrs. Wilson, two children and servant, from Hankow; Mrs. Eaton, child and servant, from Shanghai; Mrs. Henry Jones, two children and servant and Miss Hardman, left Hong Kong on the 5th Nov. and Anjer 12th. On 22nd, in lat. 20 and long, 75 E. the S.E. trade winds failed. Thence she had light variable winds, rendering it necessary to keep the ship under steam until December 7, when she made the coast of Africa off Algoa Bay. There the wind set in from S.W., and all the coal being expended it was necessary to put the ship under canvas and beat to windward, to Capetown, where she arrived on 13. After leaving the Cape, the trades were found to be unusually light, and they failed in 2 deg. S. In 32 deg. the N.E. trade winds failed. After this she encountered calms and thick weather until Jan. 21, in lat. 45 deg. N., and long. 20 deg. W. Then the wind set in from N.E. to E., blowing hard gales, with a very high confused sea. She spoke, on November 30, the British bark Cœur de Lion, from Foo-chow for London, in lat. 28 15 S., long. 28 40 E., Nov. 30., Marryatt's Code, 2d pennant 8,537, Hamburg ship, lat. 28 15 S., long. 28 40 E.; Nov. 30th, 1st penant 9,857 British bark, rend 6,947, rend 4,036, lat. 28 15 S., long. 28 40 E.; December 11, the British ship Falcon, from Mauritius for London, lat 34 57 S., long. 23 11 E.; 13th, the British bark Peterborough, from Macao for London, lat. 34 57 S., long. 19 53 E.; 17th, 1st pennant 6,519, Hamburg bark, lat. 31 14 S., long. 13 31 E.; 19th, the British bark St. Oswin, from Singapore for London, lat. 27 48 S., long. 8 6 E.; 29th, Her Majesty's ship Wye, from St. Paul's for Ascension, lat. 8 25 S., long. 10 35 E.; January 4, the steam tug Conqueror, from Falmouth for Calcutta, and the British ship Eliza Shaw, from London for Japan, both in lat. 5 N., long 19 31 E.; 9th, British bark second pennant 2,378, 6,209, 2,843, lat. 15 N, long. 26 38 W.; 14th, French schooner, showing two flags, PP and 71, first white and second coloured; 15th, British bark Copiapo, from Coquimbo for Havre, lat. 32 50 N., long. 51 30 W.

NEW SHIP FOR CHINA.—Messrs. Duncan, Wright, and Son launched from their building-yard, at Kincardine-on-Forth a clipper ship of 678 tons N.N.M., 720 tons O M. Dimensions:—Length, 155 feet; breadth, 31 feet 3 inches; depth, 19 feet 8 inches. She was named the *Queen of the Forth* by Miss Euphemia Wright, and is owned by Messrs. Wright and Captain Crombie, who takes command. The *Queen of the Forth*, loads in London for China.

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THE CREDIT FONCIER AND MOBILIER OF ENGLAND

(LIMITED)

ARE PREPARED TO RECEIVE SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE CAPITAL OF

THE CHINA STEAM SHIP AND LABUAN COAL COMPANY

(LIMITED).

INCORPORATED UNDER THE LIMITED LIABILITIES' ACT OF 1862.

CAPITAL £500,000, IN 25,000 SHARES OF £20 EACH.

DEPOSIT £1 PER SHARE ON APPLICATION, AND £4 ON ALLOTMENT.

Beyond which it is not contemplated calling up more than £5 per Share, any further Capital required being met by the Issue of Debentures. No Call to be made earlier than Three Months from date of Allotment.

Directors.

Hon. T. C. BRUCE (Chairman of the Inverness and Perth Railway Company), Chairman.
Sir J. D. ELPHINSTONE, Bart., M.P. (Director of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company), Deputy-Chairman.
REUBEN DAVID SASSOON, Esq., London, and D. Sassoon and Co., of Bombay and China.
HARRY BORRADAILE, Esq., Director of the Scinde and Punjaub Railway Company.
H. B. LOCH, Esq., C.B., late Secretary to H.M. Ambassador in China.
HENRY ALERS HANKEY, Esq., Chairman of the New Zealand Banking Corporation.
EDWARD PEREIRA, Esq., London, late of Dent and Co., of China.
WILLIAM MILLER, Esq., M.P. (Leith), Director of the Eastern Bengal Railway Company.
Hon. FRANCIS DRUMMOND, Director of the Natal Land Company.
G. LATHOM BROWNE, Esq., Director of the London, Italian, and Adriatic Steam Navigation Company (Limited).
ALEXANDER SINCLAIR, Esq., late H.E.I.C. Service, London.
JAMES N. DANIELL, Esq., Chairman of the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited).
JOHN HICKIE, Esq., Agent to the Austrian Lloyd's Steam Navigation Company, and Director of the Thames and Mersey Insurance Company.

Agents.

Messrs. GIBB, LIVINGSTONE, and Co., China, Messrs. SMITH, KENNEDY, and Co., China, Messrs. CUMMING, BEAVER, and Co., Singapore. — Agents for China and Japan Steam Navigation Company.

Messrs. DENT and Co., China, Messrs. MIDDLETON, HARRISON, and Co., Singapore. — Agents for Labuan Coal Company.

Bankers.

Messrs. SMITH, PAYNE, and SMITHS, Lombard-street, E.C.
THE NATIONAL BANK, Old Broad-street, E.C.
BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, AND JAPAN (Limited), in Calcutta, Bombay, China, and Japan.

Solicitors.

Messrs. NEWBON, EVANS, and Co., Nicholas-lane, E.C.
J. H. MACKENZIE, Esq., 77, Gresham House, E.C.

Brokers.

Messrs. LAURENCE, SON, and PEARCE, 7, Angel-court, Throgmorton-street, E.C.
Messrs. FIELD, SON, and WOOD, 9, Warnford-court, Throgmorton-street, E.C.

Secretary (pro tem.)—ALFRED LOWE, Esq.

Temporary Offices—17 and 18, Cornhill.

This powerful Company has been formed for the purpose of acquiring, consolidating, and developing the enterprises known as "The China and Japan Steam Navigation Company," and "The Labuan Coal Company."

The object of the former Company was to supply the much-felt need of steam navigation in the China waters, and the latter Company was formed to work the coal mines in Labuan and Borneo, and so supply the whole of the Government and Mercantile Marine in the East with steam fuel. It has been found, however, that from the fact of those Companies having been formed with too small a capital, and on too limited a basis, the requirements both as to supply of vessels and also the further development of the Coal Mines cannot be adequately met. It has, therefore, been considered advisable to merge the two undertakings, and to make one large Company, with sufficient means and influence to develop the valuable business of both the old Companies, and in accordance therewith arrangements have been made for the immediate transfer by them of their respective fleet and collieries, together with the goodwill and valuable plant.

This Company will, therefore, immediately acquire the powerful trading steamers Elgin, Mona, and Sterling, and steam tugs Titan, Vulcan, and Tienchang, already well-known and profitably employed in China; and the sailing ship Andromeda, a frigate of 2,000 tons burden, admirably adapted for a coaling hulk.

In developing the shipping operations of the Company, in addition to the building of trading and collier steamers, special attention will be paid to the construction of tug steamers adapted to the ever-increasing inland traffic of the great China rivers, where the demand for such shipping is constant. It is also proposed to establish a line of steamers between Bombay, Singapore, and Hong Kong.

This Company will also at once enter on all the rights of the Labuan Company, in Labuan and Borneo, and all their pits, plant, buildings, and stock of coal in the former island, and take over their valuable contracts with Her Majesty's Government.

The Labuan Coal has been contracted for extensively by the Admiralty, and will actually be the standard Steam Coal for the navy in the China waters, and elsewhere in the East, as well as extensively used by the leading steam shipping companies, when the arrangements contemplated for storeage, rapid loading at Labuan, and delivery at the different Government stations in the East shall have been completed, the present means of production and delivery being totally inadequate to meet the constantly increasing demand.

The Resident Manager of the Labuan Coal Company, in a late report, states that the works now completed open a field of Coal to the extent of above a million of tons, and that a New Pit—the preparations for the sinking of which have been commenced, and the machinery for which is on the spot—will quadruple the quantity available for working or four millions of tons, the further quantity to be obtained being practically inexhaustible.

Immediate steps, therefore, will be taken to open this pit and others, and to connect the mines with the Harbour of Victoria, by a mineral tram railroad of about seven miles in length. In Port Victoria ships drawing twenty feet of water can lie close alongshore, and every facility is offered for their being economically and rapidly loaded by the erection of coal shoots. Coal hulks will also be established in the leading ports of India and China. By these means the Company will be able to meet the public demand for steam fuel at highly remunerative rates, in addition to supplying their own fleet with the necessary coal.

Present Price of Coal in China.—The present price at Hong Kong for Coal, equal in quality to that of Labuan, is 45s. per ton, and that price is exceptionally low.

Profit.—The probable profit of the undertaking will be seen by reference to the following figures. Experience has proved the cost of raising the Coal and placing it on board ship at Labuan to be 6s. to 7s. per ton. Taking the price at 6s. 9d. per ton, and adding 3s. 3d. for agency, management, &c., the cost of the coal on board ship at Labuan would stand the Company 10s. per ton. Allowing for the Company's steamers a freight of say 15s. per ton, the cost of the Labuan Coal, when delivered, would be 25s. per ton against 45s., the present price of English coal, equal in quality; and it is estimated that when the Company is fairly at work it could easily raise and dispose of 100,000 tons of Coal annually.

Supposing coal and freight to cost 25s. per ton, and sold at 45s. per ton, there will be a profit of 20s. per ton; which, on the produce of 100,000 tons only per annum, is equal to £100,000
Net profit of steamers, say 30,000
£130,000

But calculating that only 50,000 tons are the first year raised, and that there is only 15s. per ton profit realised thereon, there is still, with the profit on the steamers, £67,000 per annum, or 28 per cent., on a paid-up capital of £250,000, or, allowing for interest on debentures above 20 per cent. net for dividend.

The allotment of the shares will be made on the following basis, viz.:—

7,500 Shares partly fully paid up, and partly with £10 paid up, will be reserved for allotment to the applicants who are shareholders in the existing Companies; of these 6,000 have already been applied for, and the deposits paid to the Company's Bankers.

5,000 Shares with £5 paid will be allotted to shareholders in the Credit Foncier and Mobilier of England (Limited).

5,000 Shares with £5 paid will be allotted to the general public, as also such shares (if any) as may not be applied for in the paid-up form, or by the above.

Applications will also be received for 5,000 fully paid-up shares on which dividends for the whole amount paid-up will be declared.

2,500 shares will be reserved for allotment in Bombay, applications for which will be received by Messrs. D. Sassoon and Co., Bombay.

The Concession, Plans, Reports, and Articles of Association can be inspected at the offices of the solicitors.

Applications for shares are to be made in the annexed form, and left with the Bankers of the Company, upon payment of the deposit of £1 per share. If no allotment is made to the applicant the deposit will be immediately returned without deduction, and if a less number of shares be allotted than is applied for, the deposit paid will, so far as necessary, be credited towards the payment due on allotment.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application can be obtained at the offices of the Credit Foncier and Mobilier of England (Limited), 17, and 18, Cornhill; also of the Bankers, Brokers, Solicitors, and of the Secretary of the Company.

13th February, 1865.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES WITH £5 PAID UP.

No. —— (To be retained by the Bankers.)

To the Directors of the China Steam Ship and Labuan Coal Company (Limited).

Gentlemen,—Having paid to your Bankers* the sum of £ , being a deposit of £1 per share on shares in the above Company, I hereby request that you will allot me that number, and I agree to accept such Shares, or any less number you may allot to me, on the terms of the prospectus, and I agree to pay the deposit due on allotment, and to sign the Articles of Association of the Company when required, and I authorise you to insert my name on the register of members for the number of shares allotted to me.

Usual signature.....
Name in full .....
Residence .....
Profession .....
Date.....

* Insert Bankers' name.

Or, if fully paid-up Shares are required, on the following Form.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR FULLY PAID-UP SHARES.

No. —— (To be retained by the Bankers.)

To the Directors of the China Steam Ship and Labuan Coal Company (Limited).

Gentlemen,—Having paid to your Bankers,* the sum of £ , being a deposit of £1 per share on shares in the above Company, I hereby request that you will allot me that number of fully paid-up Shares, and I agree to accept such Shares, or any less number you may allot to me, on the terms of the prospectus, and I agree to pay the amount of such shares on allotment, and to sign the Articles of Association of the Company when required, and I authorise you to insert my name on the register of members for the number of shares allotted to me.

Usual signature.....
Name in full .....
Residence .....
Profession .....
Date.....

* Insert Bankers' name.

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ORIENTAL FINANCIAL CORPORATION (Limited).

Offices, 15, Leadenhall-street, London.
Capital, £1,000,000, in 20,000 shares of £50 each (with power to increase).
First issue, 10,000 shares.

DIRECTORS.

Chairman—WILLIAM CHARLES BROWN, Esq. (Deputy-Chairman of the Joint-Stock Discount Company, Limited).
W. H. Smith, Esq. (W. H. Smith, Barry, and Co., London and Calcutta).
Major-General Clarke (late Commissioner of Revenue in Oude), Norwood.
John Brown, Esq. (late of Calcutta), Culvers, Hadham, Herts.
J. P. Cornforth, Esq., London and Liverpool (and of J. P. Cornforth and Co.), Bombay.
W. B. M. Lysley, Esq. (Director of the Bombay Gas Company).
R. Russell Carew, Esq., Carpenders-park, Watford.
J. H. Crawford, Esq. (late Bengal Civil Service).

BANKERS.

Bank of England, London and County Banking Company, and the Mercantile and Exchange Bank (Limited).

MANAGER.

H. A. Parry, Esq.

AGENTS IN INDIA.

Messrs. Gillanders, Arbuthnot, and Co., Calcutta; Messrs. Ewart, Latham, and Co., Bombay.

REPORT of the DIRECTORS to the FIRST ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Members, held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Friday, the 27th January, 1865.

The Directors beg to submit to the shareholders the following report, and the accounts audited to the 31st December, 1864.

The gross profits from the commencement of the business in April last have amounted to £21,762. 13s. 2d., which, after deducting expenses of management, rebate of interest on bills, and all other charges, and carrying 10 per cent. to the credit of preliminary expenses and office furniture, leaves a balance of £16,975. 18s. 11d. Out of this sum the Directors have appropriated £706. 3s. to the payment of ad interim interest to 30th June last, at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, and £3,298. 12s. 8d. for dividend to 31st December, 1864, at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, leaving the sum of £12,971. 3s. 3d. to be carried forward to the next account.

The operations in India are upon a satisfactory basis, and are capable of considerable extension, but the commercial uncertainty which has existed during the last few months has induced the Directors to restrict business.

The closed accounts from thence for the past year have not yet been received, and they will therefore appear in the next statement.

The business which has been undertaken, otherwise than in connection with the East, has principally consisted in advances against the deposit of collateral securities, besides which the London Engineering and Iron Shipbuilding Company (Limited) has been successfully introduced for the object of taking over the business of Messrs. Westwood, Baillie, and Co.; the Borakai Tea Company (Limited) has also been brought forward by this Corporation.

As it is necessary that a clause in the Articles of Association should be altered to meet the regulations of the Stock Exchange, which require that companies shall not invest in their own shares, notice of an Extraordinary Meeting will be given for the purpose of effecting that object, and, at the same time, of introducing clauses increasing the qualification of Directors, and giving additional powers to the Corporation for raising money on debentures, and for other purposes.

ORIENTAL FINANCIAL CORPORATION (Limited).
BALANCE SHEET, December 31, 1864.

Dr.

To capital, 10,000 shares of £50 each, £500,000 viz:—			
9,445 shares, on which £10 has been called up	£94,450 0 0		
Less calls in course of payment ...	5,450 0 0		
	£89,000 0 0		
555 shares forfeited, on which has been paid	1,615 0 0		
10,000		£90,615	0 0
To amount due on bills payable, loans, deposit, &c.		218,478	6 6
To sundry creditors		5,250	14 2
To interest rebate on bills not due ...		15	0 1
To profit and loss—			
Balance transferred to credit of this account as per annexed statement, viz.:— Gross amount	£21,762 13 2		
Less disbursements, charges, and dividend	8,791 9 11		
		12,971	3 3
		£327,330	4 6

Cr.

By advances on security, &c.	£194,391 12 6		
By advances on Indian Agencies*	65,896 7 1		
		260,287	19 7
(*Remittances for this amount will be receivable in February, March, and April.)			
By cash at bankers, in hand, and on deposit	£27,372 2 9		
Bills receivable ...	27,863 19 10		
		55,236	2 7
By investments		2,450	0 0
By office furniture...		356	1 10
By preliminary expenses	£10,000 0 0		
Less amount written off to profit and loss account	1,000 0 0		
		9,000	0 0
		£327,330	4 0

PROFIT and LOSS ACCOUNT, December 31st, 1864.

Dr.

To current expenses, including salaries, advertising, stationery, rent, Directors' fees, depreciation in value of fixtures and furniture, income-tax, and all incidental charges	£3,786	14 3
To amount written off preliminary expenses	1,000	0 0
To interest at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum on the paid-up capital for the period ending June 30th, 1864, paid Aug. 27th	706	3 0
To dividend for the six months ending Dec. 31st, 1864, at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum...	3,298	12 8
To balance carried to profit and loss (new account)	12,971	3 3
	£21,762	13 2

Cr.

By gross profits	£21,762	13 2
	£21,762	13 0

Examined and found correct,
JOHNSTONE, COOPER, WINTLE, and EVANS, } Auditors.

The Secretary having read the advertisement convening the Meeting,

It was resolved unanimously:—

That the Report and accounts now read be received and adopted.

That Messrs. Johnstone, Cooper, Wintle, and Evans be re-elected Auditors of the Corporation for the current year.

That the remuneration of the Auditors for their past services be twenty guineas.

That the best thanks of this meeting be given to the Chairman and Directors for their zeal and attention to the affairs of the Corporation.

(Signed) WM. CHAS. BROWN, Chairman.
(Extracted from the Minutes.)
Jan. 27, 1865. J. FRED. PRIGGEN, Secretary.

REUTER'S TELEGRAM COMPANY (Limited).

Incorporated under the Joint-Stock Companies' Act, 1862.
Capital, £250,000, in 10,000 shares of £25 each.
First issue 4,000 shares, of which more than 2,000 shares have been already subscribed.
Payment on application, £1, and on allotment, £4 per share. It is not intended to call up more than £20 per share. At least two months to intervene between each call.

DIRECTORS.

John Dent, Esq., 35, Grosvenor-square.
Sir John Dalrymple Hay, Bart., M.P., F.R.S.
Colonel James Holland, Deputy-Chairman London and South African Bank.
James Sydney Stopford, Esq., Director of the Agra and Masterman's Bank.
Julius Reuter, Esq., Managing Director.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Bischoff, Coxe, and Bompas, 19, Coleman-street.

BANKERS.

The Agra and Masterman's Bank (Limited), 35, Nicholas-lane.

BROKERS.

Messrs. P. Cazenove and Co., 52, Threadneedle-street.

SECRETARY (pro tem).
Mr. Frederick J. Griffiths.

OFFICES.
1, Royal Exchange-buildings, London.

This Company is established to provide capital for the purchase and extension of the well-known telegraphic business of Mr. Julius Reuter.

Mr. Reuter has, by fifteen years' labour, organised a most extensive system of telegraphic correspondence for obtaining and communicating to his subscribers the earliest and most reliable, political, financial, and commercial intelligence.

A large revenue is now derived from this source, which is capable of considerble extension by the use of additional capital.

The services of Mr. Reuter, as Managing Director, have been secured for a term of years, and in the agreement for the transfer of the business is a clause by which Mr. Reuter is bound, in the event of his connection with the Company ceasing, either by the termination of the period of his engagement, or from any other cause, not to assist directly or indirectly in the prosecution of any similar business.

Mr. Reuter will continue to have the exclusive management of the telegraphic department, which will be conducted as heretofore with the utmost secrecy, fidelity, and impartiality.

The whole of the profits from the 1st of January will belong to the Company.

All applications for shares must be made according to the annexed form, at the offices of the Company, of the brokers, or of the bankers.

Letter.....
No.....

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To the Directors of Reuter's Telegram Company (Limited).

Gentlemen,—Having paid to your credit with the Agra and Masterman's Bank (Limited), the sum of £ , I request you will allot me shares in the above Company, which I agree to take (or any less number that you may allot to me), and I agree to execute the Articles of Association when required, and I request that my name may be placed on the register of shareholders for the shares so allotted.

Name in full.....
Usual signature .....
Profession or business.....
Address in full .....
Date .....

ALBERT INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

FOR FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCES.
8, Finch-lane London, E.C.

LOSSES and CLAIMS upon POLICIES granted by this Company can be made PAYABLE at the following places in India and China through the Company's Agents, as under:—

Bombay—Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, and Co.
Calcutta—Messrs. Grant, Smith, and Co.
Madras—Messrs. Bainbridge, Byard, Gair, and Co.
Singapore—Messrs. Cumming, Beaver, and Co.
Hong Kong—Messrs. Johnson and Co.
Shanghai—Messrs. Johnson and Co.
Yokohama—Messrs. De Coningh and Co.

JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.
AUTHORISED CAPITAL, £2,000,000.
Paid-up Capital, £500,000.
HEAD OFFICE, No. 4 LOMBARD-STREET.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Francis Boykett, Esq., Chairman (Messrs. Timothy Wiggin and Co.).
John A. Russell, Esq., Deputy-Chairman (Messrs. Grey and Coles, and Grey and Co., Bombay).
Thomas Cardwell, Esq. (Messrs. Thomas Cardwell and Co., and Cardwell, Parsons, and Co., Bombay).
Charles A. Fearon, Esq. (Messrs. Fearon and Co., late of Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co., China).
William Maitland, Esq. (Messrs. M'Killop, Stewart, and Co.), Calcutta).

COMMITTEE IN BOMBAY.

The Hon. Michael H. Scott (Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, and Co.).
Robert Hannay, Esq. (Messrs. Grey and Co.).
Cowasjee Jehanghier, Esq.

GENERAL MANAGER.
Anthony Morrison, Esq. (late Agent at Bombay).
ACTING-MANAGER—F. W. Lawrence, Esq.

BANKERS.
The Bank of England; The London Joint-Stock Bank.

AGENTS IN IRELAND.
The National Bank.

AGENTS IN SCOTLAND.
The British Linen Company.

BROKERS.
Messrs. Foster and Braithwaite.

SOLICITORS.
Messrs. Freshfields and Newman.

AUDITORS.
Messrs. Coleman, Turquand, Youngs, and Co.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

The Corporation grant Drafts and negotiate Bills of Exchange, payable at the above places, issue Letters of Credit, and conduct every description of Banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian Securities, the receipt of Dividends, &c., and undertake the safe custody of Securities. They also receive Deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of Interest and Exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.
Capital, £4,000,000.
Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

BANKERS.
The Bank of England.

The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited).

Branches and Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo, Kandy, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Point de Galle, Manila, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow, Nagasaki, and Kiu-kiang.

Deposits received at ten days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed period, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued and Bills negotiated payable in India, China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government loan notes effected so that the interest may be paid in England. Every other description of Banking and Agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms. J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA. Incorporated by Royal Charter. Paid-up capital, £750,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

Bombay.	Colombo.	Penang.	Hong Kong.	Yokoham
Calcutta.	Kandy.		Shanghai.	
Madras.	Galle.	Singapore.	Hankow.	Mauritius.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at the places above mentioned, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the Overland Route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturdays, from 10 to 2 p.m.

No. 52, Threadneedle-street, London, E.C.

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SOUTHAMPTON,
IMMEDIATELY OPPOSITE THE RAILWAY TERMINUS AND DOCKS.

THIS FIRST-CLASS HOTEL, so well-known to most Travellers from the East and West Indies, China, the United States, Brazils, &c., is admirably situated for their convenience, Mr. RADLEY having, by careful organisation, made those arrangements that have tended so much to establish its reputation.

Mr. R. employs no touters or paid agents, but his Porters are always in attendance to meet passengers on arrival, with carriages, &c., as usual. Rooms may be engaged by letter from Malta.

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(SUCCESSORS TO LAURIE, BEDFORD, AND RAND)
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INVENTORS OF THE PATENT ELASTIC SADDLE.

MESSRS. R & B. have a large assortment of well-seasoned Saddlery and Harness suitable for India and the Colonies, always on hand.

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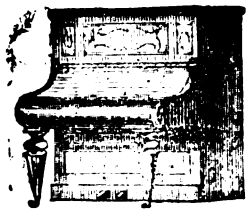

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PATENT PIANOFORTE MAKERS,
PIANOFORTES, WITH ALL THE LATEST IMPROVEMENTS EXPRESSLY FOR EXPORTATION.
13, STORE-STREET, TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD, W,
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GARDNERS'
£2 2s. DINNER SERVICES.

CUT WINES, 3s. 6d. per dozen; CUT QUART DECANTERS, 7s. 6d. per pair
Regimental Messes supplied at the lowest possible prices. Engravings free by post.

INDIAN LAMPS ON AN IMPROVED PRINCIPLE.
MAKERS OF THE
PATENT ENAMEL GREAT CLOCK DIALS AT THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT
BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY. ESTABLISHED 109 YEARS.
453, STRAND, CHARING-CROSS: AND 5 AND 6, DUNCANNON-STREET, ADJOINING.

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SCENT CASES in Fancy Woods, Leather, Ormolu, Velvet, China, &c.
JARDINIERES, or Perfumed Flower Trees, in Fancy Stands, from 3s. 6d.
PHOTOGRAPHIC SACHETS, representing choice subjects, 1s.; by post for 1½ stamps.
RAFRAICHISSEUR, for producing an Ambrosial Dew, 1s., 2s. 6d., & 3s. 6d.
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The new VIENNESE FAN, perfumed, from 6s. Specimen by post for 48 stamps.

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EUGENE RIMMEL, PERFUMER BY APPOINTMENT TO H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.
96, STRAND; 128, REGENT-STREET; and 24, CORNHILL, LONDON.
RIMMEL'S "Book of Perfumes," with above 200 Illustrations, Crown 8vo., Gilt Edges, 5s.; Drawing-room Edition, Extra Margin, 10s.

BOYVEAU LAFFECTEUR'S ROB.
The only one authorised and adopted in France, Belgium, Austria and Russia.

THIS Vegetable Syrup, prepared and guaranteed genuine by the signature of Dr. GIRAUDEAU DE ST. GERVAIS, is very superior to the purifying syrups. It effects a radical cure, without mercury, of all affections of the skin, scurf, scrofula, &c., and symptoms arising from the acrid state of the humours. The Rob is especially valuable in diseases which have resisted the effect of mercury or iodide of potash. The general entrepot is 12, RUE RICHER, PARIS.

Sold Retail.—London: Jozeau, Hannay. New York: Fongera, Gaudelet, Milhau. Gibraltar: Patron and Danilo, wich. Malta: Dr. Pirotti, Bugeja, Magri, and Rolando, Esperanza. Alexandria: Bellamore, Galette, Perinie, Bombay Framjee Nesserwanjee and Co. Singapore: Martin and Little Batavia: L. Platon and Co. Macao: J. D. Freita.

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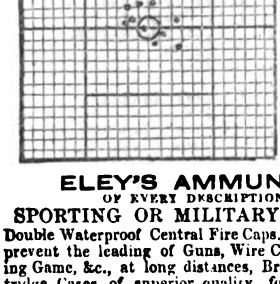

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Double Waterproof Central Fire Caps, Felt Waddings, to prevent the leading of Guns, Wire Cartridges, for Killing Game, &c., at long distances, Breech-Loading Cartridge Cases of superior quality, for Shot Guns and Rifles.

Jacob's Rifle Shell Tubes, Cartridges and Caps for Colt's, Adams', Deane's, Tranter's, and other Revolvers.

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For Enfield, Whitworth, and Henry Rifles; also for Westley Richards', Terry's, Wilson's, Prince's, Deane's, and other Breech Loaders.

"Black Buck Shells," for 10, 12, and 16 Bore Breech Loaders.

The "Metford" Shel Bullet, for Enfield and Whitworth Bore Rifles.

Bullets of unifor eight made by compression from Soft Refined Lead.

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Wholesale Only.

APPLICATIONS for the office of MANAGER at one of the branches of an Indian bank are invited. Preference will be given to candidates of Indian and China experience. Address, Manager, care of Charles Barker and Sons, 8, Birchin-lane.

London, Dec. 31, 1864.

THE UNDERSIGNED LICENSED PILOTS
FOR THE
PORT OF SHANGHAI, CHINA,

BEG to inform SHIPMASTERS, that their Schooners DANIEL WEBSTER and A. J. WESTEWELT will be found at the OUTSIDE PILOT STATION on the YANG-TZE-KEANG, with thoroughly qualified PILOTS on board.

To regular traders the undersigned are known to be among the oldest and best Pilots on the River:—

DANIEL MARTIN.	JOSEPH SHERMAN.
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MANUFACTURERS OF PATENT GALVANISED IRON, in Sheets, Tiles, Iron Roofs, Sheds, Cisterns, Pails, Gutters, Wire for Fencing, &c.

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Merchants' orders executed with despatch.

AUSTRALIA and NEW ZEALAND.—The most reliable intelligence from these colonies is given in the AUSTRALIAN and NEW ZEALAND GAZETTE, published every Saturday, price 6d., free by post.

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Bottled Ales and Wines, &c.

"NO BUYERS for the BEST BRANDS, unless RE-PACKED," in consequence of repeated BREAKAGE.—Melbourne Journal of Commerce, Nov. 16. Heating and Breakage entirely prevented, and 15 per cent. saved in Freight of Cases by using SEYMER'S BOTTLE PACKINGS AND COOLERS.

Price 7½d. per doz. Bottlers contracting for large quantities effect so great a saving in labour, &c., that they can supply them at one-fourth less in price to Shippers, who will find it most profitable to order their goods to be so packed in future. In use by all the leading London houses.—T. WHITEHEAD, 37, EASTCHEAP, E.C. Sole Manufacturer.

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EUROPEAN, CHINA, AND INDIAN WORK.

WINE, BEER, CHAMPAGNE, and SPIRITS of the best quality. Bombay-made Soda Water and Lemonade. Perfumery, Confectionery, Oilman's Stores, and Stationery of every description. Sola Topees and Canvas Shoes, &c., &c., &c.

STEAMER POINT, ADEN.
Drawing and Reading-room free to Passengers.
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UMBRELLAS and SUNSHADES suitable for all Foreign Markets and the Colonies are supplied to Shippers on the most favourable terms by JOHN MORLAND and SONS, Wholesale Manufacturers 50, Eastcheap, London-bridge, City. Silk, Alpaca, Gingham Steel Frames, Canes, Fittings and all kinds of Material r the Trade. Oiled and japanned silks and cambrics.

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NATURAL MINERAL WATER, a sovereign remedy for diseases of the liver contracted in hot climates.

GRAND-GRILLE or CELESTINS spring.
Sold in cases of 30 or 50 pints.
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MARSEILLES, 9, RUE PARADIS.

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JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s SELECT PERFUMES.—Eau Bouquet, Royal Yacht Club Bouquet, Jockey Club Perfume, Essence of Wood Violet, Victoria Bouquet, Garibaldi Bouquet, Frangipanni, Military Bouquet, The Bride's Bouquet, Tea Rose, Russian Leather Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Toilet Vinegar, Inexhaustible Salts, Aromatic Vinegar, Aromatic Eau de Cologne.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Prince of Wales Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Princess Alexandra Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Perfume.

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JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Real Old Brown Windsor Soap.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Golden Oil—Moelline—Macassar Oil, Bear's Grease, &c., for the Hair.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Extra Highly Scented Toilet and Nursery Powder.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Stereodesmic or Dentists' Tooth Brushes and Trichosaron Hair Brushes, warranted to purchasers.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Instantaneous Hair Dye.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co's Cherry Tooth Paste is greatly superior to any tooth powder, gives the teeth a pearl-like whiteness, protects the enamel from decay, and imparts a pleasing fragrance to the breath.

NOTHING IMPOSSIBLE.—The Greatest and most Useful Invention of the day, AGUA AMARELLA.—Messrs. JOHN GOSNELL and CO., 12, Three King-court, Lombard-street, London, Perfumers to Her Majesty, respectfully offer to the public this truly marvellous fluid, which gradually restores the human hair to its pristine hue—no matter at what age. The Agua Amarella has none of the properties of dyes; it, on the contrary, is beneficial to the system, and when the hair is once restored one application per month will keep it in perfect colour. Price One Guinea per bottle; half bottles, 10s. 6d.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co., Perfumers to Her Majesty, and by Special Appointment to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, London.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—NERVOUS IRRITABILITY.—The very perfection of the human body renders it, like a complex machine, very liable to be thrown out of order—a state that is at once made manifest by the nerves. Holloway's Pills are always the seasonable and reasonable remedy; they relieve every ailment that is not mortal in the human system. As alteratives stomachics, tonics, and aperients, these Pills occupy a proud pre-eminence, from which no other medicine can dislodge them; they restore health and strength, which nervous and dyspeptic sufferers have failed to recover elsewhere. Holloway's Pills act with such directness upon the organs of digestion, assimilation, and circulation, that they immediately arouse torpid organs, augment diminishing vital power, and support failing energies.

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OVERLAND ROUTE.

COMMUNICATION by STEAM to INDIA, AUSTRALIA, &c., *via* EGYPT.—The PENINSULAR and ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY book Passengers and receive Cargo and Parcels at their London Offices for Gibraltar, Malta, Egypt, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, the Straits, and China, by their steamers, leaving Southampton on the 4th and 20th of every month. For Gibraltar Malta, Egypt, Aden, and Bombay by those of the 12th and 27th of each month; and for Mauritius, King George's Sound, Melbourne, and Sydney, by the steamers leaving Southampton on the 20th of every month.

For further particulars apply at the Company's Offices, 122, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C., or Oriental-place, Southampton.

OVERLAND ROUTE FROM MARSEILLES.

SERVICES MARITIMES DES MESSAGERIES IMPERIALES.

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The 19th of every Month, at 2 P.M., for—
MESSINA, ALEXANDRIA, ADEN, POINT DE GALLE (Ceylon), PONDICHERRY MADRAS, CALCUTTA, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, SAIGON, HONG KONG, and SHANGHAI.

The 9th of every Month for—
MESSINA, ALEXANDRIA, ADEN, SEYCHELLES, REUNION, MAURITIUS.

For passage, freight, and information apply to B. W. and H. HORNE, 4, Moorgate-street, London; G. H. FLETCHER and Co., Liverpool; at the offices of the Services Maritimes des Messageries Imperiales in Paris, Lyons, Bordeaux, and Marseilles; or to SMITH and Co., Rotterdam.

*** Passengers eastward of Suez securing their berths in London are entitled to the conveyance of their luggage free to Marseilles.

ORIENTAL, AUSTRALIAN, AND GENERAL STEAM AGENCY, AND GLOBE PARCEL EXPRESS.

PARCELS, PACKAGES, and MERCHANDISE forwarded, and PASSAGES engaged to all parts of the world. Baggage collected and shipped. Insurances effected, &c.

CALCUTTA, MADRAS, CEYLON, and ADEN—Overland, 4th and 20th of every month.

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CHINA, SINGAPORE, and EASTERN SEAS—Overland, 4th and 20th.

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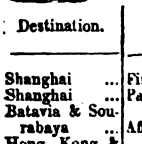

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Hong Kong & Whampoa ...	Veronica ...	—	—	„
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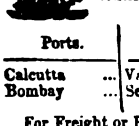

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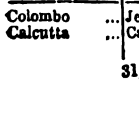

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Kanagawa (Yokohama) ...	Simon Hobley	A1 10 yr.	W.I.D.	With des.
Ditto	Gleam ...	A1 12 yr.	W.I.D.	With des.
Nagasaki ...	Lammermuir.	A1 12 yr.	W.I.D.	With des.
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By order,
H. WALLER PLATT, Acting Secretary.

10A, King's Arms-yard, London, February, 1865.

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Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE SEVENTH Volume of this JOURNAL commenced on the 3rd of January, 1865. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 164.] LONDON, MONDAY, FEB. 20, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Oct. 10	Dec. 13	Dec. 18
Nagasaki			
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			„ 9
Chefoo			„ 22
New-chwang			„ 17
Hankow			„ 17
Kiu-kang			„ 19
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	„ 26	„ 26	„ 26
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 27
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 28
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Nov. 10	„ 24	Jan. 1
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	Oct. 17	„ 15	Dec. 23
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			
SIAM— Bangkok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			Jan. 2
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Nov. 26	Jan. 4	„ 7
Penang	„ „	„ 2	„ 9

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per French steamer Peluse, from Marseilles, February 19.—To Hong Kong: Mr. W. Koenig, Mr. E. Cameron. To Shanghai: Mr. F. Harvey. To Galle: Mr. G. Vane, Miss F. Wall, Mr. Smith.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, from Southampton, Feb. 20.—To Hong Kong: Sub.-Lieut. D. M. Smith, R.N., Mr. W. L. Hunter, Dr. C. C. Wimberley, R.N., Dr. W. Patullo, Mr. J. Wilks, Miss Brae. To Ceylon: Mr. H. W. G. Layard, Mr. R. Cunninghame, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Anderson, Mr. H. Marsden, Mr. D. Saumarez, Mr. A. Lackenbacker.

From Marseilles, Feb. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Trautman, Mr. A. Milsom, Mr. Odell, Col. Knox, C.B., Mr. and Mrs. Evans, Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Stephenson. To Shanghai: Messrs. Detring, Allin, and Vermimb, Dr. and Mrs. J. Watson. To Singapore: Mrs. Rigg. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Armitage and two infants, Mr. Ratcliffe.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, March 4.—To Shanghai: Mr. F. Evans, Mr. C. Dunn, Mr. E. M'Loughlin. To Hong Kong: Mr. J. Dimwoodie, Mr. J. W. Coxford, Mr. J. W. Mayne, R.N., Mr. G. B. Westcott, R.N. To Singapore: Mrs. Robinson. To Ceylon: Mr. O. E. Lee, Mr. W. M. Lyte, Mr. R. Temple, Gentleman and two Ladies. From Marseilles, March 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. B. Scare.

Per P. and O. Steamer, from Marseilles, March 5.—To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. H. Dickinson. From Malta.—To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. G. Overbeck.

CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING AFFAIRS IN JAPAN, NO. I. (1865.)

Such is the title of the collection of despatches relative to Japan, which, as our readers have already been informed, has just been presented to Parliament. The series commences with the instructions given by Earl Russell to Sir R. Alcock, dated December 17, 1863, which enjoin him to "require from the Tycoon and the Daimios the execution of the engagements of the Treaty." The Admiral is to be authorized to land marines, destroy batteries, and spike guns, when their hostile purpose has been clearly proved; but no unarmed or peaceable town is to be bombarded.

Next in order comes a despatch from Colonel Neale, stating the intention of the Tycoon's Government to send an embassy to Europe, as they had been informed by Admiral Jaurés and the French Minister, after the murder of Lieutenant de Camus, "That the only means of assuaging the indignation that would be occasioned in France by that event would be by the Tycoon addressing an autograph letter expressive of his deep regret at its occurence to the Emperor; that the letter should be sent by special envoys charged with its delivery; and that in such case the Admiral would place a ship-of-war at their disposal as far as Shanghai, from whence they might proceed by the ordinary French mail." But beyond that, these Envoys would be instructed to press on the Treaty Powers the abandonment of Yokohama, and other points all restrictive of Treaty rights. Colonel Neale gives an account of an interview with the Tycoon's Vice-Ministers and two Governors of Foreign Affairs on the 4th January, 1864, at which they stated that owing to the ill-feeling of the country towards foreigners the Government "was constrained to propose closing the port of Yokohama, leaving only Nagasaki and Hakodadi open to foreign trade." The Colonel denied the existence of any such feeling. The people, he said, were friendly: the two-sworded class and certain Daimios might very probably be hostile, because they were an exclusive and domineering class. He was there to take care that the Treaty was carried out. If the trade were stopped, or any other aggressive acts adopted or tolerated by the Tycoon's Government, Her Majesty's forces were within reach to repel such acts. The Governors urged that when it was said the Japanese were friendly to foreigners, that could only apply to the Tycoon's Government, and to the people of Yokohama: in the interior they were not so—

"Colonel Neale asked what was understood by the term 'Tycoon's Government?' Did it mean literally the Tycoon himself and his Ministers?—The Governors said they understood by the 'Tycoon's Government' the Tycoon and all the Ministers of the country.—Colonel Neale observed that in civilized countries a Government was understood to mean the Sovereign or Chief Ruler, his Ministers, and a sufficiently powerful party who supported that Government and its policy.—The Governors responded that the Japanese Government consisted of the Tycoon and his Ministers, but no Daimios. The Tycoon governed the whole nation.—Colonel Neale replied that the Tycoon must therefore, to some extent, govern the Daimios—certainly those of his own creation, who are very numerous. He wished the Tycoon's Government to understand that when a nation is said to be on friendly terms with another, it is not implied that the Sovereign and his Ministers are personally and solely on friendly terms.—Governors: If the Japanese were united in their feelings of friendship towards other nations, then everything would go on smoothly, but there are thousands who differ in opinion from their Government.—Colonel Neale replied that there is no country in the world that is united unanimously in opinion or feeling upon all subjects; but the Dynasty and Government which prevailed must have a strong party which supports their views."

The Colonel here expressed his desire to have no repetition of the discussion, and complained of the obstacles thrown in the way of trade, no less than eighteen shops having been closed, and the free passage of silk from Yedo partially prohibited. The Governors affected not to know why the shops were closed; they could not help it—

"Colonel Neale then said: If you stop our trade we will stop yours; if you stop our supplies we will stop yours; and I wish you, above all things, to record and convey to the Tycoon's Government this most serious statement on my part, for it will bring under their consideration an inevitable course of action which must be adopted under the contingencies referred to.—The Governors asked whether by stopping their trade was meant the imports which come from abroad.—Colonel Neale said: Certainly not. I mean your own trade between one port and another. In regard to supplies and provisions, if you permit that they cease to be supplied, we must necessarily seek them where we can find them in other parts of your country, which, under other circumstances, we do not desire to frequent.—After some further conversation upon general subjects the Conference was closed."

The French Government applied through Earl Cowley to know the opinion of that of England in regard to the proposal for closing the port of Yokohama; to which Earl Russell gives the decisive reply (March 23) that "Her Majesty's Government have no desire to see the Envoys in London, and, if they came, would certainly not give up Yokohama as a port of trade." A despatch from Colonel Neale, giving an account of an interview with the mission prior to their departure, acquaints Earl Russell "that the Envoys had deposited the sum of £100,000 at one of the British branch banks at Yokohama, and opened a credit for that amount in Europe. A similar amount would shortly be added. These funds, it cannot be doubted, will be employed, for the most part, in the purchase of cannon, rifles, and most probably, also, of one or two ships of war." Communications are made from the Foreign Office to the Treaty Powers acquainting them that England would altogether refuse to negotiate on the subject of closing the ports of Yedo and Yokohama, and also that one object of the mission was to gain time with the Mikado and the anti-foreign faction on that question. M. Drouyn de Lhuys, for the French Government, concurs entirely in these views, and recommends that the intended purchase of vessels and munitions of war should be prevented. The Go-

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vernments of Holland and Prussia also expressed their concurrence. Mr. Seward, too, tells Lord Lyons that he entirely agreed in thinking "that no proposals tending to the abandonment of any of the rights secured by the Treaties with Japan should be listened to for a moment; indeed that, for his part, he thought that the concession which had been made some time ago with regard to a delay in opening one of the ports had been a mistake"

As is known, the Japanese Envoys did not come over from Paris to England, finding that there was not the slightest chance of obtaining any modifications of the treaty. They, therefore, wrote to Earl Russell a letter which was received on the 17th of June, informing him of their altered intentions. They state:—

"Having now become aware that the negotiation in regard to the closing of the port can lead to no good result, we have resolved to return to Japan, and to communicate this to the Government, so that entirely different measures might be taken for pacifying the disturbed national feeling, and for maintaining for the future a good understanding with foreign Powers. Although it might appear strange that we, after having accomplished only half the journey we had undertaken, should return to Japan without fulfilling the duty with which we were charged, still we entertain no coolness towards your country; but, having for our object the perpetuation of everlasting friendship between the two countries, we go back to Japan regardless of our fault in not having fulfilled our duty as ambassadors. It is thus to be wished that your Excellency will take cognizance of our feeling, which is persistent in maintaining and perpetuating this friendship, and to give a precise account of it to Her Majesty the Queen. We may at some future period, in obedience to orders from our Government, come back to Europe and visit your country; and we hope that by that time the friendship between the two countries shall have greatly increased beyond what it is at present. Should this be so, then we wish that your Excellency will view it as a proof of the good result of our present return to Japan."

Sir Rutherford Alcock arrived at Yokohama on the 2nd March, 1864, and at the end of the month forwards his estimate of the position of matters in Japan, stating his opinion that "it obviously behoves us to be, as far as possible, prepared for hostile action on the part of a powerful body of nobles, quite capable, without any previous warning, of seeking by force to expel all foreigners from the country, and from this place more especially. As regards the Tycoon's Government, if it survive the present crisis I think it is very probable the leading members of it will go on as they have hitherto done, and temporize rather than take decided action; trying to steer a safe course between the two dangers of civil war and foreign hostilities. But if, as seems very probable, the Tycoon should himself be virtually deposed, and the anti-foreign faction among the Daimios gain the ascendant—and who shall say this may not already be the result of the eventful gathering of all the notabilities of the Empire at the capital of the Mikado?—I see no security whatever against immediate attack or other measures, at once aggressive and obstructive. I know that active armaments are going on everywhere. The Tycoon is calling in all the four-cash copper pieces so recently issued, giving eight each for them, and melting all the bells of the temples at Yedo in order to feed the furnaces of his foundries, where cannon on European models, and in large number, are being cast with unremitting activity. The Prince of Choshiu, who has proved himself one of the most forward and determined of the anti-foreign faction, has only recently fired into and destroyed one of the Tycoon's steamers, lent to Prince Satsuma for purposes of trade. Civil war on a small scale has actually commenced therefore. The last piece of intelligence which reaches me is also one of the most significant. Our greatest hold over the Tycoon has been the facility with which we could cut off the supply of rice from Yedo, the main staple of the food on which some two millions are dependent. The chief supply comes from a large district on the north-west coast of Nipon, and it is brought in junks through the Inland Sea and round Cape Idzu. But owing to the currents the junks are compelled to come through a narrow channel, shut in by the island of O-Shima (Vries Island in the Admiralty charts). A couple of gun-boats could effectually blockade this and cut off the supplies. I hear to-day that the Tycoon's Government has renewed with desperate energy an enterprise often before contemplated, partially begun but as often abandoned, namely, to cut a canal through a range of hills which interpose between the rice-growing districts of Yetsigo and Yedo. Everywhere in the territories of the Daimios thare is arming and preparing for war, buying of steamers, and drilling of men with percussion-capped muskets and bayonets. I think we are not justified in coneluding, in the face of such evidences of general uneasiness and preparations for war, whether among themselves or against foreigners, that we may count upon exemption from either aggressive or seriously obstructive acts. If such immunity is to be secured, I believe it will be mainly owing to the state of preparedness in which we may be to resist attack and punish aggression in any shape."

This despatch is followed by one dated "May 1, 1864," communicaing what Sir Rutherford has learnt as to the result of the Great Council of Daimios that had been held in the capital of the Mikado, which was "a final resolution to persevere in preparations for the expulsion of foreigners." On the 6th of the same month the British Minister advises the course that was eventually followed:—

"Seeing, then, that there is such cumulative evidence of a deliberate resolution to baffle all our efforts, by conciliation, concession, or diplomatic agency, to obtain the legitimate ends provided for by the Treaty, and in last resort to drive both the foreigner and his trade from the country, as soon, that is, as they can muster in sufficient strength to do so by force, to what means shall we trust for securing a different and less disastrous issue? The Treaty Powers have long been condemned to a state of dissatisfied inaction, while a manifestly obstructive policy, and more or less aggressive acts, have inflicted serious injury. Without reasonable ground of hope that time or patience will bring improvement, but on the contrary a certainty that worse will befall, it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that it is rapidly becoming a necessity of the position made for us by the signal bad faith of the Tycoon and Daimios to take the first fair opportunity of striking an effective blow at the whole system of perfidy and obstructiveness so perseveringly pursued. If possible, it is of course desirable to do so without entering upon general hostilities against either the Government of the Tycoon or the country. Such an opportunity seems still open to us. In attacking in his stronghold the most violent and rash of his class, it may be possible, I conceive, by one blow to paralyse the whole body of Daimios. If the attack were as successful and effective as I think might be safely anticipated with the means at command, I see every reason to believe that such a conviction of hopelessness and utter incapability of carrying to a successful issue schemes for our forcible expulsion might be borne into the minds of all the ruling Powers, from the Mikado and Tycoon down to the two-sworded Samourai and masterless Ronin, as would suffice to put an end to all further plotting. The command of the inland seas and the whole internal trade of that portion of Japan which must of necessity be in our hands during any operations would do more, probably, to bring the Court of the Mikado and of Yedo to a sense of the danger and folly of entering upon hostilities with the Treaty Powers than any course of diplomacy, however able or longsuffering the spirit animating it."

An extract from the *Japan Herald* is enclosed in this despatch, endorsing the opinion quoted by that journal from the *London and China Express*, that "prompt and vigorous measures must be adopted if we are to stay in Japan as peaceable traders."

Consul Myburgh reports to Sir Rutherford Alcock on the 26th March that "considerable embarrassment and loss is being caused to the native merchants, and, through these not being able to fulfil their contracts, to British merchants, by the blockade of the Straits of Simonoseki by the Daimio Choshiu," "which has a ruinous effect on the trade of Nagasaki especially." He proceeds—

"There can be no doubt that the free and unimpeded navigation of the Straits is of the greatest importance to the trade of this port, and that if the Choshiu be permitted to continue the arbitrary control of it, the result will be most damaging to the commercial interests at stake here. Foreigners and Japanese alike are delighted that there is a prospect of the passage being forcibly opened, if compelled to, by foreign men-of-war; and I may mention that, in view of the probability of such a contingency, the agent of the Daimio Satsuma at Nagasaki is stated to have sent to Kagosima for about fifty more followers, for the better protection of that Daimio's yasky and other property belonging to him here, as it is anticipated that should Choshiu be defeated in any conflict that may ensue, his ronins will certainly visit Nagasaki, and in revenge will attempt the destruction of the lives and property of his enemies, foreign as well as natives, among which latter Satsuma and his belongings are included. Recently one or two suspicious looking ruffians have been encountered in the streets of Nagasaki and in the Settlement, and their conduct remarked to be exceedingly menacing to several foreigners, evinced by their blocking up the road, and placing their hands on the hilts of their swords; and they appear only to have been restrained from displaying open violence by the foreigners making a timely demonstration of their revolvers, without which it is absolutely unsafe to go abroad either by day or night. From this it will be gathered that the tendency of a certain class, instead of becoming more pacific, daily increases in hostility. Taking this in conjunction with the total want of that protection which the Japanese authorities ought to afford, and their complete failure in bringing criminals to punishment, it cannot be said that the prospect before us is brighter or more cheering than it was. How long this is to be permitted to continue comes to be a question for anxious consideration."

Sir Rutherford Alcock orders up the 20th Regiment from Hong Kong, "in view of the present aspect of affairs and future contingencies;" but Earl Russell is disinclined to resort to hostilities. He recommends another course of policy:—"1. Giving every encouragement and support to such of the Tycoon's Ministers and to such of the Daimios as are favourable to foreign trade, and thus to lead to the ultimate weakening of the feudal system, and of the protectionist theory of Japan. 2. To make arrangements with the Japanese Government for the protection of the foreign settlement at Yokohama. 3. To keep for the present a strong squadron in the Japanese seas. 4. To endeavour to establish an understanding with the Governments of France, the Netherlands, and the United States, with a view to our common interests in Japan." And on the 26th July his Lordship writes the following imperative orders to refrain from anything that might induce a conflict:—

"Sir,—I have to state to you, with reference to the despatches which I have lately received from you, that Her Majesty's Government positively enjoin you not to undertake any military operations whatever in the interior of Japan; and they would indeed regret the adoption of any measures of hostility against the Japanese Government or Princes, even though limited to naval operations, unless absolutely required for self-defence. The action of the naval and military forces of Her Majesty in Japan should be limited to the defence and protection of Her Majesty's subjects resident in Japan, and of their property, and to the maintenance of our treaty rights. It may be hoped that the power vested in you by Her Majesty's Order in Council of the 7th of January last, to prohibit, or regulate or restrict, the entrance or passage of British ships into straits or waters of Japan, when such entrance or passage may lead to acts of disturbance or acts of violence, or may otherwise endanger the maintenance of peaceful relations or intercourse between Her Majesty's subjects and the subjects of the Tycoon of Japan, will enable you to prevent the occurrence of the necessity for any such measures of hostility to obtain redress for injuries done to British vessels.—I am, &c., "RUSSELL."

Throughout May, however, the British Minister in Japan has been reiterating the opinion that "no middle term of concession or compromise on our part, and no proposals for the modification of existing treaties, in any sense compatible with the maintenance of our trade and position at Yokohama, could avail, in the least degree, to avert the coming conflict;" and at his instigation a *note identique*, agreed upon on the 25th of May, is sent to the Japanese Ministers for Foreign Affairs from himself and his colleagues, the other Foreign Ministers in Japan, to the following effect:—

"The representatives of Great Britain, France, the United States, and Holland, having, on the 25th day of July, 1863, declared it to be indispen-able to the maintenance of treaty rights that the Inland Sea should be re-opened, they announced such decision to your Excellencies, confidently hoping that his Majesty the Tycoon would effect that object. In

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his reasonable expectation they have been disappointed. The Japanese Government has made no reply to that communication, nor has it taken any steps to put a stop to hostilities which are still threatened. It has, on the contrary, shown either its sympathy with those hostile to the treaties, or submission to their dictation, by asking that the port of Kanagawa shall be closed, and declared that it is only on such condition that peace can be preserved. The undersigned having been made acquainted with the views of his Government in reference to this most extraordinary proposition, is enabled to declare that no such concession can be made. He therefore invites your Excellencies to withdraw such request, in order that the excitement which will naturally attend its discussion may be removed. In the interest of peace he also feels it to be his duty to declare that the Government of His Majesty the Tycoon cannot safely rely upon the further forbearance of Great Britain, and that it will be expected to show both its willingness and ability to remove the obstructions to commerce which now exist at the outlet of the Inland Sea, and to prevent any repetition of the hostile acts of the Prince of Choshiu. The undersigned conceives it equally his duty to call the serious attention of the Government of the Tycoon at this moment to the grave responsibilities which will inevitably fall upon them, if, as the language of the Ministers themselves would lead it to be inferred, any violence should be offered to foreign residents by Japanese subjects, or any damage by whomsoever inflicted on their interests, trade, or property in this country, which, equally with their lives, are placed under the sateguard of treaties and the law of nations."

Earl Russell appears to have been willing to stop the rapid career of his Minister; and the above information having been received on the 2nd August, replies on the 8th:—

"Your despatches of the 21st and 25th of May are of such importance that it is, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, necessary that at no long interval of time you should return home to explain the actual situation of affairs, and confer with Her Majesty's Government as to the measures to be taken. I shall by the next mail inform you as to the provision which will be made for carrying on the business of the Mission during your absence. In the meantime I have communicated at Paris, Washington, and the Hague the views of Her Majesty's Government. I confess I cannot perceive, except in the increased preparations for defence at Yedo, and for attack in the neighbourhood of Yokohama, that your accounts give reason to apprehend any immediate attempt to drive foreigners out of Japan. The Prince of Satsuma at least appears more friendly than he has hitherto been. I do not understand that the passage of the Inland Sea is at all necessary for purposes of foreign commerce, so long as Osaca is not open and the Mikado remains in seclusion at Kioto."

And on the 18th August Earl Russell again enjoins inaction, addressing Sir Rutherford in these terms:—

"Sir,—From your recent despatches, and from other trustworthy information, it appears that the injuries inflicted by the batteries and troops of the Prince of Nagato on ships navigating the inland sea concerned the Governments of France, the United States, and the Netherlands. That the French Government have expressed themselves satisfied with the punishment they have already inflicted on the agents and soldiers of the Prince of Nagato. That the United States' Minister declined to take steps of a warlike nature till fresh forces of his nation should arrive. That the Dutch Envoy and the Dutch Government alone desire that her Majesty's naval forces should proceed to measures of coercion in the Inland Sea. It appears further that the navigation of the Inland Sea is not necessary for purposes of European and American commerce so long as Kioto and Osaka are shut to foreigners. That the Tycoon still professes an intention to chastise the Prince of Nagato for his hostile acts, and that he is promoting, by the most expeditious means in his power, the construction of barracks for the regiment of British troops which you have summoned to Yokohama. In these circumstances Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that you should not require Admiral Kuper to act in a hostile manner against the Prince of Nagato, and that you should turn all your attention, and that of the Commander of Her Majesty's naval and military forces, to the defence of Yokohama. If the Tycoon and the Mikado see that the British position is strong, and that the British naval and military forces are effective, they will, by degrees, if not at once, drop all thoughts of violating the existing treaties, and of expelling foreigners from Japan. You will communicate the substance of this despatch to your French, Dutch, and American colleagues."

The Dutch Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Cremers, had indeed expressed his regret to Sir J. Milbanke, that "so much time should have been lost, for he thought steps ought to have been at once taken to bring the Prince of Nagato to a thorough sense of the error he had committed in closing the Inland Sea." The reports too of the Dutch Political agent in Japan and of the Commander-in-Chief of the Dutch squadron had strengthened the concurrence of Mr. Cremers in the views of Sir Rutherford. Sir J. Milbanke writes:—"His Excellency thinks that no further proof is required that a catastrophe is imminent in Japan, and he is apprehensive that unless preventive measures are speedily adopted, it will burst over the European community, and unavoidably bring on a war on a much larger scale than would be the case were hostilities to be confined to the avengement of wrongs on a single nobleman whose acts and conduct have already been openly disavowed by the constituted authorities. He conceives that a severe blow inflicted upon one of their number would strike terror among the whole body of Daimios; that it would fortify the courage of those who are supposed to be friendly, and convince the hostile portion of them that the European Governments are not to be overreached or deterred from vindicating the honour of their flags by any fear of them or their batteries; and, further, M. Cremers does not doubt in the least that an expedition undertaken jointly by all the foreign Powers would be productive of great advantage by putting an end to the conceited ideas of the Japanese in regard to their military capabilities, and thereby perhaps contribute to avert the deplorable consequences to which an overstretched leniency must, it is to be feared, inevitably lead, as soon as the Government deems itself strong enough to proceed to the expulsion or massacre of all the foreigners, and the appropriation or destruction of their property."

With a Dutch colleague by his side so sure to join heartily in offensive measures, it was clear that if peace was to be preserved Sir Rutherford Alcock must be got home at once, if time there were, out of the possibility of doing mischief. Earl Russell, therefore forwarded a despatch on the 25th August to hasten his return:—

"Sir,—With reference to my despatch of the 8th inst., I have to state to you that I have been informed by Colonel Neale that the state of his health is such as to prevent him from returning immediately to Japan; and as Her Majesty's Government are still desirous of communicating personally with you on the state of affairs in that country with as little delay as possible, I have no alternative but to leave Mr. Consul Winchester in charge of Her Majesty's mission after your departure. As soon, therefore, as you can make arrangements for your return home, you will inform the Japanese Government that you are about to proceed to England on leave of absence, and that Mr. Consul Winchester will thereupon act as Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires. On making over to Mr. Winchester the charge of the mission you will caution him in the strongest terms against having recourse to any aggressive proceedings.—I am, &c., "RUSSELL."

Events, however, had proceeded too rapidly in Japan. The combined squadron sailed from Yokohama on the 28th and 29th August to force the Straits of Simonoseki. An attempt had been made to open a communication with Choshiu in person through the means of two youths whom that Daimio had sent to England in the preceding year to be educated. These young men received a passage from Yokohama on board H.M.S. *Barrosa*, and took with them a Memorandum from Sir Rutherford Alcock, addressed to Choshiu, warning him that "the hostile position he had taken could no longer be endured." Mr. Satow reports:—"When they returned they had with them only a single retainer, but they said they had been accompanied as far as the coast by a guard of soldiers, given them by their Prince. They commenced the delivery of the communication with which they were charged by saying that they had found their Prince at Yamaguchi, and had given the four letters to him themselves; that he had consulted on the subject with his chief retainers, and had come to the following conclusions:—That he perfectly acknowledged the truth of what was contained in the documents, and was conscious of his own inability to cope with the forces of Western nations. But he was acting on orders which he had received, once from the Tycoon, and oftener from the Mikado, and not on his own responsibility, in consequence of which he was unable to give the desired reply to the letters without having first received their permission to do so. For this purpose he intended to go up to Kioto and impress his views on the Mikado, which he calculated would take about three months, and he begged that the foreign Powers would delay operations for that period. . . . . I had a little conversation with them afterwards, in which they told me that their Daimio had been originally favourable to foreigners, but had gone too far now to retract, and that they did not believe the matter could be settled without war. They also suggested it as a good measure that the foreign representatives should throw the Tycoon overboard, and going to Osaka demand an interview with the Mikado's Ministers, and conclude a treaty with him. They spoke with great bitterness of the Tycoon's dynasty; that they kept all trade, not only foreign, but native also, to themselves by seizing all places where trade was likely to develope itself, as Nagasaki and Neegata; and they told me that these feelings were shared by most of the people of the country. The way in which they delivered their message made me suspect that the original was couched in far more uncompromising terms than that which they communicated."

The later course of events will best be told in the British Minister's own words, as contained in a despatch to Earl Russell, dated August 25, 1864:—

"Our attitude has for a long time been one of observation, and our wiser course patience. A change, however, has now become obviously expedient, if not altogether unavoidable. And my first care having been to ascertain the opinion of my colleagues, and to secure perfect unanimity, a memorandum was drawn up and signed by all on the 22nd July, to which I would for a moment draw your lordship's attention. Passing in review the progress of events and the actual situation, the Representatives in Conference recognised the necessity of consolidating and strengthening their position by a cordial understanding, based upon identity of interests and entire unity of views, as well as of action. They determined accordingly to place on record in a formal document their perfect accord, and to establish certain principles to serve as the bases of future co-operation. To this end they framed, and embodied in the Protocol signed, five Articles: the 1st recognising as the general basis of the policy to be followed, the neutralization of Japan, so far as the four Powers were concerned, and while awaiting the ratification of their respective Governments they engaged that this principle should prevail in the open ports. In article 4, serving as a corollary to the 1st, the representatives agreed 'neither to ask for nor to accept any concession of territory, nor any exclusive advantage whatsoever, either in the open ports or elsewhere in Japan.' While in article 5 they engaged equally to abstain from all interference with the internal affairs or administration of the country, and any intervention between rival factions.

"A happy chance brought two of Choshiu's subjects and retainers who had been sent for education to England back to Japan. They were introduced to me as anxious to return to their Prince, profoundly impressed with all that they had seen in England of the superior resources, power, and military means of Great Britain, and convinced that their master would change his policy could they only gain access to him. Anxious to avoid the necessity, if possible, of proceeding to extremities with this feudal chief, I induced Admiral Kuper, with the concurrence of my colleagues, to send these youths to the Prince of Choshiu's dominions; all the more willingly that both the Admiral and I felt the necessity, before further committing ourselves or allies, of ascertaining by observation the nature and extent of the fortifications and obstructions raised by the Prince since the Straits had last been visited. I was no less anxious, however, to give the Prince a last chance of retracing his steps, and putting aside his schemes of hostility. In this view each of the four representatives sent with the two youths an informal kind of manifesto, or letter, in Japanese, and English, or Dutch, the American and Netherlands representatives signing their names, and addressing what they had to say

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direct to the Prince. Twenty days were given to this undertaking, and the result, so far as Choshiu's attitude was concerned, amounted to nothing. He merely sent a verbal message (delivered with doubtful accuracy by his two young envoys) to the effect that he had acted under the joint orders of Mikado and Tycoon, but would see if in three months some alteration in them might not be obtained.

"In the meantime news had been received of a new aggression on the part of Choshiu in firing upon a small American vessel putting into his port of Hangi on the west coast, in distress for fuel and provisions. The act was accompanied by treachery, no warning having been given to quit the anchorage, and there is no doubt they did their best to sink her.

"Nothing further remained to be done in this direction, therefore; and such being the unanimous opinion of the four representatives, a memorandum was drawn up embodying certain resolutions, the object of which was to call upon the senior naval officers to proceed to the Straits of Simonoseki, and remove all obstacles to their free navigation.

"While active preparations were going on, a communication was made by the representatives to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, to request that some high officer might be sent to receive an important communication from them. The day before that fixed for the departure of the squadron, accordingly, three officers were sent; and my colleagues joining me, they were informed that it was no longer possible to delay action against Choshiu, who continued in his hostile attitude, and had, quite recently, committed an act in violation not only of treaties, but the law of nations. They then urged certain reasons for further delay—as had been perfectly agreed beforehand they should—to which we replied by promising to give them due consideration, and send our reply in writing.

"But even while the conference was taking place the mail of the 27th of June arrived, bringing with it, most unexpectedly, the Japanese Envoys from Europe, and news that they had signed a Convention in Paris on the 20th of June, by which they engaged, on the part of the Tycoon, that the Straits should be opened, with the co-operation of the French if necessary, within three months from the date of their return.

"The result of this Convention was to undo the work of so many months, to break up the combined action of the four Powers, and to isolate France from the other three. It was otherwise calculated to have a very disastrous effect; for if the Tycoon ratified the Convention, it was clear he must accept a position of public antagonism to the Mikado and the powerful partizans of a policy hostile to foreigners, which hitherto it had been his main care to avoid, as calculated to insure his perdition by an order for his deposition from Kioto, if by no other means. The mere return of the Embassy defeated the only real object of sending them, which was to gain time for the Tycoon to find some less hazardous issue out of the difficulties by which he was beset, and was a new cause of alarm and danger. Bringing the peremptory refusal of France, and by implication that of all the other treaty Powers, to enter into any negotiations for the closing of Yokohama the news was calculated to precipitate an outbreak of hostility against the Tycoon and foreigners alike, and bring on a political crisis.

"The only alternative offering any chance of safety to the Tycoon lay in the repudiation of this Convention, and a refusal, on the ground of inability to carry it out, to ratify it. This course was taken, and communicated in an official letter of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

"The non ratification of the Convention brought affairs back to the same situation as the day before the mail arrived, as far as the power of combined action was concerned among the representatives, though it could not prevent the damage to the Tycoon's position by the failure of his mission, and its return after only entering into a Convention so disgraceful to the Emperor in Japanese eyes, as conceding indemnities and consenting to accept the co-operation of naval forces to attack a Daimio. Without a moment's hesitation, therefore, my colleagues and myself renewed our requisition on the senior naval officers to proceed to the Straits of Simonoseki, after agreeing to a memorandum recording certain resolutions more clearly defining the ulterior objects to be kept in view. These were, the retaining possession of the Straits, or some position commanding them, until negotiations could be concluded between the representatives of the four Powers in concert and the Tycoon's Government, for the imperialisation of the adjacent coasts, and the repayment of the costs of the expedition, as an indemnity to be exacted at the Prince of Choshiu's expense, should this be approved by their respective Governments."

In the meantime serious events had occurred in the interior of Japan, which go far to nullify the Prince of Nagato's excuse for his conduct in the Straits, that he was but zealously carrying out the orders of the Mikado. Instead of being the subservient officer of that personage, he was then actually in open rebellion against him. Before the transmission of the *note identique*, Sir R. Alcock writes on the 7th September, "Takemoto Kai no Kami was sent from Yedo by the Tycoon to communicate to the foreign representatives startling intelligence, which had just reached him from Kioto, that the Prince of Nagato had sent a large force to the capital of the Mikado on the 20th of August, apparently with the view of seizing on his person. An attack had been made on the palace-gates, during which a large part of the city was set on fire and burned down. After a fight lasting through great part of a night and day, the assailants were finally beaten off; but an urgent demand upon the Government of Yedo had been received from the Mikado for large reinforcements. These the Tycoon was engaged in sending, although he was also pressed for troops to make head against the large bodies of ronins in the districts north of Yedo."

The despatches narrating the attack on the Prince of Nagato's forts, which were made public just after the event, are repeated in the present collection so as to complete the record of events. The success of those operations produced first, an Agreement assented to in Choshiu's name, by his Chief Councillors, to the following effect:—

"1. Henceforward all ships of all countries passing through the Straits of Simonoseki shall be treated in a friendly manner. Ships shall be allowed to purchase coal, provisions, wood, and water, and every other necessary. As the harbour of Simonoseki is subject to violent winds and currents, people suffering from stress of weather shall be allowed to land without opposition.

"2. Not only shall new forts not be built, but no repairs shall be made to the old ones, nor shall guns be mounted therein.

"3. Although the town of Simonoseki might justly have been burnt for having first fired upon foreign ships, it was left undestroyed. A ransom shall be paid for this, and in addition to this, the whole expenses of the expedition shall be defrayed (by the Prince).

"I agree to abide by the decision of the Foreign Ministers at Yedo with regard to these two points.

"This agreement being merely for the cessation of hostilities upon this occasion it has nothing to do with questions affecting Choshiu which have to be settled between the Japanese Government and the Ministers of Foreign Powers.

"(Signed) SHISHIDO BIZEN, MORI IDZUMO, MATSDAIRA DAIZEN NO DAIBU, YOSHICHIKA."

The above was succeeded by a Convention between a Plenipotentiary appointed by the Tycoon for that purpose, and the Representatives of the Foreign Powers:—

"CONVENTION.

"The Representatives of Great Britain, France, the United States, and the Netherlands, in view of the hostile acts of Mori Daizen, Prince of Nagato and Suwo, which were assuming such formidable proportions as to make it difficult for the Tycoon faithfully to observe the treaties, having been obliged to send their combined forces to the Straits o Simonoseki, in order to destroy the batteries erected by that Daimio for the destruction of foreign vessels and the stoppage of trade; and the Government of the Tycoon, on whom devolved the duty of chastising this rebellious prince, being held responsible for any damage resulting to the interests of Treaty Powers, as well as the expenses occasioned by the expedition;

"The Undersigned Representatives of Treaty Powers, and Sakai Hida no Kami, a member of the Second Council, invested with plenipotentiary powers by the Tycoon of Japan, animated with the desire to put an end to all reclamations concerning the acts of aggression and hostility committed by the said Mori Daizen, since the first of these acts, in June, 1863, against the flags of divers Treaty Powers, and at the same time to regulate definitively the question of indemnities of war, of whatever kind, in respect to the allied expedition to Simonoseki, have agreed and determined upon the four Articles following:—

"Article I.—The amount payable to the four Powers is fixed at 3,000,000 dollars. This sum to include all claims, of whatever nature, for past aggressions on the part of the Prince of Nagato, whether indemnities, ransom for Simonoseki, or expenses entailed by the operations of the allied squadrons.

"Article II.—The whole sum to be payable quarterly in instalments of one-sixth, or 500,000 dollars, to begin from the date when the representatives of said Powers shall make known to the Tycoon's Government the ratification of this convention and the instructions of their respective Governments.

"Article III.—Inasmuch as the receipt of money has never been the object of the said Powers, but the establishment of better relations with Japan, and the desire to place these on a more satisfactory and mutually advantageous footing is still the leading object in view, therefore if his Majesty the Tycoon wishes to offer in lieu of payment of the sum claimed, and as a material compensation for loss and injury sustained, the opening of Simonoseki, or some other eligible port in the Inland Sea, it shall be at the option of the said foreign Governments to accept the same, or insist on the payment of the indemnity in money under the conditions above stipulated.

"Article IV.—This Convention to be formally ratified by the Tycoon's Government within fifteen days from the date thereof. In token of which the respective plenipotentiaries have signed and sealed this Convention in quintuplicate, with English and Japanese versions, whereof the English shall be considered the original. Done at Yokohama this 22nd day of October, 1864, corresponding to the twenty-second day of the ninth month of the first year of Gengi.

"(Signed)—SAKAI HIDA NO KAMI; RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in Japan; LEON ROCHES, Ministre Plenipotentiaire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur des Francais au Japon; ROBT. H. PRUYN, Minister Resident of the United States in Japan; D. DE GRAEFF VAN POLSBROEK, his Netherlands Majesty's Consul-General and Political Agent in Japan."

"MEMORANDUM.

"The undersigned, having on behalf of their respective Governments entered into a convention with the Government of His Majesty the Tycoon, providing for the payment by him of a gross sum of 3,000,000 dollars for indemnities and expenses occasioned by the hostile acts of the Prince of Nagato, declare that they assumed as a basis of such convention that entered into at Paris with the Commissioners of the Tycoon (not ratified by the Tycoon because of other provisions) in and by which the payment of 140,000 dollars was to be made to the Government of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French for the attack on the *Kienchang*. As such sum or a larger one may be justly claimed, and as the Governments of the United States and the Netherlands are justly entitled to like indemnities for more serious attacks on national and merchant ships of those countries by the same Prince, it is reserved for those Governments to decide if any and what indemnities from the said gross amount so to be paid by the Japanese Government shall be paid therefore.

"In view of the possible acceptance by the said Governments of a port in the Inland Sea in lieu thereof, which will render any division unnecessary, the undersigned reserve the same for adjustment by their Governments; and to provide an equitable basis, have hereto annexed memoranda of the naval commanders, showing the number of ships furnished by each for the expedition and assigned for the defence of the several ports, with their armaments and crews; and also of the military commanders, showing the number of troops collected for the same purposes.

"Yokohama, October 22, 1864.

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"(Signed)—RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in Japan; LEON ROCHES, Ministre Plenipotentiaire de Sa Majesté l' Empereur au Japon; ROBT. H. PRUYN, Minister Resident of the United States in Japan; D. DE GRAEFF VON POLSBROEK, His Netherlands Majesty's Consul-General and Political Agent in Japan."

With reference to Article III in the Convention, Earl Russell writes to Sir R. Alcock:—

"Foreign Office, December 3, 1864.

"Sir,—In your despatch of the 28th of September you requested to be instructed as to whether, in lieu of any pecuniary ransom for the town of Simonoseki, and of any indemnity to cover the expenses of the late expedition against the Prince of Nagato, Her Majesty's Government would be willing to accept the opening to foreign trade of the port of Simonoseki or of some more eligible port in the vicinity of the Straits; and I have to acquaint you in reply that Her Majesty's Government are willing to renounce any money payment if greater or equal advantages can be secured by stipulations to be obtained from the Tycoon or the Mikado.—I am, &c., (Signed) "RUSSELL."

This waiver, in favour of opening the port of Simonoseki, may be of considerable importance to British commerce, as would appear from the following extract from a letter to Sir R. Alcock, written by Mr. Rickerby, the Agent of the Central Bank of India at Yokohama.

"Central Bank of Western India, Yokohama, Nov. 14, 1864.

"I take the liberty of addressing your Excellency to express my regret that my unavoidable absence at Nagasaki should have prevented my adding my signature to a letter addressed to you by the English mercantile community here on the subject of your approaching departure from Japan. It may be interesting to your Excellency to hear from an eye-witness that there is every evidence of an active resumption of trade in the Inland Sea, and more especially at the port of Simonoseki, and that at that place the best possible feeling apparently exists towards foreigners. The harbour, when I saw it, was crowded with large junks, bulwark to bulwark, like ships in the Pool of the Thames, to the number, as far as my memory serves me, of 300 or 400, the most part loading, as we were told, for Nagasaki. The utmost desire seems to exist to have the port opened for foreign trade. We were asked to make contracts for supplying shirtings, camlets, broad-cloths, and other English manufactures, and urgently requested to stay for three or four days until communication could be had with the Prince of Nagato, then in the interior. So far from any bad feeling existing between the authorities there and foreigners, we found ourselves, although no foreign vessel of war was in the port, treated with the utmost kindness and hospitality; officials boarded us immediately on our anchoring, offering us freely coals, water, and provisions, and finding us well supplied, invited us to land, when they entertained us in excellent style, after which we were shown the town, the batteries, and every object of interest. No attempts are being made to repair the forts, which are still strewn with the *débris* of the late fight. The people of the town, as well as the officials, and what few soldiers we saw, were excessively civil and polite, refraining even from that oppressive curiosity which is so annoying in Japanese towns whose inhabitants are not accustomed to the presence of Europeans. Were other proofs wanting of the correctness of your Excellency's estimate of the Japanese character, and of the success of the policy which you have pursued lately in your relations with their Governments, the facts above detailed would, I think, have weight; but when, in addition, we see the trade of Yokohama, after a stagnation of nearly a year, suddenly reviving, and the restrictions which have hitherto cramped it as suddenly removed, so immediately after the affair of Simonoseki, and your subsequent visit to Yedo—and when, in proof of this, we see two successive steamers taking each a larger cargo of the most valuable export (silk) than has ever been recorded since the opening of the port—no thinking man can fail to see that the policy pursued by your Excellency has had the most beneficial results, nor can any one view your departure without apprehension and regret, lest the execution of your plans should be interrupted, or a different policy initiated."

Almost the last despatch in the collection is one from Sir R. Alcock to Earl Russell, dated the 19th November (received Jan. 26, 1865), in which he defends the policy he had pursued since his return to Japan; and this he does because, as he states, "it was impossible not to see in Earl Russell's former despatches something of censure and condemnation." We need not present our readers with this defence of a policy which was so brilliantly justified by results as finally to call forth a generous and most handsome retractation from Earl Russell of the judgment he had erroneously passed. The conclusion, however, of Sir R. Alcock's despatch demands preservation, as the summation of his experience of the characte of the Japanese Government:—

"All Treaties made with Japan have been forced upon it; and until great changes have taken place in the character, institutions, and government of the people it is in vain to expect that Treaties so entered into can be maintained by a religious abstinence from the use of force as a means. There need not necessarily be any brutal display of physical force; the determination to maintain the Treaties and to exact respect for their chief stipulations may be veiled under diplomatic forms. But whatever forbearance or conciliation may be exercised—however carefully sustained the *suaviter in modo*—my whole experience of twenty years in the East tells me there must be *fortiter in re* to fall back upon. Force there must be in reserve; and precisely in the degree that there is a conviction in the minds of the Japanese that, if driven to extremities by a persistent refusal to listen to argument or remonstrance, it will indubitably and effectively be brought into action, will the necessity be avoided, or of rare occurrence. It is weakness, or the suspicion of it, which invariably provokes wrong and aggression in the East, and is a far more fertile cause of bad faith and danger among Asiatics than either force or the abuse of strength. Hence it is that all diplomacy in these regions which does not rest on a solid substratum of force, or an element of strength, to be laid bare when all gentler processes fail, rests on false premises, and must of necessity fail in its object—more especially, perhaps, when that end is peace. The very emphasis with which it is insisted upon, and the earnestness of the desire manifested to maintain it at any sacrifice, so far from promoting a good result, directly tends to provoke such intolerable wrong as must bring war. If I am mistaken in this, I have the lesson of all my Eastern life and career to unlearn."

By a despatch dated "November 2nd," Earl Russell had already acknowledged that Sir R. Alcock's despatch of the 28th September was "a successful vindication of his conduct." This expression of the satisfaction of the British Government was more emphatically reiterated in the following:—

"Foreign Office, Jan. 31, 1865.

"SIR,—I have received your very full and able despatch of the 19th of November. Your former despatch contained a satisfactory justification of the course which, in co-operation with the representatives in Japan of the other Treaty Powers, you have so successfully pursued. Your despatch of the 19th of November makes this justification complete. The despatches from this office of which you speak were written in the belief at that time that trade was uninterrupted, and that no serious attack on Yokohama was in contemplation. Circumstances on the spot were of a totally different complexion. The energetic course you pursued in concert with the representatives of the other Treaty Powers in these altered circumstances has been entirely approved by Her Majesty's Government, as you will have found by my despatch of the 2nd of November. You were ordered home that you might in person give to Her Majesty's Government fuller information as to the state of things in Japan than mere despatches could convey, and that thus Her Majesty's Government might be able to come to a satisfactory decision as to the course of policy which it might be best to pursue with respect to Japan; but the order given to you to return home for that purpose was by no means to be understood as implying your removal from your post. On the contrary, after hearing from you your explanation of the present state of affairs in Japan, I shall wish you to return at once to Yokohama, to perform in Japan such additional meritorious services as may be expected from your tried ability and long experience.—I am, &c.,

"(Signed) RUSSELL."

Though he had often been placed in hostile contact with the Tycoon's Government, yet it appears Sir R. Alcock had nevertheless obtained their esteem and consideration, for we have a letter addressed to Earl Russell from the Minister of Foreign Affairs at Yedo, in which the latter intimates his extreme regret at Sir Rutherford's intended departure, stating—"Moreover, as the representatives of other Powers have been changed, he is the only one who has a correct knowledge of the state of affairs since the opening of the ports, and, as such, his residence in this country has strengthened a good deal the relations between the two countries, as I have in many respects been able to obtain his advice regarding the settling of the present civil war. His Majesty the Tycoon has therefore directed me to represent to you the desirability of his being sent back to his post in this country after he shall have terminated his affairs in England."

CHINA.

KIUKIANG.

The Kiukiang Races came off on the 23rd and 24th Nov. The racing was very good, and the course on the first day in capital condition, as after a long continuance of dry weather there had been some heavy showers during the preceding night. Hankow was well represented, and carried off the Autumn Vase and the Visitors' Cup.

First Race.—Hack Cup; value $50. Half-a-mile.
Red Deer 1
Tomtit 2

Second Race.—Autumn Vase; value $150. One mile.
Meteor (late Agony) 1

Third Race.—Chaa-Sze Cup; value $200. One mile. Presented by John Forster, Esq.
Prizefighter 1

Fourth Race.—Challenge Cup; value $100. Half-a-mile.
Pat 1

Fifth Race.—New Comers' Cup; value $100.
Sluggard 1

Sixth Race.—Visitors' Cup; value $100. Three-quarters of a mile.
Liddington 1

This closed the first day's racing.

SECOND DAY.

The Selling Stakes. Three-quarters of a mile.
Hard Cash 1

A Match between Mr. Graham's Red Deer and Mr. Toremop's Tomtit. Red Deer won easily.

A Match between Mr. Fraser's Wild Dayrell and Mr. Manship's Ackbar. Wild Dayrell came of conqueror.

Consolation Stakes.—For beaten ponies at this meeting. Value $50. Half-a-mile. Widdie came in first by half a length. Four others ran.

Steeple Chase.—Meteor, Pat, Liddington, Sluggard, and Norwood started. Meteor was the first over the first jump, but fell, all the other three ponies following his example. He was also the first over the second water, followed by Norwood. Meteor refused the bank, and the lead was then taken by Norwood, followed by Pat until the last fence, which he refused. Pat then went over followed by Sluggard and Meteor, who had a fine race home. Liddington threw his rider at the fourth jump, who was much shaken.

THE JAPAN SILK TRADE.

With reference to the Silk trade we extract the following interesting "communicated" article:—

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Our attention has been drawn to an article printed in another paper, the purport of which is that the Japanese authorities have issued orders in the silk districts that for the future no more fine silk be reeled, which measure would have the effect of preventing the exportation of this article by foreigners, as they only require fine Silk, whereas the demand on the part of the natives is limited to coarse sizes. We may preface our remarks by stating that we have not heard from any Japanese merchants that such orders have either been in contemplation or really issued; nor are we disposed to believe (except upon the most undoubted evidence) that the Japanese Government would deliberately commit themselves to a measure so thoroughly opposed both to the spirit and the letter of the arrangements made in October last at Yedo between the Foreign Ministers and the Gorogio.

But assuming, for argument's sake only, that such orders have been actually given, we do not see that we need be very much alarmed. Your contemporary and his informant must be very little conversant with the silk-trade if they imagine that foreigners require fine silk only. So far from such being the case, there has been throughout this year a very active demand for coarse or full silk for exportation, not only to Europe, but also to India and China; and the extreme scarcity of that class on our market has only been satisfactorily explained by the supposition that the native manufacturers can, and do actually, out-bid us for it. The produce of the districts of Hatshogee, Matti, Nangahama, Mashta, Sodai, Inchiu, Tamba, Tazima, Echizen, Nambu, Amatzki, &c., of which in former years we used to receive an abundance, is now either exceedingly scarce, or fails altogether to come down to Yokohama. Almost everbody connected with the "noble article" in Japan, knows for the last two years the proportion of fine silk sold on this market has been considerably larger than that of coarse silk, whereas originally the reverse was the case; but the impression on our mind is that the gradual substitution of the fine for the coarse sizes is not so much owing to our requirements of the former as to a fact which was very soon discovered by the Japanese dealers, viz.: that foreigners were offering prices comparatively higher for fine raws than for the coarser kinds.

On the other hand, certain branches of industry in Europe are sorely put out by the universally increasing scarcity of coarse silk. The exports of Taysaams from China have fallen off to one tythe of what they used to be. Persia and Georgia barely supply one-half of their former produce. In Bengal the coarse native kinds have in a great measure given way to fine silk, reeled off after the Italian method. In Turkey the districts of Antioch, Beyruth, Castravan, Brutia, and Adrianople, which used to produce large quantities of good, useful coarse silk, have almost entirely abandoned their primitive ways; and the cocoons from those places are either reeled off fine, or shipped to Marseilles to supply the French and Italian filatures.

The trimmings, fringes, sewing-silk, the ribbon and various other trades in Europe, have great difficulties to find suitable supplies. Any measure therefore that would tend to restore here the original proportion of coarse silk, might be looked upon, at least by some people, as decidedly advantageous; and consequently instead of finding fault with the Japanese authorities for restraining the growing excess of fine over coarse silks, one is rather disposed to think that such a proceeding would be quite as much in our interest as that of the native manufactures.

LIAO-TANG SILK.

MEMORANDUM RESPECTING THE SILK REGION IN THE NEWCHWANG CONSULAR DISTRICTS.

British Consulate, Port of Newchwang, 24th Oct., 1864.

The silk region of the Newchwang Consular district may be described as the valleys of the Yang and other small rivers which empty themselves into the head or northern extremity of the Yellow Sea. But the region extends as far north as the parallel of Moukden, the hilly country lying due east from that city, and which is drained by the affluent of the Leaou river which passes it, also producing silk. No other port of the Leaou valley produces silk, nor is any, so far as I can learn, produced in the hills which lie between it and the Great Wall.

The silk region, as I have defined its limits, is about 100 miles broad from east to west, and about 140 miles long from north to south. Its southerly portion, that nearest the Yellow Sea, is probably most suited for the cultivation, and it is from that that the accompanying cocoons, with the twigs and leaves of the bush which the grub feeds on, have been procured. The pieces of stuff that accompany them were woven in the same region, whether with or without admixture of cotton, which is also produced in that quarter, I cannot tell.

I have traversed the silk region twice. A watershed composed of the mountains that come down from the north east of Moukden and stretch away to the Maoutaou straits forming the Leaou peninsula, this watershed intervenes between the silk region and this port-town. But there are certainly two, if there be not more practicable for the heavy goods carts used in this province. Heavy articles of small value, as pulse, bean cakes and oil, could not with profit be brought over these mountains to this port. On the other hand, a considerable portion of the foreign cotton-manufactured goods which supply the fairs held near the Corean frontier are taken in carts over these mountains from this port, showing that, in articles of no greater value in proportion to their weight than cottons, this foreign shipping port can compete favourably with the Junk-ports at the head of the China Sea, the longer land carriage being counterbalanced by the cheaper freights and quicker passages of foreign ships with the power of insuring goods conveyed by them. Heretofore the cocoons have been sent southwards through the junk-ports at the head of the China Sea; none, so far as I can learn, have ever been brought to this port. But as the light cocoons could be brought from that region with less cost in proportion to their value than can cotton goods be taken thither, it is plain that, in so far as the land transit is concerned, there is no reason why this port should not become a port of export for the silk region. And if it has paid Chinese dealers for generations back to take it away southward, there would seem to be, in so far, no reason why, in the present dearth of textiles, foreigners might not also take it away with profit.

The southern dealers arrive at the junk ports as the navigation opens about the end of March, and proceed into the silk valleys, where they give advances to the farmers. The first crop is usually taken to the ports, most of it to one called Fa-koo-shan,—about July. A second crop is shipped just before the navigation closes, *i.e.*, about the beginning of November. The cocoons are taken away in large baskets. The price in some seasons goes down to four or five mace of silver for fifteen hundred cocoons, in others it rises to six or seven mace for fifteen hundred,—advances being in every case made to the cultivator. As to the quantity annually exported, I have not been able to get any information. My principal informant tells me that from one valley, which is however one of the most productive, about 80 cart loads are taken away annually. Each cart carries ten baskets which from his description must each contain about fifteen cubic feet. That would give about 12,000 cubit feet of loosely piled cocoons from that one valley. What I myself know is that the production in the whole region could be quadrupled in a few years if the entering of foreigners into the trade should give sufficient inducement to the cultivators; for, at present, not one fourth part of the hill sides suitable for the cultivation of the shrub for the feeding of the grubs is planted with those shrubs.

The cocoons now sent have had boiling water poured over them to kill the worms.

Some silk is also produced from grubs that feed on the mulberry tree leaves; but the cultivation is a precarious one, and is only carried on by the females of well to-do families.

THOS. TAYLOR MEADOWS, Consul.

REPORT BY MR. MAJOR ON THE SPECIMENS OF COCOONS, &c., RECEIVED FROM NEWCHWANG.

Shanghai, 2nd Dec., 1864.

Sir,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favour of the 29th ultimo, accompanied by 24 cocoons with some branches and leaves of an oak shrub on which the animal that had made them fed, and also a piece of cloth woven out of the thread drawn from this kind of cocoon. I have also received, and read with much interest, the memorandum on the cultivation of silk in the region of the Newchwang Consular district, from H. B. M. Consul, T. T. Meadows, Esq.

It affords me much pleasure to acquiese in the request of the Chamber of Commerce expressed in your letter, by giving the following report on this article as my opinion and all I know about it. I have first seen this kind of cocoon (some 15 years ago) in the Museum of the Chamber of Commerce and Arts at Lyons. It had been sent there (likely 100 years ago) by the Roman Catholic Missionaries, as the produce of a worm in the north of China feeding on the leaf of the oak tree. No experiments had been made therewith in France, because the quantity sent had been too small. Since I have been in China I have received a letter from Lyons, asking me to look after this cocoon, but it was only once, two years ago, that I succeeded in getting a few of them from Japan, which I then reeled off, and now beg leave to hand you herewith a small skein of silk made of them.

The first impression on seeing these cocoons and the cloth woven from their produce is that this can never come in for silk. The manufacture is the rudest that can be in all respects; the thread is as coarse and unequal as well can be, the whole has no gloss whatever, although no cotton is mixed; both the warp and woof are made of the raw material as taken from the reel, without any attempt at Tram or Organzine, therefore, necessarily left in the gum. I have attempted to boil off the half of the cloth sent, to ascertain the quantity of gum the animal may use in spinning, which with the silkworm is 20 per cent., but I have not been able to reduce it in weight at all; this can only be accounted for, if the cocoons have undergone a degree of firmention, by the process of killing the grub which has been adopted. You will also see from the piece of cloth I return you, together with the other piece unboiled, that the colour has remained nearly the same (it would, therefore, in dyeing, take no other colour than black), whereas, if this had been made of usual yellow silk, it would have turned out white from boiling.

I have, however, also boiled off half the skein of silk of my reeling from such cocoons, which I add to the other skein of raw, which you will perceive has become nearly white and will take any colour. I therefore am persuaded now, after seeing this silk boiled off, that it really is silk, and could well be used for Tram in European manufacture, if reeled equal to this sample.

The yield of the cocoons I reeled was 20 to 1, *i. e.* 20lb. of cocoons only give 1lb. of silk, whereas usual China dry cocoons of inferior quality yield 5 or 6 to 1, and good European dry cocoons 4 to 1, always for best silk of 11/12 ds.

This difference arises partly from the great bulk of the worm, not nearly dry, and partly from the greater quantity of waste which must be made before a clean thread can be drawn, but then the thread is quite as clean and may be even cleaner than good silk, although it has nothing like the elasticity of good silk, less gloss when boiled off and little or none before.

Of the value of these cocoons I can say nothing before I can get a sufficient quantity of them to make two or three lbs. of silk, at least some four times 1,500 cocoons and know exactly what they cost in dollars or taels in Shanghai. But I think it will be worth while making such a trial, and sending the produce to Lyons or London (there is more skill in Lyons) to be dyed and manufactued into goods. First crop cocoons in preference to second crop, and if possible not killed in that abominable China fashion. I shall be very happy if I can be of any service to forward such a trial.

Besides this it is requisite to ascertain—

1st. How often does this worm sleep while feeding.

2nd. Is the worm fed on the mulberry leaf, of which Mr. Meadows speaks of this same species (that feeds on oak leaves) or bred of the usual China silkworm eggs. I should much like to see a few cocoons of worms fed on the mulberry leaf there.

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3rd. An experiment ought to be made of this breed (eating oak leaves) to ascertain what they come to when fed in a more congenial climate on mulberry leaves. If I could get an ounce of eggs of the first (July) crop, I would willingly attend to their feeding myself. The eggs ought to be sent here during the winter, protected from frost but not kept near any fire or in a too warm cabin; 66 degrees Fahrenheit would be too hot, or the utmost they would bear.

It strikes me that this species of silkworm may turn out of the greatest consequence in restoring the silkworm breed in Europe, now quite lost, and even in restoring the silkworm of China, which I find also greatly deteriorated, to a more healthful state (this, however, is almost hopeless, considering the Chinese character). In all nature, too much and long continued culture degenerates a breed; then new strength and vigour is acquired by cross breeding with a healthy kind of the same species.

Now this worm gives me the impression of being very strong and healthy. It would be a great boon to the silk trade and industry to introduce any such a means.

New seed has for years been tried from all parts of the world in Europe, but to no effect, the whole family of one and the same race seems to have outlived itself by constant regenerating in the same family at an enormous rate, to supply our augmented and constantly growing luxury.

In Naples I tried during three years cross-breeding the old European breed with the usual China worm, and that with very good success; when I left for China I gave all the seed I had thus collected to an English gentleman, who I fear has not persevered, or I should have heard something of it; people look too much to immediate benefits.

If this new family is to be introduced for cross breeding, I should recommend feeding them in their first and second stages on oak leaves, and after that only on mulberry leaves.

I beg leave to conclude with my opinion that great thanks are due to Mr. Meadows for making so great an exception among the Consuls in China, by turning his eye and mind towards what may be advantageous to the commerce and industry of the country he represents, and thereby also to the country he occupies.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN MAJOR.

Walter Pearson, Esq., Secretary of the General Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai.

THE PROGRESS OF ENGINEERING AT SHANGHAI.

(FRIEND OF CHINA.)

It was in April last that we noticed the arrival here of Messrs. Heard and Co.'s fine river steamer *Kiangloong* (river dragon). This vessel was brought out in pieces from New York, and put together by Messrs. Hunt and Co., at Whampoa; the magnitude of the job being estimated by her dimensions in the report, viz.—length, 285 feet, breadth over guards 71 feet, engines, made by Boardman and Co. of from 1,000 to 1,200-horse power, with a cylinder 27 inches in diameter. Her boilers, we stated, like the *Fusiyama's*, were on the guards, and it was estimated that, though loaded to 5½ feet with coals on board, and to 7 feet with cargo, with 30 lbs. of steam on she would make "from 19 to 25 revolutions of a wheel 32 feet in diameter, or, on the average, say, 20 miles an hour."

This estimate of her speed, however, was found to be too high. Even without going down to seven feet, her wheels were so much immersed that, placed alongside any other steamer on the Yangtse she was sure to drop astern; either of them could pass her easily; while the boilers on the guards were found, as we believe those connected with the *Fusiyama* have found them, to be misplaced and a mistake.

The result of this experience of their "River Dragon" has been a determination on the part of her spirited owners to pull the vessel to pieces from the main deck up, turn the boilers end for end, and transfer them from the guards to the hold, twenty-five feet further forward, while the wheel axletree and whole fabric above it are to be raised bodily some two or three feet.

The undertaking by Messrs. Collyer and Lambert as shipwrights, and Messrs. Hunt and Co. as machinists, to effect this work, may be termed stupendous;—such a job, in fact, was never attempted in China before, and it affords us much satisfaction to be able to congratulate these practical workmen on the early prospect of a complete success. Yesterday saw the port boiler, weighing over forty tons, safely landed in the hold, and before Christmas day, it is computed, the other will be alongside of it.

One great fear,—from the many assertions that it could not be effected, indeed,—the greatest fear was that Messrs. Falls and Lawrence, superintending Messrs. Hunt and Co.'s machine factory, would not be able to reduce the length of the connecting rod, and adapt it effectually to the altered height of the machinery in the *Kiangloong's* hull. Brought ashore here at Hongque it was, however; and a blacksmith's forge to effect a weld nine inches in diameter was built on purpose in the yard, with blowers, worked by steam running at the rate of 3,500 revolutions in a minute. This completed, then came the work of lifting the rod, a piece of iron weighing over five tons, into a position for a cut to reduce it twenty inches in length—calculations for this cut requiring to be made with the greatest care; a portion of the excess to be removed consisting of the groove into which the other end of the spindle had to tongue for welding. The last requirement was a hammer, or pile-driver-like monkey, of sufficient weight to operate efficiently on the joined end. In all these preliminaries Messrs. Hunt and Co.'s workmen were entirely successful, the huge beam being managed like a plaything, and altered to the size required with, it is believed, as much compactness as if the piece were a rod which a couple of men could handle on a common anvil. The weld completed, it was taken to the turning shop adjacent, and placed in one of the largest lathes to be found this side of the Cape, and there, at the moment of our present writing, it is being polished off as neatly as it could be done in any workshop in the world. Verily Shanghai is a great place, and in no way more so than in the enterprise and ability of its shipwrights and machinists. In drawing our attention to this subject, a friend says:—"Shanghai can, from this day, take its place among the first cities of the world in arts and sciences. Every day new works and manufactures are being carried on by the different artizans among us that compete, and in many cases excel the same kind of work when brought from abroad. But in no branches beyond those of ship and steam boat building and engineering have such progress been made. Now we can have any sized ship or steamer built equally as good as in any part of the world, as has been shown by late surveys; and in the engineering departments, to those who will take a walk in the different machine shops around, all will be surprised to see the work that is being done, principally by Chinese artizans, headed by some European who directs and controls the whole."

MANCHESTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the annual meeting of the Chamber Mr. Henry Ashworth, the president, in moving the adoption of the report read by the Secretary, remarked upon the forbearance and discretion with which the working people of the cotton districts had endured the privations caused by the American war. Since 1860 the cultivation of cotton had been distributed over a very large portion of the globe. In that year, which was the year of our largest consumption, the quantity of cotton we consumed was valued at £34,000,000. Last year, for a quantity, probably, not exceeding one-half what we received in 1860, we had to pay, in round numbers, £80,000,000. In 1860 our consumption was 1,083,000,000 pounds weight; last year we consumed only 561,000,000; or, in round numbers, 51 per cent. of the quantity in the previous period. But while we had in this respect tided over one-half the difficulty, the employment had increased in a greater ratio by reason of the inferiority of the staple, which was principally from India, and had required a much larger number of hands to manipulate a smaller quantity of cotton. Hence the 50 per cent. of cotton consumed had employed between 60 and 70 per cent. of the hands; and if we were to receive another 50 per cent. of cotton it must be obvious that there were only 30 to 40 per cent. of hands to work it. From these circumstances the consumer might judge in what period of time he might receive a more durable character of cloth at something like half the money. In 1860 the cotton we received from America furnished us with five days' labour out of six. That which we received last year from America had not been equal to half a day per week. The supplies which had kept the mills going beyond this were derived from various sources. From China and Japan in 1860 we received no cotton whatever, but last year we received 96,000,000 of pounds weight. From Turkey in 1860 we received as much cotton as came to £625 in value. Last year we received 22,000,000 of pounds. The import from the Brazils had also increased largely, but the receipt from Egypt had increased, perhaps, more largely still. In 1860 the cotton from Egypt was of the value of £1,500,000; now it was nearly £15,000,000; showing that the Egyptians had made considerable progress. The 80 millions of money in a year which had been distributed over the world for this production of cotton had been largely gathered by the countries just named; and the Viceroy of Egypt and the Sultan of Turkey had given a description of encouragement to cultivation similar to that afforded in this country by agricultural societies—not protection exactly, but such information and encouragement for the growth of cotton as it was becoming on their part to offer, and those countries had reaped a large advantage thereby—(applause). While the people of India had been making ducks and drakes of the large sums sent over to them for cotton, while we heard of their making silver tires for their cartwheels, and knew not what else they were doing with the bullion they received, it would appear that the poor Arabs of Egypt had understood how to make a better use of their money. They had applied it to the purchase of machinery for the carrying out of cultivation, for steam-ploughs, steam-engines, for irrigation, cotton gins, and a great variety of implements of agriculture, so that the money they received for these supplies of cotton was being brought back, to a large extent, and expended on those articles which were best calculated to increase cultivation. Egypt was now deriving the advantage of European intelligence and European capital and banking. Its people had found out that a bank under the auspices of European intelligence was quite as safe a place to hoard money as a hole dug in the ground; and they had also found that a Liverpool "price-current" was to them a subject of as much interest as the Nilometer they have been accustomed to adore for centuries. The prosperity of Egypt now might be said to exceed that of any previous period, if we expected only that time when the "seven fat kine" were heard of, and when Joseph conducted that large speculative operation in grain. (A laugh.) But what had been the effect produced in India by the increase of price? In 1860 we paid for Indian cotton £3,500,000, and last year more than £40,000,000; while the quantity we received had increased two-and-half times—*i.e.*, from 214,000,000 to 513,000,000 pounds weight. While the receipt of so great a sum must have stimulated cultivation, it must also be remembered that a large portion of the cotton lately derived from India had been withdrawn from the domestic manufacture of India, and from that proportion of cotton which India had been accustomed to ship away to China.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Feb. 16, at Falmouth, from Batavia, St. Bede, from Hong Kong, Amoy; at Queenstown, from Hong Kong, Alida; off Falmouth, from Foo chow-Foo, Picciola.

SPOKEN.—Julia Augusta, London to Colombo, Dec. 5, 37 S., 21 W.; Frenchman, Liverpool to Galle, Dec. 9, 34 S., 17 W.; Azelis (?), London to Ceylon, Jan. 8. 5 S., 24 W.; Navigator, Liverpool to Hong Kong, Nov. 7, 42 S., 58 E.; Yawmee Williams (?), Dutch barque, Newcastle to Batavia, Nov. 25, 34 S., 93 E.

DEPARTURES.—Feb. 14, from Shields, for Singapore, Sampson.

LAID ON.—At London: For Colombo, Sea Sprite; for Yokohama, Castleton. At Liverpool: For Singapore, Gyrn Castle.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, FEB. 20, 1865.

FRENCH ENCROACHMENTS ON SIAM.

IN our issue of the *London and China Express* of the 26th Jan., under the heading of France, a paragraph appeared which, although it consisted of only three lines, is of no little importance. We refer to the rumour of the King of LAOS' wish to place his so-called kingdom under the protectorate of France. We say "so-called" because in reality the King of SIAM is the sovereign also of Laos, and his delegate there has not the least vestige of authority for assuming the regal title. It appears to us that the French are about to play the same trick at Laos as they did with so much success at Cambodia. The VICEROY of the last-mentioned place, who being appointed by the King of SIAM, was cunningly induced by a French missionary to make a treaty with his countrymen, solely on his own responsibility; and as a reward for this piece of treason, his independence was recognised by the French. He called himself King, and a large portion was docked from the possessions of Siam, which of course accrued to France. The danger of such a precedent is at once apparent; any discontented Governor has but to appeal to these kind-hearted Frenchmen, and out of the most disinterested motives they will offer him protection, give him the empty title of King, and themselves take the substantial part of the oyster, the while they magnanimously present him with the shells. This has succeeded at Cambodia, and will, unless we take care, succeed at Laos. The French see the great advantages that will fall to their share, by the addition of these provinces to their Eastern territories, and they are as bold and unscrupulous in carrying out a plan as they are cunning in its construction. If we are, as we pretend, the faithful allies of the King of SIAM, we ought surely in some way to testify our disapprobation of the continuance of this mode of proceeding. Deprived of his tributaries, the unfortunate King, will in due time have to follow their suit, and leave us to chafe at the superior spirit of enterprise that exists in our neighbours, whom we shall one day find with possessions close up to our Tennasserim provinces. The matter may not be viewed by all in the same light, and some may imagine that we are making a mountain of a mole-hill; but still we cannot help wondering as to whether H.M. Consul at Bangkok has reported these acts to his Government, or taken any steps to prevent the repetition of them.

CHINA SHIPPING TRADE.

HAVING clearly demonstrated in previous articles the cause of the losses which have accrued to importers in tea and silk, from the injudicious transactions of traders in China, we now direct our attention to another source of loss, to shipowners especially connected with the trade of Shanghai. We allude to the high shipping charges, and the losses from collision, and detention at that port, in consequence of the crowded state of the harbour; the insufficient accommodation for landing and loading cargoes, and the shoaling of the anchorage from natural causes, which the local authorities have not the means of preventing. These drawbacks, and other annoyances from exorbitant charges for indifferent pilotage, have become very damaging to the profits of shipping employed in that trade, so that shipowners, like merchants, have reason to calculate their losses from local causes that might be remedied, or new plans laid out to meet the evils. These have been recently brought before the public in a report from the engineer to the Municipal Council of Shanghai, "on the shore-line of the settlement," in which he makes the following remarks on the general condition of the upper anchorage:—"The increasing requirements of "this port; the insufficient landing accommodation; the "threatened blockade by mud-deposit in and at the Soochow "Creek, of an important channel of communication with the "interior; the danger to boats and *sanpans* by the eddies and "currents of the *chow-chow* water, and the disadvantage of "no action being taken to define the banks, and restrain "encroachments on the shore, sufficiently point out the neces-"sity of measures for the removal of existing evils, and the "prevention of future and more uncontrollable sources of "alarm." Coming from the official engineer of Shanghai, these views upon the present and future prospects for shipping are certainly calculated to create unpleasant feelings in the minds of shipowners and captains risking their ships at such a port. As to the landing accommodation, it is even worse than the anchorage, according to Mr. CLARK'S report:—"The existing "bunding will soon require reconstruction; the present insuffi-"cient jetties are much out of repair, and must shortly involve "considerable expenditure; and it becomes a question whether "it be not more advisable to expend at once a sum of money "to secure larger advantages to the port, than to expend a less "sum for purposes inadequate, and entailing eventually a far "greater expense." Here is actually a declaration on professional authority that the upper anchorage in front of the English settlement, where the great bulk of the trade is carried on, will soon be closed against foreign shipping, and the wharves unfit for landing cargo. The worst of it is that the remedy proposed by Mr. CLARK will cost more money than the Municipal Council can command; and the members of that body are not inclined to become personally responsible for any sums beyond the revenue, as the Council is not incorporated and they are individually liable for the expenditure. Neither is it possible to raise a loan for the purpose of making costly and unlimited improvements, as the Council has no legal power to issue scrip. In this dilemma merchants and others interested in the port are improving the dock and wharf accommodation by associated enterprise at the lower anchorage, where the difficulties to contend with are not so formidable, and the river banks afford greater facilities for the construction of jetties, where there is sufficient depth of water to load and discharge vessels of large tonnage at all times of the tide.

On the left bank of the Wongpoo at the lower anchorage several jetties have been erected by the American residents, but these are chiefly for the accommodation of their steamers that ply up the Yangtsze river; and the same may be said of the Shanghai Steam Navigation Company's wharf at the French Bund, where the large American steamers load and discharge. It is on the right bank of the river, commonly called the Pootung side, that English enterprise has made any progress to meet the pressing requirements of the port. Here the Shanghai Wharf Company have erected three jetties, with spacious godowns for storing merchandise and coal, and all the wharfage appliances to load and discharge with dispatch, as in English harbours. To the shipowner this is the great *desideratum* for the profitable employment of his ships; as the detention in harbour often runs away with the best marginal profits on high freights. Hitherto at Shanghai vessels have not been discharged in a month or six weeks, and frequently they have been as long in loading with tea, by the slow and unsatisfactory lighterage system. At the premises of this Company a vessel of one thousand tons may now discharge cargo in as many days as it takes weeks by the system of lighters; while the cost, if detention be taken into consideration, is less than one-fourth the charge by cargo boats, and the dangers of a river subject to strong currents, ripple and eddies. So far it is satisfactory to shipowners that a step has been made in the right direction to provide their ships with safe and speedy accommodation to land and embark freight. We understand that the agent of this Company is now in London with a view to extend their premises so as to meet the growing demands upon them, by increasing the capital to build new piers and send out the necessary "plant" for that purpose; which we have no doubt will meet with the necessary support.

However, without detracting from the advantages presented by these established wharves for accommodating the shipping that prefer them to the open anchorage, it is the opinion of those well acquainted with the trade of Shanghai, that even if they

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were increased ten-fold they would be inadequate for the requirements of the port. This is evident when we take into consideration the enormous aggregate of tonnage that enters and departs from that emporium of commerce. In 1863 the shipping inwards amounted to 964,309 tons, and outwards to 996,890 tons; and it is expected the returns for 1864 will show upwards of a million tons each way—equal to 2,000 vessels averaging 500 tons burthen. We must also take into consideration the native shipping which throngs the "fairway" of the anchorage, not less probably in the aggregate than the foreign shipping, and our readers who are not conversant with the port will form some idea of the crowded state of the harbour. To those who know its navigation and the "lay of the land"—to use an expressive nautical phrase—there is only one speedy, commodious, and *permanent* means of relieving the shipping in the river, and that is to construct a railway from Shanghai to Woosung, with jetties and warehouses at the latter place, which is the natural port of the former. By this means all the dangers of intricate navigation for fourteen miles would be avoided by a direct line of railway not more than nine miles long; while the Municipal Council need not expend one tael on the improvement of that part of the river over which they have control, as in time no large vessel would load or discharge cargo from the bund jetties by lighters; while they would derive a better revenue through any company that would undertake to bring a railway into Shanghai, by crossing the Soochow creek on a spacious iron bridge. This is not a new project, for it has been long entertained by enterprising residents; but we learn that it has been again revived in consequence of the continued unfavourable reports from shipmasters to their owners trading at Shanghai. Steps are about to be taken, we understand, to secure the sanction of this undertaking of the local native and foreign authorities; and if these are secured, with the co-operation of the merchants and shipowners interested in this important matter, there is no doubt that ere long the project will be a *fait accompli*.

THE CEYLON COFFEE ESTATES.

THE limited liability companies recently established for the cultivation of coffee in Ceylon, appear to afford evidence of success. The directors of the Ceylon Coffee Company anticipate being enabled to announce, at their next half-yearly meeting, a dividend of at least 15 per cent. In the first eighteen months of its operation this company made no less than 33 per cent. on its paid up capital; it has fully relieved itself from the burden of preliminary expenses, and has declared dividends amounting to 17½ per cent., in addition to a handsome bonus, leaving a surplus in hand. The management of this company is certainly very creditable to the directors.

The Ceylon Coffee Estates Company, which like the former was brought forward for acquiring from individual proprietors, estates already growing coffee, promises well, and shareholders very confidently anticipate the announcement of a large dividend at the next meeting. This company was established with a nominal capital of £120,000, of which £60,000 was offered; the deposit of £2. 10s. on each of the £10 shares issued gives a total working capital of £15,000.

The last one formed is the Ouvah Coffee Company, incorporated in autumn of last year, with a capital of £100,000 in £10 shares, for cultivating coffee on five purchased estates, which, together comprise 1,685 acres, a considerable portion already brought into cultivation. The shareholders in this company have the guarantee of the vendor of receiving a minimum dividend of 10 per cent. per annum; and the company proposes to sell its coffee in the English market without the intervention of a broker.

BARON GROS'S YELLOW BOOK.*

In a small quarto of 248 pages, Baron Gros has given a complete resumé of his correspondence, with extracts from his journal, during his second mission in China. The papers published on the subject in 1860 by the French Government were confessedly incomplete, and Baron Gros now sends forth this larger Yellow-book to let the world, as he says, know the part that he, as the representative of France, played in that extraordinary campaign. It would neither be fair to Baron Gros, nor conducive to the right comprehension of the pages in question, to pass over the fact that certain persons in France have slighted his services and declared that the advantages obtained by the Allies were all in favour of England. Baron Gros answers this in his introductory remarks by stating the much larger force and expenditure of England as compared with that of France, together with the facts that the Chinese Government was compelled to pay to each of the Allies the same indemnity for the war, and that the sum received by the Baron by way of some compensation for the treatment of the victims of the infamous treachery at Tung-tchaou amounted to 136,000f. for each person, while Lord Elgin only received an equivalent of 86,000f. for each of the unfortunate victims, although the total paid to the British Ambassador was 300,000 and to the French 200,000 taels. As regards these two cases we believe one to be thoroughly sound and inexplicable, and the other transparently unsubstantial. To take the latter first—there were twenty six subjects of the British Crown, and only eleven Frenchmen seized; but the latter consisted almost if not entirely of valuable lives, while the former included many belonging to the ranks. It is evident that the compensation would be larger, per man, on the average, in the latter than in the former case. It is fair to the memory of Lord Elgin and to those associated with him to place this in a proper light. As to the other fact, we confess we cannot explain it, and we can only place one extract against another. Baron Gros claims credit for the larger proportionate war indemnity at page 3, and at page 60 gives the reply of the Chinese High Commissioners to his claim, in which we find the following passage:—"The "English only ask double the amount of indemnity claimed by "them in 1858, while the French quadruple their claim." The fact remains, Lord Elgin thought fit to be more moderate in his demand than Baron Gros, who has full right to claim credit for having obtained, *pro rata*, a higher indemnity than his colleague; though, to our notions, his Government would have occupied a higher position in the eyes of the Chinese had it not preferred a claim so obviously disproportionate to the forces it had employed and the actual outlay incurred. The fact, too, that an identical sum (2,000,000 taels) with that claimed by Lord Elgin as indemnity for the losses of British merchants at Canton was insisted on by Baron Gros, although not a single French merchant had been established at that place, makes it evident that the old feeling of national rivalry had more to do with the fixing of the amounts than severe principles of justice. This has become the more evident in the sequel, since we have seen the few German and Swiss merchants who were promised compensation out of this fund for their trifling losses vainly pressing the French authorities for a fulfilment of this undertaking. It is pleasant to run over the pages of this diplomatic note-book and to find evidences throughout of the general harmony which existed between the two Ambassadors, and the high respect which Baron Gros entertained for our lamented representative. Unanimity appears to have been the rule; and as to the exceptions we shall touch upon them as we take a flying glance at the contents of this Yellow-book. Baron Gros, in his diary of the 29th July, records a fact that should make some people blush. He says, in reference to the march on Ta-kou:—"We are moving "in the dark, for we could never obtain a Chinese spy!" There is, however, one instance mentioned of a Mandarin having warned Mr. Parkes of a terrible trap laid for the Allies. One point of difference between the Ambassadors referred to the proposed evacuation of Canton. "Lord Elgin had several times urged it (says the Baron, in a letter to General Montauban, of the 6th September), but I did not feel that I could consent to it because I was convinced that as soon as the Europeans quitted the place, it would be occupied by the rebels." Concerning the evacuation of Chusan by the Allies, Baron Gros says:—"This has given rise to some criticism; but it was inevitable; the principal island of the archipelago of that name, which England regretted not to have kept at the mouth of the Yang-tze-Kiang, as she had that of Hong Kong before the Canton river, had been occupied by the British troops for several years after 1842, but was loyally given back to China when the indemnity for which it was the pledge had been paid;" and his conclusion is, that neither of the Powers alone could have appropriated it, and that joint occupation might have led to serious difficulties in future. The island in question seems to have resembled the traditional goose—too much for one and two little for two," so China retained it for herself. The circumstances of the infamous treatment of the victims of the treachery of San-ko-li-tsing are dwelt upon at length, but it is useless to open up again that horrible wound,

* Négotiations entre la France et la Chine en 1860. Livre Jaune du Baron Gros, Ambassadeur Extraordinaire, &c., en Chine. Paris: J. Dumane. 1864.

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and therefore we refer those who desire to compare Baron Gros's account with others, to the Yellow-book itself.

One of the points on which there was the most decided difference of opinion between the Ambassadors was the burning of the Summer Palace, and this act has called forth similar divergencies in England. Lord Elgin had made up his mind to inflict a severe punishment on the Chinese Government for the infamous treachery of San-ko-li-tsing. He determined to burn the Summer Palace—already set on fire in several places, according to the Baron's information, by bands of pillaging Chinese—and he moreover proposed to compel the native authorities to erect at Tien-tsin a monument which should commemorate their own infamy and the punishment which was inflicted. Against this Baron Gros protested with all his might, he succeeded in getting Lord Elgin to renounce the idea of the Tien-tsin monument, but nothing could induce the latter to give up the burning of the Summer Palace, which he doubtless believed was one of those public acts which alone would impress the Chinese people with the fact of the humiliation of the Chinese Government, and the power of the Allies. In the burning General Montauban, like Baron Gros, refused to take part, and, whether politic or the contrary, the English alone are answerable for it. Baron Gros's argument was that such an act would drive Prince Kung into Tartary, and that then the Allies would have no one to negotiate with, and would be drawn into an endless labyrinth of difficulties. In the intimacy of his diary he pours forth his thoughts without reserve. He says—"At five in the afternoon (October 18th) we perceived clouds of smoke rising in the north and coming over Peking, It was from the Summer Palace, the remains of which were being burned *officially* by the English army. My heart ached at the sight, and I feared that this act of useless and savage vengeance would terrify the Prince Kung and make him fly into Tartary." According to Russian reports, as quoted by Baron Gros, such had very nearly been the effect, the Prince had everything prepared for flight, and was only prevented from leaving with the greatest possible difficulty.

It would not be quite just to pass over another matter connected with this same Summer Palace, namely, the scandal concerning the conduct of the French in the matter of the first loot. Of course this did not necessarily come within the scope of Baron Gros's book, but a few words in reply to what has been published on this subject might not have been wasted. The bearing of the two Ambassadors in their separate interviews with Prince Kung when the peace was signed contrasts in the most curious manner. According to the diary of the Baron, Lord Elgin, who signed the day before his colleague, treated the Prince with supreme contempt. He kept him waiting two hours and three quarters! and, to quote Baron Gros's own words, "exhibited so much hauteur that he frightened the young Prince, for whom the interview was more than painful." Baron Gros, on the contrary, was punctual to his time, met the Prince half-way as the latter rose to approach the Ambassador's palanquin, and hands were shaken in the most cordial manner. Prince Kung did not forget to draw attention to the fact that he had come, full of confidence and without a single soldier, into the midst of a considerable number of French troops, to which, naturally, Baron Gros replied that such confidence could not be better bestowed. The Ambassador took an opportunity to make Louis Napoleon's head upon the seal of the treaty the occasion of presenting the Prince with a collection of French money, from the gold piece of 100 f. to the copper centime, which he hopes may some day induce the Chinese to adopt the decimal system "in place of their own absurd and inconvenient one." The Baron then presented the Prince with fine photographic likenesses of the Emperor and Empress, begging him to preserve them. In short, in the words of the Baron himself:—"I tried during the whole ceremony to be as civil and respectful to his Imperial Highness as I was informed they had been cold and severe with him on the day before, in the same place and under the same circumstances." Prince Kung was naturally enough delighted to be so courted; the clouds cleared from his brow, and all went merry as a marriage bell, the Prince actually condescending to say, in a loud voice, that if Baron Gros stayed a few days in Peking, he, the Prince, would pay him a visit, not as Imperial commissioner but as a friend. Mutual excuses were interchanged relative to costume. Baron Gros regretted that his uniforms were left at the bottom of the sea at Ceylon, to which the Prince replied with a slight blush:—"I also do not wear my finest robe, for if yours have perished in the water, it is the fire which destroyed mine." He knew already that I had refused to take part in the destruction of his brother's palace. When the Baron retired the Prince accompanied him to the palanquin, and soon afterwards sent him a complete and *recherché* Chinese dinner, which was conveyed in fifteen baskets, and "I need not say," adds the Baron, "that all the officers of the guard at my yamun partook of it with great interest."

Another subject on which the Ambassadors differed in opinion was the immediate establishment of legations at Peking. Mr. Bruce having arrived at the capital was for remaining there, but this the Baron considered to be inopportune and imprudent, and in the end Lord Elgin gave in. The Baron went so far in arguing the point as to say to Lord Elgin in writing, "Do not forget, my lord, and this is said without any *arrière pensée*, that in the eyes of the Chinese Government the policy of Mr. Bruce is looked upon as one of the chief causes of all the catastrophes which have lately fallen on the country . . ." It would not, however, be fair to Mr. Bruce even to quote this complaint of his previous conduct without stating that his colleague, M. Bourboulon was spoken of in like terms. In one of the Chinese despatches which fell into the hands of the Allies at Sin-Ho, we find the following passage:—"It must be remembered that Bruce and Bourboulon, *inseparables* in trickery, are crafty and bloodthirsty;" and in another—"As Bruce and Bourboulon are inseparable, and by nature equally sanguinary and perfidious." He would be thin-skinned indeed who smarted under such phrases from the pens of the Chinese authorities of Sine-Ho. Perhaps the Baron had forgotton this coupling of the names of the two representatives when he referred to the bad odour of Mr. Bruce only, and not to that of his colleague M. Bourboulon, for the Chinese papers were seized in August, and the Baron's reference to Mr. Bruce occurs in a letter to Lord Elgin bearing date the 7th November. At page 97 Baron Gros says, in his journal of the occurrences about the time of Parkes' capture:—"Lord Elgin is deeply affected; the fate of Mr. Parkes disturbs him greatly. Parkes alone is worth a whole army, he has repeatedly said to me."

Undoubtedly, the opinions of Baron Gros and Lord Elgin differed on several points, and their respective treatment of Prince Kung, presented as great a contrast as possible, but the entire intercourse of the two plenipotentiaries seems to have been marked by the greatest loyalty and sincerity, and it is peculiarly gratifying now that one is, alas! no more to find his colleague addressing him at the moment when some of the matters on which they disagreed were still unsettled, in such terms as the following:—"It is not necessary for me to tell you, my Lord, how happy your cordial and enlightened concourse has made me during this second as well as in my first mission with you in China, and your Excellency will have remarked, I hope, that I have always tried to act in accordance with you, and to afford you the same moral support that you have accorded to me; and I have been happy in thus fulfilling a duty to make the same known to the Government of the Emperor." Such expressions as these do equal honour to the living and the dead."*

THE STRAITS OF SUNDA.

WE regret to hear that Anjer so long the oasis in the sea voyage from England to the Far East, has become the resort of troublesome and broken-down foreigners, from Batavia and other adjacent places. The captains and passengers who now visit this place find themselves beset by a set of sharks, in place of the unsophisticated natives, who in former times held the supplies of the place. Now we hear of disputes, and arrests, and trials before magistrates, detention of ships, &c., as in regular ports, instead of a mere passing place of call. These encumbrances can have but one end—vessels will cease to anchor there. This will be much regretted by passengers for who that has been some twelve weeks on the sea from London, does not hail with delight the prospect of landing, if only for an hour, on the sunny shores of that lovely spot? We recommend the authorities in Java to see to this, and take the proper steps to bring matters to the *statu quo ante*. In the good old times, the Harbour Master was the only functionary necessary to conduct the affairs of passing vessels.

TREATY BETWEEN SIAM AND PRUSSIA.

THE ratification of the treaty of friendship, commerce, and navigation, between Siam, Prussia, and the Zolverein, has been duly exchanged.

* *The French mode of spelling the names of places has been followed in this review.*

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Literature.

Extract from *The Siberia Overland Route from Peking to Petersburg*, by Alexander Michie, p. 381 :—"The import trade (from China to England) has increased from 41,000,000 taels (about £13,000,000) in 1860 (the last year before the opening of the Yangtsze and the northern ports) to 81,000,000 taels (about £27,000,000) in 1863. The increase is due in a great measure to the large and increasing trade from the ports on the Yangtsze in Chinese produce of all descriptions. The vastly increasing trade in imports into this country from China, compared with which the exports are a bagatelle, Mr. Cobden passes over as having no bearing on the question. The opium revenue to the Indian Government is also overlooked. The large shipping interest engaged in the China trade goes for nothing in Mr. Cobden's estimate, but it is nevertheless of great importance to the country, even though the vessels are not all owned in Lancashire and do not all carry cotton. The amount of capital that British shipowners find employment for in connection with China is not limited to the large fleet of vessels engaged in the direct trade with this country, but it is spread all over the coast and rivers of China. In the despatch above quoted Sir R. Bruce states that the entries of foreign shipping in China have increased from 293,568 tons, in 1860, to 996 890 tons, in 1863.

"The interests which British merchants, and through them the nation at large, possess in the prosperity of China is largely ramified. They are largely involved in the local and coasting trade; large amounts of British capital are sunk in fixed property of various kinds at all the open ports, and such investments are increasing at a rapid rate. These things lie under the surface, and are not generally considered in estimates that are formed in this country of the actual stake Great Britain has in China. But they are none the less real on that account. Theorists may say what they will, but our establishment in the territory of China is a great and important fact, and whether the process which led to it was theoretically correct or not, it will be impossible to undo it. Not only are we fixed in China ourselves, but large native populations at the treaty ports have thrown in their fortunes with ours, to abandon whom would bring calamities on the Chinese for which it would baffle Mr. Cobden to find a remedy.

"To reverse our progress is, however, the policy or hobby of Mr. Cobden. He would not only undo what has been done, but he would urge the Government on to a new career of conquest in China, without even a pretext for war. He would seize two more islands on the coast in order to make free ports, which would draw trade away from those now established—"Get two other small islands—merely establish them as free ports; I don't ask you to do more." Mr. Cobden does not commit himself to say how the islands are to be acquired, but he knows very well there is but one way of acquiring them. And supposing we took possession of two islands, how many would France take? And if England were to lead the way in such schemes of aggrandisement, would the ambition of France stop short at islands? Many high-handed proceedings have been laid to the charge of this country, but this scheme of spoliation would pass everything else of its kind. Mr. Cobden would probably suggest purchasing the islands, which would be at least a civil way of putting it. But the whole scheme is so purely Utopian that one marvels that a practical thinker should have shown such contempt for his audience as to propound it. Hong Kong is the model on which Mr. Cobden would base his colonies; very flattering to Hong Kong perhaps, but betraying an incredible forgetfulness of the history of that colony. The *London and China Telegraph* of 13th of June last, in commenting upon Mr. Cobden's speech, shows clearly that the advancement of Hong Kong as a port of trade was due to purely adventitious circumstances, and that for many years, when it rested on its own merits for success, it was an absolute failure, and a constant expense to the country. If Mr. Cobden aspires to be a second Stamford Raffles he is beginning at the wrong end. Our policies in China will be more safely left to the chapter of accidents than to visionaries. We have hard facts to deal with, and not phantoms of a lively imagination."

FRENCH INSTRUCTION ON JAPAN.

The following article we translate from *Les Debats*, of Feb. 9:—

The most inexact notions prevail of the political world of Japan. According to *La France* the Tycoon is already metamorphosed into an English constitutional sovereign. The truth is, there is not in Japan even the shadow of constitutional rule; foreign Powers there confront a feudal Government of the most extreme type. Although we may speak of two Sovereigns of Japan, the one Temporal, the other Spiritual, there is but one, the Mikado, dwelling in the interior of the isle of Niphon, in a city marked on the maps as Miako, but the true name of which is Kioto, and represented on the shore by a delegate, the Tycoon, resident at the maritime city of Yedo. It is only by an error he is termed by us Temporal Sovereign; he can do nothing to change the constitution of the empire without the consent of the Mikado. The establishment of strangers in Japan being expressly interdicted by the national constitution, it follows that the treaties concluded by the Tycoon with European or American diplomats, but not ratified by the Mikado, violate, if carried into effect, the fundamental pact existing between the great feudatories. The rich and powerful vassals, of whom the Tycoon is but the first, see in the regard paid by foreign nations to these treaties, as completed instruments, favourable occasions for relieving themselves from the yoke of one who in reality is to them a mere appointed superior (*Maire du Palais*). These unratified treaties place the Tycoon between two necessities; he must either withdraw them or crush his adversaries. In default of power sufficient to do one or the other, he has had recourse to indirect means. He has aimed to render sojourn in the empire impossible to foreigners. The more concessions are extorted from him by the representatives of France and England, the greater the power he gives his enemies, and the more do embarrassments of all sorts multiply.

In the last great difficulty with Japan, studious endeavours were made to avoid a war in the neighbourhood of Japan; Yokohama continued to be maintained by the sole force of inertia; but although the settlement was not attacked, commerce was withdrawn. A remote diversion was determined on; so necessary is it found to conserve in the Tycoon a *point d'appui*; our enemies being his own, the strengthening of his power constitutes our only guarantee. These enemies have for their chief a Daimio who had put to death the envoys of the Tycoon, and had interdicted to foreign vessels all entrance into the Inland Sea. In directing a naval enterprise against this Daimio, we attacked our adversaries in the person of their chief, and for the Tycoon we played the *role* of protectors and liberators. More than a year ago the representatives of France, England, the United States, and Holland, agreed upon this policy as the best means of obviating difficulties. Results have corresponded to expectations, in giving entrance to the hitherto unapproachable sea. The Tycoon, witnessing in our success the abasement of his rival, himself engages to pay the cost of the expedition. It is no more a question of the abandonment of Yokohama; the local authorities of that town have even accorded to foreigners lots of land and prescribed embellishments; and silks have been freely forwarded to the local market; in fact, the supreme council of Yedo, not unobservant of the rising fortunes of the Tycoon, appears to have sincerely endeavoured to obtain the ratification of the late treaty. It is of great importance that the eight Daimios should be united on this important matter.

SELECTIONS FROM "PUNCH."

A DREAM OF THE FUTURE.

GAS HAS BEEN TURNED ON IN CHINA.

(Translation of Correspondence).

(1.)

His Celestial and Imperial Highness, Brother to the Sun and Moon, Twin to the Twinkling Stars, Cousin of the Comet, presents his celestial compliments to the Secretary of the Hi Ski Hi Gas Company of Pekin, and requests to be informed of the reason why the Imperial and Celestial Palace was suddenly left in darkness on the evening of yesterday.

Imperial Palace, Pekin.

(2.)

To his Celestial and Imperial Highness, &c., &c., from T. JONES, *Secretary of the Pekin Hi Ski Hi Gas Company (Limited).*

His Celestial and Imperial Highness, Brother to the Sun and Moon, &c., &c., is hereby informed that as certain moneys (account rendered, enclosed herein) are still due to the Hi Ski Hi Company, the regular supply of Gas to the Palace has been, and in future will be discontinued until the above-mentioned debt is discharged. (*See Rules and Regulations of the H. S. H. Company*).

(3.)

From His Celestial &c., to T. JONES, *Secretary, &c.*

His Celestial Imperial Highness, Brother, &c., &c., requests the pleasure of MR. T. JONES'S head, for the purpose of spiking it on the Celestial Palace gateway before sunset. [*Bearer waits.*

(4.)

To His Celestial, &c., from T. JONES, *&c.*

T. JONES beseeches His Celestial Imperial, &c. to have patience. He has implored the Company to turn on the gas. If the Brother of the Sun will only condescend to pay so much in the pound, all may yet be well.

(5.)

From His Celestial, &c., to T. JONES, *Secretary, &c.*

His Celestial Imperial, &c., swearing by the shade of Confucius, and by his immortal ancestors CRI KEE, HO KEE, PO KEE, WANG KEE, and the transcendant FUM, herewith demands the immediate surrender of all the heads belonging to the pernicious and abominable Directors, Secretaries, and other miserable vermin calling themselves the Hi Ski Hi Gas Company. [*Bearer waits.*

(6.)

Report of Bearer of Missive to His Celestial Imperial, &c. To His Celestial, &c.

Your poor slave, crouching and trembling, has to announce the escape of Gas Company.

(7.)

Order of the Day issued by His Celestial, &c.

Bamboo and behead the bearer.

[*Bearer bambooed and beheaded accordingly.*

End of Correspondence.

Foreign Intelligence.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

FEB. 13.

The Leipzig *Illustrirte Zeitung* gives a drawing of the new Chinese Order of Merit, mentioned in my last letter, and accompanies it by the following letter-press description which contains further particulars :—"By the capture of Nanking, the Chinese Government find themselves at length delivered from the widely extended rebellion of the Taipings that had lasted for ten years and for some time caused great uneasiness in political circles at the seat of government. In celebration of the victory the Emperor of China decreed thanksgivings to the gods, all the members of the Imperial family received presents, the highest honours were conferred on Prince Kung all the chief officers of the State and the army were gratified by gifts of money, and even the public executions, that according to custom are performed in

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the autumn, were postponed till the following year. Amongst this lavish display of the Emperor's gratitude, a peculiar mark of distinction was reserved for the "barbarians" who had contributed in a great measure to suppress the rebellion, and an Order, something in the European fashion, was instituted by the Emperor, consisting of a gold and silver medal to be worn suspended by a yellow ribbon with two clasps. On the averse is engraved the name of the present Emperor in the Chinese and Tartaric languages, whilst the obverse contains a double representation of the Dragon worshipped by the Chinese as a superior being that, however, no one ever set eyes on. The medal has a square hole in the centre, like all the coins of the country, and as a specimen of art is not to be compared with anything similar made in Europe, the metal being too soft, from the absence of any alloy. About one hundred and forty of these decorations have been conferred on British and French naval and military officers, and it is proportionably valuable from the limited number distributed."

The Prussian Consulates in China are about to be increased by two consular districts at Canton and Tientsin. On the other hand, the Grand Duke of Oldenburg gives up his consulates at China, and by a new convention with the Cabinet of Berlin transfers the international representation and security of his subjects and flag to the Prussian Consulates in China. The new flag of the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein, whose vessels and cargoes are placed under the protection of Prussia in China and Japan, is now decided to be horizontal stripes of blue, white, and red—in fact, the Dutch flag with the colours reversed, with two yellow balls in the white stripe.

A clerical mission has just left St. Petersburg overland viâ Siberia for Peking. At the head of the mission is an Archimandrite who has been in China before, and since then was chaplain of the Russian Embassy at Rome.

At Nijni-Novgorod a project has been set on foot for the formation of a joint-stock company with a view to purchase the block of warehouses lately built by the Russian Government, and to extend them in conformity with the requirements of the traffic of that place, the fair having of late years increased so much in importance. The building in question now produces an annual rental to the Government of 116,000 roubles. The provisional committee of the promoters of the project have already sounded the feelings of the Government on the subject, and found them favourably disposed to listen to proposals. It is stated that the English company that has already built the block of fire-proof warehouses called the Apraxine Door, has expressed itself willing to undertake the erection of these new stores on the same fire-proof principle.

At Kiachta the corporation of merchants have made a present of a house and grounds, of the value of 15,000 roubles, belonging to them at Troitzkozavsk, to the school for young ladies lately founded at that place by the Count Muravieff, Amoorsky.

The Emperor of Russia has directed the Minister for Public Works and Communications to give the telegraph department in Siberia instructions to admit young women of unimpeachable character to the functions of telegraph operators. They are bound to take the usual oath of fidelity and secrecy, and their salary is not to exceed 300 roubles per annum.

On the 12th of December last the telegraph was opened between Nicolayefsk and Charabofka, a distance of 1,000 wersts

COMMERCIAL.

SUGAR.—Raw market very dull, and 12 sch. bco. lower than as last reported. Refined shows no sign of animation, though holders are prepared to take lower prices. The sales were below the usual average quantity.

RICE.—This article continues in favour, and prices have a tendency to rise. In rough grain there have been no transactions.

SPICES.—Nothing of importance to notice. Ginger is dull of sale and a shade easier. Cloves and Pepper well supported. In Cassia Lignea no alteration in value.

SPELTER.—After a long period of dulness during which prices have considerably fallen, better accounts are received from Silesia and other producing districts, which have had a favorable effect on this market, and some sales have been effected to the amount of about 5,000 centners at 12¼ marks banco, for Spring delivery, and a better feeling exists.

TEA.—Owing to the season of the year the business of the past month was on a very limited scale, and prices underwent no fluctuations. Ord. to good ord. Congou, sells readily at 10½ to 14 sch. bco., Hyson skin is worth 15 to 21, gunpowder, country, 43 to 46 do., Canton, 15 to 28, and Japan 18 to 26.

SHIPPING.—Elizabeth, De Boer, from Hamburg to the Amoor, has put into the Texel for repairs, with loss of bulwarks, stays, and other damage.

HOLLAND.

ROTTERDAM, Feb. 14.—Last week a very interesting case was brought before our Correctional Court:—

A captain of the East India Army, returning on leave of absence to Holland, took passage at Padang on board of the Dutch vessel *Vooruit*, Capt. Kool, bound for Rotterdam. Some days after sailing, the officer, who was very ill, handed the master of the ship a bag containing 1,000 fl. in ryksdaalers (two-and-a-half florin pieces). After being a fortnight on board the officer recovered from his illness. On a certain day Capt. Kool asked him to make up his account with his shipowners (Messrs. H. Muller and Co.). This done, the account showed a deficit of 900 fl. against Kool. Some days later the passenger saw Kool take the bag from his bureau; this excited his suspicions, and he therefore claimed his property. The master of the ship denied that he had received anything, declared the officer mad in presence of the other passengers and the crew, and ordered the chief officer to put the passenger in confinement, which was done. The following day the ship arrived at St. Helena, and the passenger was released, perhaps in the hope that when he had once gone on shore he would not return on board. The Dutch Consul, however, advised the passenger to embark again, as he could do nothing for him. When he returned on board Captain Kool bullied him and threatened him nearly every day, putting him in confinement again. When the *Vooruit* arrived at Portsmouth the passenger made his escape ashore, leaving his property behind. On the 1st of January he arrived here, where he brought an accusation against the master of the ship, in consequence of which Captain Kool was imprisoned. During the investigation, and at the sitting of the Court, several witnesses, who saw the passenger hand the bag of money to the captain, were examined, and they all confirmed the charge. To-day the Court condemned Captain Kool to one year's imprisonment (cellular), and to a fine of f.12.50. The verdict caused much sensation.

In a former letter I told you that Mr. A. Prins would again be appointed Vice-Presses of the High Council in the Netherlands India. The *Staats Courant* now confirms my communication, and Mr. Prins will start by one of the first mails.

The news from Amsterdam causes much anxiety in regard to the proceedings of the managers of the Kanaal-maatschappy. It is generally thought the company must wind up should there be no other directs or elected on the general meeting, which will be held to-day.

His Majesty has at their own request superseded Lieut.-General C. P. Schimpf, Commander of the East Indian Army, and Major F. K. G. Fritzen.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The market was rather more inactive, the trade being occupied inspecting the parcels to be offered in the public sale of the Trading Company on the 15th inst. 1,200 b. Java, ex Sverig, were sold at 45 c.; 219 b. ex ditto at different prices; 1,800 b. Java, ex Albert the Good, at secret prices, and 366 b. Padang, ex Vooruit, at 50 c.

TEA.—Firm but inactive, transactions are limited to those for consumption.

SUGAR (Raw).—There is now some more inquiry; prices being 3½f. to 4f. under those of November; the quantities sold last week amount to 5,000 to 6,000 kr.; besides the following quantities (sailing) was disposed of: 1,677 kr. Java, No. 15, per Leaping Water, fine quality at 34½f.; and 592 kr., No. 12½, per ditto, 32½f.; and 763 kr. No. 10, good to fine quality, per Ocean, at 30f.; Refined: In tone with raw sugar; some lots crushed, B and H, changed hands.

SPICES. Very flat. Cinnamon, No. 3, 97c. to 98c.; No. 4, 90c., with much demand, but without stock. Pepper, 170 b., ex Vooruit, were sold.

RICE.—The sales have been extremely light.

TOBACCO (Java).—The great quantities offered at the private sales were sold at very high prices for 1st quality: ordinary sorts were in comparison lower. The 1,086 p. Java C.H. and D. offered by inscription, were not sold.

COTTON.—The confidence in this article was somewhat improved in the first days after our former report, and some parcels E.I. were sold for export. The market closes dull, according to the advices from Liverpool.

BANCA TIN.—The market has become inactive, because there is no more speculative inquiry in consequence of the London market. The quotation now is 58f.

MANILA SEGARS.—The lot of 84 mille., 2A. Cortados, 1863, offered at public sale, were sold before the auction at unknown but firm prices.

CAMPHOR.—Very firm, and business to a fair extent done privately.

GUMMI D'AMAR.—200 ch., ex Peeress, were sold at prices that did not transpire.

GUMMI ELASTICUM.—The 50 pic., ex Peeress, and the 102 pic. ex Koophandel were sold at former prices.

RATTANS.—8,743 bundles, ex Sirius, changed hands at firm prices.

HIDES.—The parcels Buffalo, imported from Java per Nation's Hope, were sold at firm but secret prices.

INDIGO.—The market was rather more animated, about 100 ch. were sold at former prices.

HEMP.—Dull.

MONEY.—Easy; Bank discount for Bills 4½ per cent., and for acceptances 5 per cent.; Open Market 4½ per cent., N.W.S. 2½ per cent., 62 7-18; 3 per cent., 73 9-16; 4 per cent., 96 15-16; Handelmaatschappy, 143; Java Bank, 150; Netherlands Bank, 330. Change: London, 3 mo., f.11.58; 2 mo., f.11.63; short, f.11.73½; Paris, 3 mo., f.46.10; 2 mo., f.46.25; short, f.46.65; Hambro', 3 mo., f.34.87; 2 mo., f.35; short, f.35.20.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.—For Java: per Wilhelmina, Capt. Brauer, Mr. N. A. Wannee.

ARRIVALS.—Feb. 8, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Julia; at Hellevoet, from Macassar, Elizabeth and Jacoba; at Flushing, from Batavia, Stad Middelburg. 12, at Texel, from Batavia, Mentor.

DEPARTURES.—Feb. 10, from Brouwershaven to Sourabaya, Wilhelmina; from Zierikzee to Java (*via* the Coast of Guinea), Concurrent; from Texel to Macassar, Quartre-Bras; 13, from Texel to Batavia, Ferdinand and Louis. Shipping is again stopped by the ice. Temperature, 18 deg. Fahrenheit.

LOADING AND FREIGHTS.—Unchanged.

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MISSIONARIES IN CHINA.—Mr. Blodgett, a missionary of the American Board, who recently visited a cemetery of Roman Catholic priests at Peking, writes:—"Of twenty-six priests whose remains were interred there, the average term of life in China was 24 years, and the average total of life was 60 years. The average age for entering the field was 35 years. No settled minister who feels inwardly called to the missionary work need be detained by his age from coming to China, if he be not above 30 or 35." Peking is in the province of Chieli, which is situated between the 38 and 43 degrees of N. latitude. Nanking is about 33 deg. N.; and in the province in which Nanking is situated, the average term of labour of the Jesuit priests was but 11 years, as Mr. Blodgett ascertained in a similar way. But all the Protestant missionaries have, until recently, been compelled to labour in cities which are south from Nanking, and the average term of Protestant missionary life has been but five years.

PARLIAMENT—BRITISH SUBJECTS IN CHINA.—Colonel Sykes wished to ask whether the order in Council of the 1st March, 1864, had been enforced, and all British subjects withdrawn from the service of the Emperor of China and that of provincial mandarins. Mr. Layard said that the Government had no power to withdraw from the service of the Emperor of China any person who might be in that service. Those who were in the service of Her Majesty had been withdrawn, and other British subjects would remain in the service of the Emperor of China at their own peril.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Feb. 6	Texel	Batavia	Mathilda	Fekkes.
— 6	Do.	Do.	Loevesteyn	Hulshof.
— 6	Do.	Tjilatjap	Batavia	Dolder.
— 9	Falmouth	Hong Kong	Jupiter	Nobeling.
— 8	Off Portland	Macao	Gustav and Ernst	Voigt.
— 9	Plymouth	Nagasaki	Great Western	Robson.
— 8	Off Torbay	Japan	Castleton	Hill.
—	Off Folkestone	Shanghai	Sarah Neumann	Thomas.
— 6	Off the Eddystone	Manila	Staffordshire	Cameron.
— 8	Helvoet	Macassar	Elisabeth Jacoba	Zwaneveld.
— 8	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Julie	Tas.
Jan. 26	New York	Amoy	Maggie Leslie	Stephen.
Feb. 10	Off Dover	Batavia	Kinderdyk	Zwanenburg.
— 10	Queenstown	Manila	Ocean Empress	Macdonald.
—	Youghal	Yokohama	Jane Isabella	Cole.
— 13	Off Plymouth	Shanghai	Rifle	Elliot.
— 10	Off the Start	Do.	Maravi	Anderson.
— 10	Texel	Macassar	Quatre Bras	Nieuwenhuis.
— 13	Off the Start	Colombo	Hero of the Nile	
— 13	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Java	
— 12	Texel	Do.	Mentor	Dainker.
—	New York	Singapore	Panic	
—	Do.	Hong Kong	Niemen	
Jan. 14	New York	Manila	Franklin	
— 15	Do.	Do.	Continent	

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Feb. 5	Rotterdam	Batavia	Burgemeester Hoffman	
— 8	Plymouth	Hong Kong	Florence Braginton	Turner.
Jan. —	Amsterdam	Batavia	Willem Hendrick	Beckering.
Feb. 9	London	Singapore & Penang	Ferozepore	Woolloton.
— 8	Harwich	Hong Kong	*Diamond	Robertson.
— 6	Rotterdam	Batavia	Maria Magdalena	Willenbrinck.
— 10	Liverpool	Manila	Peerless	Major.
— 8	Sunderland	Shanghai	Chanticleer	Vowell.
— 8	Do.	Hong Kong	Tavistock	Park.
— 11	London	Shanghai	Stirlingshire	Cunningham.
— 11	Do.	Nagasaki	Rifleman	Parson.
— 11	Do.	Batavia	Admiral de Winter	Bunnemeyer.
— 10	Shields	Singapore	Yeavering Belle	
— 10	Sunderland	Do.	Thusnelda	Hunckeu.
Jan. 30	New York	Batavia	Salamander	Detlefsen.
Feb. 14	London	Colombo	Evelyn Wood	Wylie.
— 15	Do.	Shanghai	Solent	Paige.
— 15	Do.	Newcastle & Colombo	Carausius	Baird.
— 14	Liverpool	Galle	Branstone	Nickels.
— 14	Do.	Shanghai	Kew Kee	Fuller.

* After repairing.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Thomas Blythe, Simon Hobley, Gleam. For Nagasaki: Lammermuir. For Shanghai: Wild Deer, Peterborough. For Hong Kong and Canton: Cathaya, Yaratilda. For Singapore: Helen's Bank, Eliza Thornton. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Ilma. For Colombo: Jeddo. For Colombo and Trincomalee: Empress.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Raphael. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Empress. For Shanghai: Finzel, Patna, Sarah Scott. For Hong Kong and Canton: Everest, Veronica. For Singapore: Der West, Vigil. For Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Yokohama: Shaftesbury (s.). For Batavia and Sourabaya: Affghan. For Manila: Sales, Labrador, Tigris. For Colombo and Tuticorin, Liverpool. For Galle: C. H. Soule, Blanch Moore.

At GLASGOW.—For Batavia and Singapore: Maythorn. For Singapore and Penang: Priam.

At NEW YORK.—For Hong Kong: Samuel Russell. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Amaranth.

SPOKEN.

RUDOLPH (Brem. schr.), Bremen to Shanghai, Jan. 12, 4 N., 25 W.
CAMBAY, Liverpool to Galle, 29 days out, Jan. 13, 5 N., 24 W.
SONBURG, Batavia to Amsterdam, November 26.
GYSBERT KAREL G. HOGENDORP, Bat. to Rot., Dec 28, 27 S., 60 E.
ÆOLUS, Rotterdam to Batavia, January 11, 4 N., 24 W.
GENL. MICHAEL (D. b.), Brouwershaven to Bat., Jan. 10, 5 N., 24 W.
SATURNUS (barque), Hamburg to Singapore, January 8, 5 N. 24 W.
FEIDO (?), Bankok to Falmouth, 35 S., 23 E.
RACER, for Hong Kong, October 12, 23 N., 117 E.
NEPTUNE'S BRIDE, Cardiff to Ceylon, November 28, 8 S., 32 W.
GARRAWALT, London to Singapore, December 6, 26 S., 27 W.
PRINCE LLEWELLYN, Galle to London, January 5.
FOREST EAGLE, London to Colombo, November 20, 9 S., 29 E.
WILHELMINA (Han. barq.), for Batavia, December 25, 34 S., 16 E.
MERCATOR (Dutch barque), for Batavia, December 25, 34 S., 16 E.
PALMERSTON, London to Colombo, November 14, 21 N., 18 W.
SPANKER, Clyde to Hong Kong, December 14, 26 S., 24 W.
ELEANOR, Hong Kong to Queenstown, February 11, 51 N., 10 W.
THOMAS CAMPBELL, Sourabaya to Rotterdam, Nov. 27, 20 S., 81 E.
NIEUWLAND, Batavia to Rotterdam, December 31, 23 S., 5 E.
WANSTEAD (?) (ship), Foo-chow-Foo to London, Dec. 16, 35 S., 21 E.
VOLUNTEER, New York to Shanghai, November 15, 19 S., 29 W.
VREDE, Amsterdam to Batavia, December 10, 38 S., 6 E.
ST. FILLAN, Yloilo to Queenstown, January 3, 13 S., 9 W.
CATHARINA, Macao to Hamburg, 97 days out, Jan. 20, 18 N., 33 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Owing to the inclemency of the weather but little change has taken place in outward freights. Homeward charters are very scarce, and appear almost at a standstill. Coal freights continue to improve, the amount of available tonnage now offering for Galle being quite insufficient for present requirements.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 22s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £35 and £1. 11s. For Shanghai: £42 and £2. For Manila: £1. 10s. For Batavia; £23 to £24, and £1. 2s. 6d. For Singapore: £26 and £1. 1s. 0d. For Penang: £27. For Galle: £25 and £1. 1s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have engaged freight in the Yaratilda for the conveyance of Government stores from the River Thames to Hong Kong, and have invited tenders for the conveyance of 12 tons further stores from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Qua Lee, Collins, from Liverpool for Singapore, was towed into Lisbon, Feb. 11, with loss of fore and main topmast.

The Admiral de Winter, Bunnemeyer, from London for Batavia, has returned damaged, having been in collision with the Surrey.

The Luisita (Spanish ship), Gordia, from Manila to Cadiz, with general cargo and Spanish troops on board, put into St Thomas's, Jan. 20, leaking badly, and escorted by the Memphis (barq.), of Liverpool, which had kept in company with her since Jan. 3. The Luisita was discharging.

The Jane Isabella, Cole, from Yokohama for Liverpool, put into Youghal, Feb. —, short of provisions.

The Iberica (Spanish ship), Onato, from Liverpool, to Manila, put into Cadiz, Feb. 14, with loss of foremast, sails, and spars, and making water. She will partly discharge for repairs.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At ASCENSION.—Dec. 4, from Singapore, Panic, Bell, and sailed 6 for New York; 6, from Shanghai, Claremont, and sailed 8 for London.

Off ASCENSION.—Dec. 30, from Shanghai, Cleopatra, for London; 31, from Padang, Mentor, for Amsterdam; Jan. 15, from Batavia, Gebroeders, for Rotterdam.

At ST. HELENA.—Jan. 3, from Canton, Brechin Castle, Parkinson, and sailed for Demerara; from Foo-chow-Foo, West Derby, Sergent, and sailed 4 for London; 4, from Shanghai, Providence, Lee, and sailed 5 for Liverpool; from Foo-chow-Foo, Cumberland, Bell, and sailed 5 for London; 6, from Amoy, Barlochan, Stronach, and sailed for London; from Manila, Constance, Rowe, and sailed 8 for London; from Sourabaya, Ravensbourne, Cooper, and sailed 7 for Queenstown; from Macassar, Macassar, Cowland, and sailed 8 for Rotterdam; from Foo-chow-Foo, Ravensworth, Kaurens, and sailed 7 for New York; 7, from Shanghai, Avondhu, Davie, and sailed for London; 8, from Hong Kong, Mount Stuart Elphinstone, Davidson, and sailed 9 for Liverpool; from Iloilo, St. Paul, Crowell, and sailed 10 for Queenstown; 10, from Hong Kong, Delhi, Kenna, and sailed for Liverpool; from Penang, Concorde, Frisby, and sailed for Bordeaux; 11, from Batavia, Landbouw, Kleynenberg, and sailed for Rotterdam; 12, from Penang, Wellington, Ditchburn, and sailed 13 for London; from Banjoewangie, Brederode, Kruymel, and sailed 13 for Rotterdam; from Manila, Olano, Longa, and sailed for Liverpool; 13, from Bankok, Semper Fidelis, Periam, and sailed for Falmouth; 15, from Ceylon, Avon, Edmond, and sailed 16 for London; from Batavia, Elshout, Akkerman, and sailed 16 for Amsterdam; 16, from Shanghai, Toftcombs, M'Phun, and sailed 18 for London; 17, Gwalior, Thomson, and sailed 19 for Liverpool; 18, from Yokohama, Comus, Black; 19, from Macao, Emigrant, Ureta.

Off ST. HELENA.—Jan. 5, from Nagasaki, Alice (barque); from Java, Zephir (Dutch barque); 6, from Batavia, Octavie (French barque), for Nantes.

At TABLE BAY.—Dec. 26, from Batavia, Wildeman, Drieste, and sailed 31 for Amsterdam; 31, from Macao, St. Joseph, Roseau, and sailed Jan. 2 for Havana; Jan. 8, from Singapore, Maid of the Tyne, Reid.

At ALGOA BAY.—Jan. 7, from Hong Kong, Xulla, Ward.

At NATAL.—Dec. 24, Sjottrollet, Haglund, sailed for Singapore.

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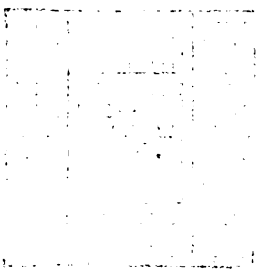

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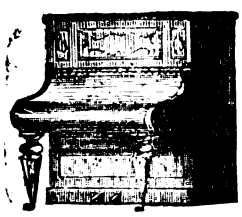

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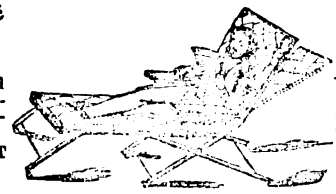

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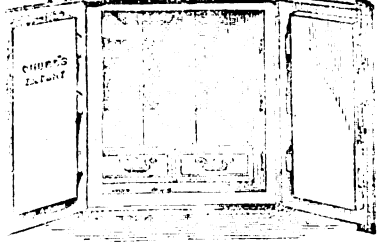

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Shanghai ...	Patua	—	—	»
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Hong Kong & Whampoa ...	Everest ...	571	A 1	»
Hong Kong & Whampoa ...	Veronica ...	—	—	»
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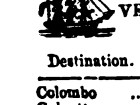

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Kanagawa (Yokohama) ...	Simon Hobley	A 1 10 yr.	W.I.D.	With des.
Ditto	Gleam ...	A 1 12 yr.	W.I.D.	With des.
Nagasaki ...	Lammermuir.	A 1 12 yr.	W.I.D	With des.
Singapore ...	Helensbank .	A 1 10 yr.	S K.D.	With des.

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H. Kong & Whampoa	Cathaya ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Manila	A Ship ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Kanagawa	Thos. Blythe	W.I.D.	With des.
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Curry Sauce...	1s. 6d.
Tap, do.	1s. 6d.
Pickled Limes	1s. 6d.
Pickled Mangoes	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Essence of Chillies	1s. 9d.
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Balachow	1s. 6d.
Genuine Cayenne	1s. and 2s.
Nepaul Pepper	1s. and 2s.
Guava Jelly	2s. 6d. and 5s.
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By order,
H. WALLER PLATT, Acting Secretary.
10A, King's Arms-yard, London, February, 1865.

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Amoy, 1st January, 1864

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 165.] LONDON, TUESDAY, FEB. 28, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Oct. 26	Dec. 24	Jan. 1
Nagasaki			
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	Nov. 10	„ 31	„ 9
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 10
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 11
Swatow			
Hong Kong	„ 26	Jan. 14	„ 15
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	„ 10	Dec. 28	„ 7
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			
SIAM— Bangkok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 16
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Dec. 10	Jan. 14	„ 22
Penang	„ „	„ 12	„ 24

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles, per P. and O. Co.'s steamer Pera, arrived Feb. 26.—From Yokohama: Mr. Paine. From Hong Kong: Messrs. Henderson and Scholefield, and one second-class passenger. From Singapore: Mr. Hunger and two second-class passengers. From Penang: Major Stevenson, Mr. and Mrs. Macdonald.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, from Southampton, Feb. 20.—To Hong Kong: Sub.-Lieut. D. M. Smith, R.N., Mr. W. L. Hunter, Dr. C. C. Wimberley, R.N., Dr. W. Patullo, Miss Brae and ayah, Miss Firth, and one 2nd-class passenger. To Ceylon: Mr. H. W. G. Layard, Mr. R. Cunninghame, Mr. H. Marsden, Mr. D. Saumarez, Mr. A. Lackenbacker, nine second-class passengers, and six children. To Calcutta: Mrs. Comley, Mrs. Farquhar, infant, and European servant, Mrs. Col. Taylor and European servant, Lieut. H. A. Rooke, Miss Mayne, Mrs. Cooke, Assistant-Surgeon Shipton, Messrs. John Ogilvie, F. Keighley, J. D. Watters, G. H. Peel, F. Peel, Runner, Vanderkiste, W. F. Jones, and W. Webber, and seven 2nd-class passengers. To Madras: Messrs. B. Mockett, and H. J. Penny, Mrs. Lewis and European servant, Col. E. A. Foord, Lieuts. Easton and Lousada, Mrs. Gordon, two children and two Misses Gordon, Col. Denison. To Suez: One 2nd-class passenger. To Alexandria: Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, Rev. and Mrs. J. Lawrence, Miss Barker, Mr. Barker, Mr. E. S. Heywood, and courier. To Alexandria and back: Rev. F. Soden.

From Marseilles, March 1.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Trautman, Mr. A. Milsom, Mr. Wilks, Col. Knox, C.B., Mr. and Mrs. Evans, Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Stephenson, and one 2nd-class passenger. To Shanghai: Messrs. Detring, Allin, and Vernimb, Dr. and Mrs. J. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Evans, Mr. F. Diers. To Singapore: Mrs. Rigg. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Armitage and two infants, and nurse, Mr. Ratcliffe. To Calcutta: Mr. and Mrs. Terry, Right Hon. W. N. Massey, Mr. G. W. Forbes, Capt. Sitwell, Mr. G. Badham. To Madras: Major-General Haines, Major Holland. To Alexandria: Mr. Hamilton.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Feb. 27.—To Ceylon via Bombay: Mr. J. W. Venn. From Marseilles, March 5.—To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. H. Dickinson. From Malta.—To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. G. Overbeck.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, March 4.—To Shanghai: Mr. F. Evans, Mr. C. Dunn, Mr. E. M'Loughlin. To Hong Kong: Mr. J. Dinwoodie, Mr. J. W. Coxford, Mr. W. J. Mayne, R.N., Mr. G. B. Westcott, R.N., Mrs. Hogg and infant. To Singapore: Mrs. Robinson. To Ceylon: Mr. O. E. Lee, Mr. W. M. Lyte, Mr. R. Temple, Gentleman and two Ladies, Mr. J. Mackenzie, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson and infant. From Marseilles, March 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. B. Seare.

Per French mail, March 19.—For Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Mayers.

Per Solent, sailed Feb. 15.—To Shanghai: Mrs. E. J. Board, Miss D. Elliot, Mrs. Edwards.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Our dates come down to the 1st January. The London mail of the 26th October arrived out on the 24th December.

On the morning of the 24th December Sir Rutherford Alcock, the British Minister Plenipotentiary, and Lady Alcock, embarked on board H.M.S. *Barossa* on their homeward voyage. At nine o'clock the bund, from the Legation building to the New Hatoba, was lined with the men of the 20th Regiment and Royal Marines. At the Hatoba, detachments of these regiments formed a guard of honour, and a small body of His Netherlands Majesty's Marines attended as a complimentary guard. At half-past nine Sir Rutherford and his lady, accompanied by all the Foreign Ministers and Consuls and Diplomatic and Consular Corps, left the Legation, escorted by Captain Applin at the head of the Military Train Escort, and passed down to the place of embarkation, saluted along the whole route by the cheers of the men. At the Hatoba a very considerable number, if not all, of the British residents (and many of other nationalities) had assembled to pay a parting mark of respect to his Excellency. The band, having received him with the National Anthem, struck up "Should auld acquaintance be forgot"—the Royal Artillery, which had been drawn up in front of the new Custom-house, fired a salute; the Japanese forts at Kanagawa also saluted; and amidst such marks of honour, his Excellency, after paying the last complimentary visits to the *Euryalus* and other ships in harbour, embarked on board the *Barossa*, which immediately got under weigh and took her departure. His Excellency (says the *Japan Herald*) appeared not a little gratified with the warm adieux of the great concourse of residents which had assembled; and well, indeed, he might be, for every cheer, every hat lifted, must have convinced him that, let former words said or written remain uneffaced where they may, yet that the mendacious insinuation that he has done little or nothing for the community since his return, has met with almost universal indignant repulsion.

The following were the arrangements for public business consequent on Sir Rutherford's departure:—

"C. A. Winchester, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul at Kanagawa, will take charge of the British Legation on the departure of the Minister, and thereupon act as Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires during his absence, or till further notice.

"Marcus Flowers, Esq., H.B.M.'s Vice-Consul at Kanagawa, will in like manner take charge of the Consulate from the same date, as H.M.'s Acting-Consul.—By order, "JOHN MACDONALD.

"H.M.'s Legation, Yokohama, December 24, 1864."

On the 23rd December the 67th Regiment and the Beloochees embarked on board Her Majesty's troop-ship *Adventure* for Hong Kong. "We cannot let the departure of these brave fellows from our settlement pass by (says the journal before quoted) without a word of acknowledgment of their exemplary conduct during the whole time of their being quartered in this place."

One of the actual murderers of Major Baldwin and Lieut. Bird, has been captured at Yedo, and brought down to Yokohama and executed. The first information, brought by one of the Vice-Governors from Yedo, to the British Minister, was to the effect that on the 17th December, one Seiji, reported to be the head of a band of Lonins, had been captured by means of information derived from one of the men executed on the 16th,

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that he had since made full confession, and it was confidently expected his evidence would lead to the discovery of his immediate associate.

On Tuesday morning, December 27, it having become generally known that Seiji, having made full confession of his crime, would be brought into Yokohoma for exhibition through the foreign and native settlement, a large number of residents congregated along the streets to witness the procession. Many had waited long, and it was getting near to dusk when a white banner, and a long board, both inscribed at some length, were seen approaching in the distance. Curiosity was soon satisfied, for with the delay only of a few minutes at the entrance of the native town the procession arrived. It consisted simply of a few of the Government foot soldiers armed with foreign muskets; then followed common soldiers bearing the banner and accusation board; then the prisoner, a man of apparently about 28 years of age, of large frame, and with a most sinister and resolute physiognomy, tightly bound, and seated upon a pack-horse; then some six or eight mounted Yakonins, and a few more foot soldiers. The procession moved past the Custom-house, through the street leading to the British Legation, on through the wide street between the Old and Swamp Settlements, then through the back streets of the Native Settlement, stopping more than once to give refreshment to the prisoner, and so back to the execution-ground. Through the whole route the procession was accompanied by many foreigners on foot or on horseback. All concur in the observation that during the whole of this time the prisoner showed no one evidence of shame for his position, or dread of his approaching doom. After arriving at the execution-ground a long delay ensued, and finally, the order of the Governor for the delay (at the request of the British authorities, we believe) of the execution to the following day arrived.

The following is the official account of the execution, from the British officials appointed to witness it:—

We, the undersigned, having in accordance with instructions received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, proceeded this day to the Japanese gaol in company with Mr. Acting Consul Flowers, representing the extra territorial jurisdiction of the district, assisted by Mr. Student Interpreter Satow, and with a party of the mounted escort in charge of Lieut. Smith, commanding the Legation Guard of Royal Marines, to witness the public execution of Shimedzoo Seiji, one of the assassins of Major Baldwin and Lieut. Bird H.B.M.'s 20th regiment, hereby declare that the sentence was carried out in the following manner:

On our arrival at the scene of execution we found two battalions of the 20th Regiment and Royal Marines and half a battery of the Royal Artillery, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Penrose of the Royal Marines, drawn up in a square around a slight elevation of a few hundred yards distant from the prison, on which the usual preparations had been made for the punishment which was going to take place. Although the time for the execution had been fixed at 10 A.M. precisely, the prisoner did not arrive till 11. He was brought from the prison in a norimon under due escort, headed by the bearers of a white flag and a wooden board, on which the annexed sentence was written. When taken out of the norimon, saké and sweetmeats were given him, which last repast, although standing over the pit which was a few minutes afterwards to receive his head, he seemed to enjoy very much. The short time usually allowed to the condemned for making their last earthly arrangements, was chiefly employed by this man in singing a song, understood to be to the effect that "he did not regret dying thus, as to kill foreigners was the desire of a real Japanese," followed by a savage growl, unmistakably an execration against all foreigners; after which he tendered his neck to the executioner with the greatest imaginable indifference. The decapitation presented a shocking sight, the executioner having to strike three blows before the head was severed from the body. As soon as the first fatal blow was struck, a gun fired by the Royal Artillery announced to the spectators that Justice had received her due. Besides a large crowd of natives, nearly the whole foreign community witnessed the awful sight. When the troops marched back they saw his head exposed near the guard-house at Yosidabashi, the bridge connecting the settlement with the road to Kanagawa. Shimedzoo Seiji was a strong, tall man, apparently of sound bodily health, and with a countenance fully answering the description of a Japanese desperado. He met his doom in a manner worthy of a better cause, and for which he would no doubt have left this world with full forgiveness from the regiment he so outrageously insulted in murdering two of its beloved officers, had he but shown the slightest sign of regret at the sorrow of which he was the cause.

MARTIN DOHMEN, Acting Japanese Secretary.
JOHN MACDONALD,
H.M.'s Legation, Yokohama, 28th Dec., 1864.

PROCES VERBAL of the recognition of Shimedzoo Seiji, one of the murderers of Major Baldwin and Lieutenant Bird, by the Japanese witnesses, Sei Kanakitchi and Itchibee, at the Japanese Prison, Tobey, the 27th Dec., 1864.

Under instructions from H.M. Chargé d'Affaires we proceeded to the Tobey at one P.M., for the purpose of being present at the recognition of the criminal by the above-named witnesses, and on our arrival found the witnesses assembled. It was arranged that the witnesses should view and observe the features and person of the prisoner from behind a screen; an arrangement which the sliding partitions of Japanese rooms rendered perfectly easy.

The prisoner arrived from Yedo about four P.M., and was immediately placed so as to be fully exposed to the observation of the witnesses. When a sufficient time had elapsed to enable the witnesses to speak to the identity, they were separately interrogated and respectively made the following statements:—

Sei (a widow who keeps the sweetmeat stall at the gate of the Hajiman) declared that she recognised the prisoner to be the man who laid his hat on her bench before going to the temple.

Kanakitchi (a boy aged 11 years, residing at Muira) declared that he recognised the prisoner as the man who with drawn sword attacked the first foreigner (Lieut. Bird) as he passed.

Itchibe, the keeper of the Kadoya tea-house at Totska, declared that he recognised the prisoner as one of the two Samourai who, on the night of the 22nd of the 10th Japanese month, came into his premises, and imperiously demanded food.

Whereupon we proceeded into the room where the prisoner was, and the following questions were put and replies received through the undersigned, E. Satow, as Interpreter:—

"Are you indeed Shimedzoo Seiji?

"Yes, my name is Shimedzoo Seiji.

"Are you one of the men who killed the foreign officers at Kamakura, on the 22nd of the Japanese month?"

"Yes, I killed one of the foreign officers at Kamakura."

The last question was repeated in a somewhat varied form, and the prisoner rejoined—"Without doubt I am one of the men who killed the foreigners at Kamakura; but I have something to say about the manner in which I have been examined."

At this point the Japanese officers rushed in, and, ordering the prisoner to be silent, requested the interrogatories might cease; and the undersigned Acting-consul, considering the satisfactory character of the recognition, and subsequent acknowledgment of guilt, rendered it unnecessary to proceed further, we retired to the next apartment.

The prisoner looked pale from confinement, but did not exhibit on his person or countenance any marks of exhaustion or ill-usage.

MARCUS FLOWERS, H.M. Acting-Consul.
ERNEST SATOW, Student Interpreter.

It was observed that on the previous day, as he was conducted through the town, he was in the roughest garb. At his execution, however, it was not so; he wore one of the superior outer coats, with a crest or bearing upon it, and had evidently caused his hair to be arranged with more than usual precision. It was noticed, also, that his hand was slim and well-formed, and smooth as a woman's. The head was brought to the guardhouse by the bridge at the entrance to Yokohama from Kanagawa, and was there impaled upon a bar erected for the purpose, where it remained.

The crime and sentence of the two men before executed, on the 16th December, were as follows:—

"The Ronin, Kabaike Genpachi, a vagrant aged 26 years; the Ronin, Ianaba Usijiro, a vagrant aged 23 years:

"The above-named individuals, by profession vagrants, wearing two swords, went with Shimedzoo Seiji to the village of Hatorimura in Soshiu, to the houses of the country people, saying that Seiji was going to exterminate and expel the foreigners resident at Yokohoma, and demanded funds for that purpose, threatening the peasants with death if they refused. The above-named individuals having received such money, and divided it with Seiji, they cannot deny being accomplices of Seiji, and therefore they are condemned to be put to death by decapitation.

"11th Month of the Rat (December 16, 1864)."

NAGASAKI.

We hear from Nagasaki that Mr. Broussel, who was chief officer of the *Cosmopolite* when she was sold to the Japanese some time ago, having brought an action against Mr. Rainbow, representing Messrs. Dent and Co., for $200, the value of some sails found in the sail loft of Messrs. Lake and Co., sailmakers, and alleged to be Mr. Broussel's property,—Mr. Rainbow has brought, through the Dutch Consul at Desima, a counter action, in the shape of a charge that Mr. Broussel had stolen the said sails. The facts related are these. When Messrs. Glover and Co. acting for the Japanese purchasers, went over the ship's inventory, they were assured by the captain of the *Cosmopolite*, that between decks was a certain set of good sails, and on that assurance the sale was completed. On her first voyage outwards the *Cosmopolite* damaged her canvas in a gale, and required to change what remained aloft for the sails which it was thought were left below. But they were not to be found. Not long afterwards Mr. Broussel, who with the rest of the crew had been sent to China, returned to Japan, and was spoken of as a sail-seller. This circumstance reaching Mr. Rainbow's ears, he made secret inquiries, and was enabled, by the evidence of a Mr. Parker, formerly second mate of the *Cosmopolite*, to ascertain that some of the sails for sale were those lost from the sold vessel, and for which a refund out of the purchase money had been demanded by the Japanese, and duly paid. Should it turn out that Mr. Broussel is really guilty of purloining these sails, it will be a lesson to acting chief officers of vessels sold to

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Japanese not to allow their cupidity to outrun correct principles.

The steamer *Australian* had arrived at Shanghai, having been compelled to return to repair injury sustained by running ashore on a reef in the Inland Sea. She fortunately got off at high water, and immediately steamed for Simonoseki, knowing that the *Argus* was lying there. But the pumps failed to prevent the water gaining considerably. Assistance was given her by the *Argus*, which enabled the hole to be patched up, and that vessel accompanied her to Nagasaki to render further aid by the way, in case the repairs should prove insufficient.

The screw steamer *Bahama* has been sold by Messrs. Glover and Co. at Nagasaki to the Prince of Kiu-siu for the sum of $138,000.

HAKODADI.

A correspondent, writing under date of the 8th December informs us that the schooner *Petrel*, which had left on the previous afternoon, put back in a crippled state from loss of some spars in a heavy squall during the night. The barque *Ashmore*, Captain Jenkins, on her passage from Yokohama to Hakodadi, had run ashore on Oma Island at the extremity of Cape Turawisaki, on the opposite side of the Straits to Hakodadi. The crew were on the island about a week without being able to reach the mainland. Every one was saved, as well as the treasure on board, amounting to $30,000. An official inquiry at the British Consulate was to take place. The ship had gone to pieces. Strong westerly winds and very cold weather had been prevailing.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

The following review of 1864 is from the *Recorder* :—

There are various improvements to be noticed in Shanghai. The large space of ground, which for long lay waste and drear, at the back of the Consulate lot, has been filled up. A handsome block of dwelling-houses, built in a most substantial way, now ornaments the neighbourhood of the Soochow Creek. They are capital tenements, and are admirably adapted for those who require comfortable accommodation. A good town-hall, however, is required. There are numerous occasions when public meetings are necessary, and the Library is the only place where an assembly can meet. The meeting of land-renters is now one of the annual events happening in the settlement; and there is no doubt that a building of some kind, suitable for public meetings, should be erected. There are one or two sites very well suited for such a hall. No better place could be obtained than the plot of land on which the premises lately occupied by Messrs. Hunt and Co. stand. The importance attached to Shanghai in a mercantile point of view, has given rise to the formation of several local offices. The China Fire Insurance Company, and the North-China Insurance Company are both doing well, and have taken a position as such in China. Banks are also on the increase. The Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan has amalgamated with the Imperial Bank of China. The Asiatic Bank will shortly open. The others are the Bank of India, the Bank of China, and the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank. This last bank is sure to obtain the support of the community, and will materially add to the prosperity of both ports, as well as facilitate mercantile transactions in native currency.

The municipal affairs of the settlement have occasioned some discussion. The great difficulty is obtaining a charter, which would place the Council on a proper basis. Nominally, they possess a certain amount of jurisdiction, but virtually their orders may be disputed. In many cases their authority is ignored, and at the present moment nothing definite has been settled. The Land Regulations, by which the Council act, are under revision, and we hear that a charter holding on the provisions of the said rules, will be obtained, so that some direct system of municipal government can be arrived at. The police force under the municipal control is much improved. The present staff of officers are highly efficient, and the present Superintendent has contributed largely to this desirable end. One or two alterations have been made, which have given the force a better opportunity to acts, for the benefit of the community. We must not omit the fact that a fire-engine is now attached to the police force. It came out from America, and is a very fine one of its kind. There are several in Shanghai, and on many occasions they have been called into requisition.

The most interesting news belongs to the province in which Shanghai is situated. The rebels have been completely routed out. With the fall of Nanking, the last hopes of the Wangs and their followers, in the district of Keangsoo, disappeared. Colonel Gordon, after conducting a campaign of no ordinary difficulty,—hampered in many ways, and commented on by the press in certain quarters with a peculiar freedom of language and elegance of composition that would do justice to any modern Chesterfield, has returned home. He deserves the support of his countrymen, and every one who knows him will bear testimony to his conduct while guiding the movements of the Chinese troops under his control. The signal success, which upon nearly every occasion followed his plans, was attributable to the care and interest he showed when he actually commenced operations. His campaign was one full of interest, and there are many details connected with the event which may some day be brought to light.

On the 2nd Jan. a series of athletic sports took place between the soldiers of H.M.'s 2nd Belooch Regiment and the sailors of H.M.S. *Scylla*.

The following mercantile notices have appeared :—

The interest of Mr. John T. F. Bowker, in the business of the *Shanghai Recorder*, ceases from this date. "*Shanghai Recorder*" office, December 23rd, 1864.

The interest and responsibility of Mr. James Cock in our firm ceased from this date. Watson and Co., Shanghai, December 22nd, 1864.

The Trustees of the estate of Maitland, Maclean and Co. have declared a first dividend of 14 per cent., which will be paid on and after the 1st December next, at the office of Messrs. Cope, Cheshire and Co., Accountants, Foochow-road, Shanghai.

The following items are from the *North China Herald* :—

Within the settlement but little of interest has occurred since the date of our last Overland issue. Our French neighbours have announced that the arrangements some time since entered into for the formation of a gas company to illuminate their settlement have been completed. A notice which appeared informing the public that such a company was in contemplation, was new to many, although reports to that effect had been current for some weeks before. But a further warning since conveyed to intending speculators, that all the shares had been allotted, culminated the surprise. It will be interesting to compare the progress of the rival companies, both in point of expenditure and of time required to set each on a working footing. For two years, residents in the English settlement have been anxiously awaiting the boon which, like the grapes of Tantalus, appears always to recede from their grasp when they hope to attain it. The Compagnie du Gaz de la Concession Francaise contemplates an expenditure of Tls. 30,000, and promises to keep carefully within that margin, by strict attention to economy, and avoidance of unnecessary expenditure on "buildings and other extraneous matters (*objets de luxe*) which in its opinion have no real value, and only serve to absorb profits." No hint is given as to the time within which the new company is likely to have completed its arrangements for lighting the settlement.

The Shanghai Gas Company's preparations are now so far in advance, that we presume we are justified in hoping that the English settlement will first enjoy the blessing of light.

On the 31st a capacious and well-modelled iron steam barge, on the screw principle, was launched from the engineering works of Messrs. Nicholson and Boyd. She is one of two sister ships now being built by the same firm, for the purpose of shipping and landing cargoes with despatch. The keel was only laid down about ten weeks ago, and credit is due to Messrs. Nicolson and Boyd for the quickness with which they have completed her. We understand this is the seventeenth iron vessel launched by the same firm in 1864, the whole aggregating a gross tonnage of over 4,000 tons. The difficulties attending a business of this description in the East are great, both as to the supply of material and labour; and it is gratifying to those interested in the prosperity of the "model settlement" to see work turned out effectively.

Some few mornings ago a terrible commotion took place at the guard-room of the old north gate, in consequence of the abstraction of two heads which for three months had adorned the wall at that place. The heads had formerly belonged to two renowned Cantonese robbers by name Wang A-chang and Yang A-lai, whose friends have, since Wang's and Yang's departure for a better world, made several efforts to possess themselves of the interesting relics above mentioned. They at length succeeded, and have left the guard in a predicament

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something similar to that of the soldier of Ephesus, celebrated in song. Whether the guard will be compelled to furnish two other heads in the place of those lost we are not in a position to decide, but a bambooing all round is the least penalty they may expect.

The annual Masonic Ball was given on Dec. 29, in the Shanghai Club, which was kindly lent for the occasion by the shareholders. The excellence of the arrangements, for which the masonic body is indebted to the indefatigable Secretary of the Club, was the theme of universal praise. Dancing was kept up until a late hour, both ladies and gentlemen appearing to enjoy what so seldom falls to their lot in Shanghai—a ball costume. The dresses worn by the members of the Encampment, Chapter and various lodges, lent an air of gaiety to the scene, while many of the ladies emulated the craft distinctions gained by their husbands, and appeared in dresses ornamented with Knight Templar, Royal Arch, and blue masonic insignia.

The Fychow giant, who has been astonishing the Shanghai world by his extraordinary length, breadth, and thickness, is about to be sent to Europe, and will, we understand, leave this port by the first mail in February. He will be accompanied by an exhibitor, who will carry him through the principal cities and towns of Europe.

The weather has been fine, and the temperature has fallen, the maximum in the open air having been 48 deg. and the minimum 23 deg. A new theatrical company, consisting of seven gentlemen and two ladies, has arrived from Hong Kong, and purposes shortly to appear in public. Their talents are extolled by the Hong Kong press, and we have no doubt that they will afford equal satisfaction in Shanghai. The departure of the 67th Regiment for Hong Kong has been postponed in consequence of small-pox having broken out on board the *Adventure*.

Mr. James Cock has returned to Shanghai from Hong Kong, and he has been advertised out of the firm of Watson and Co. No result of the state of his affairs or of the firm has yet been arrived at.

On the announcement of the change of name of the Mercantile Bank of India, a foolish rumour got abroad that the bank had stopped! We are happy to say that no bank is sounder.

The trial of the tug steamer *Island Queen* versus the P. and O. Co. for services to the *Nepaul* will be tried about the 20th January.

A large seizure of arms was made at the Custom House under the following circumstances. A number of barrels purporting to contain flour had come from Hong Kong per *Oriflamme*, consigned through Messrs. Russell and Co. to some one at Hankow. Application for permission to transship was demanded, and granted after one of the barrels had been examined. While hoisting the barrels into the boat for conveyance to the Hankow steamer, one unfortunately burst open, and brought to view a quantity of revolvers, Prussian rifles, &c., neatly packed. The remainder of the "flour" was at once seized, when firelocks sufficient in number to equip a couple of regiments of Nienfei or Mahometan rebels were discovered. They now lie in the Custom House godown to await a legal investigation.

FOO-CHOW-FOO.

The following provisional regulations affecting passengers in British vessels will, subject to the approval of H.B.M.'s Charge d'Affaires at Peking, take effect from the 1st of January, 1865.

1. Passengers in British vessels unprovided with proper passports will not, until further notice, be allowed to land at this port without the express permission of H.M.'s Consul.

2. Persons arriving at this port in British vessels, unprovided with such passports, must be detained on board by the captain until the case has been reported to the Consul, who will give or withhold his permission as he may see fit. Masters and consignees of British vessels will be held responsible for any passenger or passengers landing in violation of this regulation.

3. In the same way all persons, whether foreigners or Chinese, leaving this port in British vessels must have their passage tickets vised at this Consulate before they can be allowed to proceed on board.

4. In any case a return of passengers should, in accordance with Article No. VIII. of the General Regulations of Trade, be handed in by the captain on entering and clearing at this Consulate.

A. R. HEWLETT,
H.M.'s Consulate, H.M.'s Acting Consul.
Foochow, 15th December, 1864.

NANKING.

The French mission in Shanghai has despatched two of its members to this city to claim the pieces of ground formerly occupied by Catholic chapels and schools. The Taotai has appointed a Wei-yuan to accompany them, and assist in the necessary inquiries.

NINGPO.

The following notifications have been published:—The undersigned has to notify for general information that he has been provisionally appointed to be Acting Danish Consul at this port of Ningpo and in the Province of Chekiang, and that with the concurrence of H. B. M.'s Government he is authorised under a commission from H. E. Vice-Admiral Steen-Bille, Envoy Extraordinary of H. M. the King of Denmark to the Imperial Court of China, to exercise all the duties and rights of a Royal Danish Consul in carrying out the provisions of the recent treaty between Denmark and China. W. H. FITTOCK, H.B.M.'s Consul.

IN THE BRITISH CONSULATE.

Ningpo, Dec. 31, 1864.

In the cause in which Sun-hsin-keng, of Ningpo, *v.* McCarthey; Mahony and Co. to recover $5,220, due and owing; also,

In the cause the proprietors of the Queen Hotel, and others, *v.* McCarthey and Mahony for sundry amounts, due and owing.

To Eugene Mahony and Henry McCarthey, builders and contractors, at Ningpo, absconded debtors.

You are hereby informed that unless you appear before H.B M.'s Consul at Ningpo within ten days from this date to answer in the above suits, judgment will be given against you for the several sums claimed, interest and costs. W. H. FITTOCK, H. B. M.'S Consul for Ningpo.

HONG KONG.

We understand that the reformatory at West Point promises to flourish so well that H. E. the Governor has granted a site for a new building to replace the temporary premises. There could not possibly be a better proof of the success of this reformatory than the fact of Sir Hercules Robinson having consented to provide its managers with a site for their proposed new building, when we think how very rarely such grants are made by the local governmemt, and in no case without solid reasons.

The circus at this place continues to attract good houses, and the entertainment bids fair to prove a good speculation for the managers. The performances of a little boy, Tommy M'Collum, with an educated pony, was perhaps *the* feature of the evening.

The following mercantile announcements have appeared:—Mr. Edward Pettit has this day been admitted a partner in our firm. Mr. Ernest Deacon is authorised to sign our firm per procuration.—DEACON and Co., Canton, Jan. 1, 1865.

Mr. Bapoojee Pallonjee Banjee has been admitted a partner in our firm from Oct. 31, 1864.—P. F. CAMA and Co., Hong Kong, Jan. 2, 1865.

Mr. Robert Lyall is authorised to sign our firm per procuration.—LYALL, STILL, and Co., Hong Kong, Jan. 2, 1865.

The *China Mail* has the following:—

Major Brine, R.E., who proceeds home this mail, through ill-health, and his three years' service in China having expired, has been within the past week inspecting the volunteer corps in the south of China. On the 6th inst. he inspected the Canton volunteers, of which corps he is commandant; and yesterday evening he issued his farewell order, on a full parade, to the steadily-increasing corps of Hong Kong volunteers, of which he is lieut.-col. commandant.

The parade was formed it front of the head-quarters, Government buildings, with the band on the right, then the battery of artillery, and then the rifle company. All the officers were present, and likewise a large number of spectators, who have always taken a great interest in the volunteer movement in this colony. After opening and going down the ranks, Colonel Brine addressed the corps in something approaching the following terms:—

Captain Coxon and Gentlemen,—It is with very great regret that I am suddenly to be separated from a corps I formed three years ago, and, thanks to you, have commanded ever since. However, it will be gratifying to you, I feel confident, to know I am going home and in improved health. The progress of the corps has been very great last year. From January, 1862, to April, 1864, there was only a battery of artillery; since the latter date a band, nearly 30 strong, has been organised, a rifle company formed, and only last month the Canton Rifle Volunteers, a sub-division of your corps, increased your ranks. On the 31st December, 1862, the effectives numbered 123, and hon. members 42; on same date 1853, 82 and 43; but on 31st December, 1864, the "official" strength of the corps was—band, 25; artillery, 84; rifles, including Canton, 91; hon. members, 67;—total, 267. These figures, notwithstanding the climate and unavoidable expenses connected with a Volunteer Corps far from home, are very encouraging. Your efficiency in drill also shows great improvement, especially in the manœuvres of the Field Battery. The rifle-shooting in 1864 was far better than in 1863; and as for the band, its performances are so good that as amateurs I have been applied to for their services four nights in succession, three of which were granted, viz., for the Governor's

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patronage, General Guy's, and to-night at Government House. Continue, please, to back up your officers and thereby yourselves; recruit; don't give any offence. Go quietly about your own way, and become good shots, good drills, and aid good fellowship.

When I came to China there was only one volunteer corps, viz., Shanghai. I leave it, including Japan, with five. Of these I have formed three, armed four, and command two. Understand Singapore is not counted. The four China corps—viz., Canton, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Hankow, to-morrow send to London, for competition at Wimbledon, by "Home" Volunteers, a 500 guinea cup. This corps, in addition, subscribes £20 annually to the National Rifle Association; and several old Scotch Volunteers have lately sent Lord Elcho, for the "London Scottish," a 100 guinea cup. All this is very encouraging, and we must all feel very thankful. I do to you,' to the hon. members, and the authorities. In Sir Hercules Robinson the corps has a strong backer and warm friend. I am afraid I am tiring you; so I will just notify to you the changes that will take place in the corps. Major Scott, 22nd, will succeed me. Mr. Tripp, A.D.C., will be Adjutant; and Mr. Kerr, extra A.D.C., vice Tripp. Farewell!

Colonel Brine then fell out the officers, and the adjutant broke the corps off, on which several lusty cheers were given by all for their gallant commandant. The latter, after bowing uncovered to the Volun. teers, then rode off the ground with his actingadjutant.

The return cricket match between the Hong Kong Club and the Garrison took place on the 2nd and 3rd January, when the Garrison gave the Club a defeat such as they themselves received on the former occasion.

Two fires have taken place, both, it is supposed, originating from the matsheds of the natives. One of these was of a very serious nature, and destroyed an extensive range of mat coal-sheds belonging to Messrs. Robt. S. Walker and Co., with about five thousand tons of coals and two hundred barrels of tar. Fortunately, by dint of much daring and perseverance, the destruction was confined to the one range, although it burned splendidly for four or five hours, and smouldered twice as long.

The Volunteers have been indulging in shot and shell practice, and the battery report shows a great improvement.

SIAM.

Messrs. A. Markwald and Co.'s Report of the 6th of January announces that the exportation of Rice has been prohibited:—

"We already reported in our last the failure of the rice crop, which we herewith beg to confirm. The outturn, we regret to say, will not be anything near the requirements for local consumption, and importations of the grain are likely to be made to a considerable extent, in order to save the population from starvation. The Siamese Government have, under these circumstances, considered it necessary to prohibit the exportation of the grain for a period of seven months, beginning the 25th January, and ending the 20th August next; the prohibition to be continued, however, from that date for a further period of twelve months, should there not be a fair prospect of a good in-coming crop at the expiration of the first term. There are several foreign vessels in harbour under charter, which will have to leave in ballast either for China or Singapore, as shippers were unable to procure during the last few weeks any rice or paddy, supplies having been scarcely sufficient for the local consumption. Inferior white rice is sold at ticals 1½ to 1⅝ per bucket, equal to ticals 150 to 162½ per coyan."

THE PHILIPPINES.

MANILA.

When every place in the world seems to be going ahead, when advancement both at home and abroad seems the rule, the colonists of the Philippines (observes the *Straits Times*), like their fellow subjects in Spain, are not only far behind the age, but are positively retrograding. A few weeks ago, the Councillors, by a majority, passed a recommendation to the Home Government to close the ports of Cebu, Yloilo, and Sual, opened some years ago to direct trade. The policy is completely suicidal. The opening of the ports has created a wonderful increase in trade. Not only a direct trade with various countries has sprung up, but the old trade, both in imports and exports, to and from Manila, formerly the only open port in the colony, has increased. From Yloilo alone 1,600 tons of sugar were shipped in 1863, against 750 tons in 1855, when the port was opened. Sixty foreign vessels were loaded last year from Sual—without counting Spanish. Indeed, the highest anticipations have been more than fulfilled; and it is very discouraging to those who have settled there, and lamentable to lovers of progress, to see such downright ignorance displayed. During 1863 and this year, one or two foreign houses, British and American, have been opened at Cebu and Yloilo; thus introducing capital, and promising more than a continuance of prosperity. We believe a strong and well-penned protest has been addressed to the British Government by the houses there, through the Consul.

The English Steamer *Luzon*, bound to Manila from Amoy, was lost on a shoal off the coast of Zambales, on the night of the 22nd December; the crew and passengers being saved. This steamer had but recently arrived from Glasgow, having been built expressly for trading between Manila, Cebu, and Yloilo.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

The dates hence are to the 21st January. The London mail of the 10th December arrived out on the 14th January.

The *Straits Times*, in stating that the Transfer Question would be brought before Parliament this session, remarks that "if the real position of the settlement, financial and otherwise, was only sufficiently made known, no opposition to the transfer was likely to hold for a moment." Our contemporary continues:—

The "public debt" which is talked about at home, now for the first time, is a purely arbitrary creation of the pens of our Indian financiers; no debt whatever exists against the settlement. The amount of money which is so unceremoniously sought to be thus charged is purely a suitors' fund, under control of the local Court of Judicature, which accumulated in the Treasury to the extent of over £100,000; and the Indian Government, with a view to utilize this money, which would otherwise have been profitless, arranged to take over the money and pay 4 per cent interest on it, subject to withdrawal at any moment by the Court of Judicature. In this way the money departed from the Treasury in ordinary annual disbusements, and to meet Imperial drafts. The amount, however, has always been, and is still, available at any moment, to the call of the Court. Latterly, the sum is being redeemed by the Bengal Government in Five per Cent. India Bonds. The debt, if such it is to be called, is clearly one of India to the local Treasury, not one of the local Government to the Indian Treasury.

On the 12th Jan. one of the most painful catastrophes that has occurred in the neighbourhood, was brought to Singapore knowledge. On that day a Chinaman, much bruised about the body, presented himself at the Shipping-office, and said that he had left Swatow a fortnight before in a large three-masted schooner with 550 other passengers. On the night of the 6th, at the entrance to the Straits, barely thirty miles from this, the vessel going at full speed dashed against the Lighthouse rocks; a moment afterwards she fell back, filled rapidly, and sank in deep water with all hands on board. The man, who believed himself the only survivor, got hold of a small piece of wood, on which he floated a whole day and night, when he was picked up by some Rhio fishermen and brought to Singapore. This story, so fearful in its details, was scarcely believed in at first; but fatal confirmation of it arrived a day afterwards from the Dutch Resident at Rhio. One of the crew of the ill-fated ship, a Swede named Christensen, was picked up and brought ashore at Rhio—and his story was the same as the Chinaman's. The vessel was the Hamburg three-masted schooner *Canton*, bound from Swatow to Singapore with 550 Chinese passengers. The Chinamen that reached this, and the European sailor now in hospital at Rhio, are the sole survivors.

The statement of Sin Hee Hee, the Chinaman, made on oath before the Marine Magistrate, is as follows:—

"I was a cook on board a vessel wrecked near the lighthouse (supposed to be Pedra Branca); the flag that was flying on board was a red flag with a white centre. There were altogether 548 men on board, including the captain, crew, and myself. I know the number of men, because I was a cook on board, and used to cook for them all in separate dishes. We left Swatow about fifteen days ago; eight days after leaving Swatow this occurrence took place; it was about one o'clock in the morning. I was sleeping in a boat at the time. There was a strong squall, the vessel went on the rock, and when she came off again she sank. When the ship wrecked, I got a ladder belonging to her and was driven to the coast of Rhio with the ladder. I there met some men working in a gambier shed who gave me clothes. I came here in a China boat belonging to Rhio. On the night of the wreck I saw several men swimming. The next morning I saw about forty afloat. I cannot say whether they were alive or dead. There were no women on board. I did not see the vessel next morning. I was in the water about twenty-four hours. I do not know anything more about it. There were two sails set at the time."

The master of the barque *Gazelle* reported also that "on coming up to Singapore, near the Pan Shoal, on the 14th January, nine dead bodies were seen floating, one of them without a head, supposed to be a Chinaman." Assistance had been sent to the place by the Resident of Rhio, in the hope of saving some lives.

The Sarawak steamer *Rainbow*, which arrived on the 20th January, brought up Captain Orr and part of the crew of the English barque *Canada*.

PENANG.

We (*Penang Argus*) are glad to welcome back G. W. Earl Esq., to our island; we congratulate him on his complete restoration to health, consequent on his stay in Australia, and wish him many long years of usefulnesss in this settlement. Mr. Earl has already assumed charge of his duties as Assistant Resident Councillor, Police Magistrate, and Commissioner of the Court of Requests.

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The paddy crop in the north of Province Wellesley still suffers from the intensity of the drought. Nothing but a considerable fall will now bring on the crops. The Resident Councillor, on being informed of a police prosecution against some respectable Malays of Lahar Kapa, for damming back the water in the canal, to irrigate their parched fields, stopped it, and directed that the ryots should be permitted to use all the water in the canals and ditches under the direction of the Pangulu Mukims. Gang robberies are of frequent occurrence along the Keddah side of the Muda, and if the paddy crop fails to the extent threatened, these depredations will extend to our side also. It is fortunate, with this unpleasant prospect, that Mr. Bennett is proceeding steadily with the new lines of road in the N.E. In a few weeks it will be possible to ride, without dismounting, from the Permatang Birtam road to the banks of the Muda at Dusun Gaja. A buggy can now drive to Alor Kladi, and before May we anticipate that the continuation of this line will be open for ponies to the frontier pillar. Canal operations recommenced on the 2nd January, and we have every reason to expect that before the end of this year both roads and canals will be finished. The experience of two successive seasons of severe drought shows the necessity of having a command of water for irrigation not only in the belt of swamps now in process of being drained, but in all the higher parts of the country. The waters of the Muda will probably be made available for the former tract next season, and if the experiment succeeds it may be hoped that Government will take the work in hand for the benefit of the latter tracts also.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

BRUCE—On the 21st Feb., at 13, Hertford-street, the wife of the Hon. Thomas Bruce, of a son.

GALTON—On the 3rd Jan., at Fuhchau, the wife of W. P. Galton, of a daughter.

GRISWOLD—On the 19th Feb., at Paris, the wife of Charles Griswold, Esq., of New York, late of Manila, of a daughter.

MCLACHLAN—On the 26th Feb., at Blackheath, the wife of W. McLachlan, Esq., of a daughter.

RICKETT—On the 24th Feb., at 8, Darnley-road, Hackney, the wife of William R. Rickett, Esq., of a daughter.

SPEIDEN—On the 4th Feb., at New York, United States of America, the wife of Wm. Speiden, Esq., late of Hong Kong, China, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

FRASER—SAUNDERS.—On the 14th Feb., at St. Anne's Church, Aigburth, near Liverpool, by the Rev. H. Teush Hecker, James Campbell Fraser, Esq., of Yokohama, Japan, second son of the late William Fraser, Esq., of Skipness Castle, Argyleshire, to Emily, eldest daughter of Fredk. Saunders, Esq., of St. Anns, Aigburth, near Liverpool.

GILFILLAN—BLACK.—On the 21st Feb., at Glasgow, by the Rev. Dr. M'Ewen, James Gilfillan, Esq., of Shanghai, to Agnes Thomson, daughter of Alexander Black, Esq. No cards.

KING—SANGER.—On the 7th Dec., at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev Thomas Stringer, George King, to Esther Eliza Sanger.

VAN DER KWAST—YZELMAN.—On the 5th Jan., at Singapore, by the Rev. J. Mathison Mr. A. P. Van der Kwast, to Miss P. C. Yzelman.

DEATHS.

BATEMAN—On the 12th Jan., at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, John Bateman, gunner, R.A., aged 26 years.

BROWN—On the 19th Dec., at sea, on a voyage from England to Shanghai, Thomas Brown, master of the British ship Lalla Rookh.

BIRDSEYE—On the 1st Jan., at Shanghai, T. J. Birdseye.

BENNETT—On the 8th Jan., at his residence, Hongque, Shanghai, Capt. John C. Bennett, of the firm of Todd and Co., aged 41 years, a native of Beverly, Massachusetts, U.S. of America.

KERR—On the 11th Jan., at Canton, Fanny Jane, only daughter of Dr. J. G. Kerr, aged 2 years and 2 months.

MAGRATH—On the 16th Dec., at Hong Kong, Miles Monk Magrath, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon R.N., second son of the late Nicholas Magrath, M.D., of Guernsey, in the 30th year of his age.

WELLS—On the 15th Oct., on board the Antipodes at sea, whilst on the voyage from London to Shanghai, William Wells, M.D., a medical officer of the London Missionary Society.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From London: Dec. 23, Julia. From Marseilles, Blanche.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Dec. 28, Antipodes. From Shields: 28, Lalla Rookh.

At FOOCHOW.—From London: Dec. 31, Oithona. From Liverpool: Jan. 4, Prince Arthur. From Sunderland: 7, Manfred. From Newcastle: 10, The Cedars.

At MANILA.—None.

At SINGAPORE.—From Liverpool: Jan. 8, Bella Donna. From Shields: Wm. Mitchell. From Newcastle: 15, Johore (str.). From Cardiff: 17, Amazone.

At PENANG.—None.

At BATAVIA.—From London: Stad Assen. From Liverpool: Pieter. From Glasgow: Helen Finlayson.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—For London. Dec. 31, Pembrokeshire.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Dec. 27, Anglo-Saxon; 28, Courier and Bosworth; 29, James Russell and Bedfordshire; Jan. 3, Canadian; and 6, Spirit of the Deep. For Liverpool: 4, Anna Helena; and 6, Yorrick. For New York: 3, Catherina. For Montreal: 7, Eastern Chief.

From FOOCHOW.—For London: Sydney Eggers and Star of the North. For Continent: Kite.

From HONG KONG.—For Liverpool: Dec. 31, Jas. Vinnicombe.

From MANILA.—For London: Dec. 20, Hampton Court; 29, O'Thyen; Jan. 5, Corneille David. For Falmouth: Dec. 20, Ladye Love; 24, Vectis; Jan. 5, Carl. For New York: Dec. 29, Game Cock.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Jan. 12, Maury. For Falmouth: Charlotte Jane.

From PENANG.—For Montreal: Jan. 13, Zizine.

LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Alfred Hawley. For Liverpool: Gabalva. For New York: Velocidade.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Belle, Countess Russell, Naomi, Spray of the Ocean, and Jubilee. For Liverpool: Spec, Spirit of Trade, Sailor's Home, Constance, and Her Majesty. For New York: Finella. For Montreal: Princess of Wales, and John Nicholson.

At FOOCHOW.—Laurel, Dilkhoosh, and Maiden Queen. For New York: Queen of the Seas.

At HONG KONG AND CANTON.—For Liverpool: Lockett, Prince Arthur and British Crown. For Portsmouth: Hindustan. For London: Lochnagar and Carl Ritter.

At MANILA.—For Falmouth: Monarchy.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Alexandra, Hawthorn, and Norval. For Liverpoool: Sharpshooter, Indiaman, Lady Bowen, and Springwood. For Cowes: Boreas. For Channel: Blohm.

At PENANG.—For London: Avalanche.

At BATAVIA.—For Channel: Scharnhorst. For Amsterdam: L. A. Bang, Gebreoders, Schelde, Oceaan, Zaanstroom, and Reflect. For Rotterdam: Hollandia, Catharine Maria, Luconia Nagasaki, Cornelia Hendrika, County of Renfrew, Hendrina, Ida Wilhelmina, and Argo.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—Jan. 7, Ned Neptuna, from Rotterdam to Batavia.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—Dec. 28, Delhi, Shanghai to London; White Eagle, Shanghai to London. 31, Coringa, Shanghai to Liverpool. Jan. 1, Kirkland, Macao to London; 3, Birchgrove, Foo-chow to London; 4, Hampton Court, Manila to London, Violet; Foo-chow to London; Roodee, Shanghai to Liverpool; 5, Vectis, Manila to Falmouth.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—Dec. 24, Theodor and Julie, Amoy to New York; 29, N. B. Palmer; 27, Diligentia, Foo-chow to New York.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

YOKOHAMA.—To London, cotton and tea, £3. 10s. to £4 per ton; silk, £5 per ton of 50 cubic feet. To Shanghai, per steamer, for silk, $3.50 per bale; measurement, $5 per ton; per sailing vessel, $3 to $5; measurement, 40 cubic feet. To Hong Kong, per sailing vessel, $4 to $6 per ton of 40 cubic feet; per steamer, $7.

SHANGHAI.—To London and Liverpool, cotton, £2; tea, £2. 10s.

FOO-CHOW.—To London, £2 per ton.

HONG KONG.—The following settlements are from the circular of George Holmes:—The Lockett (615), Prince Arthur (544), and British Crown (1,118), to Liverpool at £3 per ton. The Oliver Cromwell and Kestrel have been taken up to load at Manila for Falmouth, London, or Bristol at £4. 5s. for hemp and £3. 5s. for sugar. Several charters have taken place to Saul and back at 25 cents per picul and 25 to 30 cents extra if ordered north.

MANILA.—There have been no transactions to report, but next settlements for the United Kingdom are likely to be at a decline on last rates, and may probably not be over £2. 10s. for clayed, £3 for unclayed sugar, and £4 per ton for hemp.

SINGAPORE.—There has been more activity in the freight market, and several charters have taken place from rice ports to United Kingdom, at £3. 2s. 6d. to £3s. 5s. per ton.

CASUALTIES.

LOSS OF THE LUZON.

H.M.S. Rifleman arrived Jan. 10, from Singapore, Labuan, and Manila, and reports the loss of the above steamer near Manila.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.		6s. 6d. to 6s. 6¼d.	6s. 6d. to 6s. 7d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 8¼d. to 4s. 9d.	4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 9d.	4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.
At Manila	6	ditto	4s. 5d.	4s. 6d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 309 to 310 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 223 to 224 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 8 to 9 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 72 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 27 to 28 discount.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—The remarks made last mail may be repeated. The supplies of Black are nearly exhausted, the export is very full, and rates are maintained in a singular manner. The new country Greens are tightly held by the teamen at rates above what foreign exporters can possibly pay, the fact being that the expenses of transit are so heavy, owing to mandarin exactions, that holders will not see their money back.

CANTON.—Transactions for the fortnight have been on a very limited scale in this market. Country Congous: Although the teamen within the last few days have appeared more anxious to do business, yet thei

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ideas are still too high for intending purchasers, and so there are no settlements to report. Country Greens: 241 half-chests Hyson have been taken for India, besides which nothing has as yet transpired in these kinds. Canton-made Teas have throughout the fortnight been neglected, and may now be bought on easy terms.

AMOY.—Supplies of Oolongs have of late come forward more freely from the country, but buyers have held altogether aloof from the market, and no settlements are reported excepting one small chop of 208 10 catty boxes Oolong at $24½.

FOOCHOW.—The transactions of the fortnight have been small. Of the settlements reported, fully a moiety have been made by one house, at previous rates for common, and a slight advance for flavory kinds. The settlements reported are as follows:—Congous: 3,445 chests and 3,828 half-chests at 6 to 13½ tls. for dust and broken leaf, 12 to 16¾ tls. for common to good common, and 16½ to 20½ tls. for flavoury to good flavoury. Souchong: 100 chests common at 20¾ tls. Oolong: 3,080 half-chests and 400 boxes at 8 to 12½ tls. for inferior, and 14½ to 17 tls. for common to fair cargo. Scented Teas: 790 boxes common to fair at 19 to 23¼ tls.

SHANGHAI.—Black: A fair amount of business has been transacted during the past fortnight, and prices have again ruled somewhat irregular, many of the settlements showing an advance of one tael on previous quotations. During the past two days holders, in consequence of the advance in exchange, have been more anxious to realise, but at present no decline can be quoted. Settlements have been:—7 chops Oopack, at 23½ to 24½ tls.; 5 chops Ningchow, at 22 to 23 tls.; 8 chops Oonahms, at 18 to 20 tls.; and 4 chops Hohow, at 16 to 17 tls.; together, 24 chops or 9,358 chests. Reshipped on owners' account, 14 chops 6,451 chests; making in all, 37 chops or 15,989 chests, and showing a total for the season to date of 346,323 chests. Stock, waiting shipment and for re-sale, 50 chops or 21,026 chests. Quotations:—Third crop Oopacks, 23½ to 26½ tls.; Ningchow, 20 to 23 tls.; Oonahms, 18 to 22 tls.; Hohow, 16 to 20 tls. Green: One large chop of Moyune country tea, belonging to a foreign firm, containing over 1,700 packages, have been settled at 35 tls.; but natives will not accept similar rates, so the market cannot be reported as fairly opened. Stocks both here and at Kiukiang are steadily increasing. A few small parcels of Shanghai packed have been taken at previous rates.

KIUKIANG.—Green Teas: Teamen had proved firmer than foreigners, and about 8,500 half-chests had been settled at prices fully 2d. per lb. over highest home rates of last season. The stock on hand had increased to 125,000 packages and the absence of any general anxiety to buy coupled with the growing necessities of the teamen would probably lead to a considerable decline in prices after China New Year. Total settlements and shipments: 32,116 half-chests or 1,889,400 lbs. against 143,110 half-chests or 8,418,900 lbs. last year. Black Teas: One small chop only had been settled at former rates, and 3 chops remained in stock.

HANKOW.—Between the 17th and 31st ultimo, four chops had been settled somewhat above last home rates. Seven chops were in stock, and about twelve more were likely to arrive before the definite close of the season. Total settlements and shipments: 365,000 chests, or 36,423,200 lbs., against 360,000 chests or 35,038,000 lbs. last year.

YOKOHAMA.—There is no change whatever to report in this staple since last issue. The high rates demanded by the teamen have checked operations to a very great extent. Stocks chiefly consist of Medium to Fine.

RAW SILK.—The shipments from Shanghai for this mail were as follows:—For Southampton 246 bales, for Marseilles 146 do., from Yokohama 703 do. Total, 1,095 taels. Shanghai: The market has been rather quiet throughout the fortnight, the transactions being estimated at 500 bales. After the departure of last mail the silk men appeared more anxious to sell, wishing to close their accounts at the end of the China year, and submitted to a reduction of from 5 to 10 tls. per picul. The unsold silk is chiefly composed of undesirable qualities, and as the arrivals from up country have amounted to 500 bales, the stock remains unaltered. Taysaams, No. 1, 430 to 440 tls.

YOKOHAMA.—After the departure of the *Corea*, business continued for a few days moderately active and at steady prices, but since the arrival of the 26th of October mail, the demand has become much slacker, the foreign buyers requiring concessions which the native dealers are but little disposed to make; hence a struggle which cannot otherwise than end to the advantage of foreigners if they but hold off for some little time, as the Japanese are well aware that the present prices are at a critical height and cannot be much longer supported. Meanwhile our late quotations remain almost without change. The settlements to date are about 8,600 bales, against 12,300 bales same time last year. The unsold stock in the market about 400 bales, mostly composed of second rate and inferior description. Ida best, $710 to 720. Mybash and Sinchu: Best parcels offering, $700 to 710; medium, $675 to 690; inferior, $650 to 665.

DRUGS &c.—CANTON.—The ample supply of 1,900 pls. has met with an adequate demand, and 1,600 pls. have been taken at $15.80 to 15.90 per picul, showing an advance of 10 cents on previous quotations. Cassia Buds: There have been no sales; the stock of 40 pls. is held at $57. China Galls: Have further advanced, and must now be quoted $16 per picul, at which rate 100 pls. of the new crop are offered. Vermilion: Is to be had on easier terms, say at $39½ to 40 per box. Rhubarb: Neither supplies nor transactions. Musk: Nothing doing. Galangal: Continues neglected with a large stock, and is quoted nominally at $2 to 3. Essential Oils: None brought to market.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—The sales of the past fortnight amount to only 45 bales, which have found buyers at an advance of about $2 per picul upon the quotations previously current. Grey Shirtings: These manufactures have met with a moderate amount of inquiry since the departure of the last mail steamer, and have been purchased both on native and foreign account at prices which show some advance upon the quotations previously current. The settlements of the fortnight are estimated at 5,200 pieces purchased by the dealers, and 12,000 pieces taken by foreigners. White Shirtings remain at about previous values, and have been taken on this market to the extent of 3,500 pieces. In Canton 2,100 pieces of these goods have found buyers. T-Cloths: Show a material rise in value when compared with the quotations ruling on the departure of the last mail steamer. There has been a moderate amount of business transacted in these goods during the fortnight, and they continue to be inquired for. The settlements reported are 4,200 pieces taken by the dealers, and 7,800 pieces purchased on foreign account. American Drills: There are not any of these goods on the market. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: The sole transaction reported in these fabrics since the date of last circular consists of the settlement of 500 pieces. Coloured Brocades: Quotations remain nominally the same. Damasks: No sales reported. Handkerchiefs: Have not been in any request, but sales of 1,700 pieces of Chintzes are reported as having been effected during the fortnight.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: Not a single transaction has been reported in Spanish Stripes during the fortnight, and the only sale to notice is that of 68 pieces of Medium Cloths. Long Ells: These goods have again met with a moderate amount of inquiry, but the range of prices continues extremely low; the sales reported amount to 700 pieces. Camlets: Show some improvement in value, and have found buyers to a larger extent than for some time past, the settlements of the fortnight are put at 1,820 pieces. Lastings: This description of goods has also been in fair request, and the sales of the past fortnight are put at 1,000 pieces. Blankets: There are not any transactions to notice.

METALS.—Iron Flat, &c.: The value of Nail Rod Iron continues extremely firm, and an advance has been established in the price of this description in the Canton Market. The sales of all classes amount in this Colony to 1,000 piculs, and in Canton 200 piculs of Nail Rod have changed hands. Lead: There has not been the slightest inquiry manifested for this article during the fortnight, and we only hear of a sale of about 70 piculs at the low quotations previously current. In Canton 2,000 piculs have found purchasers. Tin: 100 piculs sold in Canton. Tin-Plates: 100 boxes have changed hands.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

There are no further houses named as in difficulties beyond those reported by last mail.

TEA.—The following is from the circular of J. C. Sillar:—Increased heaviness has prevailed in the Tea-market for the last fortnight, and prices of all kinds have again given way. As will be seen below, nearly 28,000,000 lbs. have arrived from China since the 30th ult., which will have to be added to the stock. The United Kingdom stock stands at about 128,000,000 lbs., and consists almost entirely of Teas worth 1s. 4d. per lb. downwards, while more than a half is low red and black leaf, from 1s. to 10d., and even as low as 7d. in value. Private telegrams report the shipment of 5,000,000 lbs. for the fortnight, which will increase the quantity afloat to 26,000,000 lbs.

It has been stated in the *Times* newspaper, and is generally accepted, that the present duty on tea is 33½ per cent. *ad valorem*, whereas in reality it is one hundred per cent. upon the great bulk of tea imported. The finest descriptions of tea only pay a duty of 30 to 50 per cent., but these constitute a very small percentage of the season's import, and are consumed exclusively by the upper classes. The poorer classes, on the other hand, as a rule, drink eightpenny Congou, and upon this they have to pay a duty of one hundred and fifty per cent., a tax they can ill afford. A shilling a pound is considered the usual average profit charged by the shopkeeper, a shilling is charged by Government, and eightpence a pound is allowed to the importer, who has to pay the Chinese Government a duty of taels 2½ per picul, or say 2½d per lb., 2½ the expense of chests and leads, 1d. for freight and insurance, and 2d. to the Chinese merchant, who has to divide this between the grower and the local mandarins as best he can. The consumption, for the reasons shown above, barely increased last year 4 per cent., being for the year 1864, 88½ millions duty paid, against 85 millions the year before, while the results of the above fair division of profit are beginning to show themselves in the commencement of the destruction of the China trade, several heavy failures having already taken place; whereas, had the principles of free trade been fully carried out, the consumption would have been double or treble its present size.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Feb. 24, at Deal, from Batavia, Iris; at Plymouth, from Maulmain, Kate; 24, at Falmouth, from Rangoon, Columbia; 25, at London, from China, Glenclune; 24, at Liverpool, from Shanghai, Providence; 25, at Deal, from Maulmain, Lorenzo; 26, at Deal, from China, Agincourt; 24, at Texel, from Padang, Tinnevelly; from Batavia, Souburg, Victoria; from Banjoewangie, Huydecoper; at New York, from Foo-chow-Foo, Corea; 25, at Falmouth, from Batavia, Wilhelmina; 27, from Maulmain, Selina.

DEPARTURES.—Feb. 2, from New York, for Shanghai, Uncowah; 3, for Hong Kong, Powhatan; 25, from London, for Newport and Shanghai Helen Douglas; 25, from Clyde, for Singapore and Penang, Priam; for Batavia and Singapore, Maythorn.

LAID ON FOR CALCUTTA.—Steamer Far East; at Liverpool, for Shanghai, Bankside.

SPOKEN.—Julie Claire, Batavia to Amsterdam, Jan. 30, 25 N., 28 W.; Isadore (?), (Dutch ship), Batavia to Amsterdam, 120 days out, Feb. 21, 48 N., 7 W.; Macassar, Macassar to Rotterdam, Jan. 17, 3 S. 22 W.; Brouwershaven (Dutch ship), Batavia to Rotterdam, Jan. 28, 17 N., 36 W.; Leaping Water, Sourabaya to Amsterdam, Jan. 9, 14 S., 8 W. (master unwell); Huydecoper, Sourabaya to Amsterdam, Jan. 11, 11 S., 12 W.; Isis (ship), Batavia to Amsterdam, Dec. 16, 35 S., 21 E.; Tigranes, Cadiz to Manila, Jan. 4, 27 S., 30 W.; Satellite (barq.), for Singapore, Jan. 16, 3 N., 23 W.; Andrews (?) (barq.), Japan to London, Japan 24, 15 N., 32 W.; Isaac da Costa, Rotterdam to Padang, Sept. 26, 9 S., 27 W.; Koning Willem III., Rotterdam to Macassar, Jan. 9, 5 N., 23 W.; Sourabaya Packet, Amsterdam to Sourabaya, Jan. 15, 12 S., 33 W.; Devana, London to Hong Kong, Jan. 21, 12 S., 33 W.

CASUALTIES.—Nothing has been heard of the Claremont, M'Intosh, from China for London, since her departure from Ascension, on the 8th of December.

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THE COMPRADOR SYSTEM IN LONDON.—Our readers in the Far East will be surprised to hear that the comprador squeeze is not confined to China alone, inasmuch as a nobleman of high standing and repute, viz., the Duke of Sutherland, has, in a letter to *The Times*, opened the eyes of the public to the fact of its existence in London. It appears from his statements that the tradesmen in the metropolis have been accustomed to pay servants a per centage upon all goods sold to their masters, thus evidently encouraging them to all kinds of dishonesty. As the Duke observes, "it is equally unjust to masters and servants, as the expenses of the one and the temptation to the other are both considerably increased. Therefore (he continues), all servants or tradesmen in my employment detected in pursuing this system, will be immediately dismissed from my service and patronage." It is to be hoped all other large and influential householders in London will follow the example set before them, which indeed becomes a duty to society at large when the corruption, engendered by a habit so pernicious is taken into consideration.

APPOINTMENTS.—The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint Christian Koch, Esq., to be Her Majesty's Consul at Frankfort; Mr. Julius Meyers as Consul at Demerara for His Majesty the King of the Netherlands; and Mr. Charles H. Powers as Consul at Coaticook, Canada, for the United States of America; Mr. John Raspen Ringrose as Consul at Hull and for all the ports on the Humber for His Majesty the King of the Netherlands; and Mr. Gustav Heyn as Consul at Belfast for His Majesty the King of Hanover. The following officers of the Marine of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French, and of his Majesty the King of the Netherlands, to be Honorary Members of the Military Divisions of the Second and Third Classes of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, respectively; viz. :—To be Knight Commander: M. Jean Louis Charles Jaures, Vice-Admiral. To be Companions: M. Antoine Louis Marie le Couriault du Quilio, Capitaine de Vaisseau; M. Henry Maurice Pas-quier de Francheu, Capitaine de Vaisseau; and Captain Jacobus Eliza de Man. Hugh Mallet, Esq., to be Secretary or Registrar to the Mixed Commission Courts established at the Cape of Good Hope under the treaties concluded by Great Britain on the 3rd of July, 1842, and 7th of April, 1862, with Portugal and the United States respectively, for the suppression of the African slave trade,

PLURALIST DIRECTORS OF JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES. — In running over the *Joint-Stock Companies' Directory for* 1865, we were astonished to see the same names over and over again as directors of different companies. Mr. W. W. Cargill, M.P., is director to no less than 16, and even he is outdone by Alderman Dakin, whose name is repeated 17 times. We leave our readers to imagine for themselves how these gentlemen manage to attend to their own interests or those of the shareholders, and content ourselves with annexing the names of those companies which are or ought to be happy under the directorship of Mr Alderman and Sheriff Dakin :—1, London Necropolis and Mausoleum Company; 2, City Offices; 3, Bank of London; 4, Metropolitan Railway; 5, Smith, Knight and Co.; 6, South African Mortgage and Investment; 7, Contract Corporation; 8, Imperial Mercantile Credit Association; 9, Great Central Gas Consumers; 10, Mutual Life Assurance Society; 11, Mutual Tontine Association; 12, Chairman of Great Western Canada Railway; 13, Chairman of English and Scottish Marine Assurance; 14, Rhymney Railway; 15, Cape Railway; 16, Metropolitan Extension Railway; 17, Deputy Chairman London and Lancashire Insurance.

CHINESE PIRATES.—The following is an extract of a letter from a young gentleman on board H.M.'s gun-boat *Grasshopper*, dated Swatow, December 13, 1864 :—"When we left Swatow in search of pirates, and were going to Amoy on a little business, we were steaming at full speed when we sighted six small junks. As soon as they saw us they set all sail and made off, but we lay to, and gave them some grape shot, and all the men in the junks leapt overboard, and we picked up 76 of them naked. It was a horrible sight to see, when we brought them on board, some with their arms and some with their legs off. We then stowed them away like so many pigs, and brought them to the Supreme Court of mandarins, to whom we gave them up. After we were at Amoy, we returned in the course of three days to the same place we had left the pirates, and there was a sight. There were 20 of them crucified, with nails in their hands and their feet; 20 drowned, with stones to them; 20 hanged; 16 tortured and burned to death. The Chinese Government had been looking after these desperate parties for a long time, but never could catch them. They did not spare them when they got them. The first thing they did before we left was to give them four dozen each with the lash, but this was only to teach them that they had been taken by a British man-of-war.

EXPLOSION ON BOARD THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY'S MAIL STEAMER "RANGOON."—By the arrival of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's mail steamer *Rangoon* at Suez, telegraphed to the company, intelligence has been received of a very shocking accident having occurred on board that vessel by explosion, shortly after her departure from Bombay to Suez. According to the brief particulars contained in the telegram, it appears that the catastrophe took place on the 18th of last month, when a quantity of gunpowder, stated to be about 7 lbs., exploded somewhere in the vicinity of the after saloon carriage, causing the death of two passengers, a female and a child, and doing damage to the furniture and fittings of the state cabin.

A NEW SILKWORM.—M. Guérin-Méneville has communicated a paper to the Academy of Sciences, Paris, on a new silkworm sent over from Senegal. The caterpillar on being hatched is black; it then becomes grey, then of a brilliant silver white, and in the last stage green, its body being covered with small bunches of bristles, those near the head being red and blue, and those on the rest of the body red and white. The butterfly, on issuing from the cocoon, exhales a slight smell of musk. The food of this breed consists of the leaves of the jujube-tree.

SALE OF CHINESE CURIOSITIES.—There has been a large sale of Chinese and Japanese curiosities at Mr. Phillips' auction rooms in New Bond-street. They were the property of an old resident, who had formed one of the finest collections seen in this country for some time. On entering the sale-room, the article that first drew attention was a large state bed, most exquisitely carved and wrought in gold. With this fine piece of work were a group of figures representing a princess at her toilet, attended by her women, all of whom were moulded in close imitation of nature. These, together with the bed, only brought in about £80, which, as Mr. Phillips pathetically observed, was "giving them away." Then followed a very fine and varied assortment of jars and vases, most of which were bargains, several fine gongs, and some exquisite straw work in cabinets. Some tables and chairs of wonderful workmanship completed the list, and altogether made up a show that was well worth an hour's inspection.

ADMIRAL COCHRANE AND THE CABMAN.—It will be seen by our readers that the gallant Admiral fully sustains at home the character he bore when commanding on the China station. A cabman has had the audacity to impose upon him by an overcharge of 8d., for sundry parcels which he ought to have carried for nothing. Unfortunately he had mistaken his fare. "Drive to the Westminster Police-court," thundered the Admiral, and to the Westminster Police-court he was driven. The charge was stated—but *only on public grounds*, and the unfortunate cabby paid the penalty of his rashness with a fine of 3s. Then, quoth the prosecutor, "Is not the defendant bound by law to drive me back for nothing?" The magistrate thought not, so the Admiral went home, but whether on foot or by cab is not stated.

GREAT DESTRUCTION OF TEA BY FIRE.—A destructive fire occurred on the 25th December at Maimatschene, a Chinese frontier town near Kiakhta. Three warehouses containing 2,000 chests of tea were entirely destroyed. The loss is estimated at 120,000 roubles. The Chinese were thrown into great consternation by the disaster, for which they were altogether unprepared, as no fire had happened there for about twenty-four years. They also have a superstitious notion that to extinguish a fire is a sin, and they consequently had no firemen or engines; but they worked hard in carrying water to the Russians, who did their utmost in mastering the conflagration, and succeeded in saving about 4,000 chests of tea.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CHINA.

(Feb. 24th.) Colonel SYKES gave notice that on the 3rd of March he would call attention to the alleged inability of the present Government to enforce orders in council, and ask the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether such inability was consistent with the proceedings of the consular courts in China.

THE CONFEDERATE CRUIZER "SHENANDOAH."

The United States steamer Iroquois, eight guns, Commander Rodgers, arrived in Table Bay on Monday (Jan. 9) with a portion of the crews of the schooner Lizzie M. Stacy, and of the bark Edward, both of which vessels were burnt at sea by the Confederate cruizer Shenandoah, the men on board being afterwards landed at Tristan d'Acunha, from whence they were taken by the Iroquois. The following particulars of these captures have been placed at the disposal of the press :—

THE "LIZZIE M. STACY."—The following is the report of Capt. W. H. Archer, of the fore-and-aft schooner Lizzie M. Stacy, from Boston with a general cargo :—"On the 13th November, in lat. 1.40 N., long. 28 W., discovered a ship to the westward coming up very fast; shortly afterwards made her out to be a steamer. In about two hours and a-half she steamed close alongside us, flying the English ensign. I then showed my colours, on which she fired a gun; at the same time down came the ensign and up went the pirate flag. The ship hove to, I following her example. She then lowered and sent one of her boats on board in charge of Lieut. Grimball, Master's Mate Hunt, and Midshipman Brown. Upon their coming on deck, I was asked where I was from, and where bound to, and if I had any foreign cargo on board. To which I replied, 'No.' 'Then, sir, you are a prize to the Confederate steamer Shenandoah; take your papers and go on board with your mate.' I went on board, and on arriving there was shown into the wardrobe. The captain then asked me where I was from and bound. I told him. He then asked me if I had any foreign cargo on board. I said no. 'Well, sir, I shall burn your ship. Go on board and get your luggage together, and take great care not to destroy provisions. If you do, it will be the worse for yourselves.' I then left the cabin and went on board my ship for the purpose of bringing my clothes and crew on board the steamer; after which they commenced to ransack the vessel. After taking the provisions and many other things, they destroyed my boats and cast them adrift, after which they scuttled and set fire to the vessel at both ends. We then stood away to the northward and eastward. The Lizzie M. Stacy was a fine fore-and-aft schooner, of about 140 tons, 3 years old, and belonged to Messrs. C. Brewer and Co., of Boston, U.S.A. After the capture of my vessel, and that of the whaling barque Edward, we and our crews, consisting in all of 27 men, were landed on the Island of Tristan d'Acunha, and were kindly received and lodged by the people on shore. We remained there 21 days, and were taken off by the U.S. steam corvette Iroquois, Captain C. J. R. Rodgers; and after a passage of 12 days from the island were landed in Table Bay on Monday." The following is Captain Archer's description of the Shenandoah: A fine long ship of about 1,000 tons, ship rigged, three patent reefing topsails, appeared to be a very fast vessel, carried 8 guns, 4 on either side. She had no pivot guns. The following is a list of her officers: Captain Waddell; 1st Lieut., C. W. Whittle; 2nd Lieut., J. Grimball; 3rd Lieut., S. S. Lee; 4th, F. S. Chew; 5th, D. M. Scales; Master's Mates, Colton, Hunt, and Miner; Surgeon, C. Lining; Assistant Surgeon, J. F. McNulty; Passed Midshipmen, O. A. Brown and J. F. Mason; Gunner, John Guy; Boatswain, J. Harwood; Sailmaker, H. Halcott; Carpenter, J. O'Shey; in all 74 persons. While on board the steamer, four of the Lizzie M. Stacy's crew joined her. The crews of the vessels taken before the Lizzie M. Stacy were put on board the ship Kate Prince, which vessel was bonded and released on account of her having a cargo of coals for Bahia.

THE WHALING BARK "EDWARD."—The following is Captain Worth's report of the taking of the American whaling bark Edward, of New

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Bedford :—"On the 4th December, in lat. 37.50 S., long. 11.45 W., at 5 p.m, observed a strange-looking steam-ship under sail standing towards us; when within about half a mile of us he showed the English ensign. I then backed my main topsail and hove to, thinking he wanted to speak me. Previous to this I had run up my colours to the peak, after which he hove his vessel to about quarter of a mile from us, and lowered one of his boats, which he sent to board my vessel, in charge of Mr. Bullock and Mr. Miner. They came alongside, and the officers coming on deck, I was told to go on board the strange steamer with my papers, leaving my ship in charge of the officers. Upon my going on board, I was taken into the cabin, where I was met by Captain Waddell, who said, 'Captain, I wish to examine your papers.' After looking over them, he said, "I shall burn your vessel.' He them made me take oath to answer the truth to the questions he would put to me. He then said: 'What money have you on board?' Answer, '150 dollars in gold. He then said, 'Take care of it, and deliver it to my purser, when you come on board.' I then left the cabin and proceeded on board my ship to fetch my clothes and send the crew on board next morning (it being late in the evening, they did not touch anything until next morning), when they commenced to take what provisions and other articles they wanted, and at six in the evening they set fire to the vessel. The whale boats, which were new, were taken on board the privateer; at that time her cargo was about 100 barrels of oil on board. She was a fine barque of about 350 tons, and was owned by Messrs. T. Knowles and Co., of New Bedford. She had been out four months; part of the men's clothes were saved; one of the seamen joined her while on board; he was an Englishman."

In addition to the above the following is a list of the ships burned by the Shenandoah :—Alena, bark, from Cardiff, bound to South America, with coals; brig Susan, from England, to South America, with a cargo of coals; bark D. Godfrey, from Boston to Valparaiso; schooner Charter Oak, from Boston to San Francisco; bark Adelaide, with the Argentine flag at her peak, was boarded. It appears that the captain of the privateer demanded her bill of sale and transfer to the Argentine Government, which the captain could not produce. She was then ordered to be destroyed. After they had broke up the cabin and poured tar and turpentine over the floor, the captain of the Adelaide spoke a few words to the privateer captain, upon which he immediately ordered them to repair what damage they had done, and release the vessel. It appears she belonged to a friend of the Confederates.

GAS IN CHINA.

(DAILY TELEGRAPH.)

"What next, and next?" asked Mr. Richard Cobden. "Next and next" came, in a form of which Mr. Cobden had never dreamt. "Next" was the Indian mutiny; "Next" was the liberation of Italy; "Next" was the civil war in America. The truth is, we cannot rest. We cannot stand still. For ever is there thundering in our ears the cry of "Onwards!" For ever are we reminded of the penalty which those incur who, not only look back, but strive to trace their steps in a retrograde direction; and happy are we if our career is not merely onwards but upwards, and if we succeed in avoiding the road which is all down hill. "What next, and next?" Everything is "next." The things we hope for must come—reform, sobriety, peace, innocence, happiness. The things we dread must come equally—grey hairs, diminished strength, bereavement, and the grave. It is simply a question of time. In an infinite succession the actors are waiting at the "wing" to enter on the stage of life. They are dressed and painted, and perfect in their parts; they are only waiting for their proper "cue," and we have not the least idea of when the "cue" will be given. Tremendous "set scenes" are behind the forest or the chamber which engage our transitory attention, and they do but await the promptor's whistle to be disclosed. If the curtain falls, let us not seek for our hats and prepare to depart, in vain assumption that the play has come to an end. It is but the act drop; the green curtain is a long way off: the great drama has yet to develope the most marvellous episode. There may be myriads of anti-climaxes before the great catastrophe. It is a good thing when you are old and feeble to "rest and be thankful," but in the aggregate, when nations are thankful for rest, it is that they may gather new strength and devote themselves, so soon as need be, to fresh efforts. The history of civilisation is but an incessant repetition of the question, "What next and next?" suddenly answered by a discovery or a revolution. The arts of the scribe and the illuminator are perfected to the highest degree; and lo! printing is invented. Nothing more can be done to render chain and plate armour invulnerable; and a German monk crumples up armour like Mr. Cobden's sheet of paper with a pellet of lead and an ounce of gunpowder. Mail-coaches are pronounced faultless, and a screeching railway train sweeps them off the road. The Lords of the Admiralty rub their hands over swift-sailing frigates; and Fulton puts a furnace, a chimney, and some water on board a barge, and steam navigation laughs the swift-sailing frigates to scorn. A three decker, as big as a parish church, "eats her head off" in the harbour of Malta, or towers majestic in Hampton Roads; and a little tin-pot floating battery, a kind of Eelpie-house punt, covered with railway irons, comes and knocks the tremendous three-decker to pieces, as easily as though it were a Dutch cheese. The things of which we brag loudest are in a moment superseded, and rendered as worthless as an old wig. Where is miniature-painting since photography came in? How is the sealing-wax trade since the introduction of gummed envelopes? How grateful the geese must be for the popularity of Gillott's steel pens! What has become of the old semaphore on the top of the Admiralty, all arms and legs, like the ghost of an insane cockchafer? Next was the electric, and next after that the magnetic telegraph. Just three-and-thirty years have elapsed since the learned and eccentric Mr. Babbage, in his "Economy of Manufactures," hit upon a notable device for forwarding letters and parcels along wires, and utilising the church steeples for the conveyance of the royal mails; but, in all his philosophy, the Organic sage never dreamt of Queen's-heads, the penny post, and the Pneumatic Despatch Company (Limited). The date of Mr. Babbage's whimsical suggestion reminds us that in the same year, 1832, a reverend Doctor of Divinity, the incumbent of a London church, put his churchwardens into the Ecclesiastical Court for daring to erect fishtail burners on either side of his pulpit. We will not mention his name, for the stanch old Tory may be yet alive. Had the late Sir George Cornewall Lewis only remembered Conservatism, he might have moderated his scepticism as to human longevity. Gas in a church! The Doctor of Divinity could not be expected to stand that, so he moved Sir Herbert Jenner Fust to put the wicked churchwardens down. We don't know exactly the offence with which they were charged—whether it was made out to be simony, or heresy, or "brawling;" but it is on record that the Arches Court was occupied with the great gas question. What would the reverend prosecutor have thought had he been told that in the year 1865 not only the whole of Europe, not only the whole of North America, but the town of Hong Kong, would be lighted by gas? Yes, carburetted hydrogen has found its way to the Middle Kingdom. The borders of the Flowery Land are liable to be cut off at the main; the Celestial Empire is threatened with an irruption of meters and pipes, gasometers and fishtail burners. It is true that Hong Kong is a British colony; that there are policemen there who, a very short time since, were wearing pig-tails; that the town has its club and its reading-rooms, its whist parties and its chemists' shops, its military messes and its fancy balls. Still, gas at Hong Kong for the moment staggers us. It is about the last place in the world where we should expect to find such a commodity. The innovation seems to menace the existence of Chinese lanterns and Chinese fireworks. Gas in Japan would not surprise us half as much; for the Japanese have shown a surprising aptitude in availing themselves of the appliances of Western civilisation. They are making mathematical instruments, stereoscopes, and camera obscuras. They are using hydraulic screws and Nasmyth steam-hammers. They are rifling cannon, drilling soldiers according to Hardee, and building iron-clads. Gas at Yokohama or Hakodadi would be quite a natural and comprehensible thing. Of course, the gasometers, the pipes, the meters, and the burners would all be made of paper; of course the collector who called for the rate would wear two swords; and of course the consumer who was three quarters in arrear would be driven to commit the *hari-kari*, or "happy despatch," to avoid the deep indignity of having his gas cut off.

"What next, and next?" Why, gas will cross from Hong Kong to the mainland, and in process of time light up the whole Celestial Empire until it reaches that deadest of dead walls, the Great Wall of China, along whose ramparts a regular row of gas lamps would be at once elegant and useful. The Chinese have been enterprising enough to emigrate in large numbers to California and Australia. San Francisco and the Bendigo diggings are full of their broad-brimmed hats, their dried countenances, their temples, their opium-smoking houses, and their tea-gardens; and English amateurs of Havana cigars would be surprised to learn how many choice Cabanas and Aaitagas are made by sallow Chinamen who, clad in European dress, and letting their hair grow, labour in the tobacco factories of Cuba. In the city of Havana is published an illustrated periodical, the blocks for which are engraved, and the copies of which are struck off by "Asiaticos" or Chinese workmen. If they can so adapt themselves to the requirements of civilisation abroad, why should we not reciprocate the compliment they show us by endeavouring so far as we are able to civilise them? A Canton Gas Company (Limited) might not turn out the most unprofitable of investments. The members of the Foreign Legations at Peking got up last year some very successful horse-races; why should not gas follow in the wake of the Chinese Derby? There is gas, to some extent at least, at Calcutta, at Bombay, and at Madras; there is now gas in Hong Kong, and we hope very soon to hear of the introduction of the brilliant element, not only in the capital of the empire, but at Shanghai and Canton. We collect the Chinese customs; we have drilled and commanded their "braves;" why should we not light their streets? A lantern at the end of a pole may be picturesque, so is a pigtail; but both are barbarisms. The celestials might plead, perhaps, that all civilisation began with them, and that they possessed gas, together with printing, balloons, gunpowder, telegraphy, the Jacquard loom, the Armstrong gun, photo-sculpture, animal magnetism, spirit-rapping, postage-stamps, Epsom champagne, and decalcomanie at least six thousand years ago, but it is nevertheless certain that their civilisation, albeit highly elaborate, is desperately rusty, and is in great danger of becoming rotten—if, indeed, it have not already attained an advanced stage of decomposition. China may shine, though it is with the phosphorescent glimmering of an ancient mackerel in the dark; but give China gas, and we may hear of her, "next and next," shining with thrice her former brilliance.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, FEB. 24.

If we are to believe the *Dagblad*, we are on the eve of a Ministerial crisis. Not only, according to that authority, does there exist a warm difference between our Premier and the Minister of Marine about the settlement of the quarantine law, but the Opposition paper says that there is also discord between Messrs. Thorbecke and Franssen van de Putte. At the last Cabinet Council the Premier brought colonial politics into debate, and our contemporary tells us that "Mr. Thorbecke was not at all at his ease about the future of our colonies." I need not say that this assertion has provoked general laughter. I believe it to be a *canard* of the largest size.

It is widely rumoured here that the Governor-General of the East Indies, Baron Sloet, will return home. It is believed that Mr. P. P. van Bosse would not decline to become his successor. Many other candidates are named of all shades—modern, liberal, and ultra-orthodox. In my next I hope to be able to tell you more about this rumour.

Parliament will not meet before the 28th. It seems that a further delay was directed by the Premier, because he feared an

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interpellation about the Canal-Maatschappy. I; doubt, however, that this question will be settled on that day. The agitated state of public opinion in Amsterdam is not at all quieted, and it becomes daily more probable that it will be impossible for the managers of the company to make a beginning with the work before the 14th of March. Should this supposition be right, the company loses a municipal contribution from Amsterdam of 3,000,000 f. The appointment of Mr. J. H. Van der Linden, as Government Director, has not tended to propitiate public favour.

The report of the commission of the States-General on the Indian tariff was issued some days ago. Not less than forty-seven members were present at the discussions in the sections. Several Conservatives opposed the Free-trade principles that are embodied in this Bill by the Minister of the Colonies. On the other hand, the Radicals warmly protested against the export duty, and the high import duty, as well as the differential tariff maintained. The Liberals alone are entirely contented with the tenor of the Bill, which is sure to undergo a searching discussion.

The *Haagsche Courant* (which is in a dying state) asserts that the King is seriously ill. Nothing is known here as to the truth of that rumour.

On the 4th of September an international exposition of pictures will be opened at Amsterdam; and a monster flower-show will be held during the month of June in the Palace of Industry.

Captain Cool, of the *Vooruit*, has appealed against his conviction.

Our well-known poet, C. G. Withuys, died suddenly at the Hague, on the 14th inst.

His Majesty has conferred on Rear-Admiral J. May, late Commander of H. M.'s Marine in the East Indies, a commandership of the order of the Netherlands Lion; has promoted General Major J. H. Blanken, Minister of War, to be Lieutenant-General; and General-Major A. J. Andresen, Commander of the Second Military Division in Java, to be Lieutenant-General and Commander-in-Chief of the East India Army.

The chartered troop ship *Gerard Pieter Servatius*, which has been taken up by the War Department for the conveyance of reinforcements to Java, will embark 150 soldiers from the Colonial depot at Harderwyke.

His Majesty was pleased to present on his birthday a silk flag to the *Medusa*, and an ordinary flag to the *Metalen Kruis*, *Djambi*, and *Amsterdam*. "*Simonoseki*" and the date of the battle will be inscribed on these colours.

COMMERCIAL.

The Government trade returns over the year 1864 were issued some days ago; they show that our exports to the Far East consisted in :—

Earthenware, to Java, 36,000 f.; to Japan, 11,000 f.; do. fine, to Java, 382,000 f.; to Japan, 5,000 f. Vinegar, to Java, 158,000 f. Beer, to Java, 1,583,000 litres; to Brit. India, 43,000 litres. Butter, to Java, 711,000 lbs. Chemicals, to Java, 74,000 f.; to Japan, 26,000 f. Drugs, to Java, 33,000 f. Opium, to Java, 257,000 f. Steam Engines, to Java, 348,000 f. Yarns (cotton untwined), to Java, 27,000 f.; do. (twined), to Java, 437,000 f. Spirits, to Java, 2,915,000 litres; to Brit. India, 1,396,000 litres. Liquors, to Java, 29,900 litres. Perfumery, to Java, 85,000 litres. Window-glass, to Java, 47,000 f.; to Brit. India, 10,000 f.; to Japan, 56,000 f. Glass Bottles, to Java, 47,000 f. Glasswork, to Java, 213,000 f.; to Japan, 26,000 f. Gold and Silverwork, to Java, 87,000 f. Flour and Meal, to Java, 471,000 lbs. Leather, to Java, 55,000 f. Iron, to Java, 499,000 f. Railway Bars, to Java, 288,000 f. Gaspipes, to Java, 113,000 f. Iron (manufactured), to Java, 1,245,000 f. Iron Nails, to Java, 457,000 f.; to Brit. India, 139,000 f. Coals, to Java, 25,040 tons. Copper (manufactured), to Java, 304,000 lbs. Mercery, to Java, 545,000 f. Lead, to Java, 428,000 lbs.; to Brit. India, 79,000 lbs. White Lead, to Java, 190,000 lbs. Silk (manufactured), to Java, 426,000 f. Cotton (manufactured), to Java, 5,960,000 f.; to Brit. India, 261,000 f.; to Japan, 132,000 f. Cotton (manufactured), printed or coloured, to Java, 6,978,000; to Brit. India, 1,375,000 f.; to Japan, 1,444,000 f. Linen, to Java, 446,000 f. Wool (manufactured), to Java, 708,000 f.; to Japan, 152 000 f. Woollen Bed-clothes, to Java, 22,000 f.; to Japan, 10,000 f. Flannel, to Java, 46,000 f.; to Japan, 3,000 f. Lace, to Java, 85,000 f. Silk Ribbon, to Java, 30,000 f. Oil, to Java, 561,000 lbs. Petroleum, 166,000 lbs. Paper, 401,000 f. Spiauter, to Java, 247,000 lbs. Steel (in bars), to Java, 196,000 lbs. Sugar (refined), to Japan, 35,000 lbs.; do., (West India) to Java, 3,000 lbs. Cigars, to Java, 42,000 lbs. Carpets, to Java, 17,000 f. Tar, to Java, 1,612,000 lbs.; to China, 143,000 lbs.; to Brit. India, 215,000 lbs. Watches, to Java, 5,000 f. Stock-fish, to China, 1,000 f. Meat, (all sorts) to Java, 1,180,000 f. Wine, to Java, 93,273,000 litres; to Japan, 9,000 litres. Salt, refined, 613,000 lbs. During 1864 our principal imports from the Far East consisted of drugs, from Java, 239 000 f. Arak, from Java, 257,800 litres. Sapanwood, from Java, 43,000 lbs. Hides, from Java, 771,000 f. Indigo, from Java, 366,000 lbs. Coffee, 68,975,000 lbs. Pepper, from Java, 750,000 lbs. Rice, from Java, 14,259,000, Rattan from Java, 2,735,000 lbs. Spices, from Java: Cassia Lignea, 106,000 f.; Mace, 169,000 f.; Cinnamon 43,000 f.; Nutmegs, 642,000 f.; Cloves, 24,000 f. Sugar, from Java, 106,140,000 lbs. Tobacco, from Java, 5,859,000 lbs. Tea, from Java, 1,448,000 lbs. (From China there were no direct imports, nothwithstanding the imports in 1862 consisted of 949,000 lbs.; and in 1863 of 773,000 lbs). Tin, from Java, 5,746,000 lb.

COFFEE.—The auction of the Trading Company on the 15th inst. went off with spirit, the good qualities ½ to 1 c. above valuations, and ordinary, unclean kind at about valuation; good 45½ c. Since the public sale there was a good demand for all kinds; a good business was done, and prices were in favour of the seller. 1,500 bags Padang and 1,200 bags Java were sold at auction prices; 2,490 bags Padang, ex Affiance, at 45¼ c.; 6,300 bags Java, ex Kosmopolitt, at 45½; and 2,681 bags, ex ditto, at 43 to 48 c.

TEA.—In waiting for the public auction, there were no transactions. At the public sale, which was held yesterday, 1,294 ½-chests China Congou were offered, and partly sold at the following prices:—Mark "Emma" 65 ½-chests Superfine Congou 100c., 9½ extra fine, Kaisow Congou 138 to 140c.; BCL 63 ½-ch. fine Congou, 100c.; Margaretha, 10¾-ch. fine Congou 95c. RFA, 128 half-chests finest Pecco Souchow, 160 c.; TSJ 84 quarter-chests fine Kaisow Congou, 105 c.; GVY, 55 quarter-chests finest Kaisow Congou, 105 c.; GS, 99 half-chests Kaisow Congou, 98 to 100 c.; L and C, 136 quarter-chests finest flowery Pecco, 140 c.; Margaretha, 75 quarter-chests superfine Congou, 95 c.; AHS and C, 50 quarter-chests superfine Souchow, 95 c.; Margaretha, 98 quarter-chests finest Congou, 110 c.; J, 203 half-chests fine Congou, 144 c.; RSF, 101 quarter-chests Kaisow Congou, 100 c.; F and Co. F, 23 quarter-chests, finest Lapsang Souchow, 125 c.; H, 99 half-chests finest Souchow, 39 half-chests choicest do., 36 half-chests finest Souchow, all at 95 c.; 100 quarter-chests extra fine Oopack Congou, 140 c.; D and Co. H, 89 quarter-chests finest Moning Congou, 108 c.; DBT, 100 quarter-chests finest Lapsang Souchow, 180 c.; H Bros., 176 quarter-chests extra fine flowery Pecco, 112 c.; AC, 113 half-chests finest black-leaf Pecco, 110 c.; 12 quarter-chests Java Pecco, 280 c.

SUGAR.—(Raw): The market remains very dull. Some lots Java, about 1,800 kr., were sold at former rates. Prices unaltered: No. 17, 35½f., No. 14, 34f. Stock in entrepot, 35,065,213 lbs.

RICE.—A fair business was done, and the market is firm, because there are no arrivals to be waited for, and the prices on the markets abroad are too high for the importers. 2,209b. Necranzie sold at 7¼f., 1,300b., do., ex Mowe, at 6½f.

SPICES.—Nutmegs, No. 1, with some more demand. The other articles dull. Ginger; on the 1st March 525 chests and 40 chests Mandaryn, imported direct from China, per Cathaya, will be offered in public sale.

COTTON.—Offered at lower prices, but without transactions.

BANCA TIN.—The market is dull; the quotation is 57f. to 58f., but at Amsterdam some 1,000 bl. were sold at 56½f. to 57f.

INDIGO.—Notwithstanding the quarterly sales in London of East India have gone off with good competition at firm rates, our market remained inanimate. Only 30 ch. were sold, at firm prices; holders decline to sell without an advance.

COCHINEAL.—Firm, without transactions.

WOOL.—At the auction of the Trading Company, 1,241 b. Cape were sold at 78 to 262 c., and 919 b. Buenos Ayres at 62 to 110 c.

PETROLEUM.—Market quiet. Quotation, 32½f. to 33½f.

MONEY.—The Netherlands Bank reduced the rate of discount to 4 per cent., and for other securities to 4½ per cent. Open market, discount, 4 to 4½ per cent. The tendency on the stock markets on the whole was favourable in the last few days. The news from America indicated that the rupture of the peace negotiations is complete, but, notwithstanding, the confidence in the markets returned. N.W.S., 2½ per cent., 62 5-16th; 3 per cent., 73¼; 4 per cent., 96; Handelmaatschappy, 143¾; Expl. State Railways, 89 per cent.; Dutch Rhenish Railway, f.310; Central Railway, f.112½; Change on London, 3 mo., f.11.63½; 2 mo., f.11.68; short, f.11.78, on Paris, 3 mo., f.46.10; 2 mo., f.46.25; short, f.46.72; Hambro, 3 mo., f.34.87; 2 mo., f.35; short, f.35.20.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.—Feb. 16, at Hellevoet, from Batavia, Mary Goddard; at Texel, from Batavia, Kinderdyk and Java; 18, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Zee Gezusters; at Zierikzee, from Batavia, Cornelis Anthonie; 19, at Texel, from Banjoewangie, Zephir; 23, at Texel, from Java, Ocean.

DEPARTURES.—None. Shipping will be re-opened within a few days. Temperature 39 deg. Fahrenheit.

In 1864 our mercantile E.I. fleet numbered 448 vessels, measuring 141,834 lasts, against 609 vessels in 1857, measuring 185,100 lasts. The Trading Company chartered in 1864, 147 vessels to convey 51,341 lasts produce from Java and Sumatra to Holland.

FREIGHTS.—Quotations of Messrs. Fauchey and de Vletter, shipbrokers, Rotterdam: For Batavia, Prinses Amalia, 842 tons, Kortenaer, 973 tons, Copernicus, 742 tons, Grootmeester Nationaal, 755 tons, Maria and Elisabeth, 313 tons, 18f. to 20f.; for Batavia and Samarang, Maria Adriana, 718 tons, Marie, 746 tons, Catharina Wilhelmina, 1,083 tons, Minister Fransen van de Putten, 1,500 tons, 18f. to 20f. for B., 25f. to 30f. for S.; for Batavia and Surabaya, Delft, 735 tons, 18f. to 20f. for B., 25f. for S.; for Sourabaya, Salatiga, 448 tons, 25f. to 30f.; for Samarang, Vyfvrienden, 337 tons, Hendrika, 667 tons, 25f. to 30f.; for Padang, Frederik Hendrik, 611 tons, 40f.; all per last of 2,000 ks., or 120 cubic feet Amsterdam, and 15 per cent.; for Melbourne, Nereus, 655 tons, Hendrik Ido Ambacht, 756 tons, 40f. to 45f., and 5 per cent. per 1,000 ks. of 40 cubic feet English; for Singapore and Hong Kong, Gouverneur van Swieten, 352 tons, 30f. to 35f. for S., 40f. to 45f. for H., both per ton of 1,000 ks., or 40 cubic feet English, and 15 per cent.

LOADING AT AMSTERDAM.—For Kanagawa and Decima; D. T. Visser, Jacqueline and Elize, Julie. For Padang: Pauline. For Batavia: Almelo, India Packet, Staatsraad van Ewyk, Krimpenerward, Kandanghauer, Gerard Pieter Servatius. For Batavia and Samarang: Galilei, Madura, Vertrouwen. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Anna and Sophie, Maria Regina, Willem II. For Samarang: Stad Leyden, Estafette, Sliedrecht. For Sourabaya: Baltimore, Petronella, Quintet.

The Netherlands Trading Company chartered the following 17 ships to convey produce from Java: To Amsterdam, IJmuiden, Capt. G. J. Melenberg; Constance, J. S. Mulder; Capella, A. R. de Lang; Wilhelmina and Elise, A. K. Wiersma; Maria Catharina, H. C. de Bos; Anna Maria Wilhelmina, F. Turenout; Ferdinand and Louis, D. E. Nolting: Sophia Koningin der Nederlanden, L. Klein; Maria Adriana, C. J. Itz; Hendrika, A. J. Bus: To Rotterdam, Nieuwe Waterweg, Capt. E. Von Lindern; Dorothea Henriette, D. Smit; Maria Louisa Antoinetta, A. Muysson: To Dordrecht, J. C. Schotel, Capt. J. de Groot; Jacobe, M. F. Schaap: To Middleburg, Haamstede, Capt. J. Ter Marsch: To Schiedam, Whilhelmina, Capt. M. C. Von de Kerkhoff.

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PASSENGERS INWARD.

From JAVA: Per Zephir, Captain Wemmerus: Mr. J. B. Van Overvest, Captain of the E. I. Army: per Cornelus Anthonie, Capt. Bouten, Mr. P. A. Van Goor, 1st Lieut.

The Cesar, Capt. A. D. de Jong, sailed from Sourabaya on the 31st July, for Amsterdam, and has not since been heard of.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

FEB. 24.

Colonel von Siebold, who has spent many years in Japan, and is considered an authority on the affairs of that country, lately addressed a letter to the editor of the *Augsburg Allgemeine Zeitung*, published in that journal, asserting that all the treaties with European Governments are *de jure* invalid because they were concluded with the Tycoon, who is nothing more than military commander-in-chief; whereas they ought to have been negociated with the Mikado as the real Sovereign. He therefore proposes a general revision of those treaties on general principles, for which purpose he has drawn up a draft of his proposals, which, however, are too voluminous to give them in your columns—at all events at the present moment, when the late outrageous murder of two British officers requires summary satisfaction and a guarantee for the future before any fresh arrangement can be thought of. This ignorance of the relative positions of the Mikado and the Tycoon, says Colonel von Siebold, is one of the many difficulties that were thrown in the way of foreign Powers when negotiating with the Japanese. The Tycoon has never laid claim to the title of "Majesty," which has been so generally conceded to him in the translations of treaties into foreign languages, and which he has tacitly accepted through his own personal ignorance of those languages. In the Japanese text of the treaties of 1858, the sovereign title of "Majesty" is nowhere to be found, but on the contrary the subordinate position of the Tycoon to the Mikado is plainly expressed, for he is called *Tei kok' Tai-Nippon Taikun*, which means literally "the Great Lord of the *Tei*, or Mikado of the Empire of Great Nippon." This was translated in the treaty with the United States, "His Majesty the Tycoon of Japan," and the same expression is used in the other treaties subsequently concluded with European Powers. The Prussian Ambassador and Plenipotentiary entertained considerable doubts as to the sovereign power attributed to the Tycoon, but he was led to waive the point on its being represented to him that all the other States—England, Russia, France, America, and Holland—had concluded their treaties with the Tycoon, and that a revolution would infallibly ensue if all these treaties with foreign countries were suddenly declared invalid by the phantom of the Mikado.

From St. Petersburg we learn that on the 27th ult. the annual general meeting of the Imperial Geographical Society was held there, H. I. H. the Grand Duke Constantine Nicolayovitch (brother of the Emperor), President of the Society, in the chair. Among the numerously-attended meeting were the Governors-General of East Siberia and of West Siberia, 114 Ordinary Fellows, and a large number of Corresponding and Honorary Members and their friends, with a fair sprinkling of ladies. After the usual report of the financial state of the society had been read—from which it appears the receipts of the year amounted to 19,000 silver roubles—the distribution of the Society's gold and silver medals took place. Among the recipients were Mr. F. B. Schmidt in recognition of his laborious services for four years as the head of the physical department of the Siberian expedition; Lieutenant Schabounine, for his discoveries and maps of Siberia; Captain Printz, of the staff, for his valuable *memoire* of his visit to Kho'bdo, in China (of which I sent you some account in a recent letter); Count Steenbock, for his discoveries in the Ussuri district; and Mr. Lopatin, for his surveys of the Southern part of the East coast of Siberia. Admiral von Lutke was re-elected Vice-President, and then the meeting broke up.

The Prussian corvette *Gazelle*, after having undergone thorough repairs in one of the Imperial docks at Cherbourg, is ordered to remain at that port for the present, it being considered advisable not to remove the crew, after having been so long accustomed to the warmer climate of the Eastern Seas, to the cold atmosphere of the Baltic till the spring, as the sudden change might be injurious to their health. On the return of the *Gazelle* to Kiel the Prussian steam corvette *Vineta*—a sister ship of the *Gazelle*—under the command, probably, of Captain Kuhn, will sail for the Far East, to remain for some years on that station for the protection of Prussian interests in China and Japan.

Negotiations have been opened between the Governments of Prussia and Japan for an alteration of Paragraph 15 of the Commercial Treaty between the two countries, which stipulates that Prussian money shall be taken in payment everywhere in Japan, the value of the money to be based on its weight and computed at the same rate as Japanese coins of similar intrinsic or metallic value. The Japanese Government having created a course of Exchange for their own coinage founded on the value of American dollars, it has been found desirable to alter the above stipulation and introduce a separate tariff price in Japan for Prussian coinage circulating in that country.

The *Irkutzk Gazette* reports that several severe shocks of earthquake were felt at the end of the year in the neighbourhood of Lake Baikal, but without doing much damage except at Nishni-Ilunsk, which appears to have been the centre point of the subterranean movement. The winter has been very severe everywhere in Siberia. At Jakutzk the thermometer ranged between 45 and 50 degrees of Reaumur, equal to from 69 to 80 degrees below zero of the Fahrenheit scale, whilst ever since the beginning of November it had never been higher than 40 deg. R. (58 deg. under O of F). The above-mentioned 50 deg. of Reaumur is probably the greatest maximum of cold possible on the face of our globe, as that is the estimated temperature of the unlimited space through which we career in our orbit round the sun.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The frost has set in again with such severity as to put an end to all navigation for the present, the ice in the Elbe being more than two feet thick. It is curious to see the outward bound shipping in the harbour taking in their cargoes, not from barges alongside as usual, but from loaded sledges and four-horsed waggons on the ice. This stoppage of supplies from oversea countries has had a favourable effect on the coffee market, and in conjunction with the high prices obtained at the late sales in Holland, produced a trifling rise for most sorts, whilst all descriptions were firm and looking up. Sales since last English mail 35,000 bags.

SUGAR.—Raw in a very depressed condition, and fully one mark banco lower than a fortnight ago, whilst there is no desire to buy, even at the present low rates. On the other hand, Refined sells readily at previous values, and 25,000 loaves have been taken for consumption.

RICE.—The dealings in cleaned grain continue with great activity every day at full prices, with a tendency to further improvement, though the only description in which there is an actual rise is Patna, which is 8 Sch Bco higher; Rough in the husk neglected, and might be bought a shade easier.

SPICES.—Cassia Lignea is rather lower, 1,800 chests having changed hands at 9 Sch Bco. Cloves command an easy sale, and prices rule firm. Mace and Nutmegs calm. Pepper has a moderate sale, but without any fluctuations in the value. Singapore, 3⅝ to 3⅞ Sch Bco; Sumatra, 3½ to 3⅝; do. cleaned, 3¾ to 3⅞.

SPELTER.—After the departure of the last English mail a few thousand centners were sold for Spring delivery at 13 marks bco and even a trifle higher; but since then a reaction took place, and purchases might have been made at 12¼, though buyers were shy, and would not come forward. During the last few days, however, there is an evident improvement in the tone of the market, and 2,000 centners have changed hands at 12¾, which has inspired both buyers and sellers with more confidence, and as the spring advances better prices will most likely be obtained. The present stock is 50,000 centners, against 34,000 at the corresponding period of last year, and 112,000 in 1863.

Discount 3¼ to 3¾ per cent.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AT CUXHAVEN:—Voladora, from Manila; Gustav and Ernst and Minerva, from Macao; Madagascar and Marie Heydorn, from Zanzibar.

FRANCE.

An Imperial Factory is about to be created in China, where the principal seats will be at Shanghai and Nanking. Great expectations are entertained from this measure, and it is hoped that French commerce in the Far East will gain a more rapid development from it.

Five young Anamites have just arrived at Paris, where they are to receive a religious education and be prepared for Holy Orders at the Catholic Seminary of St. Sulpice. As soon as they are ordained, they will return to Saigon, in order to act as missionaries among their fellow-countrymen in Cochin China. In addition to the above-mentioned Anamites there are at Paris two inhabitants of Cambogia, who are also preparing for the Church, with a view to become missionaries in their own country.

A plan is being concocted at Paris for transferring the rights of sovereignty over Cochin China to an industrial and trading company, on condition of their paying all the expenses of the Civil and Military Government. This would be something like the revival of our own former East India Company, and place the relations of France towards Cochin China on the same footing as were once those of the mother country and the French East India Colonies under Dupleix, in the time of Louis Quatorze.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, *and other parts of the* FAR EAST, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, TUESDAY, FEB. 28, 1865.

THE NEW COURT FOR CHINA.

WE learn that Sir EDMUND HORNBY, Kt., is the functionary appointed by H.M.'s Government to the post of Supreme Judge of the Court to be established at Shanghai, and that he is to proceed to China some time in April, accompanied by an assistant-judge and other officials, so that by the beginning of the hot weather our litigious friends at the mouth of the Yang-tze will be able to show themselves in the precincts of a law court before a real judge. Sir E. HORNBY has occupied, for a length of time, a similar post at Constantinople to that which he is now to occupy at Shanghai, and has, no doubt, been selected with reference to his familiarity with Oriental affairs. We understand that the Court over which he is to preside will relieve H.M.'s Minister of his appellate jurisdiction, thus obviating those protracted delays in important cases which have been a frequent source of complaint. We think it probable also that the Court will be intended to make the Circuit of the ports, though we should imagine that, in practice, there will be considerable difficulties in the way of such an undertaking. The public may expect to be shortly in possession of H.M.'s Order in Council, establishing the new Court, and it will doubtless then be found that measures have been taken to amend that state of affairs through which criminals within Consular districts in China have been so frequently enabled to get off with insufficient penalties. The main business of Sir E. HORNBY and his assistants will, however, consist in the trial of those numerous civil suits which now engross the time of H.M.'s Consul at Shanghai, and we shall be greatly mistaken if the importation of so much legal talent does not give a strong impetus to litigation, much of which the present system of Consular law tends strongly to keep down. We have long consistently urged an amendment in the existing provisions for the despatch of legal business in the Consular Courts in China, but we confess to a suspicion that the highly organised system denoted by the appointment of a man of such standing as Sir EDMUND HORNBY may not be quite an unmitigated benefit to the mercantile community. The rough-and-ready administration of justice by H.M.'s Consuls had doubtless its imperfections, but these arose rather from the restricted nature of their powers than from a defect in the system itself. A Consul sitting with mercantile assessors, to administer (as the Consular instructions have it) the law of England with respect to its *spirit* rather than its *letter*, formed a Court of Equity in which substantial justice was usually to be obtained, without inordinate expense, and without those quibbling discussions and interminable references to precedent which seem inseparable from the thorough-bred lawyer. It was in fact a Court of Common Sense, rather than of mere Common Law; and if certain sharp attorneys complained now and then of its disregard of forms and ignorance of the statutes of EDWARD II. or HENRY VIII., we think the public at large was probably no loser.

We shall be mistaken now, however, if a reign of Coke upon Lyttelton and the statutes at large is not imported into the decision of mercantile plaints in China, and a lively flight of legal practitioners from the Australian Colonies to Shanghai may be expected to take place before many months are over. If, however, the business of Sir E. HORNBY'S Court is to be confined by the Order in Council to litigation between Europeans, the litigants will at least be no worse off than they would be at home; but we should be strongly inclined to deprecate the exercise of jurisdiction in those "mixed cases"—*i.e.*, between Chinese and British subjects, which necessarily form a large portion of the legal business in China. As we understand the system at present pursued, these mixed cases are tried by the Consul rather as Arbitrator than as Judge, a bond being entered into by the alien litigant, who binds himself to abide by the decision of the Court; and, in practice, we believe, a large proportion of the cases in which Chinese merchants are the defendants are arranged amicably with the advice and assistance of the Consul without ever entering Court at all. It is plain, however, that to render such a course possible the adjudicating functionary must be a person intimately acquainted with the Chinese language and modes of business, and must futhermore be free from all technical prejudice—in fact, such an official as Sir HARRY PARKES, at Shanghai, or Mr. D. B. ROBERTSON, at Canton. It is only natural, on the contrary, that lawyers should see no salvation out of the pale of the law, and that of the most rigid description; and it is not by any means likely that a "Supreme Judge" like Sir E. HORNBY will interest himself in promoting arrangements *a l' aimable*, or "out of Court." We may therefore look for difficulties in the matter of mixed litigation; for if the horror with which Chinese defendants regard the Supreme Court of Hong Kong is likely to become felt with respect to its new rival at Shanghai, they will naturally fall back upon the right they will enjoy at the latter place, as Chinese subjects, of declining to submit to a foreign tribunal; and British suitors will have the pleasure of seeing their cases against native defendants conducted in the "Taou-tae's Court," whatever that mythical tribunal may be. Many other considerations suggest themselves to us in this connection, but we shall reserve them for discussion in a future article.

OPENING OF NANKING.

IF our information be correct, mercantile enterprise has again outstripped in China official routine. Agents of leading English houses have visited Nanking to secure building sites in advance of the establishment of a foreign settlement, the "most favoured nation clause" giving us the full advantage of the 6th article of the French treaty. The success of these speculations will of course depend greatly on the amount of judgment and foresight that may have been exercised; but it is understood that there was a very general agreement as to the most desirable site for foreign residents among those concerned in the purchase. It is to be hoped that no further time will be lost by the Foreign-office in setting up in this provincial capital a Consular establishment, although it is far from likely that Nanking will be repeopled and rebuilt with any of that magical rapidity which has marked the recovery of several other destroyed Chinese cities, seeing that the whole surrounding district has been completely devastated. Many connected with the China trade will incline to regard the port of Chinkeang as more advantageous for conducting their dealings, as the natural converging point of the produce brought down the Grand Canal from the neighbouring districts; but the concession of the grant of a foreign settlement at Nanking is, in a political view, of great importance, whilst its commercial value must increase with time. Here at least is a basis from which British trading posts may ultimately be extended into the interior,—a cherished scheme with the more enterprising of foreign residents, and which could hardly fail to result in an increased consumption of our manufactures. This is, or ought to be, the great desideratum with us. The produce of China is sure to be brought to the places in which we are located, but the pushing of our own goods requires the personal attention and vigour of our countrymen. The balance of trade against us, amounting to so many millions, should be reduced, or our late treaty is not worth the value we put upon it, and we might as well be confined to Canton, Foochow, and Shanghai. Our merchants lead up to sellers instead of to buyers, which is not playing our own game nor the secret of success.

OPENING UP OF BRITISH TRADE WITH THE KOREA.

IT is time that the attention of merchants trading with the Far East should be directed to the peninsula of the Korea. The inquiries that have recently sprung up as to the possibility of our establishing commercial intercourse with the Korea will

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prove, we may hope, forerunners of an active foreign trade with that peninsula. Reduction of profits by competition, or the hope of higher gains, perpetually impels commerce to seek out new channels. Here then, to the north-west of Japan, to which the Korean islands serve as so many stepping-stones, a country larger than Great Britain, and peopled by an industrious agricultural population, offers itself to our enterprise, a country having mines of iron, lead, coal, and sulphur, sedulously worked, and with manufactures in metals, silk, cotton, and paper. Yet with all the materials of a productive commerce, the Korean trade with Japan has never risen above barter, the Japanese being subjected in this peninsula to much the same restrictions as those they placed on the Dutch at Decima, whilst it is only within a comparatively few years that Korea has been visited by Chinese junks, trade with China having been confined to a fair held on the borders of Mantchuria, and a table of wares set out in a Peking bazaar by the Korean bearer of the annual tribute. All European connection with Korea has been confined to the wreck of a Dutch vessel on the coast, and the occasional stoppage of vessels on their way to the Sea of Tartary, at the most southern of the Korean islands. The mines and manufactures of Korea manifestly provide the elements of a lucrative business in exchange; and should that country possess, as appears probable, copper in abundance, we have, to begin with, a valuable article on which to base the export trade. The manufactures that would suit the Koreans are thick and heavy woollens, similar to those produced in Russia and Poland, invaluable in northern Asiatic trade, but which our manufacturers refuse to imitate, stout white cotton goods, and, generally, the articles exported to Japan. The Koreans barter with the latter country, sword-blades, javelins, harpoons, bar-iron, lead, ginseng root, canvas, and a peculiar kind of paper, for copper, silk, and cotton twist, foreign piece goods, sugar, timber, various condiments and lacquered ware. To China, Korea sends ginseng root and most of her manufactures, receiving in return, tea, silk, foreign goods, porcelain, and various other articles. The late stimulus to the trade of the Korea with her two rich neighbours may be traced to the Korean demand for foreign goods which English and Russian importations have excited. The China trade has even allowed of Europeans making ventures on their own account. The Koreans have plainly enough refinement to experience keenly all the wants common to civilisation, after having had a foretaste of the mode in which luxuries and necessities may be supplied, and have already ceased to act the part of a recluse. The Japanese, who have had a factory in the Korea for 250 years, are not the people to push trade with it; Korean traditions go against them, and they have never surrendered their claims to the ownership of a peninsular they have twice conquered.

The question as to how our commercial relations may best be opened with the Korea, involves slightly the question of sovereignty. As between the claims of China and Japan to the fealty of the Korean Sovereign, those of China clearly predominate, for whilst the Emperor of CHINA exacts a yearly tribute and sends envoys to crown each new Sovereign, all that the TYCOON has to show is a present on these rare occasions—a token falling short of the accustomed Asiatic symbols of submission. Besides having been the field where China and Japan have fought out their quarrels, the Korea has afforded fine scope for Chinese and Japanese diplomacy, Japan especially having constantly interfered in the affairs of the several States. China has merged the claims of conquest in those of adoption, leaving the Korean Sovereign practically independent, the functions of this monarch for all purposes of foreign negotiation are intact. The Japanese, indeed, renewed their own trading relations with the Korea through the mediation of a Chinese Emperor, but it will be time for us to go to Peking for commercial privileges when we have failed in a direct embassy to Kinkiato. In any event, the Chinese EMPEROR, already disposed to grant us inland trading posts in China, could not fail to regard a foreign settlement on the Korean coast as an additional bulwark against the aggressions of Russia.

A favourable position for a foreign settlement might be found in "Deer Island," commanding one of the two entrances to a noble harbour at the southern extremity of the peninsula, known as Tsau-liang-hai, and backed by a thickly-peopled district. The island is from five to six miles in circumference, with good building ground, a plentiful supply of water, and a healthy climate, and but twenty miles distant from Tsusima. A thorough exploration of channels would render the navigation less intricate. In addition to securing "Deer Island" for a settlement, negotiations should be directed to the establishment of trading stations and the opening of ports on the western coast, where a good harbour may be found within easy distance of the capital, and above all to the cession of the magnificent group of islands discovered by Her MAJESTY'S steamer *Actæon* in 1859, commanding the entrance to the sea of Tartary and Japan. Their magnificent sound, in which the navies of the world might ride, and their almost equal distance from the Gulf of Pecheli, Yedo, and Russian Mantchuria, invite to the creation at this point of a British naval station. So highly did Russia appreciate their position, that two years from the discovery the Russians were found erecting a block-house, and would have succeeded in effecting a lodgment but for the protests of the European representatives in Japan. Let us delay the acquisition, and Russia will certainly renew the attempt, and next time more successfully. A British settlement on the south of the peninsula and our occupation of these islands would check, more than anything else, Russian encroachments in the Eastern Seas. Russian designs on the Korea are no secret. A power that has acquired an outlying province of China without war, has the means of becoming mistress of the Korea. For fifteen years she has held the southern portion of the island of Saghalien, with its rich coal-fields; why not the anthracite deposits of the Korea? Only a narrow strait separates Saghalien from Yesso, and at Broughton Bay, on the Mantchurean coast, Russia reaches the northern limits of the Korean peninsular. Japan lies between this as in a vice. It is a necessity of her position, too, to advance quickly, for to delay is to see new barriers raised up against her. It is not the counter trade of Russia we have to fear, but her sterile Asiatic polity, which aims to circumvent our commercial supremacy. In addition to mines, which have their special attractions in Muscovite eyes, Russia would obtain in Korea what she obtained from Finland, hardy seamen to man the Imperial fleet.

There are, then, political as well as commercial reasons for prompt action on the part of our Government to open relations with this extremity of the Asiatic continent. Our diplomacy to this end must not be of too refined an order. We shall gain nothing by such homage as that which marked our earlier approaches to the Chinese and Japanese Courts. We must dictate our terms rather than receive them, after the manner in which Lord ELGIN finally concluded our Treaty with Japan. The Koreans, with all their imperturbability of countenance and air of independence, exhibit more real barbarism under the show of refinement than any other Asiatics—in fact, show all the signs of a people fitted to wear the badges of despotism, exhibiting before superior power cringing fear and servile submission. The arts and sciences they possess result from the transmission of their from China to Japan, represented in allegory by the departure of the three thousand from "the land of the rising sun"* to seek for a Mongol Emperor in the Japanese isles, the plant of immortality.

Sir JOHN BOWRING, the British Plenipotentiary in China ten years ago, was actually accredited to the Korea, and with a view to ascertaining the desirableness of visiting the country and of endeavouring to open the trade, entered into correspondence with some Catholic missionaries and a Korean convert. When the Koreans treat Chinese Ambassadors more like prisoners than guests, it is improbable that they would give to utter strangers opportunities for learning the extent of their resources. The prospect was not judged by his Excellency, at the time, as sufficiently encouraging; the changed position, however, of matters in Japan now fully justifies some action to this end on the part of Her MAJESTY'S Government.

CAPTAIN SHERARD OSBORN.

We regret that Captain Sherard Osborn is permanently removed from the China field in which he shone so eminently, as we find he has been appointed Manager-in-Chief at Bombay of the Great Indian Railway.

THE STRAITS TRANSFER.

In our last notice of this subject it was stated that a difficulty existed in regard to the revenue, and a reply was expected from Singapore and from Sir Hercules Robinson on the subject. These obstacles have now been satisfactorily cleared up, and a

* The Korea.

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Bill will be introduced in the present Session of Parliament to effect the transfer from the Indian Government to the Colonial Office. The revenue of Singapore is found sufficient not only to cover every reasonable civil and military charge, but even to leave a considerable surplus. Such being the case, the Straits Colony will be the only one out of six-and-forty colonies which, while it adds fifteen millions sterling a year to the trade of the nation, will cost it absolutely nothing.

THE HON. SIR FREDERICK BRUCE, K.C.B.

As we intimated in January, Sir Frederick Bruce will not return to Peking, and the post now held by Mr. T. F. Wade remains to be filled. We believe that no settlement will be made until Sir Rutherford Alcock, who has arrived by the present mail, has been consulted. Sir Frederick has been appointed to succeed Lord Lyons, who resigns on account of ill-health, as Minister at Washington.

THE STEAM SERVICE FOR JAVA.

In our issue of the 10th November last we noticed the progress of the Netherlands India Steam Navigation Company (Limited). We have now to announce the launch of the first steamer built for their service from the yard of Messrs. Randolph, Elder, and Co., on Clyde. The name of this vessel is the *Kæning William III.*, after the King of Holland; she is 225 feet long, 51 feet beam, and 22 feet depth, and her draught of water when loaded will be 12 feet. She is built, as we before intimated, on the "composite" principle. We understand that the number of vessels required to start with is nine, varying from 1,000 tons and 200-horse power to 500 tons and 100-horse power, with large proportionate freight and passenger-carrying capabilities, and embracing every adaptation to the traffic in a tropical climate that experience could suggest, including a spar or upper deck, with open top sides, and extra arrangements for shade and ventilation. The construction of the four largest of these steam ships has been entrusted to the above-named firm, who are fitting them with horizontal geared engines, combining their peculiar arrangements for the economy of fuel—a desideratum obviously of the greatest importance in a part of the world where coals are very costly.

CHINESE PAPER CURRENCY.

(To the EDITOR.)

DEAR SIR,—I have just come across the enclosed writing from an old work which you may think interesting.—Your obedient servant,

ANTIQUARIAN.

"Schlötzer, of Gottingen, in his 'Kritisch-historische Nebenstunden,' has published a dissertation to show that the invention of paper money was anterior to the establishment of the earliest bank of circulation in Europe, that of St. George at Genoa, founded in 1407, and was to be attributed to the Mongol conquerors of China in the thirteenth century. Klaproth, however, having entered somewhat more deeply into the inquiry, has shown that as early as B.C. 119 the Chinese Government, in the reign of the Emperor Ou-ti, of the great dynasty of Han, had adopted the experiment of forcing the circulation of an artificial money termed phi pi, or values in hide, made from the skins of white deer, bred exclusively in the park of the emperor. The method of forcing them into circulation was very simple: they were made indispensable as passports into the presence of 'the son of heaven,' for so the emperor was termed, and the great nobles and even the members of the imperial family were obliged to purchase these 'cards of admission' from the master of the imperial household for a sum amounting to about 300 francs, or 12 pounds sterling apiece. These tickets appear to have passed current at this value amongst the chief nobility, but do not seem to have ever come into general circulation. But from the commencement of the seventh century down to the termination of the dynasty of Soui, the Chinese finances were so disordered that, as the historian writes, all kinds of substances, even bits of cloth and of cardboard, were circulated as money. At the commencement of the ninth century, in the reign of the Emperor Hian-tsoung, of the dynasty of Thang, metal money had become so scarce, that copper was forbidden to be employed for domestic utensils, and the Government issued an edict that all metal should be brought in to the imperial treasury, whilst it issued in exchange an artificial money termed fey-thsian, or flying-money. Thai-tsu, the founder of the dynasty of Sung, about 960 B.C. issued a similar money termed pian-tsian, or convenient-money. We have five subsequent issues of variously modified fictitious money circulated by state authority between this period and the establishment of the earliest Mongol dynasty consequent on the invasion of Jengiz Khan, that of Youan, in 1279, and there can be no doubt that at the end of the tenth century or the begining of the eleventh, paper money in the strict sense of the word, made from the bark of trees, was current in China in lieu of the ancient metal money, which had been found to be inconvenient. There is a curious fact connected with the history of these issues of spurious money. Copper or bronze constitutes in the present day the money of the Chinese; in fact, the word cash, which seems to have been borrowed from this quarter of the globe, signifies the small brass currency which alone passes by tale counting, for silver when used as an article of exchange amongst the Chinese is always tested by the scales and the touch-stone: but the plenty or scarcity of the copper coinage has been affected in China at different intervals by a cause which is perhaps as singular in producing this effect, as any of the peculiarities of this eccentric people, viz., religious toleration or persecution. Thus, according as the religion of Fo, that is, Buddhism, has been favoured or persecuted, a paper currency has superseded a metallic one, or the reverse. The occasional exhibition of state favour to Buddhism entailed, as an indirect consequence, the fabrication of a great number of little images in bronze of Fo and other objects of worship, for which purpose the coin was melted down; the persecution of his votaries, on the other hand, caused the images to disappear and the metal to be restored to the purposes of circulation; and it seems not improbable that some of the occasions when a large issue of paper money took place, coincide with the ascendancy of princes favourable to the Buddhist innovations on the older and established system of Confucius. The Emperors of the native dynasty of Ming, who succeeded to the throne on the expulsion of the Mongols in 1368, did not fail to avail themselves of precedents which naturally recommended themselves to an embarrassed government. They consequently issued in 1375 notes (assignats) of six different denominations, varying from 1,000 to 100 pence in value. Those of a thousand pence were declared worth on ounce of silver, and a government prohibition was put forth at the same time against the use of gold or silver for purposes of traffic. These notes however suffered an immediate depreciation in the ratio of thirteen to twenty-seven when compared with copper, and they continued to fall in current value most probably in consequence of an immoderate issue, since in 1448 a note of the nominal value of 1,000 pence would exchange for not more than threepence in specie. The government now attempted to restore the credit of heir paper by prohibiting the use of copper or any other circulating medium but the government notes, and ultimately issued an ordinance that the dues at the markets of the two great capitals of the empire should be paid in government paper. But these measures appear to have been unsuc essful, as may be readily imagined, and this last species of artificial money seems to have at last disappeared from circulation, as history makes no further mention of it after the year 1455 of our era. It was termed *tchhao* or *want of metal;* the same Chinese character when pronounced with a slight variation as tchhaó, signifies to take by force, or to rob another of his goods. The present masters of China, the Manchu Tartars, who subdued the Ming in 1652, are represented by Klaproth to have been too barbarous to understand the financial system of their predecessors, at least they have never attempted to issue any description of paper money.

FRENCH VIEWS RESPECTING JAPAN.

(FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.)

The publication of the *Livre Jaune*, or collection of State papers relative to Foreign Affairs, by the French Government, has naturally called forth some discussion on the position of the Western Powers with respect to Japan. Of course, people are not unanimous on this, any more than upon any other subject, but the following will give a fair idea of the view taken by the Imperial party in France. The conduct of the Japanese authorities in executing the two *Samourai*, who were believed to have had a hand in the assassination of the two English officers, is accepted as a proof of the good intentions of the Tycoon, and private letters are said to prove the energetic loyalty exhibited by the Japanese Government in the measures taken to discover and punish the assassins and as evidence of the good will which the vigorous measures taken by the Western Powers have inspired in the mind of the temporal sovereign of Japan. It is remarked that although during the last ten years, although eleven Europeans have been assassinated, this is the first time that the head of a *Samourai*, the class to which most of these brigands are believed to belong, has fallen by public execution before the eyes of the people, who might have been deceived heretofore as to the disposition of the Government by the impunity which seemed to surround the assassins of Europeans. The impression of this rigorous measure upon the Japanese, we are assured, has been most salutary, and cannot fail to have the best results as regards the Europeans; nor will the Tycoon relax his endeavours to have the principal culprits brought to justice for the confession of the two *Samourai* is said to have revealed the existence of a kind of secret political association, which would not have stopped short of any crime to carry its ends. Another inference drawn from the avowals of the two men who were executed, is said to be that they were accomplices in, if not the actual perpetrators of, the murder of Lieutenant Camus. Other letters speak of an edict expected to be published shortly, by which the local authorities and even the people themselves will be held responsible for the presence of suspected individuals within the limits of the territory accorded to Europeans around Yokohama; and in other places where they are established. Mention is also made of the formation of new roads, of the creation of a race-course, which will also serve for military exercise and manœuvres, of the draining of a marsh in the rear of Yokohama, and the concession of sites for the erection of a small-pox hospital and consular buildings. The Japanese authorities are said to have exhibited much promptitude and good will in the granting and carrying out of these concessions; and, it is added, the happy unity of idea and efforts which has never ceased to exist between the representatives of France and England has contributed in no small degree to this satisfactory result. The community of interests which unites the two nations in the extreme East is declared to be most happily represented by the cordiality and personal intercourse established between M. Léon Roches amd Sir Rutherford Alcock, and the moral and material support which the agents of the two Powers supply reciprocally are considered to have greatly aided in improving their common situation with respect to the Japanese Government. Special reference is made to the murder of a French sailor in the worst quarter of Yokohama. It seems that some men belonging to the French ships being drunk got into a quarrel with some of the lowest of the Japanese, and that one of the former was killed; the Gorodjo immediately acceded to the demands for satisfaction made by the French minister, the chief of the police was discharged from his post for not having interfered in time to prevent the unfortunate result of the melee, and fifty of his subordinates were arrested and afterwards suspended from employment; and lastly, two Japanese who were armed with boat-hooks during the row were tried and condemned to the galleys for life. From these various circumstances it is inferred that the rapidity and vigour with which the Japanese authorities have acted have inspired the population with respect for the life of Europeans, and that our intercourse will in future be far more easy and agreeable—to which we have only to say, in the words of the Queen of England when she gives her royal consent to an Act of Parliament—*Ainsi soit il!*

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THE FRENCH IN COCHIN CHINA.

(FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.)

It is announced that the *Messageries Imperiales* is engaged in the formation of a great maritime establishment on the left bank of the Donai. M. Domerque, a retired Lieutenant-Colonel of Engineers, and principal agent of the company, is entrusted with the direction of the work. Buildings have already been raised to the extent of more than three hundred yards; these include a house for the principal agent, warehouses and offices, forges, machine shops, and coal and wood stores. The directors of the works are European, the artizans Chinese, and the labourers Annamites. Some of the ornamental work in carving and painting has been confided to the Chinese entirely, and the French admit that the former exhibit not only great aptitude but excellent taste in such matters. The whole undertaking will be completed in a few months, and, in the words of a French journalist:—"The establishment will be one of the finest, the most complete, and the most advantageously situated that could by any possibility be imagined."

The *Constitutionel* has just commenced a series of articles on Cochin-China, in which the history of that country, or rather of the lower provinces, is traced from the year 1663, through the negotiations which took place with France during the reign of Louis XVI., and which were broken off by the revolution to the present time. The writer concludes with a reference to the sufferings of the Romish missionaries, recounts the origin of the expedition of 1859, and arrives at the conclusion that the formation of a colony there was not in any way a voluntary act of the French Government, but arose simply out of the force of circumstances—just as the confiscation of the three provinces did not take place because France willed it, but was simply forced upon her by the bad faith and insulting conduct of the Annamite Government. If there be any force in the well-known French adage, "*Qui s'excuse s'accuse*," the account of the origin of the colony in question would have far better been left untold. The matter is too recent for history, and too stale for news; yet nearly one quarter of the paper in question is devoted to the narrative, and the subject is to be continued.

Correspondence.

THE PORT OF SHANGHAI.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph*.)

SIR,—Your remarks in the *Telegraph* of the 20th inst. having reference to the above great emporium of trade, are most just and wise. The port of Shanghai has so enormously increased of late years that it has now become positively imperative to devise some scheme by which the shipping interests may have better facilities for the discharging and loading of cargo, together with more security at their anchorage. Shipping to nearly a million of tons enter inwards, and nearly the same amount outwards annually, and this not taking into account the native craft, which is also exceedingly large, probably amounting to two-thirds of the above, in the same period. It is no matter of surprise to those acquainted with the port and river of Shanghai, that this enormous amount of tonnage must fearfully overburden the river facilities, and as a consequence be the immediate cause of the great number of serious accidents which continually occur to the shipping, both foreign and native. The anchorage ground, too, is constantly becoming more contracted and unsafe, by reason of encroachments and diversion of the river currents, &c. Now, I say advisedly, that there is no method of meeting the difficulty under which Shanghai labours with regard to its shipping, other than that of extending the limits of the port to Woosung, and that this is not an *already* accomplished fact is a matter of extreme surprise, and the more particularly since the opening of Japan and the Yang-tsze river to foreign trade. Woosung is the natural outlying port of Shanghai, and is splendidly adapted as an *entrepot* for all warehousing and trans-shipping purposes. With the extension of the port of Woosung, must follow (or indeed might advantageously precede) the connecting link with Shanghai—*the rail and telegraph*. And, *en passant*, I will just here remark that I know of no undertaking that could be carried out with less expense than a railway between Shanghai and Woosung; the country is a dead level, and there are no engineering difficulties whatever in the way, and the distance by land is short, being only nine miles. That a railway would pay handsomely between the above places cannot for a moment be doubted, and, indeed, a great *future* is in store for undertakings of this nature in this quarter; Shanghai, with all its wonderful advancement, being yet only comparatively in its infancy. In addition to the goods traffic, which would shortly be enormous, passengers *in transitu* would materially add to the profits of the company. And it might be expected that, with the facilities of communication which a railway would give, many of the Shanghaity would make Woosung a place of residence, at least during the hot months, there being no doubt of its superior healthfulness over the former place; in fact it is a wonder that a sanitarium has never been established at the entrance of the river, beyond Woosung; the sea breezes there being almost always fresh and invigorating, consequently health-restoring.

In conclusion, Mr. Editor, I will only further say that it is utterly impossible the extension of the limits of the port of Shanghai can be longer delayed with safety, consequently the sooner this measure of relief be carried out the better it will be for all interested in trade with that port.

London, Feb. 24, 1865. OLD SHANGHAI.

THE NATIVE SOVEREIGN OF SINGAPORE.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph*.)

SIR,—In looking over Mr. Cameron's just published volume, I find there are various differences of opinion in which I might indulge, but I wish particularly to dwell upon the disputed sovereignty, as he is pleased to call it, and its consequences on the trade and prosperity of Singapore. In page 23, latter end, he says, speaking of a treaty between the Sultan and Tumongong, "that the former ceded the sovereignty, which transferred a dynasty." The territory was ceded, it is true, and under compulsion, and was the result of a most unfair exercise of the power of Government. Both Colonel Butterworth and Mr. Church, the Resident Councillor, regretted afterwards what they had done, and the latter has left his opinion upon record. Mr. Cameron is an adherent of the Tumongong, and insists that the Sultan sold his birthright of the sovereignty (page 137), "but strange to say retained, as he still does, the title of Sultan;" a proof, at any rate, that he had not resigned it. He then continues, "It has been a badly managed piece of business, and has given rise to great dissatisfaction among the Rajahs of the Peninsula, who refuse to acknowledge the Tumongong, because, in point of hereditary rank, *he is beneath many of them*."

It is worthy of attention that within the last six months these chiefs asked the Sultan to come among them, and they have recognised in him those rights of which the British seek to deprive him, and why? Is it because, as Mr. Cameron says, "the Tumongongs have been far in advance of the Sultans in ability and education?" Not in the least; what brought the Tumongong into notice was his piratical proficiency, and as the best means of controlling that thriving community, the father of the present chief was taken by the hand by Mr. Bonham, and from that time made much of by the British Government. Had the Sultan been equally turbulent, he would not have been neglected. But what has been the consequence of this "immoral policy?" The whole of the chiefs of states composing the whole empire of Johore are against us, or against the man we patronise; and instead of a valuable trade existing from Tringanu to Malacca, nothing is to be found beyond the monopoly of timber for the benefit of the Johore Saw Mill Company, of which the Tumongong is a large shareholder, and the gambier and pepper trade in the immediate vicinity of Singapore, the monopoly of which by the ruler of the country was only lately defeated by the vigilance of the Chamber of Commerce. The Government authorities privately condemn the policy which publicly they are obliged to uphold. The chiefs, united under the Sultan, would be more easily influenced by the British, than they can be divided as they now are; and whereas in the one case they would have a general interest to promote trade and open up the resources of their countries, they are now distrustful of each other, and afraid to stimulate the industry of their subjects for fear their wealth should cause the others to attack them. Besides, who would think of endeavouring to develop the riches of such at present disorganised countries? Can life or property be safe under such a system? Are the English respected and looked up to as they should be? The result of the Pahang war and the bombardment of Tringanu show the contrary. If, therefore, the riches of the south end of the Peninsula are to be developed we must inaugurate a more sound and moral policy; we must recognise the legitimate power acknowledged by the Malays—even by the Tumongong himself; we must bind the chiefs together by self-interest, and teach them the principles of good government, assisting them, if necessary, by advice, and affording them the benefit of the administrative talent of an able Resident, as at Mysore; then we may expect to see a rich and fertile country pour its varied products into our lap, and a flourishing commerce succeed the forty-five years of neglect which have unfortunately marked our presence in those parts.—Yours, truly,

February 20, 1865. AN OLD RESIDENT.

JAPANESE ORDERS FOR MACHINERY.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph*.)

SIR.—Will your Rotterdam correspondent kindly afford information as to the description of machinery ordered on Government account by the Japanese officers recently arrived at the Hague? Is the order for mills, drainage pumps, or marine engines? Cannon cannot well be called machinery. It so happens that the first steam-engine constructed in Japan was made out of copper from the drawings of a Dutch work that had found its way thither.—I am, &c., SCRUTATOR.

London, Feb. 24, 1865.

NUMBER OF BRITISH RESIDENTS IN JAPAN AND CHINA.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph*.)

Sir,—Consuls, like some other men, seem occasionally to wander most unaccountably out of their way. Who would have looked to our Consul at Calais for a statement in his Report to the Foreign Office of the number of Englishmen settled in Japan, China, Cochin-China, and Persia? Yet so it is, these countries are lumped together, and the number given is 1,207 for the official year 1863-64. An approximate estimate of the present number of British residents in China and Japan, as well as in these two countries separately, would interest many of your readers, including, STATICIAN.

Oxford, Feb. 18, 1865.

Naval and Military.

The inquiry into the circumstances of the loss of the Bombay by fire has terminated after five days' duration. Captain Colin A. Campbell in defence referred to the destruction of H.M.S. Queen Charlotte and Ajax in a somewhat similar manner, and concluded by observing that he felt sure that the Court would perceive from the evidence that both his officers and himself were to be exonerated from all blame. The Court (after one hour's consultation) decided that in every way Captain Campbell had fulfilled his duty, and passed the highest eulogiums on the discipline preserved in such trying circumstances. The President then returned Capt. Campbell and Commander Wilson their swords, and the proceedings terminated.

The following promotions, dated from the 10 inst., will take place in consequence of the death on the 9th inst. of Admiral Sir Henry Byam Martin, K.C.B.:—Vice Admiral Sir James Scott, K.C.B., to be Admiral on the active list; Vice Admiral the Right Hon. Henry John Chetwynd, Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot, C.B., to be Admiral on the reserved list; Rear Admiral Sir Baldwin Wake Walker, Bart., K.C.B., to be Vice Admiral on the active list; Rear Admiral Edward Stanley, to be Vice Admiral on the reserved list; Captain Douglas Curry, 1846, Captain Superintendent of the Plymouth (Royal William) Victualling Yard, and of the Royal Hospital at Plymouth, to be Rear Admiral on the active list.

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The 17-gun sloop Mutine has returned to Woolwich, after a trial at the measured mile, and it is ordered to be prepared for immediate commission. Her destination is stated to be to relieve the Harrier on the Australian station. The Mutine has been repaired in every compartment, and has been fitted with a topgallant forecastle as a shelter for the crew. The same principle, it is stated, is intended to be carried out by Mr. Reed, the Chief Constructor, in all ships of that class belonging to Her Majesty's navy.

The Navy Estimates for the year 1865-66 have been issued. The net decrease, as compared with last year, is £316,427, the total amount required being £10,392.224, against £10,708,651. It should be stated, however, that the sum thus voted last year includes the votes in the supplementary estimate for increasing the full pay and for the extension of naval retirement of officers of the navy, amounting to £61,041, and the supplementary estimate for purchase and completion by contract of the El Tousson and El Monassir, iron-clad ships, amounting to £220,000. The items of decrease are as follows:—Coastguard service, &c., £16.323; scientific branch, £1,234; Her Majesty's establishments at home, £159; ditto abroad, 334; wages to artificers in home establishments, £116,509; section one in naval stores, Storekeepers-General of the Navy, £29,528; section two, Comptroller of the Navy, £317 512; and half-pay, &c., to officers of the Navy and Royal Marines, £5,370. On the other hand, the wages to seamen and marines are increased by £15,093; victuals and clothing for ditto, £21,575; Admiralty-office, £7,352; artificers abroad, £3,380; new works, &c., £83,687; medicines and medical stores, £450; miscellaneous services, £1,605; military pensions and allowances, £17,010; civil pensions and allowances, £14,050. The estimated amount for the coming year of extra receipts and repayments to be paid to the Exchequer is £239,319, which reduces the net amount of the navy estimates to £10,152,905, against the net amount last year of £10,507,792. With regard to numbers, the number of officers, petty officers, and seamen to be voted for the coming year is 38,000, against 38,500 last year. There are also 7,000 boys, and 7,000 men in the coastguard service, against 7,500 last year, making the total 52,000 against 53,000. The marines are in all 17,000, namely, 8,000 for service afloat, and 9,000 for service on shore, being 1,000 less than in 1864-5. The civilians for the coastguard service are 750 against 950, leaving the total force in the fleet and coastguard service 69,750, against 71,950 last year.

According to a letter received at Southampton from on officer on board H.M.S. Liffey, dated Gibraltar, Feb. 15, that vessel must be in a very bad state, and wholly unfit for the West Indies whither she is ordered. He says—"I have not slept in a dry bed the whole of this month, as there is a constant drip through the main deck and sides on my bed and all over the cabin. Half our tanks have broken through the working of the ship. They cannot be replaced here, so we take them with us, and shall have to distil the whole way across. Another heavy gale and we expect them all to go, as they have been upwards of six years in the ship, and are as thin as wafers. In fact, we ought to go to England. A survey of the ship there would condemn her. Several beams have started, bolts in knees drawn, as well as the copper bolts in the side. The decks are too thin for the guns; and, to sum up, by the carpenter's report it would take three months to patch the ship up in one of our dockyards at home. She requires a new stock, lock, and barrel, as the soldiers would say. We might weather out six months longer on this station, but are unfit for the West Indies."

We understand that the Admiralty are about to remove all distinctions between the officers for general service and those on whom hitherto has especially devolved the navigation Her Majesty's ships. With this view they will abolish the ranks of staff commander, master, second master, master's assistant, and naval cadet of the second class; and for the future Her Majesty's ships will be navigated by lieutenants and commanders. An increase of pay will most likely be granted to the officers who perform this duty. In addition to this, all staff commanders of above 20 years' service will become captains, while all other staff commanders and masters will become commanders and lieutenants, and second mastets second lieutenants; but all these officers will have to learn gunnery. Masters' assistants above 16 years of age are to become midshipmen.

Rear-Admiral Yelverton, C.B., at present second in command in the Mediterranean, is to be the new Junior Lord of the Admiralty.

Literature.

Our Tropical Possessions in Malayan India; Being a Descriptive Account of Singapore, Penang, Province Wellesley, and Malacca; their Peoples, Products, Commerce, and Government. By JOHN CAMERON, Esq., F.R.G.S. With Illustrations. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.—We have given the title-page of Mr. Cameron's book in full, because the volume does most satisfactorily discharge the promise held out therein. It were heartily to be wished that every one of our colonies and dependencies had so excellent a handbook to its past history, both political and commercial, with such a full account of its products, its various population, their different manner of life, the revenue and how obtained, with almost every other particular that could be looked for even had the writer proposed to embrace an encyclopedic view of the subject. Mr. Cameron appropriates a chapter, first, to the history of the Straits Settlement; then he proceeds to treat of the town of Singapore, with its suburbs and scenery; this is followed by a description of the native population, divided into the three great sections of Aborigines, Malays, and Chinese; next the cultivation, climate, and products are treated of; then the commerce of the three districts,—Singapore, Penang, and Malacca; Government and Revenue succeed in due order; a couple of chapters occupied with matters relating to the social life of the settlement are followed by four that comprise what Mr. Cameron has to tell in special reference to Penang, Province Wellesley, and Malacca. The Preface claims the reader's indulgence, that "parting with the manuscript at a great distance from the place of publication, the author would not be allowed the advantage of revising or reconsidering what he had written." Some errors traceable to this cause are discernible on a close examination of the pages, but none of very serious consequence. That of most importance is perhaps the statement at page 15, that the allotments of land at Singapore were granted by the East India Company on a 99 years' lease. We have always been told that the term was 999 years—a wide difference, but possibly only a typographical error. Singapore, it appears, was not associated with Penang till 1826, the final arrangements for its cession to the British not having been made with the Sultan and Tumongong of Johore till August, 1824. Colonel Farquhar was appointed by Sir Stamford Raffles as Resident in 1819, when the British flag was first hoisted. Mr. Crawford succeeded him in 1823, when Singapore ceased to be a dependency of Bencoolen. In 1825, Malacca was again handed over to us by the Dutch, and in the year following, Penang, Singapore, and the first-named were incorporated as one settlement, Mr. Fullerton being sent out as Governor, who made Penang the seat of authority. Mr. Ibbetson succeeded in 1827, being appointed by Lord William Bentinck, who complained on landing at Penang that "he could not see what the island was like for the number of cocked hats that were in his way." This official retired in 1833, and had for his successor Mr. Kenneth Murchison, who had been Resident Councillor both at Singapore and Penang. In 1837 on Mr. Murchison's departure, the acting-Governorship was handed over to Mr., afterwards Sir, S. G. Bonham, who was finally confirmed as Governor, after some manœuvring for the office on the part of Mr. Church, who had eventually to be content with the post of Resident Councillor. Governor Bonham made Singapore the permanent residence of the ruling authority of the incorporated settlement. Colonel Butterworth followed in 1843, Sir S. G. Bonham going to Hong Kong. The Colonel presided over the destinies of the now flourishing emporium for the long period of twelve years, not being removed till 1855, when Mr. E. A. Blundell became his successor. Mr. Cameron tells us:—

During Mr. Blundell's administration the great rebellion in India broke out, and with him it was that Lord Elgin was staying when he issued the famous order that deflected the troops of the China expedition at Anjer, and sent them back to India. The news of the Indian revolt reached Singapore in the afternoon; all that night Lord Elgin remained pacing up and down his room in the Government bungalow that stood where Fort Canning stands now, holding various interviews with the naval and military officers of the expedition, and next morning at daylight a steamer was despatched to the Straits of Sunda, with the order which, it is believed by many, saved the British empire in India.

In 1859 Colonel Cavanagh received from Lord Canning the appointment of Governor of the Straits. "The agitation for the transfer of the settlement to the Crown had already commenced, and as Lord Canning was one of those most favourable to it, he was particular when making the appointment to explain its probably short-lived nature. Colonel Cavanagh's term of office, however, has, contrary to expectation, extended quite as long as that of most Governors of the settlement, being only exceeded by that of Mr. Bonham and that of Colonel Butterworth."

As regards those articles of produce more especially cultivated in the neighbourhood of Singapore, it seems that gutta percha is likely to die out—

Unlike the means adopted by the Burmese to obtain the caoutchouc, the gutta percha or tuban tree is not tapped merely, but cut down and absolutely destroyed, to obtain its juice. It is stated that the quantity of juice obtained by tapping the live tree is so small that it would never remunerate the search for it. This is much to be regretted. The tree is of very slow growth, and under the present system, which requires the destruction of ten trees to produce one cwt., the supply must sooner or later fall short from the forests of the peninsula, as it has already done from those in the island of Singapore.

Another extract from this portion of the book will serve to show the value of the information it abounds in, as well as the clear, intelligible style in which Mr. Cameron conveys it:—

Another commodity which still continues to be produced in considerable quantities in the jungle districts of Singapore, and of the growth of which probably less is known at home than of any other Eastern import, is gambier, or terra japonica. As it is brought to the market there, edible gambier resembles in appearance and consistency little square rich blocks of yellow mud in a half dry condition, and is as little suggestive of its origin as can possibly be conceived. I have already alluded to the gambier plantations in the interior of the island. They are selected far from town, in the midst of the jungle, and very picturesque little clearings they are. The plants, which are small and bushy, seldom over seven or eight feet high, are planted six feet asunder. The leaves are small, smooth, and of a dark green colour, having an astringent bitter taste. In about fourteen months

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from the time they are planted, the first crop of leaves may be cut; but in about two years' time the plant has attained full strength, and may be cropped once in two months. The croppings, which consist of leaves and young branches, are gathered together and thrown into a huge cauldron of hot water, and boiled till all the strength has been extracted. After this, what remains of the twigs and the leaves is withdrawn, and the liquid, which contains a strong decoction, is kept boiling for six or seven hours, till a great part of the water is evaporated and nothing but a thick pasty fluid is left behind. This is now poured into shallow troughs a little more than an inch deep, and allowed to cool and then dry, when it is cut up into little inch blocks, and is then ready for market. The reason of its being cut up in this manner is twofold—first, to enable it to dry and harden more quickly, and secondly, because in this shape it is better suited to the markets in Siam, Cochin China, and the Archipelago, where it was originally and still is largely consumed as a masticatory, wrapped with betel-nut in leaves of siri.

Pepper is grown in the same jungle districts as gambier, the cultivation of the two plants going on together, for the refuse of the latter forms an excellent manure for the former; and the gambier plant not requiring much attendance between the croppings, the labourers of the plantation can then devote their time to the pepper. Black and white pepper come from the same berry, the former being produced from treatment of the berry in its green state, and the latter from the fully ripened berry. The owners and labourers of both the gambier and pepper plantations in the island of Singapore are invariably Chinese; the Malays appearing to have a rooted aversion to the culture of any product that requires the least manufacture or manipulation to prepare it for market. The Chinese, in fact, are the bees of the Asiatic hive. Mr. Cameron states:—

They are by far the most industrious and consequently the most valuable people we have in these possessions—the development of the internal resources of which is almost entirely due to them. In Singapore all the gambier and pepper produced is of their growth; in Penang and Province Wellesley also, the chief plantations are in their hands, or worked by them; and in Malacca, all the tin, all the sago, and all the tapioca is of their production. Unlike the Malays, they are ambitious, and become rich; and though this ambition has generally its origin in the desire to return to China in affluent circumstances, yet our possessions not the less benefit by their labour, and while many never attain the full realization of their aspirations, others, as they grow rich, become attached to the country and its laws, seek wives from among the comely daughters of the soil, and abandon all idea of returning to their native land.

We have been particular in giving above a notion of the contents of Mr. Cameron's book, that the reader may fully understand the vast amount of interesting and serviceable information to be found in it. The extracts in our columns will suffice to show the completeness with which each topic is handled, and to recommend this account of "Our Tropical Possessions in Malayan India" to the notice of every class, whether it be the merchant, the politician, or the seeker for mere amusement. The seven coloured illustrations to the book are well chosen as to subjects, and convey to the eye a lively impression of the scenery and buildings of Singapore and the neighbourhood.

A correspondent (an officer in the 31st Regt.) has written to the *Army and Navy Gazette* a letter in which he impugns the veracity and correctness of sundry statements made in Dr. Rennie's work, *The British Army in China and Japan*. Dr. Rennie, the author, being at this present moment in India, was of course unable to reply to these assertions, but his cause has been undertaken by his father, who has boldly written to the journal in which the offensive letter appeared, and challenged the writer either to prove his allegations or make an apology. We need not add our opinion on the subject, as our readers have only to refer to our review of the work in question. Dr. Rennie has no doubt stated something which is unpalatable to the 31st, but nevertheless a fact.

Monetary and Commercial.

The Times, on the 22nd inst., had the following in the City article:—

"Private telegrams from China received in the City mention numerous failures at Shanghai, caused by the severe and continuous losses of the past year in tea and silk."

This naturally caused a spirit of inquiry. It was found, however, that the information referred only to the houses named by last mail. There are rumours of a more important house, one of old standing, but, as in the case of most of the old houses, the senior partner had retired, leaving the good name of the firm, acquired during a quarter of a century, to the care of juniors, to whom the dull routine of a prudent and studious merchant's life was considered too slow; the excitement of the turf being found more suitable. With the publicity that will in course of time be made in winding up insolvent houses, the allusions which we made in our article on *Over-trading in Tea and Silk*, will be fully borne out. That an improper connection between the purchase of teas and "horse-racing" has existed, there appears now no doubt; and in some cases when this did not suffice to tide over the difficulties, acts have followed which in this country would be investigated in the criminal court. When clerks purchase a chop of tea, procure an advance from the Bank, and leave their employers to find out from the tea broker that the cost of the same has been "placed to the account of the house"—not having been stated as purchased on private account—it is high time that the seniors in the China trade set about a purification. It was an act of injustice for the partners in such a case, not to prosecute the delinquent. Notwithstanding the facility with which "Letters of Credit" are to be procured now-a-days, nothing can stand the losses which are now being experienced in the Tea trade, equal in many chops to thirty and forty per cent. This year must see an end of such trading. We are very much mistaken if we do not see even lower prices in Mincing-lane, as the holders of hypothecated bills of lading will now appear as sellers to a very great extent. No doubt the result will be sufficiently onerous to stop shipments by clerks and the mushroom houses that have crept into the trade.

Since the above was in type the following announcement was made in the Postscript of the *London and China Express* of yesterday.—

Meetings of the creditors (chiefly Manchester) of Messrs. Fletcher and Co., China, have been held at the suggestion of Duncan Fletcher, Esq., who had retired from the firm. It has been decided to liquidate the firm, and powers of attorney go out by this mail for that purpose.

The directors of the Agra and Masterman's Bank (Limited) have this day declared a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum for the half-year ending 31st December last, with a bonus of £3 per share—equal to 22 per cent. per annum, and making, with the previous distribution, 20 per cent. for the year 1864, at which rate a dividend and bonus on the new shares will be paid. The dividend warrants will be payable on the 8th March.

Mr. S. David Sassoon, of 15, Leadenhall-street, has joined the direction of the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited).

It was announced last week that a basis of amalgamation had been agreed to between the Alliance and Consolidated Banks, subject to arrangement of details. It was yesterday decided that the details could not be arranged.

At an extraordinary general meeting of the China and Japan (Coast and River) Steam Navigation Company, held on the 23rd inst., the agreement entered into with the China Steamship and Labuan Coal Company, as founded upon the resolutions embodied in the circular noticed in our last, was carried unanimously. Mr. G. L. Browne was appointed liquidator.

The Malta and Alexandria cable has sustained further injury owing to the bad weather, and the vessel sent from Malta could not proceed with the repairs.

The Mauritius Government 6 per cent. loan of £300,000, for which the Crown Agents for the Colonies invited tenders, was not all taken up. The total applied for was £230,100, but the *minimum* was fixed at 103, at and above which debentures to the extent of only £118,800, and registered stock to the extent of only £31,600, were disposed of, at an average of £104. 15s. 4d. It is understood that the Crown Agents will be prepared to receive tenders for the unallotted portion, amounting to £179,700.

The accounts of the Southampton Dock Company were received by the meeting of proprietors, and showed a net revenue, after payment of interest on the debenture capital, of the dividends, and the preference stocks and all expenses, amounting to £7,276. 12s. 5d., which, added to the surplus from last year, made £8.053. 8s. 7d., out of which a dividend of £2 per cent for the half-year was declared, absorbing £7,207, and leaving a balance of £846. 8s. 7d.

The Board of Trade returns for the month and twelve months ending the 31st of December, have been issued; they do not contrast favourably with previous returns as regards the month, though on the year the balance in favour of 1864 is very considerable. This pre-eminence in the year is to be attributed to the general satisfactory state of trade in nearly all branches. The falling off in the month must again be put chiefly to the transactions in cotton yarn and cotton manufactures, and so long as the war in America continues these items may be expected to present unfavourable aspects. The total declared value of exportations for the month of December last was £12,095,437, against £14,354,400 in December 1863, and £10,807,033 in 1862, which is a decrease on the former period

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of £2,258,963, but an increase on the latter of £1,288,404. For the year last past the total was £160,436,302, against £146,602,342 in 1863, and £123,992,264 in 1862; which is an increase, as compared with the former period, of £13,833,960, and as contrasted with the latter of £36,444,038. Commerce with the Far East is represented in these returns by the figures following:—

EXPORTS TO CHINA AND HONG KONG.

For the Month ended the 31st December.

	1862.	1863	1864.
Cotton yarn	—	56.678	126.120 lbs.
Cotton manufactures	2.145,813	3,470.068	7,556.069 yds.
Worsted stuffs	1,041,168	1,052.567	1,836.339 ,,
Woollen and worsted cloths	165.240	94.813	211.072 ,,
Lead	1,479	1,099	395 tons

For the year ended 31st December.

Cotton Yarn	3,214.059	2,251,154	1,961.813 lbs.
Cotton Manufactures	80.636,465	46,454.793	73,462,152 yds.
Worsted stuffs	8,398,271	9,440.811	14,981,435 ,,
Woollen & worsted cloths	2,037,448	1,598.505	1,827,613 ,,
Lead	9,977	14,580	7,714 tons

Value for the year ended 31st December.

Cotton yarn	£183,963	£239,251	£241,980
Cotton manufactures	1,269.998	1,162.505	2,010,025
Worsted stuffs	415,756	651,121	979.405
Woollen and worsted cloths	254,681	295.883	312,661
Lead	213,756	310,541	168,200

Of Cotton Manufactures the quantities and values exported to the other great centres of trade in the Far East appear as follows:—

Quantities for the Month ended 31st December.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
Ceylon	2,813,650	4,636.541	709.285 yds.
Singapore	1,350.014	4,091.218	377.690 ,,
Java	247,515	2,176,510	2,627,618 ,,
Philippine Islands	1,723,136	1,005,956	—

Quantities for the year ended 31st December.

Ceylon	18,432,697	22,222.525	12,645.684 yds.
Singapore	32,726,886	29,060.076	24,980,447 ,,
Java	26,322,463	16.165.927	29,710,223 ,,
Philippine Islands	14,338,218	14,231,397	19,900,645 ,,

Value for the year ended 31st December.

Ceylon	£310,538	£569,642	£413.536
Singapore	567,488	701,618	653.357
Java	294,180	411.389	556,634
Philippine Islands	294,510	351,091	546,257

IMPORTS.

Of Raw Cotton the imports for the month and year from British India and China are stated thus:—

Quantity for the month ended 31st December.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
British India	687,726	914,479	738 004 cwts.
China	3,411	40,259	77,665 ,,

Quantity for the Year ended 31st December.

British India	3,505.844	3,878,757	4,522,566 cwts.
China	15,768	275,303	769,259 ,,

Value for the Eleven Months ended 30th November.

British India	£16,997,686	£25.749,991	£32.357.460
China	85,914	1,775,154	5,698,849

Of Sugar the import from Java and the Philippine Islands in the month of December in the present year was 10,151 cwt. of 3rd quality and 75,645 cwt. of the 4th. The return for the twelve months is as follows:—

Quantity for the Year ended 31st December.

	1862.	1863.	1864.
2nd quality (equal to Brown clayed)	35,999	3,423	438 cwts.
3rd (not equal to Brown clayed)	362,051	834,815	29.528 ,,
3rd (equal to Brown Muscovado)	—	—	151,440 ,,
4th (not equal to Br. Muscovado)	—	—	181,495 ,,

Quantity entered for Home Consumption for the Year ended 31st December.

2nd quality	52,370	3,583	13,230 cwts.
3rd (previous to April 16, 1864)	316,368	335,960	164,879 ,,
3rd (subsequent to that date)	—	—	205,507 ,,
4th (do. do.)	—	—	151,854 ,,

Value imported for the Eleven Months ended 30th November.

2nd quality	£49.736	£4.551	£634
3rd (previous to April 16, 1864)	308.692	692,886	41.205
3rd (subsequent to do.)	—	—	151,705
4th quality	—	—	131,415

Of Hemp the import from the Philippine Islands was, for December in the present year, 23,697 cwts., against 58,364 cwts. in the same month of 1863, and 38,123 cwts. in 1862. The import for the entire twelve months in the three years was as follows, beginning with 1864:—183,943 cwts., 312,871 cwts., and 173,478 cwts. The value for the eleven months ending the 30th November in each year is stated thus:—1864, £376,191; 1863, £333,458; 1862, £175,854.

The Coffee imported from Ceylon during December was in quantity 4,876,689 lbs., against 13,684,477 lbs. in the same month of 1863, and 3,431,129 lbs. in 1862. The quantity for the three entire years was as follows, placing 1864 first in the order:—69,131,044 lbs., 79,793,201 lbs., and 55,285,723 lbs. The value for the eleven months ended the 30th November in each of the three years is entered thus:—1864, £2,204,486; 1863, £2,421,570; 1862, £1,922,585.

The Declared Value of British and Irish Produce and Manufactures exported from the United Kingdom to the undermentioned countries and ports during the entire twelve months of the three last years is represented by the amounts placed against each:—

To	1862.	1863.	1864.
Singapore and Eastern Straits	£1,064.681	£1,486,774	£1,185,680
Ceylon	573,998	1,075,927	828,368
Hong Kong	1,113,224	1,473,222	1,610,957
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)	2,024,118	2,416,705	3,093,865
Japan	21	108,897	629,085
Netherlands India (Java, &c.)	776,564	650,424	796,582
Philippine Islands	458,404	556,863	765,764
Siam	21,907	11,984	15,130
Cochin China, Camboja, and Tonquin	247	36,597	—

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Delta*, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was—In silver, to Madras, £10,000; to Penang, £3,500; to Yokohama, £150; to Shanghai, £4,000; Hobson's Bay, £100. Total in silver, £17,750.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices Feb. 17.
£100	Agra and Masterman's	50	127 to 130	125 to 130
50	Do. New	25	62 to 64	62 to 64
50	Do. ,,	25	60 to 62	61 to 63
£20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	31 to 33	33 to 35
20	Do. New	All	...	—
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	55 to 57	55 to 57
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	...	—
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (10 pd.)	25	...	—
20	Eastern Exchange	5	4 to 6 pm.	5 to 7 pm.
50	London Joint Stock	15	½ dis to ¼ pm.	1⅛ to ⅛ dis. xd.
100	London and Westminster	20	46 to 48	46 to 48
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	94 to 96	94 to 96
50	Union of London	15	57 to 59	57 to 59
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	52 to 54	52 to 53
100	Do. New	23	⅜ to 4 pm.	2⅛ to 3⅛ pm.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	1⅛ to 2⅛ pm.	1 to 2 pm.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	⅛ to 1⅛ pm.	1 to 1⅛ pm.
100	Bank of London	50	30 to 32	31 to 32 xd.
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	150 to 155	150 to 155
	MISCELLANEOUS		¾ to 1 pm.	¾ to 1 pm.
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3½ to 4½	4 to 5 xd.
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	81 to 83	82 to 84
50	Do. New	35	20 to 22 pm.	20 to 22 pm.
10	Labuan Coal Company	All	...	—
10	China and Japan Steam Company	5	...	—
5	Bombay Gas	All	6 to ⅞	5½ to 6
10	Hong Kong Gas	All	...	2½ to 1½ dis.
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	10	3½ to 2½ dis.	3 to 2½ dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	⅛ dis. to ⅛ pm.	⅛ dis. to ⅛ pm.
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	19 to 20	19½ to 20
1	Oriental Gas	All	1⅛ to 1⅜	1⅛ to 1⅜
1	Do. New	All	⅛ to ⅜ pm.	⅛ to ⅜ pm.
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2 to 3	2 to 3
100	West India Steam Company	60	96 to 98	95 to 97
20	Ceylon Company	7	2½ to 3 pm.	2½ to 3 pm.
20	International Finance Society	5	1½ to 1⅝ pm.	1⅝ to 1⅝ pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2½ to 2⅝ pm.	2⅜ to 2⅝ xd.
50	London Financial Association	15	6¼ to 6½ pm.	6¼ to 6½ pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	⅜ to ½ pm.	⅜ to 1 pm.
20	Société Financière d'Egypte	6	2 to 1½ dis.	2 to 1½ dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	15½ to 15⅝	15 to 15⅛
10	Upper Assam Tea	2½	3⅛ to 4½ pm.	3⅛ to 4⅛ pm
10	Do.	All	17 to 20	17 to 20

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—The low and dusty kinds of Congou have sold at about former prices. Fair to good common kinds may be quoted about ½d. per lb. lower. Flavory kinds, of old Import, of fair quality, are now selling at about the price of good common Congou. Those of new Import have been much depressed, and prices have given way 1d. to 1½d. per lb. Good to fine Kaisows have been more firmly supported, but in these prices have given way ½d. to 1d. per lb. The finest kinds show no material change. Common to fair blackish-leaf, of old Import, remain much as before. Those of new season have been sold at a decline of 1d. to 2d. per lb. Good medium kinds have been freely offered, and the few sales made show a reduction of 1d. to 1½d per lb. Some sales of fine quality have been made at easier prices. In finest, scarcely anything has been done. Tayshans and new-make Canton kinds remain without alteration. Common to fair Oolongs continue difficult of sale, a few of the finer kinds have changed hands at about former prices. Some few sales of Souchong have been made at the low prices current, they being considered relatively cheap. In Flowery Pekoes there is no new feature to notice. The supplies of Scented Teas have been larger and freely offered. Sales have been made to some extent at fair prices, but latterly there has been less demand, especially for the finer kinds of Foochow make, both Capers and Orange Pekoes, and these must be quoted about 2d. per lb. lower. The Canton-make have been better supported, but the later sales of these show a decline of about ½d. to 1d. per lb. Uncoloured Japans have only been saleable to a moderate extent at the low rates current. A small public sale of Indian tea went off with less spirit, but the finer kinds fully maintained former value. In Green teas there has been a considerable pressure to sell, and prices of nearly all kinds have again declined from 1d. to 2d. per lb., the reduction being most marked in the Ping Suey kinds, of which large supplies have come to hand. There has been some inquiry for Hysons for export, which has caused them to rule firmly. Young Hysons, in the absence of Export orders, have been much depressed. In Canton-made teas there is no improvement, the good kinds of Gunpowder remain almost unsaleable; a few fine are inquired for. The quotations for Young Hysons are almost nominal.

SILK.—Very little business has been done since last mail; prices of the better qualities of China and Japan have been firmly maintained, but coarse and inferior descriptions can be bought on easier terms. At the public sales which took place on the 22nd and 23rd inst. there was no

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bidding, except for about 200 bales of washed Japans from the wreck of the Nepaul, which sold from 23s. to 25s. 6d. for Mibash sorts, and 18s. to 21s. for the coarser descriptions. Deliveries from 1st to 24th inclusive—China, 1,949 bales; Japan, 761 bales; total, 2,710 bales. The quotations are:—No. 1, Tsatlee, 27s. 6d. to 28s.; No. 1, Taysaam, 24s. 6d. to 25s.; No. 1, Mibash, 28s. to 28s. 6d. There is very little business doing in the silk-markets of the Ardeche and Drome, in in consequence of the high price demanded by sellers. The breeders of silk-worms are preparing for the ensuing season by purchasing eggs of the Japan worm wherever they are offered for sale. The cold weather which prevailed in the Ardeche last week prevented many dealers in raw silk from attending the markets. The Marseilles silk-market is dull.

COTTON.—Has been in limited demand at Liverpool throughout the week, and the quotations show a further considerable decline, though in consequence of the confirmation received from New York of the failure of the Peace negotiations, more steadiness was exhibited for about four-and-twenty hours. Quotations of American are reduced 1d. to 1½d. per lb. East India has been very irregular in price, and the middling descriptions, in consequence of the difficulty of realising, have suffered a serious decline, amounting to fully 1d. per lb. China is again pressed for sale at a reduction of ½d. to 1d., while for Japan the inquiry is very moderate, and a fall of 1d. per lb. has been submitted to. Quotations of China:—Middling, 10½d.; fair, 11½d.; good fair, 12d. good, 12¼d.; fine, 13d. The London Cotton Brokers' Association reports the market as having been dull and depressed during the week, so that prices of all descriptions had declined ¼d. per lb. The total stock of China and Japan in London on the 23rd of February was 137,558 bales, against 76,735 bales at the same date last year. Quotations, China:—Middling fair, 10½d.; fair to good fair, 11d. to 11¼d.; good to fine, 12¼d. Japan: Middling fair, 11d.; fair to good fair, 11½d. to 12d.; good to fine, 13d. to 14d.

SUGAR.—The general tone of the market since our last advice has been steady, as, while soft and common brown kinds have been of slow sale at prices, in some cases barely equal to those previously obtainable, all strong refining sorts have continued in request, and been rather freely purchased at full to somewhat stiffer rates. A good demand prevailed on Friday, the 24th; and in the public sales of 8,315 bags Mauritius, middling strong refining qualities were taken off freely at prices, in many instances, showing an advance of 6d. per cwt. on those of the preceding Friday. 1,398 bags Penang were taken at and afterwards:—Fine brown and low yellow, 29s. to 29s. 6d.; low middling yellow, 30s. 6d. to 31s.

COFFEE.—The demand is only moderately active, and the value of Colonial has in some instances been scarcely supported. Ceylon: The auctions of Plantation have been limited to 320 casks, 352 barrels and bags, which brought previous rates, fine ordinary to middling, 79s. to 83s. 6d. 220 casks, 1,040 bags Native were mostly taken off, but at rather easier prices; small, 65s. 6d. to 66s. 6d., good ordinary, 69s. to 70s. Mocha and other East India: A fair inquiry has been made privately, and the sales effected have been fully on a par with the former currency. At public sale on the 24th, 190 casks, 380 barrels and bags Plantation Ceylon went off at previous rates; also the chief part of 500 bags Singapore, picked Bally, at 66s. 6d. to 67s.

RICE.—There has been rater more demand this week, and sales to some extent have been concluded at full rates, viz., about 40,000 bags, the bulk soft grain, Nakrenzie 8s. 7½d. to 9s. 3d., fine Rangoon, 9s. 6d. to 9s. 9d., white Bengal 11s. 3d. to 12s. 9d., and 200 tons Ballam at 10s. 6d. to 10s. 9d., ex-ship. The only parcel offered by auction was 364 bags soft grain, of indirect import, which went at 8s. 9d. to 9s. 3d. 7,800 bags Rangoon, offered by auction on the 24th, were held firmly, and bought in; 2,100 bags common heated to middling Moulmein sold at 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d. The whole of the Rangoon has since been sold, and a further parcel of 12,000 bags of the same kind, low heated to middling, 7s. 9d. to 8s. 7½d.

CAMPHOR has been the subject of some speculation with exporters, and considerable business has been done up to 97s. 6d. per cwt. for China, in lead, but the market has latterly become rather less animated.

CASSIA LIGNEA has sold irregularly, but still with a downward tendency, and of 640 boxes at auction, two-thirds sold at 74s. to 86s. per cwt. for inferior 3rd to good 1st pile. Buds scarce, and wanted.

COCOA-NUT OIL.—362 casks Cochin, 336 Ceylon, and 401 casks Sydney were offered on the 24th. Cochin realised 38s. 6d. to 39s. 3d. for good fair to rather fine quality; dull lots 37s. 9d. to 38s. 3d. Ceylon of good description, 37s. 6d. Sydney, 36s. to 37s. for very good to rather fine descriptions; medium qualities at 34r. 6d. to 35s. 5d., and dull or dreggy goods at 33s. 6d. to 34s.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Inquiry at present low rates, £3. 15s. to £4, continues. No auctions held. Dragon's Blood: Steady, but 4 cases at auction were retired. Galangal Root: Flat, and of 399 bags at auction a few sold at 16s. 6d. per cwt. for good. Rhubarb: Has brought about the previous value, and of 72 chests at auction two-thirds sold at 3s. 6d. to 5s. 1d. per lb. for ordinary to fair flat, and 3s. 5d. to 4s. 11d. round.

GUMS.—Benjamin: A recent arrival of Siam, 52 cases, sold at auction at very high prices, viz.: 1st, £48 to £50 per cwt.; 2nd, £32. 10s. to £42; 3rd, £28 to £34; seed in block, £25 to £28; dark gum, £22. 10s. to £24; and dust in block, £15. 10s. to £18. Of 52 cases Sumatra, a few sold at £6 for middling 3rd; good qualities very scarce. Damar: Steady, but quiet; of 129 cases at auction, very few found buyers at 48s. per cwt. for fair picked. Gamboge: Remains scarce and firm. Nothing of consequence doing.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Remains very flat: 4 tons at auction retired; private business unimportant. India Rubber: This market is quiet, without the least improvement in rates: only 76 baskets Penang at auction, retired.

HEMP (Manila).—This market has been very quiet, with scarcely any private trade; and of 719 bales at auction, a small proportion only found buyers at £27. 10s. to £27. 15s. per ton for common current roping.

HIDES.—There was a good demand for East India at the public sales on the 23rd, for home use, but only a limited one for export. The quantity offered, however, being moderate, the greater part found buyers at prices generally about the same as last sales, but in a few cases at a slight advance. 881 Singapore and Penang Buffalo Hides sold at 5¼d. to 5⅝d.; 647 Batavia Buffalo Hides offered and sold at 6d. per lb.

JAPAN WAX.—Firm, with little desirable offering; 139 cases at auction retired.

OILS.—Anniseed: Very quiet, at the higher quotations of 6s. 1d. to 6s. 2d.: 40 cases at auction all retired. Cassia: Very dull; and of 24 cases at auction, only one-fourth sold at the reduced price of 8s. per lb. Cinnamon: Steady; and of 14 cases at auction, one-half sold at 2s. 8d. per oz. for fair, and 6d. to 1s. inferior. Mace and Nutmegs: Nothing doing; 10 cases Nutmeg Paste at auction retired at 1d. per oz.

SAGO.—1,125 boxes, in auction, were taken off freely at full rates, middling to very good small Pearl 18s. 6d. to 19s. 6d., fine 20s. to 21s., fine small medium 19s. 6d. to 20s. Flour is dull of sale: 434 bags brought forward, were withdrawn at 14s. to 14s. 6d. Tapioca: 199 barrels gold bright Rio, from Havre, were about half taken at 5d.; 262 packages of sundry common descriptions were mostly taken in. 98 boxes fair to good Pearl were chiefly sold at 24s. to 24s. 6d. per cwt. 216 cases Flour were principally bought in for want of buyers, only a few fine selling at 3d. per lb.

SHELLAC.—This market has been more active, and prices have generally advanced 5s. per cwt., but yesterday Button, owing to the large quantity brought forward, lost more than the advance, going back 5s. to 10s. per cwt. Of 1,957 packages at auction, nearly two-thirds sold: Orange and Livery Orange, at £6. 5s. to £6. 12s. 6d. per cwt., Liver, £5 to £5. 12s. 6d.; Button, £4. 12s. 6d. to £7. 2s. 6d.; Native, £5. 2s. 6d. to £5.]17s. 6d.; and Block and Blocky, £4. 12s. 6d. to £6. 5s.

SPICES.—Cinnamon (Ceylon): We quote 1st sort, 1s. 8d. to 2s. 7d.; 2nd, 1s. 5d. to 2s. 3d.; 3rd, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 10d.; 4th and Jungle, 10d. to 1s. 5d. per lb. Limited business done since the sales. Cloves: Amboyna and Penang without change; of 12 casks of the former at auction, one-third sold at 6d. per lb. for fair; 10 cases Penang retired; of 2,201 bags Zanzibar, a small proportion only was quitted at 3½d. per lb. for fair. Mace: Steady, and 10 cases Penang and 2 cases Singapore at auction sold at 9d. to 1s. 6d. per lb. for low red to good reddish; arrivals and sales advertised. Nutmegs: Attract a little more attention from the trade at present very low prices; only 57 cases Penang sold at auction at 11d to 1s. 10d. per lb. for ordinary small to fine medium. Pepper, Black: Market still quiet, and Singapore the turn cheaper; Penang in rather more demand. 1,616 bags Singapore at auction sold at 3¼d. to 3⅝d. per lb.; and of 3,344 bags Penang, half sold at 3⅛d.; arrivals and sales advertised. White: Firm, and generally held for higher rates; no auctions.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Has realised 1s. per cwt. advance in private transactions; only 238 bags at auction, mostly sold at 21s. to 24s. 6d. per cwt. for middling old to good. Gambier: Quiet, and of 877 bales at auction, half sold at 27s per cwt. for good cubes; private transactions very limited.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Galls: Are very scarce, and Bussorah have realised as much as £11. 10s. per cwt. for a few bales. China and Japan quiet, being comparatively abundant. Rattans: Steady; only 929 bundles Penang at auction, sold at 5s. to 5s. 5d. per 100. Sapan Wood: Firm; 15 tons Siam at auction, sold at £9. 5s. per ton, and 3 tons Ceylon at £18. Mother o' Pearl Shells: Firm, with good enquiry from the trade for both Singapore and Manila. Soy: Remains firm, and scarce; no auctions. Star Anniseeds: Again rather cheaper; 234 cases at auction mostly sold at £5. 17s. 6d. per cwt. for good, and £5. 12s. 6d. to £5. 17. 6d. mouldy. Sticklac (Siam) Steady, and 155 cases at auction sold at 47s. to 49s. 6d. per cwt. for good. Tortoise-shell: No auctions held; a few cases sold privately on previous terms. Turmeric: No China offering; Jave also scarce. Vermilion: Firm, and in demand, at the quotations of 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d. per lb.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 10s.; nail rod, £8. 15s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10; sheets, single, £10. 15s. to £11; Staffordshire bars, £9 to £9 10s.; rails, £6. 10s. to £7.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £16.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £95 to £96 per ton; yellow metal, 8d. to 8¼d. per lb.

TIN.—95s. for block; 96s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 28s. to 29s.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £20. 5s. to £20. 10s.; W.B., £21. 15s.; shot, patent, £23; sheet, £21; spelter, £19 to £19. 10s.; zinc, English sheet, £24; quicksilver, £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—The metal market continues inactive. The alterations in price are not of importance, but all in favour of buyers.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£11,716
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£55,560
Singapore	£2,000	£77,270
Penang	—	£3,600
Yokohama	—	£750

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£33,966
Penang	—	—
Hong Kong	—	—
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£4,168
Yokohama	—	£1,500

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£66	—
To Saigon	—	£3,360
To Batavia	£1,032	—
To Hong Kong	—	£14 880
To Shanghai	—	£9,870

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GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per oun	...	...	...	...	£3	17	9	
Spanish Doubloon	...	...	...	...	3	16	0	to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	...	...	...	...	3	16	4	
Silver in Bars ...	...	...	...	...	0	5	1½	
Mexican Dollars	...	...	...	...	0	5	0	

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Feb. 16	Falmouth	Batavia	St. Bede	Hislop.
—16	Do.	Hong Kong	Amoy	Dewar.
—	Queenstown	Do.	Alida	
— 17	Falmouth	Foo-chow-Foo	Picciola	Lutjen.
— 18	Deal	Singapore	Northumberland	
— 17	Cowes	Macao	Catharina	Petersen.
— 18	Deal	Manila	President Harbitz	V. der Ohe.
— 19	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	West Derby	Sargent.
— 19	Do.	Do.	Ellenborough	Smith.
— 19	Do.	Penang	Isabella	Bruce.
— 18	Falmouth	Maulmain	Lorenzo	Merriman.
— 18	Queenstown	Rangoon	Jane Henderson	Kerr.
— 20	Cowes	Batavia	Cecilia	Swensen.
— 17	Helvoet	Do.	Speculant	Nylund.
— 20	Deal	Shanghai	Avondhu	Davie.
— 20	Do.	China	Cambalu	
— 21	Do.	Amoy	Barlochan	Stronach.
— 21	Do.	Batavia	Zephyr	
— 18	Brouwershaven	Do.	Zes Gezusters	Rutgen.
— 21	London	Foo-chow-Foo	Verbena	Ross.
— 21	Falmouth	Maulmain	Chasely	Draper.
—	Queenstown	Iloilo	St. Fillans	
—	Do.	Sourabaya	Ravensbourne	Cooper.
— 16	Helvoet	Batavia	Mary Goddard	Schaly.
—	New York	Bankok	Daniel Draper	
—	Do.	Rangoon	Robin Hood	
— 19	Cuxhaven	Macao	Minerva	Tiedemann.
— 23	Liverpool	Shanghai	Ærolite	Alleyne.
— 23	Do.	Do.	Southern Empire	Dunlop.
— 23	Do.	Hong Kong	Samarang	Richardson.
—	Queenstown	Singapore	Deutschland	Soule.
— 18	Zierikzee	Samarang	Cornelis Antonie	Bowten.
— 24	London	Nagasaki	Alice	Anderson.
—	Do.	Singapore	Warren Hastings	

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Feb. 14	Shields	Singapore	Sampson	
— 15	Sunderland	Do.	Bengal	Bird.
Jan. 10	Rio Janeiro	Colombo	Otodini	Hill.
— 13	Do.	Galle	Tiber	Arey.
— 14	Do.	Colombo	Guinare	Stevens.
— 17	Do.	Hong Kong	Dioscuren	Wagner.
— 22	Do.	Galle	E. D. Marshall	Preston.
— 20	London	Shanghai	Wild Deer	Cobb.
Dec. 29	Monte Video	Batavia	Elisabeth Marie	John.
Jan. 16	Rio Janeiro	Anjer	Anna Lange	Schwers.
Feb. 22	London	Revel & River Amoor	Jeddo	West.
— 21	Liverpool	Cardiff and Manila	Labrador	Quinn.
— 19	Do.	Manila	Sales	Mendezona.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Thomas Blythe, Simon Hobley, Gleam, Castleton. For Nagasaki: Lammermuir. For Shanghai: Peterborough, For Hong Kong: Cathaya. For Hong Kong and Canton: Yaratilda. For Singapore: Helen's Bank, Eliza Thornton. For Singapore: Bangkok and Saigon: Radama. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Ilma. For Colombo: Jeddo, Sea Sprite. For Colombo and Trincomalee: Empress.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Raphael, Sea Snake, Vinco. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Empress. For Shanghai: Finzel, Patna, Sarah Scott, Sea Mew. For Hong Kong and Canton: Everest, Veronica. For Singapore: Der West, Vigil, Gyrn Castle, Bintang. For Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Yokohama: Shaftesbury (s). For Batavia and Sourabaya: Affghan. For Manila: Tigris. For Colombo and Tuticorin, Liverpool. For Galle: Blanche Moore. For Galle and Maulmain: Louisa.

At GLASGOW.—For Batavia and Singapore: Maythorn. For Singapore: Sparkler. For Singapore and Penang: Priam. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Majestic. For Japan: Otentosama. For Colombo: Ione.

At NEW YORK.—For Hong Kong: Samuel Russell. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Amaranth.

SPOKEN.

DUNPHAILE CASTLE, Colombo to London, Jan. 3, 29 S., 46 E.
ALEXANDRA, London to Singapore, Sept. 17.
VANGUARD, Shields to Shanghai, Oct. 22.
ANNIE ARMITAGE (?), London to Hong Kong, Sept. 13, 6 N.
BEDFORD, Foo-chow-Foo to London, Nov. 1, 27 S., 51 E.
ARDENCRAIG, London to Ceylon, Jan. 9, lat. 9, lon. 25 W.
GLEN HELEN (?), from Ceylon, Jan. 19, 25 N., 36 W.
MERCATOR, Batavia to Rotterdam, Jan. 10, 15 S., 7 W.
MOUNT STEWART ELPHINSTONE, H. Kong to L'pool, Jan. 10, 15 S., 7 W.
WILHELMINA, Batavia to Falmouth, Jan. 17, 3 S., 20 W.
LIZZIE AND KATE, Colombo to London, Feb. 1, 26 N., 35 W.
PERCY DOUGLAS, London to Ceylon, Jan. 16, 12 S., 37 W.
ENGEL (Dut. brig), Amsterdam to Japan, Nov. 24, 1 N., 27 W.
ZEPHIR (Dut. barq.), Batavia to Amsterdam, Dec. 24, 33 S., 17 E.
ROYAL MINT, Philippine Isles to Liverpool, Nov. 11, 5 S., 106 E.
PATRIARCH SAMHIRI, Rotterdam to Batavia, January 8, 4 N., 25 W.
MARIA AGNES, Amsterdam to Japan, January 9, 3 N., 25 W.
EMPIRE, Shanghai to Liverpool, 71 days out, January 8, 14 S., 7 W.
GOLDEN EAGLE, Java to Amsterdam, January 8, 14 S., 7 W.
WINDSOR (barq.), Foo-chow-Foo to London, December 3, 28 S., 50 E.
MARGUERETTA, Cardiff to Batavia, October 10, 32 S., 25 W.
ISAAC (Dut. barq.), Rotterdam to Penang, September 26, 9 S., 27 W.
NUEVO NILS (?), Amsterdam to Japan, October 9, 29 S., 33 W.
RACER (brig), for Hong Kong, Oct. 12, 23 N., 118 E.
WARREN HASTINGS, Singapore to London, Jan. 31, 27 N., 37 W.
TRIDENT (?) (Brit.), Macao to Havana, Nov. 12, in Java Sea.
LEAPING WATER, Sourabaya to Amsterdam, Dec. 31, 24 S., 3 E.
TINNEVELLY, Padang to Amsterdam, Jan. 26, 18 N., 35 W.
WESTMINSTER, London to China, 3 N., 28 W.
MONTROSE, from Hong Kong, Dec. 9, 7 S., 193 E.
MONETA, Singapore to Liverpool, Jan. 24, on the line, 22 W.
PRINCE LLEWELLYN, Galle to London, Jan. 26.
DRIE GEBROEDERS, Tjilatjap to Amsterdam, Dec. 19, 36 S., 24 E.
KOOPHANDEL, Rotterdam to Batavia, 5 N., 21 W.
GENERAL DE STEURS, Batavia to Rotterdam, Dec. 24, 35 S., 18 W.
FIDIO (brig), Bankok to Falmouth, Dec. 5, 23 S., 68 E.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Outward freights, notwithstanding the continued unsettled state of the weather, have during the past week shown some improvement, ships of good character being scarce and in demand. Advices from the East report no change in homeward charters, no vessels having been placed, except at very low rates. Coal freights for Galle continue to improve, but there is little or no demand for ships to China.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 22s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £30 and £1. 11s. For Shanghai: £40 and £1. 16s. For Manila: £1. 12s. 6d. For Batavia: £23 to £24, and £1. 2s. 6d. For Singapore: £24 and £1. 1s. 0d. For Galle: £25 to £26 and £1. 2s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

CASUALTIES.

The Numa Vidal, Roura, from Marseilles, for Singapore, put into Mauritius, Jan. 12, with main-mast sprung.

The following three notices were posted at Lloyd's on the 17th inst.:—The Castle Howard, Lamprell, sailed from Shanghai for London, July 25, and has not since been heard of. The Beaufront, Coxon, from Sunderland, to Hong Kong and Shanghai, was spoken Sept. 6 in the China seas, and has not since been heard of. The Oriental Queen, Walshaw, from Sunderland, to Shanghai, passed Anjer Sept. 3, and has not since been heard of.

The Niemen, from Hong Kong, which arrived at New York, Feb. 4, had been cut into by ice, and had damaged cargo.

The Bengal, Bird, from Sunderland for Singapore, which arrived off Deal, Feb. 20, lost two anchors and chains, and was supplied.

The Maravi, Anderson, from China, having lost both anchors and chains off the North Foreland, was supplied from Deal.

The Isabella, from Penang for London, which arrived off Deal Feb. 19, lost an anchor and chain, and was supplied from Ramsgate.

The ship Claramont, which sailed 5th September from Shanghai for London, with 765,900 lbs. of teas, arrived at Ascension on the 6th of December, and left on the 8th, since which she has not been heard of. Sixty guineas net premium has been paid at Lloyd's on this vessel.

MISCELLANEOUS.

AT MAURITIUS—Jan. 7, from Colombo, H.M.S. Orontes, and sailed 12th for the Cape of Good Hope; 12, from Marseilles, Numa Vidal, Roura, for Singapore, (with damage).

LAUNCH OF THE "DILHAREE."—Messrs. Fletcher, Sons, and Fearnall, of Limehouse, launched a fine ship of 1,300 tons, intended for the East India trade; she is the property of Messrs. Smith, Fleming and Co., merchants and shipowners, of Leadenhall-street, and was named the Dilharee. She is built from the designs and under the special superintendence of Messrs. G. H. Harrinton and Co., constructors and ship surveyors, 27, Leadenhall-street, upon Lungley's patent combination principle, with iron frames and double teak planking, and, under special survey of Lloyd's, is classed A 1 for fourteen years. Her principal dimensions are as follow:—Length, 226 feet; breadth, 34 feet; depth 23 feet. The frame is composed of angle iron, with all the usual stringers and tie plates, as in iron ships. The inner skin is of teak planking, fastened to the frames with galvanised nut and screw bolts. Diagonal iron straps are then let in and on, and through fastened to the frames; the outer skin is then brought on longitudinally, as before, and fastened to the inner skin with copper clinch bolts. The vessel is then sheathed with yellow metal. The Dilharee has been fitted with all known and tried improvements; her lower masts and yards are made of cast steel; she has Brown and Harfield's patent windlass, with steam power attached, steam winches, and condensing apparatus, and is thoroughly ventilated and fitted for carrying troops when required, with ample accommodation for officers or other passengers.

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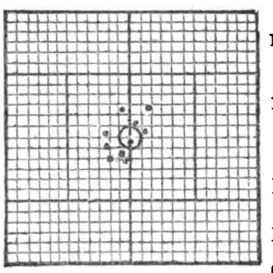

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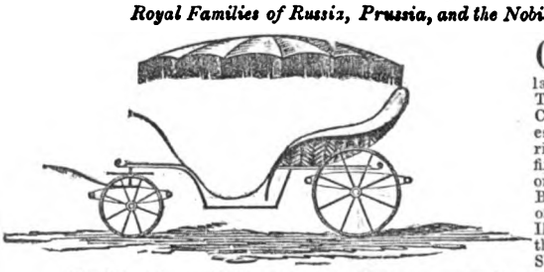

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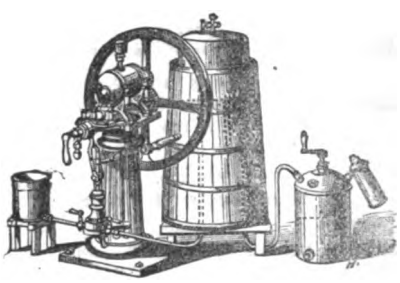

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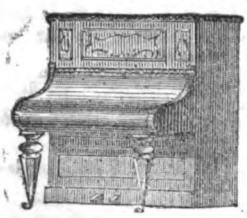

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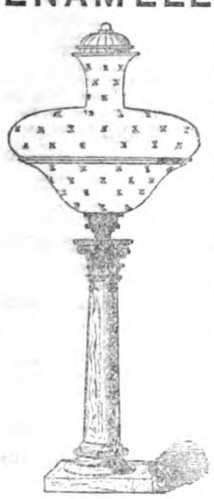

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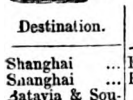

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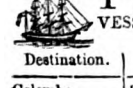

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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 166.] LONDON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Oct. 26	Dec. 24	Jan. 1
Nagasaki			„ 12
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	Nov. 17	Jan. —	„ 20
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 10
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 11
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Dec. 10	„ 25	„ 26
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	„ 10	Dec. 28	„ 7
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			
SIAM— Bangkok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 16
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore			Feb. 3
Penang			

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Ellora, from Southampton, March 4.—To Shanghai: Mr. F. Evans, Mr. C. Dunn, Mr. E. M'Loughlin. To Hong Kong: Mr. J. Dinwoodie, Mr. J. W. Coxford, Mr. W. J. Mayne, R.N., Mr. G. B. Westcott, R.N., Mrs. Hogg and infant, Mr. A. Miller. To Ceylon: Mr. O. E. Lee, Mr. W. M. Lyte, Mr. R. Temple, Gentleman and two Ladies, Mr. J. Mackenzie, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson and infant. From Marseilles, March 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. B. Scare. To Shanghai: Mr. A. B. Mitford.

Per French mail, March 19, from Marseilles.—For Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Mayers.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, March 20.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. M. Little and infant, Mr. J. Rigg, Mrs. Robinson. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Medhurst and two infants. To Hong Kong: Mr. Stael, Capt. Melville Suther, R.N. To Ceylon: Miss Sconce, Mr. and Mrs. Watt, Messrs. H. E. Astley, E. Robinson, and R. J. Watt. From Marseilles, March 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Jose Loureiro and friend, Mr. A. Rodger, Mr. Rusden, Mr. Gilman. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt and three infants, Mr. A. Koch, Mr. C. S. Sherwood, Mr. W. H. Potter. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Hugo Konig, Mr. H. Overbeck.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, April 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. R. M. Reddie.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

The French mail steamer brings no later advices from Yokohama.

NAGASAKI.

The Nagasaki correspondent of the *North China Daily News*, writing under date of the 12th January, states as the only item of news the approaching sale by auction of the Dutch Consulate buildings at Decima. [We reported in the *London and China Telegraph* of the 16th February that those buildings were to be sold on the 15th January.] It was rumoured that Sir Rutherford Alcock had directed their purchase for the use of the English Consulate. Trade was dull on account of the approach of the Japanese new year, and the Russian men-of-war in port were initiating a new round of festivities among the foreign residents, in honour of the Russian new year's day (the 13th January). The British barque *Diana* was loading tea for London at £4.

We have now an account of the reconnoitring voyage of H.M.S. Argus, which was despatched to Simonoseki to verify the report that Choishu was repairing and arming his batteries. The Argus left Nagasaki on the 14th December, and returned thitherjon the 20th. She reached the Straits on the 15th, and anchored opposite the large battery near the stockade which was carried by our Marines during the late action A party immediately landed, and ascertained that the works had not been repaired, nor had any guns been mounted. Everything was as it had been left by the fleet. The steamer Lotus, belonging to the Prince of Satsuma, which was anchored near the shore on the Kokura side, was next visited; but the party were not allowed on board. The Japanese said their officers were on shore, and they had been ordered not to allow any one on board during their absence. The Lotus had 400 soldiers on board and was very deeply laden. The Argus anchored for the night at Whitehead Bay; and at daylight on the following morning was appealed to, for assistance by the steamer Australian, whom she convoyed back to Nagasaki, under the circumstances detailed in our last, number. The people at Simonoseki were all wearing long hair, as a sign of mourning, they said, for the unsettled state of the country. No less than ten Japanese steamers were at anchor in the Straits, the Lotus, No One, Sarah, Fohkien, Stork Carthage, Cosmopolite, Taotai, Gazelle, and Swatow—all full of troops destined to attack Choishu. Thirty-two Daimios are said to be concentrating their forces on that Prince; so it is evident that the decree of degradation pronounced against him was *bona fide*.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

In our last issue, by a printer's error, the Commercial Bank of India was styled the Mercantile, in noticing the alteration of the bank's title.

The following notice appears in reference to the affairs of Kunst, Rohl, and Co.:—

Whereas G. Kunst and H. E. A. Rohl, trading under the firm of Kunst, Rohl, and Co., at this place, have declared their insolvency before me.—Notice is hereby given that all claims against the said firm must be handed in to this consulate and proved on or before the 22nd day of June, 1865, while all debtors to the same firm are hereby notified that payment must be made to this consulate on or before the 15th January next, and that until further notice the receipt of the undersigned will alone discharge them.—R. HEINSSEN, Hamburg Consul.

The minutes which we publish (*North China Daily News*) of a meeting of the Municipal Council held on the 11th instant, suggest two highly desirable improvements, though greatly differing in importance. One is the alteration in the bund line, which we are glad to see is now seriously contemplated, and the other the construction of a foot path on the so-called Yang-tze road. That portion of the former scheme which referred to altering the outlet of the Soochow creek, was fully

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explained in our paper of the 20th October. It is hardly necessary therefore to repeat that it involves the extension of the consular bund some six hundred feet, so as to cause the waters of the creek to join those of the Wongpoo evenly in their downward course, instead of, as at present, flowing directly against the latter stream and causing dead water and deposit. It is now further proposed to extend the whole line of bund to the edge of the existing mud bank, for the double purpose of imparting an even flow to the river along the shore, thus averting deposit; and of avoiding the existing necessity for carrying cargo along an interminable jetty. The necessity for the alteration has become urgent, as the existing jetties do not extend nearly to low water-mark, and have to be extended by the aid of planks at low tide. The first object, of creating an even shore line, has been partially frustrated by the unfortunate obliquity imparted to the end of the French Bund, notwithstanding Mr. Clark's clear explanation of the error. But the inconvenience will be felt by the French rather than ourselves, in the deposit that will be caused by the Yang-king-pang. We abstain from commenting more fully on the scheme, until Mr. Clark's promised report has been made public; merely expressing a hope, in the meantime, that the great difficulty of ways and means may be overcome.

The following notices appear in reference to the firms winding up :—

In the estate of E. Eaton, an insolvent.

A meeting of the creditors under this estate will be held to-day, at half-past two o'clock P.M., at the office of Messrs. Cowie and Co., Foochow-road.—GEO. J. W. COWIE, Receiver, Shanghai, Jan. 14, 1865.

Consulado Geral de Portugal, Shanghai, Jan. 6, 1865

Whereas D. A. De Souza, for himself, and as principal in the firm of De Souza and Co., druggists at this place, has declared his insolvency before me, and handed in for the benefit of his creditors all his property and effects.—Notice is hereby given that all claims against the said De Souza, or the firm of De Souza and Co., must be handed into this consulate on or before 1st March, 1865; and debtors to the said insolvent, or to the said firm wherein the insolvent is the principal, are requested to make payments on or before the 15th Feb., 1865.—H. W. DENT, Consul-General for Portugal.

Notice.—Mr. H. Phillips, of Shanghai, having this day executed a deed of assignment of all his property of every description, and wherever situated, unto A. E. Rosenthal, in trust for such of his creditors as shall, before the 9th day of February next ensuing, execute the deed of assignment and release, creditors of said H. Phillips intending to take the benefit of said assignment, are requested to forward proof of their claims, and debtors of said assignor are requested to pay the amounts due, without delay, to Cope, Cheshire, and Co., accountants, whose receipts will alone discharge any debt due to said assignor.—A. E. ROSENTHAL.

Mr. Alexander Cock, of Shanghai, having this day executed a deed of assignment of all of his property of every description, and wherever situated, unto Charles Colnett and Thomas K. Holdsworth, in trust for such of his creditors as shall, before the 1st day of July next ensuing, execute the deed of assignment and release, creditors of the said Alexander Cock, intending to take the benefit of the said assignment, are requested to forward proof of their claims, and debtors of said assignor are requested to pay the amounts due, without delay, to said trustees; whose receipts, or the receipt of the receiver appointed by them, will alone discharge any debt due to said assignor.—C. COLNETT, THOS. K. HOLDSWORTH.

Notice.—Persons indebted to or having claims against the late Fred. Lis. Juvet, in Shanghai, are invited to communicate on or before the end of February, 1865, with Mr. Louis Ami Juvet for settlement.—ED. GRO. CLAUDE, Executor.

The *North China Herald*, in noticing the exports for 1864, mourns over the falling off. Judging from the losses, those interested in the result will consider it very satisfactory, instead of unsatisfactory. Shanghai exports, since 1860, have gone ahead too fast, and must now witness a wholesome check :—

"It is unsatisfactory to find that the export of the two principal articles of our trade with China was less during the year which has just closed than during 1863. The export of tea during the latter year amounted to 69,000,000 lbs., showing a large increase over 1862. But during 1864 only 65,000,000 lbs. left the port, of which 151,300 piculs were green and 335,000 black. The decrease is not great; but it would have been more satisfactory to have found the figures tending to progress. That a decline should have taken place in the supply of silk was to have been expected, as the depopulation of the silk districts was beginning to exercise its full influence. But the worst anticipation hardly pointed to a decrease of 11,000 piculs from the comparatively small quantity which was shipped during the preceding year. Such, however, appears to have been the case; only 22,000 piculs left the port in 1864, against 33,000 in 1863, and 63,000 during 1862. The direct export of raw cotton also shows a decline from 554,000 piculs to 430,000; but the re-exports of the same staple rose from 1,500 piculs to 77,000, bringing the total quantity which left the port nearly up to the total of 1863."

In reference to the poor at Shanghai, we find the following in the *North China Herald* :—

"Although there are, no doubt, many destitute foreigners in Shanghai whose sufferings claim our liveliest sympathy, there are also a large number of loafers who endeavour to impose on the feelings of the charaitable, and share in the benefits to which the really deserving can alone lay claim. Of this description is a man who is now endeavouring to enlist the sympathies of the foreign residents by a tale pathetic enough in itself, but utterly untrue from beginning to end. A few days since he called on a gentleman holding a public position in the settlement, and represented himself as an old soldier of the 99th Regiment, who had served his Queen and country for thirteen years, out of which time he had been a corporal for three years and a sergeant for eight. His own report of his conduct was satisfactory in the extreme. He had never been confined in the guard-room, or dragged up at the orderly-room to meet the eye of an infuriated commanding officer. Unfortunately he possessed neither discharge nor character certificates, but this was easily accounted for. He had, since his discharge from the English service acted as an officer in D'Aiguebelle's force, and while returning from Hangchow after the disbandment of that force his boat had been made off with by his boatmen. Of course his discharge and other papers shared the fate of his goods and chattels, and thus left him in a state of utter and hopeless indigence. He managed (so ran his tale) to get to Ningpo, where his sufferings were very severe, but at length, through the charity of somebody or another, he obtained a passage to Shanghai, where he arrived on the 4th inst. The gentleman to whom this chapter of untoward accidents was unfolded sent the sufferer with a note to Mr. Gould, telling him at the same time that as several of the old 99th men were in the police, he could not fail to find some one to testify to his character. Meanwhile his request for 'a few dollars' was refused, but he was assured that if the police gave him a good character, something would be done to set him on his feet again. The man started or seemed to start for the police office, but on the way managed to get drunk. The note addressed to the Secretary of the Municipal Council was found in one of his pockets when next he fell under the notice of the police, and the Superintendent considered it due to the charitable interest displayed by the writer to furnish him with one of those short biographical sketches which by a few skilfully drawn lines give an accurate idea of a man's moral physiognomy. This ex-officer of D'Aiguebelle's force who had arrived in Shanghai but a day or two before he claimed charity as we detailed above, had, in fact, monopolised much of the attention of the police for the past year, and had obtained several notices at their hands. Thus between June 30th and December 25th, 1864, he had been no less than ten times in custody on various charges ranging from 'vagrancy' to 'drunkenness and riot,' and had received sentences of imprisonment for periods of from three to ten days. Such was the gentleman who threw himself on the kindness of a charitable community. Our only fear is lest, while such an occurrence as this will naturally make us more careful in inquiring into the antecedents of men who claim assistance, it may at the same time do serious damage to many suffering and deserving foreigners who through no fault of their own have been plunged into want."

In our mercantile intelligence by this mail we learn that no further suspensions had taken place. Messrs. Watson and Co., we are glad to state, have resumed business, and all claims against the firm will be liquidated in full.

A Tientsin correspondent sends us the following list of ships in port :—Charles Simony, Mischief, Music, Queen of the Avon, Dolphin, Dorothea, Star of the Ocean, George, Burlington, and H.M. gunboat Weasel, which had put in short of coals.

There are further evidences of the value of land falling. Messrs. Cowie and Co. announce the following lots for peremptory sale :—

1. A lot of land, situated at the rear of the British Consulate, measuring 6*m.* 4*f.* 5*l.* 1*h.* (at 7,260 English square feet to the mow) or thereabouts; being bounded on the north by a frontage of 151 ft. 6 in. on Soochow Creek, on the south by lot 2, measuring 166 ft. 6 in.; on the east by the new road, running behind the said Consulate, measuring 198 ft. 6 in.; and on the west by the property of H. Ince, Esq., measuring 254 ft., registered at H.B.M.'s Consulate as lot 579. Title deed, 572.

2. A lot of land situated at the rear of the British Consulate, measuring 3*m.* 7*f.* 7*l.* 3*h.* (at 7,260 English square feet to the mow) or thereabouts, being bounded on the north by lot 1, measuring 166ft. 6in.; on the south by lot. 3, measuring 202ft.; on the east by the said new road behind the said Consulate, measuring 140ft.; and on the west by the property of Thos. Vincent, Esq., mersuring 143ft.; registered at H.B.M.'s Consulate as lot 578. Title deed, 571.

3. A lot of land situated at the rear of the British Consulate, measuring 4*m.* 2*f.* 8*l.* 1*h.* (at 7,260 English square feet to the mow) or thereabouts; being bounded on the north by lot 2, measuring 202ft.; on the south by Balfour Terrace and vacant ground, the property of Pedro Loureiro, Esq., measuring 219ft.; on the east by the said new road behind the said Consulate, measuring 140ft.; and on the west by property of James Whittall, Esq., measuring 140ft.; registered at H.B.M.'s Consulate as lot 577. Title deed, 570.

HONG KONG.

The English mail of December 10 arrived out on the 25th of January. The dates are down to the morning of the 26th.

The *Daily Press*, with its usual alacrity to condemn, states that "the Mint scheme is in a gnarl." It maintains that a quantity of the new dollars, sufficient to test the quality of the mintage and the Chinese taste in the matter, should have been sent out from London in the first instance, so that it should have been established as currency before the Hong Kong Mint began to work; that is the experiment that should have been tried, the *Daily Press* asserts, but was not, "because Governor Robinson is a cheese-parer." Somewhat inconsistently, the writer then goes on to give what he calls "the diagnosis of the plan" the Governor did adopt to try that very experiment; which was defeated, he states, by the unexpectedly large remittances of Mexican dollars to London reducing the price of silver, and upsetting the arrangement made with the Royal Mint there. Finally, the *Press* con-

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cludes—"We should like to see the mint result in a successful manner, and for that reason advocate a supply of five thousand dollars per month on account and risk of the local Government, until either the mint be working, or until the new coin shall attain a premium—that is to say, if the banks choose to purchase the currency from the Royal Mint, let them do so, and then the local Government need give themselves no further trouble in the matter."

We (*Daily Press*) understand that the Ceylon Government have sent an agent here for the purpose of engaging coolies on the same terms and principles as prevail in West India emigration hence. We have not heard the species of labour which is required, nor the cause of the running short of the Cingalese working classes; but we learn that the agent has gone to Canton to carry out the arrangements he was deputed to complete.

The following mercantile announcements have been made:—

In consequence of the retirement of Mr. V. Kresser from the Comptoir d'Escompte, I have taken (under the power I possess from the board of directors) the management of the agency in this colony.—H. Kaiser.

Mr. John Middleton, jun., is admitted a partner in our firm.—Smith, Archer, and Co.

The partnership between Mr. Th. H. Elmenhorst, jun., and Mr. F. Sander having been dissolved, all outstanding accounts will be received by Mr. F. Sander, who will sign the firm in liquidation.—Elmenhorst and Sander.

The interest and responsibility of Mr. A. W. P. Kup, in our firm, ceased on the 31st ult. and Mr. Richard Deacon has been admitted a partner.—John Burd and Co.

We have authorised Mr. Frederick C. Adams to sign our firm per procuration.—Reiss and Co.

The business of the undersigned as Public Tea Inspector and Commission Agent at Foochow, will from this date be carried on under the style of Kinnear and Co.—W. B. Kinnear.

Mr. Bapoojee Pallonjee Ranjee has been admitted a partner in our firm from the 31st October, 1864.—P. F. Cama and Co.

Mr. James C. Wardlaw and Mr. John Paterson are admitted partners in our firm.—Tait and Co., Amoy.

We have this day established ourselves at the port of Yokohama, under the style and firm of Defflis and Co., as Merchants and Commission Agents.—Theodor Defflis, John Maack.

Mr. James Davis is this day admitted a partner in our firm.—Fergusson and Co., Chefoo.

Mr. William Parizot is authorised to sign our firm per procuration from this date.—Lutkens, Roesing and Co.

Mr. Thos. D. Tillinghast is authorised to sign our firm from this date.—De Silver and Co.

Mr. Patrick Gifford is admitted a partner in our firm from this date.—Gifford and Co.

The following notice issued by the Post-office at Hong Kong is important to all merchants in the China trade:—

It is hereby notified for general information that, commencing with the mails dispatched from the United Kingdom by way of Southampton on the 20th March, and by way of Marseilles on the 27th March next, which are due in Hong Kong on the 8th May, the system of delivering letters from or through the United Kingdom, addressed to Shanghai, to the agents of the persons to whom such letters are directed at this place, will be discontinued, and from and after the arrivals of the before mentioned mails all such correspondence will be forwarded to Shanghai direct from this department.—F. W. MITCHELL, Postmaster-General.

The French barque *Nepaul* has been sent down to the Quarantine ground, off Green Island, having small-pox on board: H.M.'s *Adventure*, having the same contagious disease on board, still lies within a stone-throw of Pedder's Wharf.

On the morning of the 17th January a number of thieves broke into a house in Bonham Strand, and effected a robbery of property of the value of $200. A box which had contained some silk which the thieves had carried off was found empty near the house. On the same evening the house of a Chinese schoolmaster in Hollywood-road, was broken into, and the thieves, having blinded the owner by throwing pepper in his eyes, broke open his boxes and carried off all his clothes. On the 21st fourteen men armed with swords and other weapons broke into a shop in Fish-lane and having wounded some of the inmates, broke open the drawers and possessed themselves of $140 in notes, $60 in silver and a large quantity of clothing, with which they got away up the hill before assistance arrived. Constable Phillimore, when on duty on Bonham-road about 3 o'clock on the morning of the 23rd, heard a musket discharged in the direction of Mr. Forth's house; on going towards the spot, he saw four men crossing Bonham-road, who, on seeing the constable, ran off towards the slaughter-house. Phillimore fired and one of the men fell, but immediately got on his legs again and escaped with the others. On examining the place where the man fell, spots of blood were seen. The mat sheds and huts in the neighbourhood were afterwards searched to find the wounded man, without success. On Saturday evening, the 21st, during the absence of Mr. Lewis and his company at the Theatre Royal, thieves carried off from his house in Spring Gardens a bag containing $560 and two gold watches.

We understand that the steamer *Defiance*, lately employed at Shanghai as a tug, is now offered for sale at Hong Kong. She was built by Messrs. John Laird, Sons, and Co., of Birkenhead, of the best materials, was launched in October, 1863, and her boilers and machinery are still in excellent order.

On the 17th of January "The Colleen Bawn" was played at the Queen's Theatre. The company has recently been strengthened by the arrival of Madame Duret and Mr. Leroy, the latter of whom played *Hardress Cregan* in the above-mentioned drama. Madame Duret has achieved a great success in the character of *Lucretia Borgia*.

The British barque *Ocean Bride*, which left this, with timber, &c., bound to Nagasaki, on 21st Dec., put back to-day, having encountered a terrific gale on the 11th instant, in which she lost a complete suit of sails, and sprunk a bad leak. The vessel, as she now lies in harbour, is making over twelve inches an hour; she will have to discharge her cargo.

The following items are from the *Hong Kong Evening Mail*:—

"On Tuesday afternoon the Hamburg barque *Ida Maria* was being hove down to Messrs. John McDonald and Co.'s hulk *Revenant*, when, in consequence of a leak in her topsides, a large quantity of water got into the hold. The tackles were slacked up, and fore and main topmasts cut away, but the vessel would not righten; and the water getting up the hatchways, she soon filled and sank, her topgallant bulwarks being just above the water. The vessel, we presume, will be towed ashore, and pumped out; but the stores and the captain's property will all be destroyed, so that the loss to Messrs. McDonald, in whose charge she was considered to be, will be considerable.

"We are glad to inform our readers that we are in possession of the very latest returns procurable for the Annual China Directory, issued from this office. The changes constantly occurring in mercantile houses have rendered it absolutely necessary that the most recent information in this respect should be waited for; and we are in hopes of presenting our readers within a few days of a manual in every respect reliable.

"The Sailors' Home was formally opened this afternoon under the most favourable circumstances. Every commercial house in the colony appeared to be duly represented, and the proceedings passed off in a manner which bodes the happiest results to the institution. Nearly a hundred sailors sat down to dinner, which we trust they enjoyed as heartily as the fact will please every well-wisher of the Home."

H.M.S. *Adventure* had arrived from Shanghai with a detachment of the 67th Regiment.

We regret to find the following in the *Evening Mail*. We hoped (but doubted) that gas would have been a success:—

We regret to state that the Gas Works promise to be a complete failure. On comparison of the accounts rendered for oil and for gas by the agents of the company, we discover that the Hong Kong Gas Company is totally unable to compete with China produce. There cannot be any doubt but that a gas company providing means of good lustration in Hong Kong must succeed; but it is also true that the charges rendered by one set of people must not present too strong a contrast to those which we have hitherto been accustomed to receive from our own coolies, squeeze us as they may.

It is impossible to deny that the gas provided by the company referred to is good and pure; and it is also well enough known that every encouragement has been given to the company's agents, with a view to seeing the lustrous fluid lighting up the entire colony. We are sorry, however, to believe that the course pursued by the agents here is most impolitic. The charges for gas appear to be—we shall not say exorbitant—but such as to enable our oil coolies (whose squeezes are notorious) to compete quite successfully with the new process of illumination. This is a pity, for the simple reason that money is always valuable in the colony, and that people cannot afford to throw it away. The only solution to the problem we have suggested is that the adoption of gas at the present rates must be abandoned, and that resort must be had to the use of oil. Such being the case, we take the opportunity of warning the shareholders of the Hong Kong Gas Company to be careful of their prospects. A few wealthy men may be able to afford themselves the luxury of gas; but there are many people in this colony who will never be able to pay for such an indulgence. The agents for the company seem to forget that the foreign residents here have no desire to disburse a larger sum for gas than they at present do for oil; and should it prove that the expenses entailed upon each consumer of gas is larger than that incurred by the latter, it is easy enough to suppose that oil will rise in the market.

We hear that several individuals and firms have already determined to discontinue the use of the fluid referred to, owing simply to the rates charged; and we are not at all surprised to hear it. We should advise all who have shares in the concern to take especial notice of this fact, as

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their interests may be seriously affected thereby. Nothing has hitherto been said by us, with regard to this undertaking, except in terms of praise; and there is no reason to retract what we have advanced. At the same time it is necessary to state that, unless gas can successfully compete with oil, there is no use for its introduction into this colony.

The twenty-sixth annual meeting of the Medical Missionary Society in China was held in Canton, at the house of Messrs. Olyphant and Co., on the 17th January. The report of the hospital at Canton stated that the number of out-patients attended to in Canton was 15,936, and at Fuhshan, 5,015. The number of in-patients had been 427, and more than 400 surgical operations had been performed. The Dispensary at Shiklung had been kept up by the Rev. A. Krolezyk. The number of patients attended at the Dispensary at Shiuhing, under the Rev. R. H. Graves, M.D., was 2,160. The total expenses had been $1,098.50, leaving a balance of $222.77 to next year's account. The officers for the ensuing year were chosen, Dr. Colledge, now in England, being elected President, and a vote of thanks was passed to Drs. Dods and Wong Fun for important services rendered to the Hospital, to Dr. Kerr and Mr. Graves, and to the Rev. J. H. Gray, Vice-President, and Chairman of the meeting.

From *Saturday's Gazette* we extract the following notices:—

In the absence of A. W. P. Kup, Esq., his Excellency the Governor is pleased to recognize W. C. Van Oordt, Esq., as Acting Consul for the Netherlands in this colony.

His Excellency the Governor is pleased to recognise provisionally the Honourable James Whittall, Esq., as Consul General for His Hawaiian Majesty in this colony, until Her Majesty's pleasure be known.

By Order, W. T. MERCER, Colonial Secretary.

CANTON RACES.

As on a former occasion, the Stewards circulated their regulations the previous day. For the Griffin Plate the following only appeared, and are put down in the order they came in:—

The Confederates' g. n. c. p. Warrior	1
Mr. Charlstoun's wh. m. p. Chance	2
Mr. Southern's br. c. p. Charlie	3

A foul was claimed but disallowed,

For the STEWARDS' PLATE the following came to the post, and are given in order of coming in:—

Mr. Middleton's br. n. c. p. Cossack	1
The Confederates' bl. n. c. p. Black Prince	2
Mr. Rainal's br. n. c. p. Bob	3

The SHAMEEN CUP, presented by H.B.M. Consul, drew four to the starting post.

Mr. Form's br. c. p. Tiddley Winks	1
Mr. Rainal's d. c. p. Steeple Jack	2
Mr. Southern's br. c. p. Charlie	3

The CANTON CUP was to be the race of the day; but out of seven entries only four started, and a good deal of interest in the race was thereby lost. The following is the order of coming in:—

Mr. Middleton's c. n. c. p. Bog Trotter	1
The Confederates' b. n. c. p. Black Prince	2

For the CHA-SZE CUP no Canton-bred or owned pony was entered. The race was therefore limited to the stables of Mr. Middleton and the Confederates.

Mr. Middleton's c.n.c.p. Bog Trotter	1
Mr. Middleton's b.n.c.p. Cossack	2

The CONSOLATION STAKES, for all losers, was won by Mr. Charlstoun's Chance, Mr. Rainal's Steeple Jack being second, and the meeting terminated by the usual native scramble, which was won by Mr. Southern's Charlie.

SIAM.

The Siamese Commissioners to aid in settling boundary questions had left Bangkok to meet the British Commissioners at the Three Pagodas. It is hoped that there will now be an amicable and definite settlement of the boundary question between Siam and British Burmah, which has so long been left unadjusted. After the boundaries are settled, the British Commissioners, Mr. O'Riley and Colonel Blake, would come on to Bangkok.

We publish (says the *Siam Times*) His Siamese Majesty's Proclamation notifying the appointment of a new Prime Minister for civil affairs in the northern and eastern provinces, a new Lord Mayor for the city of Bangkok, and a Secretary or Second Minister for civil affairs. These are important appointments. Officers under the Siamese Government are appointed and ranked in pairs designated *Right* and *Left*. In position and honour, the *right* has the precedence. This we believe holds good in all cases except that of the two Prime Ministers. The one for the north is ranked as the Right. The Prime Minister of the south whose name appears in all treaties with foreign Powers, and known as his Excellency Chow Phaya Srisuriwongse Samuha Phraya Kralahom, &c., &c., is the Left, but so far as we know, has ever taken the precedence in all Government affairs, and the new appointment does not affect his position.

The *Siam Times* remarks, in reference to the prohibition of the exportation of rice:—

Should the present dearth of rice, owing to scarcity and excess of rain, lead to improvement in the mode of rice cultivation, the people of Siam may look back to the years 1864 and 1865 with feelings of gratitude. The system pursued heretofore has left the rice crop exposed to two possible evils, evils which, though opposite in their natures, are terribly similar in their effects. In one part of the country the rice crop has suffered from flood, in another from drought, but in neither portion of the country was the precaution taken to prevent the ravages of floods or to obviate the consequences of drought. Were the paddy fields surrounded by embankments, it is more than probable that the effects of the floods would not have been felt. These embankments, while effectually obviating one evil, would assist materially to obviate the other. There is no evidence to show that the drought has been so extensive in the eastern and northern provinces as to dry up the creeks, rivers, and canals; and so long as there is fresh water in these, and the paddy fields embanked, there need be no dread of scarcity should artificial irrigation be resorted to. In the first place, these embankments can keep off inundations; in the second, they retain the water; so that there need be no loss save by evaporation. These self-evident precautions taken, it must be clear that the country need not suffer from two evils at once, as in the present year. And if the severe lessons now received lead to the adoption of such precautions, it will be a subject for congratulation to future generations.

MALACCA STRAITS.

PENANG.

We regret that we have no papers or advices by this mail. The dates are, we believe, down to February 3.

The captain of the British brig *Fah Kee* has made the following statement in reference to the loss of that vessel:—

"We sailed from Bangkok bound to Hong Kong, laden with teak, sapanwood, rice, and pepper. On the 23rd November experienced light airs and calms up to the 25th, when a strong north-easterly wind set in. About 6 A.M. on that day found a considerable quantity of water in the hold; commenced pumping immediately, and continued for the space of two hours, when we found the vessel was filling fast. We then lowered the boats and towed them astern, and steered nearly west for the sea coast. About 3 A.M. on the 26th, the vessel capsized and settled away with her bilge just awash. This happened in Lat. 11 deg. North, Long. 10 deg. 32 East. The Hamburg brig *Superb*, Captain H. Von Appen, was in company with us the day previous. At 11 A.M. of the day my vessel filled, she came up from the northward, and the captain kindly furnished us with a chart of the Gulf of Siam and some provisions. As soon as our vessel had settled down we took the boats and steered for the Western coast, and reached Sangora on the 14th December, and after remaining there until the 30th, we were kindly sent on elephants to Keddah by the Rajah of Sangorah. We were furthered to Penang in a boat, by the King of Keddah. The chief officer (Mr. Sands) took the long boat and parted company with us before daylight on the morning of the accident."

The *Penang Gazette* states:—

Two boats left the ship, each with six men on board; one commanded by the captain and the other by the chief officer. The latter parted company during the first night of their having taken to their boats; the former made a landing on the coast, where they remained for three days. As long as their provisions lasted all was well, but after that, being pressed for provisions, it seems that one of them went on shore to search for food; the remaining people waited for twenty-four hours, and he not returning, they left in the boat and reached Sangora, five men in all. They were, according to accounts, hospitably received by the Rajah there, and forwarded on elephants to Keddah. During the journey one man died; and arriving at Keddah the remaining people were forwarded by the King of that State to Penang. The captain and two of the crew have gone per mail steamer to Singapore. One boy, a passenger, belonging to Hamburg, remains in Penang to recover from the effects of his exposure during the journey along the coast and across the peninsula.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

ATKINSON.—On the 10th Dec., 1864, at the South Fort, Taku, the wife of Lieut. A. W. H. Atkinson, 99th Regiment, of a son.

CALLIS.—On the 19th Dec., at 17, Hollywood-road, Hong Kong, the wife of Thos. Callis, P. and O. Co., of a daughter.

RICHARDSON.—On the 16th Jan., at Swatow, Mrs. T. W. Richardson, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

LAWRANCE—LEE.—On the 19th Jan., at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. John J. Irwin, D.D., Colonial Chaplain, Edward Lawrance, of Shanghai, solicitor, to Mary Matilda, eldest daughter of the late George Lee, Ceylon Civil Service.

TAYLOR—MACTAVISH.—On the 22nd Nov., at Planefield, Inverness, by the Rev. Alex. M'Gregor, of Inverness, Peter Taylor, of Linwood, Renfrewshire, late commander S.S. Lightning, to Helen Mary, second daughter of Duncan Mactavish, late of Garthbeg.

DEATH.

HOIJER.—On the 7th Jan., on board the Norwegian barque Chinese-ren, on her passage from Bangkok to Hong Kong, Louise, the beloved wife of Captain Hoijer, of that vessel.

JENSEN.—Drowned, from on board the Hamburg barque Ocean, on her passage from Hong Kong to Bangkok, C. Jensen, a native of Flensburg.

NASH.—On the 2nd Jan., at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, Mark Nash, Private 99th Regt., aged 29 years.

REED.—On the 15th Jan., at Macao, F. G. Reed, proprietor Royal Hotel.

SHERMAN.—On the 15th Nov., while in England on leave, Thomas P. Sherman, late usher of the Supreme Court, Hong Kong.

WITHERS.—On the 24th Jan., at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, John Withers, Private 20th Regiment, aged 34 years.

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EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	6s. 6¼d. to 6s. 7d.	6s. 6d. to 6s. 7d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 8¼d. to 4s. 9d.	4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.
At Singapore	6 ditto	4s. 9d.	4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.
At Manila	6 ditto	4s. 5d.	4s. 6d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 309 to 311 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 223 to 224 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 8 to 9 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 72 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 27 to 28 discount.

The shares of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Company are quoted at 25 prem., and the Hong Kong Gas at 10 discount.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At SHANGHAI.—From Sunderland, Jan. 15, Empress Eugene.

At HONG KONG.—From London, Jan. 16, Annie Archbell; and 21, Borealis. From Liverpool, 21, London; and 24, Tricolour. From Glasgow, 16, Tamana. From Newcastle, 21, Orion. From Cardiff, 16, Kin Lin (str.). From Sunderland, 22, Camoens. From Hamburg, 23, Antelope. From Boston, 25, Waterloo. [By an error the arrivals at Hong Kong, in our last issue, were placed under Foochow.]

DEPARTURES.

From SHANGHAI.—For Montreal, Jan. 16, Princess of Wales.

From HONG KONG.—None.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

SHANGHAI.—To London and Liverpool: Tea, £3. 5s. to £3. 10s.; cotton, £3; and silk, £4. 10s. To New York, £3. 15s. per ton.

THE PATTERNS FOR CHINA.

(COMMUNICATED.)

In the prospect of increased facilities for foreign trade with the Central Provinces of China, facilities that must be accompanied by increased competition on the part of other nations, it becomes absolutely necessary that cotton manufacturers in this country, and, of course, those exporters who favour them with orders, should give more attention to the subject of patterns suitable for the China markets. The cottons turned out from the Lowell and other establishments in the United States, and which are designed for sale in the Far East, give evidence not only of extraordinary care, but of extreme versatility of talent, applied both to colour and design. Chinese taste has its own price, and the fantastic contrast of colour and the forms and symbols which it approves, will go far to compensate for quality. Like success is not to be expected without like means. The poorest boatman paddling on a Chinese creek is ambitious to be the owner of a few yards of American cotton goods set off with glaring devices. It was thus that the Swiss manufacturers of cotton goods, when they found themselves driven from every foreign market by the competition of England and France, applied themselves, and successfully, to recover their ground in all quarters, adapting their patterns to the caprices of foreign nations, the Chinese among the rest, and found that yet coarser cotton cloths, ornamented very much as an Indian tattoos himself, with exaggerated animals, nondescript reptiles, and mythical winged dragons on a red ground, realised higher prices than superior qualities, and obtained a more ready sale.

THE PROBABILITIES OF A WAR WITH THE COMBINED BELLIGERENTS.

(THE TIMES.)

As the Federal Government maintains that it has a quarrel with us in the shape of claims which we do not acknowledge, and it has a great deal to gain by a successful war with us, the question to which we have to address ourselves is simply whether they can go to war with us with a fair prospect of success. If they can, they certainly will. The first consideration that occurs is that if the Confederates are exhausted, the Federals are only less so; and if the latter only succeed by the exhaustion of their Southern foe, they are not likely to find success easy by turning against a new foe, with untouched strength and resources. It is true that there is a large army, many of whom may now be called veterans, and all in the hands of men with some experience of actual fighting. But the soldier, in all ages, after a certain period of hardship, pines for repose, and longs for his snug farm, even though after a brief interval he is again ready for fighting. Throughout the whole of the States industry is more or less at a standstill for want of men, and it offers wages that compete with the enormous bounties and pay of the soldier. The attraction of peace will be irresistible after five years or more of this desperate work. So, we must consider whether the men will enlist again for a new war against a new and certainly not less vigorous foe. They must be paid first on the old account; and there is not a soldier in the service whose pay is not many months in arrears. But that will be as a trifle compared with the new Bill. The American Treasury, hopelessly insolvent, will have to try conclusions with the Treasury which paid a hundred millions sterling for one war ten years ago, and has been reducing taxation ever since. It would have to do this with a crippled commerce, for though both would play this game, America would have her full share of its forfeits. For every *Alabama* that has sneaked out of our ports a hundred would steam out with the British colours. New York, too, which has hitherto fought at a distance and given money rather than men, would have to bear the brunt of the new struggle, and might haply share the fate of Charleston, Savannah, and a few other of its victims. The Federal territory might not be inviolate, and if Canada can be reached it can also strike home. Long wars, distant enterprises, familiarity with command, the exercise of proconsular authority, the mutual jealousies of chiefs, and a real dictatorship at head-quarters, are sure in the end to break up a Republic. The statesmen of that Republic have lately had some reason to survey their past policy, domestic as well as foreign, and to apply to it higher and truer principles than those which satisfy the vulgar tests of every day life. They may possibly have come to the conclusion that States are not to be founded on violence, aggression, and fraud. They may discover that, after all, the New World is amenable to the same moral code, the same political wisdom, the same laws of providence, as the Old. On comparing notes, they may find that the men and the States that successively started with a very reasonable hope of conquering and annexing all Asia, all Europe, all Africa, and even all together, did not succeed, and had even to pay fearful penalties, sooner or later for the very attempt. So, putting all things together, we are inclined to believe that the Government of Washington will not attack us immediately on the conclusion of this present war, and that it will therein show its wisdom. It would, however, be most inconvenient, and costly, and disagreeable to have the quarrel hanging over our heads waiting for American convenience and opportunity. When the time comes our statesmen will have to see that we are not placed under that penance. If that, indeed, is to be our fate, and if we are to live in daily expectation of news that the United States have marched upon our provinces for the satisfaction of some old claims vamped up for the purpose, then we may be excused if we are less anxious to see the present war over than we otherwise should be.

THE ROMANCE OF SPECULATION.—THE ABERAMAN IRON WORKS COMPANY AND ITS PROMOTERS.

The story of the origin of the "Aberaman Iron Works Company," as recently told in the Court of Queen's Bench, besides being curious and interesting, is full of suggestive information for the public at large. Before we come to the action of this drama, we suppose we must introduce and describe the *dramatis personæ*. The Aberaman Estate and Iron Works, in the North of Wales, were the property of Mr. Crawshay Bailey, M.P. for Monmouth. Mr. Wickens is a solicitor, practising in Tokenhouse-yard, with a keen eye to speculative investments elsewhere; and Mr. Folch, "a private gentleman," with an itching for public companies and promotion money; Captain Antrobus was formerly an officer in the 2nd Dragoons, then a coal and mine proprietor in Yorkshire, and is now a financial agent, and not over nice as to the character and antecedents of those whom he designates "his intimate friends." Mr. Hughson, according to Captain Antrobus, was formerly an attorney at Edinburgh, but, according to his own account of himself, he "has been a financial commission agent for the last twenty years." In 1845 he had offices in Edinburgh. In 1862 he came to London and became an "attorney's clerk at three guineas a-week." He modestly denied having been engaged as a "detective" in the infamous case of Mr. and Mrs. Windham, but he admitted that he was employed for seven months in going to the Haymarket night after night to watch Mrs. Windham and give instructions to the detective engaged in the case. In answer to the Lord Chief Justice he said he went to the Haymarket to watch Mrs. Windham's cross proceedings, and to protect Mr. Windham against them—that is, as he further explained, to prevent Mr. Windham condoning his wife's offences "by keeping him away from his wife." The reader might suppose that this was not a vocation favourable to the financial genius and ability of an experienced financial agent, but he would be mistaken if he did. One part of his employment was to "treat the ladies at Barnes's, when he went to the Haymarket of a night—ladies who were useful to Mr. Windham for giving information as to the whereabouts of his wife"—and this, no doubt, involved considerable expenditure, and numerous, if not very extensive, "financial operations." To complete Mr. Hughson's story, we may as well add that he was under the lamentable necessity of suing Mr. Windham for "the £400 expenses he had been put to" in this honourable vocation; but he lost his action; that he ought to have paid the costs, but did not, and took the benefit of the Bankruptcy Act instead; and, finally, that "there was no dividend"—the lawyers (ah, those rascally lawyers!) had it all, and Mr. Hughson "afterwards started afresh."

Such being the chief actors in this speculative drama, let us now glance at the parts they respectively played in it. Mr. Crawshay Bailey agrees to sell his estate and ironworks to Mr. Wickens, and Mr. Wickens agrees to purchase them for £250,000. We are not to suppose that Mr. Wickens intended to abandon the law, and become a great landowner and ironmaster in South Wales, or that he intended to invest so large a portion of his own funds in this purchase, for it does not appear that Mr. Wickens contemplated any such thing. His purpose was to buy the property from Mr. Bailey for £250,000, and to sell it again to a joint-stock company for £350,000, which would leave him the rather handsome profit of £100,000 for his trouble and expense in the little affair. This, if it could only be accomplished, would certainly be an improvement upon the routine practice of the attorney's office, and infinitely better than the slow accumulations of six-and-eightpences and three-and-fourpences from ordinary clients, however numerous or litigious they might be. In order that it might be accomplished, Mr. Wickens associated himself with Mr. Folch, the "private gentleman," and they mutually agreed to become the joint promoters of the intended joint-stock company, and joint participators in the profit to be made out of it. But, first and foremost, there was a deposit of £10,000 to be paid to Mr. Bailey, and as neither Mr. Wickens nor Mr. Folch had available resources equal to that demand, it must be "raised somehow." That required a "financial operation," and financial operations necessarily require financial agents, and forthwith Messrs. Antrobus and Hughson stepped upon the scene. Mr. Folch had known Captain Antrobus five or six years as a person engaged in financial transactions, and, meeting the Captain in the City, explained to him what they required. They had already been trying, through some third party, to get the £10,000 for the deposit from Messrs. Barclay and Co., but this third party, whose modest name did not transpire, wanted £75,000 out of the £100,000 profit, as his remuneration for getting the £10,000, and to leave the remaining £25,000 only for Messrs. Wickens and Folch. This the latter gentlemen evidently thought unreasonable;

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and perhaps it was rather so. Even the Lord Chief Justice, who in his day has seen some practice, and had no little experience in such matters, could not help exclaiming that "these revelations were really startling." Mr. Folch explained that they were willing to give £5,000 for the advance of the £10,000 for six months; "but," said the Captain, "I said that was not sufficient, and that £10,000 at least would be required for the advance." "That," said the Chief Justice, "would be 100 per cent." "That," said Mr. Hawkins, "would be 200 per cent., for it was 100 per cent. for six months." But Mr. Folch, nevertheless, agreed to pay that amount. Besides this deposit, however, there was another financial operation to be achieved. The promoters were anxious that the company should come out with 10,000 shares already taken up; "because," said Captain Antrobus, "it would naturally look better before the public with 10,000 shares taken up." Mr. Folch thought "they could do 2,000 shares if Captain Antrobus could do the rest;" and this the Captain thought he could do.

And now we come to another important actor in the drama. Captain Antrobus mentioned the matter to his intimate friend Mr. Hughson, and Mr. Hughson shortly afterwards introduced him to his friend Mr. Logan, the manager of the London Bank of Scotland. Mr. Logan seems to have stipulated that, if his bank advanced the money, they should have the account of the company, and that three of the directors of the bank should be placed on the direction of the company, and for this honourable distinction he selected Mr. Cargill, M.P., Sir D. Hay, M.P., and Mr. Collins. Upon this understanding, although there was a good deal of "off and on" negotiation, the bank appears to have arranged to advance the whole or part of the £10,000 for deposit, and of the £8,000 for the 8,000 shares, for which they were to receive £8,000 bonus. And Mr. Folch at last appears to have agreed that Antrobus and Hughson should have two sums of £5,000 each for procuring somebody to advance the £10,000 and the £8,000. But in the meantime Mr. Logan had ascertained the amount the promoters were to make by these transactions, and he then found that a bonus of £8,000 was not enough for the advance of £8,000 on the shares, and wanted £16,000 for making that advance! At the mention of these astounding facts and figures the judicial wig of the Lord Chief Justice was seen to be slowly rising above his judicial head, and his lordship was constrained to explain this remarkable phenomenon by gravely telling the Court that "these revelations actually make one's hair stand on end;" on which the learned counsel, feeling his own horsehair rising, gravely replied, "Indeed they do, my lord." But even this was not the end of Mr. Logan's insatiable demands, for on the 16th June he wrote a letter stating that "a larger bonus than £10,000 would be required for the advance of the £10,000 than merely double that amount, but that the £16,000 could be settled as arranged." Mr. Wickens appears to have been party and privy to these arrangements with the London Bank of Scotland, but to have sedulously avoided any contact or intercourse with Messrs. Antrobus and Hughson, which might have committed him to the arrangements made with them by his co-promoter, Mr. Folch. What the bank ultimately advanced in these transactions, and what they made by their advances, we do not know, and do not care to inquire. At the last moment it seems the bank declined doing anything, but Mr. Wilkinson, their solicitor, at the same moment came forward and did everything that was necessary. Messrs. Wickens and Folch repudiated their engagements to Messrs. Antrobus and Hughson, and, therefore, Messrs. Antrobus and Hughson jointly sued Messrs. Wickens and Folch for the recovery of the two sums of £5,000 each, which they had agreed to pay them. All the agreement they could prove, however, was with Mr. Folch alone, and did not include Mr. Wickens, and they could not prove that the arrangement they had made with the London Bank of Scotland had been carried out, for it seems to have been carried out through their solicitor, Mr. Wilkinson. The jury found that the agreements aileged had been made, but not with both parties, and so the plaintiffs lost their action, and the other parties "got off." We can have no sympathy with either one party or the other, for neither of them merit any. But we beg to tell Mr. Logan, and the directors of the London Bank of Scotland, that such transactions, however profitable they may be, are not banking transactions, and do not fall within the legitimate province of joint-stock or any other banks, and that the transactions disclosed in this trial are thoroughly discreditable to each and every one, without any exception, of the parties concerned in them.

HONG KONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY.

Pursuant to notice, a meeting of the shareholders of the Hong Kong Whampoa Dock Company took place on the 24th inst., at which the following proprietors attended:—

T. Sutherland, Esq., Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company.

Geo. J. Helland, Esq. (Messrs. John Burd and Co.).

Captain John Townsend, P. and O. ship Fort William.

John S. Lapraik, Esq., and Edward Wallace, Esq. (Mr. Douglas Lapraik's).

A. Sassoon, Esq. (Messrs. David Sassoon, Sons and Co.).

C. Bertrand, Esq., Messageries Imperiales Company.

W. Schmidt, Esq. (Messrs. Fletcher and Co.).

A. Booth, Esq., and A. Bourjau, Esq. (Messrs. Bourjau, Hubener, and Co.).

O. Burrows, Esq. (Messrs. S. E. Burrows and Sons).

H. B. Gibb, Esq. (Messrs. Gibb, and Livingston and Co.).

R. Brand, Esq., and Geo. Smith, Esq. (Messrs. Smith, Kennedy, and Co.).

E. C. Smith, Esq. (Messrs. Turner and Co.).

G. N. Minto, Esq., Manager Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock Company.

The following Resolutions were unanimously carried:—

I. Proposed by Mr. E. C. Smith, and seconded by Mr. M. Bosman—

That on the 1st July, 1865, the deed of settlement shall be altered so as to raise the subscribed capital of the company to $750,000 in 1,500 shares of $500 each.

II. Proposed by Mr. R. Brand, and seconded by Mr. W. Adamson—

That the existing 120 shares shall be sub-divided into shares of $500 each. Every proprietor of one old share receiving scrip for four shares in the new stock without further payment than that already made—viz., $1,500 dollars per share.

III. Proposed by Mr. A. Sassoon, and seconded by Captain Soames—

480 Shares being appropriated, according to the foregoing resolution, the remainder of the Stock, viz., 1,020 Shares, shall be offered to the Public, and allotted by the Directors according to the best of their judgment for the interests of the Company, applications from the present Shareholders having a right of preference.

IV. Proposed by Mr. Bosman, and seconded by Mr. Levysohn—

That the latest date for receiving Applications for Shares shall be the 30th of April next, and that the allotment shall take place in time to enable the first call to be paid on or before the first day of July following.

V. Proposed by Mr. H. B. Gibb, and seconded by Mr. O. Burrows—

That arrangements be made to register the Company under the Limited Liability Act, about to be passed in this Colony.

In conformity with the foregoing resolutions, the directors have to intimate that applications will be received for shares in the company's new stock to the 30th April next, immediately after which date the allotment will take place. It is also notified that the calls on the new shares are intended to be made in the following manner:—

On 1st July, 1865	..	$100 per share.
1st October, 1865 ..	..	50 „
1st January, 1866 ..	..	50 „
1st April, 1866	..	50 „
1st July, 1866	..	50 „
1st October, 1866 ..	..	50 „

Any further calls necessary will be made at intervals of not less than three months. Dividends will of course be payable from the actual date of calling up each instalment. Interest will be charged at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum on overdue calls.

Forms of application for shares and further particulars may be obtained at the secretary's office.

By order of the directors. D. LAPRAIK, Secretary.

Hong Kong, Nov. 28th, 1864.

THE NEW MINISTER FOR WASHINGTON—SIR FREDERICK BRUCE.

(THE TIMES.)

The public will hear with great regret that Lord Lyons has been compelled by the state of his health to resign the post of British Minister at Washington, which he has filled for six years with so much ability and judgment. No one, indeed, who knows the nature of the work which he has had to discharge during the last four years of his office will be surprised at his being compelled to retire. The mere physical labour which has been entailed upon him would alone be enough to account for the necessity of his resignation. Mr. Layard gave an account the other night of the business which has been transacted during the last three or four years at the Washington Embassy, and, except upon such authority, the amount would be almost incredible. The correspondence of one year filled sixty large folio volumes. In less than three years there were 13,948 entries of single despatches in the Foreign-office registers, and nearly all of these contained enclosures, one of them having no less than 203. The close and multitudinous relations of this country with America have, in fact, been entangled and twisted in inextricable confusion, and these voluminous letters and enclosures are probably but an inadequate representation of the innumerable knots which Lord Lyons has had to untie. Questions of blockade and of nationality, complaints from British subjects, demands by the British Government, the voluble despatches of Mr. Seward, and his incessant demands and representations—all these combined have tasked the energies of the Mission and the supervision of the Minister to a probably unprecedented extent. But the amount of the business thus transacted must, after all, have been the least part of its burden. The anxiety of the office must have been far more trying than its labour. Seldom has there been a more important post at a more critical time. The consequences which have depended for the last few years on the due conduct of our relations with the United States have been momentous in the extreme, and there has scarcely been any moment within that period at which those relations might not have been compromised by a failure in courtesy or discretion. Mr. Lincoln's Government, indeed, has, it must be confessed, displayed a creditable or a prudent self-control under the various excitements of the time; yet the temper of the American public has constantly been such that a slight indiscretion on our part might have made it impossible for the President and his Minister to be more moderate than the people whom they represent. It reflects the greatest credit on Lord Lyons that during this critical and difficult period he has uniformly smoothed the roughnesses and adjusted the difficulties which arose, and that Mr. Layard could say the other night that "in no one instance has he not received the entire approval of Her Majesty's Government."

The more satisfactorily, however, he has filled his difficult post, the greater our regret at his enforced retirement, particularly at a moment when clouds on all sides threaten a difficult if not a stormy course to the pilot of our interests in America. Lord Lyons has seen the ship of the American State drift from a safe harbour into the unknown waters of a dangerous and tempestuous sea. It is no wonder if he is overwearied by the strain of watching her perilous course, but he resigns a difficult and uncertain task to his successor. It is, indeed, extraordinary to reflect upon the changes which his comparatively short term of office has witnessed. A period is not always to be measured by the mere lapse of time, and a succession of events has been crowded into the six years of Lord Lyons's employment which would have been thought, not long ago, too many and too vast for the lifetime of one man. He was appointed in 1858, yet what an era has passed since then! Three short years have witnessed the violent disruption of the greatest Power in the New World, the growth of a war almost unexampled in its magnitude, and, whatever may be the ultimate result of the struggle, the utter subversion of all the most cherished institutions of a great and prosperous nation. When Lord Lyons went

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to Washington the United States stretched in peaceful and prosperous dominion from the Gulf to the St. Lawrence and from the Pacific to the Atlantic, they were the favourite model of free and Republican institutions, they scarcely possessed an army, they had an absolutely insignificant debt, and the whole energy of their industrious and vigorous population was devoted to commerce, to agriculture, to learning and the arts. Lord Lyons leaves them in the convulsions of a political earthquake. One vast chasm yawns from East to West, dividing by blood and fire two hostile sections of a scarcely kindred race; Republican institutions are rapidly becoming Imperial in almost all but the name; personal freedom is a memory of the past; enormous armies, like swarms of locusts, devour the face of the country; a debt unparalleled for its growth and threatening aspect overshadows the resources of the nation, and the whole energy of the people is withdrawn from the lifegiving exercise of peace to the exhausting fever of war. When Lord Lyons first went to his mission the country he was accredited to was the United States. It is difficult to say what it should be called now, and impossible to foresee what it will be. Those six years, in fact, have seen the rise and the development of a tremendous revolution, and if we are sending out a new Minister it is to an entirely new state of things.

The successor of Lord Lyons in this momentous post will be Sir Frederick Bruce, who at present holds the office of Minister in China, but happens opportunely to be in England. There is no reason to doubt that in making this selection the Government have had ample regard to the qualifications necessary for the office. Sir F. Bruce has greatly distinguished himself by his conduct of our troublesome negotiations with the Court of Peking; and though he will have very different persons to deal with in Washington, yet a man who has been energetic, acute, and successful in one place, will probably be energetic and acute, and will at least deserve to be successful in another. Perhaps, in the surging sea which American politics represent at the present time an intimate acquaintance with the recent traditions of our Ministry at Washington may be of less importance than it would have been otherwise. The movements are so rapid, the influences so uncertain, that the course pursued at one moment may have to be forgotten the next. But though Sir F. Bruce has not been recently employed in any post connected with his new office, he is not entirely inexperienced in American affairs. His first employment was when attached to the late Lord Ashburton's special mission to Washington in 1842, when the famous Ashburton Treaty was negotiated. Subsequently, for a year, he was Lieutenant-Governor of Newfoundland, and from 1847 to 1851 he was employed in various posts in South America. Four years after this he went with his brother, Lord Elgin, to China, and has since been entirely employed in that country.

By a fortunate coincidence he will arrive in America just when Mr. Lincoln will have entered upon his second term of office. It will, perhaps, have an opportune significance that a new Minister should thus be accredited to the United States at the commencement of this new period in her annals. A wild fancy had a little time ago possession of the American mind that England and France contemplated a sort of underhand recognition of the Confederacy on the 4th of March by acknowledging Mr. Lincoln as President only of those States which had taken part in his election. The incredulous surprise with which this announcement of our intentions was received on this side of the water would have been sufficient to convince the public of most countries of their mistake. But the Americans are peculiarly hard to convince against their will, and it may be fortunate, therefore, a marked refutation will be given to their delusion. The arrival of a new Minister accredited to the Government whose authority we still acknowledge will be a more conspicuous evidence of the fallacy of these strange anticipations than the return of Lord Lyons. It may, perhaps, be made more evident that instead of in any way slighting their Government, we are paying it the distinct attention of selecting a new Minister to represent us.

THE LAST ACCOUNTS FROM CHINA.

(THE TIMES.)

The news from China is that every part of the vast Empire is more or less distracted by insurrection, brigandage, and discontent. Even the distant Western provinces, far away from us and our traffic, have each their little rebellion; and the rich Sz'chuen, where every Chinaman is said to be well fed and well dressed, has an immigration of the old Taiping locusts feeding on its fatness. It is the normal condition of an overpeopled country, with a chain of Government rusted and rotten in every link. The only matter which greatly interests us practically is to know how near these people are to our commercial ports, and what effect they are likely to have upon our interests. We heard some time ago that seven provinces had been proclaimed in the *Peking Gazette*, that a great number of cities had been just taken and sacked, and that a seaport which was about to be opened to our trade had been attacked and destroyed. But when we are now told that the disorganised bands of the Taipings are in considerable force in Fohkien, and hold a large portion of Chekiang, and have had hard fighting in Kiangsi, the ordinary reader derives about as much information from these tidings as if he had been given to understand that they had taken possession of that hemisphere of the moon which is hidden from human observation. It may be useful, therefore, to those who may desire to retain some general knowledge of the progress of events in the extreme East, to state that these two provinces of Kiangsi and Fohkien occupy that part of the empire which extends about a hundred and fifty miles south of our treaty port of Ningpo to a point about a hundred miles north of Canton, and that this region includes the habitation of nearly forty millions of inhabitants, and the larger portion of the coast line between Canton and Shanghai. Fohkien is a maritime province, and contains our two treaty ports of Foochow and Amoy, and Kiangsi is the province which lies immediately behind it, inland, and extends up to the Yangtze river. Its name, indeed, is said to mean "the Province West of the River." From the statement of our correspondent —who now appears to think that Canton itself is again in danger—it would appear that the operations of the insurgents are not confined to these provinces, and it may be generally assumed that the disturbances include all the coast countries which lie between Ningpo and Canton, and also the mountains and vast tea districts which lie inland from this coast. It would be scarcely worth while to offer this explanation. except to point out that, although the marauders have been driven away from the celebrated thirty miles radius round Shanghai, the countries they still infest are districts in which we have a special interest. We have a great although not quite a regular trade at Swatow; and Amoy and Foochow are two treaty ports, whence we export immense quantities of tea. From the districts lying behind these ports all that tea is brought down.

The new rebel chief who, with an army of 50,000 well-appointed troops, has established himself at a city called Chang-chow, within easy distance of Amoy, seems inclined to cultivate the good graces of our merchants, and hopes to be allowed to occupy the treaty port of Foochow. It is evident, indeed, that these chiefs are capturing large cities in the immediate neighbourhood of Swatow, Amoy, and Foochow, and it seems unavoidable that we must again be brought into contact with them, at places where it is by no means so easy to deal with them as it was at Shanghai. At Amoy there is no separate European settlement as there is at Shanghai, and Foochow is situate some miles up a narrow river of difficult navigation. In both these ports the Chinese and the European merchants are mixed up together in their habitations, and there would be great disaster if these places were sacked or burnt. We do not mean to suggest that there is any great danger of such an occurrence, but it is as well to be aware of the position. It will account for the intelligence that the *Janus*, the *Flamer*, the *Dove*, and the *Swallow* are all now lying at Amoy. It seems very hard that we never can be allowed to trade in peace with this strange people, and that a Government so intractable to foreigners and so absolute in many respects over their own subjects cannot or will not keep their own cities in a state of defence against mere brigands. So, however, it is, and there seems to be no help for it. We may congratulate ourselves. however, that there is no longer a costly China expedition engaged in this Far East, and as we must employ a large navy somewhere or other, and as the China trade is very profitable and very necessary to us, perhaps we ought not to repine at having to keep a ship or two and a few gunboats on the coast of China, where they see more service and are not more costly than they would be while expending their stores in the Channel or sunning themselves in the Mediterranean. This is the pleasantest way of looking at the affair, but, after all, we cannot help thinking that we ought not to have to do this work, and that the time may come when we may not be able to spare the men and ships to do it.

Our principal object, however, in calling attention at this moment to the Chinese news is to deprecate what seems to be a very imminent danger of European and American vagabonds being banded together to oppose these Asiatic vagabonds. The remedy for the desultory rebellion, which seems to find favour with the public of Shanghai, is that the Chinese officers shall, each in his city, district, or province, employ any European or American leader of mercenaries who may happen to be at hand. Wild adventure and rapid fortune are said to offer themselves as the certain prizes of this occupation. D'Aiguebelle, the leader of a Franco-Chinese contingent, is reported to have returned to France with immense wealth, accumulated during 15 months' service. There are thousands of martial adventurers in France who have been strongly excited by so seductive a success. Not only France, but Belgium, Spain, Italy, and England herself, might in a few days show a large number of daring freebooters all ready to cut slices with their swords out of this great China pudding. Is it quite certain, however, that the security of English merchants would be greatly increased, even at Swatow, or Amoy, or Foochow, if we had several bands of these chivalrous hirelings in our immediate neighbourhood? For our part, we would rather trust to force or negotiation to make terms with an army of Taipings than try conclusions with a civilized bully who had a crew of half-disciplined cosmopolitan ragamuffins at his back. About ten years ago the Portuguese of Macao were in the habit of fitting out convoy fleets, which undertook for a certain hire to protect the fishermen of the coast from the Chinese pirates. This lasted for some time, and was very profitable to the Portuguese; but the exactions, cruelties, and robberies of these "protectors" became at last so unendurable that the Chinese fishermen and villagers, aided perhaps by some rival convoymen, watched an opportunity and burnt the convoy fleet and massacred all the Portuguese officers and sailors, shooting them down in the very suburbs of Ningpo. Of course some inquiry was made in Europe, and Lisbon was in a ferment; but after the circumstances had been investigated the conduct of these men was found to have been so atrocious that it was thought better to let the whole matter slide into oblivion. This was but the natural end of any merely mercenary force. What happened on the sea ten years ago would happen in multiplied instances on the land now; and whether the leaders were English, French, or American, they and their followers would soon become much greater pests than even the Taipings themselves. We submit that instead of encouraging these hireling bands the policy of Europe ought to be to unite and put them down.

The time seems to be now come when our policy towards China should be to keep just force enough to protect our trade, and to leave the rest to the Chinese Government. We have arrived at the position which was anticipated by the late Lord Elgin in his address to the merchants of Shanghai. The moment seems opportune to remind them of the wise advice then given. "I am of opinion," said Lord Elgin, "that when force and diplomacy shall have done all that they can legitimately effect, the work which has to be accomplished in China will be but at its commencement." The work thus designated by Lord Elgin was pointed out by him to be of a mixed moral and physical character—the first and by far the most difficult, "to win a way for Christian civilisation among a sceptical and ingenious people." But "at the same time," said Lord Elgin, "the machine-facturing West will be in presence of a population the most universally and laboriously manufacturing of any on the earth. It can achieve victories in the contest in which it will have to engage only by proving that physical knowledge and mechanical skill applied to the arts of production are more than a match for the most persevering efforts of unscientific industry." This prediction is now performed. Force and diplomacy have gained all their reasonable conquests, and ought only to be used to preserve what has been won. It is in the spirit of Lord Elgin's counsels that we desire to keep these rowdy bands out of China.

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THE EMPEROR OF CHINA.

IT has often been a subject of remark, on our own part as well as by others, that the information we possess respecting the inner life of the Court of Peking is scanty in the extreme, and, we may say, disappointingly so, when we reflect on the increased facilities for observation which the last few years have afforded. Three winters have now passed since the curtain which shrouds so jealously the "Forbidden Palace" was raised for a moment to disclose that strange scene of rivalry, intrigue, and sudden execution which terminated in the removal of the arrogant Council of Eight, in the elevation of Prince KUNG, the youthful SOVEREIGN'S uncle, to the highest posts of dignity and influence, and in the acceptance by the two EMPRESSES of the position of Joint-Regents. Since the memorable days of November, 1861, however, when the publication of a flood of State papers threw a temporary light on the arrangements of the Imperial household, we have had absolutely no particulars respecting the progress of Court affairs or the education of the youthful ruler. We have, on this account, made it our business lately to seek for such information as was attainable, and are glad in being able to present our readers with the results we have obtained from highly trustworthy sources. It will be remembered that, at the time of the death of the late Emperor, HIEN-FUNG, on the 22nd August, 1861, his only son, then only in his eighth year, was proclaimed as his successor, under the title of T'UNG-CHIH—two characters which it has been pronounced impossible to translate, but which may be rendered as meaning something like "Government by Union." The will of the deceased SOVEREIGN was proclaimed as appointing eight of his late Councillors, representing the most obstinate supporters of the old exclusive system, to the Regency of the Empire; but in the following November this arrogant and corrupt coterie was destroyed by the *coup d'état* carried out by Prince KUNG, who executed its leading members and banished the remainder, under authority derived from the EMPRESSES, declaring that they had promulgated false representations of the last wishes of their deceased master. The two ladies who figured so prominently in this Court revolution were both young, and doubtless beautiful, if judged according to the Chinese taste. The elder, though the principal consort of the late SOVEREIGN, had proved childless, whilst her associate, the fortunate mother of the heir to the throne, had been a mere concubine among the many who graced the Imperial harem. Resentment at slights to which they were subjected by some of the members of the Regency had induced them to favour the conspiracy which led to the destruction of that body; and, while accepting in name the vacant position, they were doubtless by no means loth to abandon to their brother-in-law Prince KUNG and his councillors the greater share of the labours of Government. A curious Chinese document is now before us, which we believe has never hitherto been published, and which contains the regulations adopted by the EMPRESSES on their acceptance of the Regency. A precedent had luckily been disinterred from among the venerable archives of the T'ANG dynasty, nearly a thousand years ago, which gave authority for the conduct of affairs of State by a female; and it was accordingly arranged, with solemn minuteness, that the Regents—shrouded by a curtain—should give audience to public functionaries, and in like manner preside at the official receptions, which form the principal duty of the occupant of the throne. Their Imperial son, young as he was, could not be exempted from the ceremonial, and, enthroned before the curtain, was to receive the homage of the prostrate officials, whilst his guardians pronounced from their seclusion their answers to memorials or their commands on the conduct of affairs.

Of the two EMPRESSES, we have been told that the elder, or EMPRESS DOWAGER (as she may be called, having been the principal consort of the deceased Sovereign), is of Manchoo origin, and had received a careful education, extending to both the Manchoo and Chinese languages. She is also said to be the guiding genius in the Government, being possessed of great powers of intellect and of much intelligence. The EMPRESS-MOTHER is also an able and energetic woman, but not educated, though well acquainted with the management of affairs. She makes many inquiries, it is said, with reference to the intrusive foreigners, who have caused so much confusion in the once quiet capital. We can scarcely hope that her surroundings are likely to convey to her very truthful notions of our real character, and it is probably fated that the throne in China will be the very last corner to which a gleam of enlightenment will be permitted to penetrate. This we cannot hope will take place until the SOVEREIGN himself shall have actually come in contact with the European Ambassadors, and shall have learnt from positive view and experience that the "barbarians" are not so terribly barbarous after all. The confessions of many high Chinese officials of their agreeable surprise on meeting with polished and intelligent persons when first making the acquaintance of the dreaded foreigners, shows to what an extent personal influence proves useful in subduing the prejudices with which the European character is still so largely invested; but it appears that Her MAJESTY'S Government has not yet thought fit to insist on our Ambassador's privilege of entering the Imperial presence. It is doubtless argued that during the minority of the boy-ruler an audience would be a purely formal ceremony, from which no diplomatic results could be extracted; but, on the other hand, it may also be said that so long as the Imperial circle derives all its impressions of the foreigners from the gossip of prejudiced courtiers or the reports of wily officials, we run a risk of gaining such a character as, impressed upon the EMPEROR'S youthful mind, may confirm him as he advances to maturity in unfavourable prepossessions. We trust that the time will ere long come when our Minister's position may be considered sufficiently well-established at Peking to warrant his demanding an occasional audience, which could be fully justified to the EMPEROR'S advisers on the ground of similar privileges in European countries.

Apart from his training in the grave deportment of the reception-hall, the young EMPEROR is, as may be expected, carefully instructed in all the Confucian writings, which constitute the "be-all and end-all" of Chinese State and family administration. His chief instructor, a Cabinet Minister of Mongolian extraction and of the highest reputation for wisdom and learning, is assisted by a shoal of lesser preceptors; and in the regulations prescribing His MAJESTY'S course of study it is expressly provided that the strictness of the teacher is not to be forgotten in the deference of the subject. The Imperial pupil takes his lessons seated at his desk, whilst the instructor stands a step lower and at the *side* of the table. Even here we find the cramped precision of Chinese etiquette binding mind and body in its unhealthy trammels. Will all the ethics of CONFUCIUS suffice to guard the youthful student's mind from the enervating influences of constant slavish adulation? It is not, however, in books alone that the EMPEROR is to become an adept. We learn from a correspondent in China that he is already trained in military exercises, which form the second branch of a Chinese polite education. Six hours are consumed every day in the study of the Confucian books and of caligraphy, after which His MAJESTY pursues a course of archery, of which he is said to be very fond, and which constitutes the principal portion of Chinese military excellence. As yet, however, the young EMPEROR is said not to have evinced any decided tendency to either *wen* or *wu*—to either martial or literary pursuits. He takes great delight in frequenting the pleasure-grounds which surround the palaces, both within and without the walls of Peking, and which have always been the glory of his ancestors, since first enlarged and beautified shortly after the conquest in the middle of the 17th century. Two or three boys, the sons of high officials, are selected as the fellow-pupils of the young EMPEROR, he being somewhat disinclined to study. It is hoped that emulation with other boys will excite him to studious pursuits.

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The young EMPEROR is said to be of a very impetuous temper, and that he often quarrels with his teachers.

The inhabitants of Peking still speak of his father, HIEN-FUNG—who is remembered as a tall, emaciated figure, nearly six feet in height—tottering in these pleasure-grounds between two attendants, who supported nearly the entire weight of his body. Dissipation beyond all bounds had made him at thirty a feeble, querulous old man, and he sank, worn out in the prime of life, on a death-bed embittered by the remembrance of his recent defeat at the hands of the hated foreigners. We must hope that, as the years go on, any legacy of dislike which may be rankling in the mind of his young successor may be removed by just and sensible conduct on the part, not only of our own, but of all the foreign representatives at Peking.

SINGAPORE AND AUSTRALIA.

AMONG the enterprising projects of the day tending to develope the resources of our possessions in the Far East, and extend British influence to the *further South*, the most promising is the founding of the new colony of North Australia, on that portion of the island-continent marked on the maps "Arnhem Land." This undertaking has been matured by the Government of South Australia; who have the northern territory exclusively within their control, under the authority of Her MAJESTY in Council, in consequence of the public spirit shown by the colonists in supporting expeditions, especially that of the indefatigable explorer MCDOUGALL STUART, to discover the nature of the interior. Formerly that was supposed to be chiefly desert land, a second Sahara, incapable of supporting even the aborigines. This erroneous conclusion has been dispelled by the reality, which presents a rich country within the tropical zone capable of growing every product of the East, and pasturage on the upper lands for the beeves and flocks of the Australian settlers. This twofold advantage of the country possessing the capabilities of a temperate and tropical climate, will conduce greatly to its success as a field for rearing cattle and sheep on the one hand, and rice, cotton, and sugar on the other. From the latest accounts the expedition forming the government of the settlement, under the superintendence of Colonel FINNISS and a competent staff of surveyors, have fixed on a site for the future capital of the colony at "Adam Bay," near the mouth of "Adelaide River." This stream is described as being navigable for vessels of the largest tonnage, at least sixty miles inland, flowing through a rich alluvial country, well watered everywhere, abounding in good timber, and abundance of pasturage for cattle and sheep. Although the climate is tropical, there is evidence that it is neither so hot nor so humid as countries within the corresponding latitudes north of the equator; and there is every reason to conclude that it will partake of that general salubrity which characterises the southern regions of Australia compared with the healthiest in other parts of the world. But what particularly recommends this new colony to our notice is its proximity to the Eastern Archipelago, especially Singapore and her sister settlements in the Malacca Straits. Here is another link in the chain of the British dominions that encircles the globe; destined to divert the current of steam navigation and the lines of telegraph by a better route to the colonies of Eastern Australia than any yet in operation; and as the construction of a telegraph across the country to South Australia may be accomplished, it will supersede all lines in contemplation. Again, this new colony is in the route of ships bound from Java to Sydney; and a line of steamers might trade profitably from China and Manila *via* Torres Straits, where at present passengers have to travel the roundabout voyage by way of Point de Galle. In that case the long dreary passage of 3,336 miles between that point and King George Sound would be avoided; while the voyage from Hong Kong to Sydney, which now takes thirty-nine days, would be accomplished in twenty-four or twenty-five days, thereby saving a fortnight.

Once this new colony is matured there is every reason to expect a large influx of Malays and Chinese, who appreciate British rule above all others as a Government to live under in peace and security. So soon as they learn that the land is good for cultivating tropical products, and that the British flag flies there to protect them, they will come in large numbers to settle as coolies or small cultivators of rice and cotton. Already the natives of Timor and the adjacent islands visit the bays on the coast to fish for *trepang*, or sea slug, so much prized in the East as an article of food. These people used to call at the old settlement of Port Essington and evince a great desire to trade with the military and naval depot there, which they could not reciprocate as that was merely a harbour of refuge, since abandoned. There is every probability, therefore, of considerable traffic arising between the colonists of North Australia, and the inhabitants of these isles, many of whom are Christians, with an admixture of Dutch blood in their veins, from the seamen of that nation who settled there centuries ago. We learn, also, that many French creoles from the Island of Bourbon or Reunion are desirous of emigrating from that over-peopled little isle to settle in the northern territory of Australia as cultivators of tropical produce; and the local French newspaper there warmly advocates their immediate departure for the new British colony.

In view of these advantages for the successful colonization of this newly acquired territory by the Government of South Australia, a number of enterprising colonists and others have formed themselves into a company for the purpose of developing the scheme, which promises to be a profitable investment. The first and main object of the North Australian Company's proprietary was to secure large tracts of freehold land at the public sales established in London, in March, 1864, under the auspices of the Agent-General for South Australia. That object has been attained, and the company now holds the fee simple of many preliminary blocks of country lands and town allotments, or rather the "land orders," representing those sections, to be selected by a local manager as soon as the country is surveyed, and the land declared open for selection. Of course the prospects of this company depend entirely on the success of the colony itself, as the large extent of land which they hold in town and country must realize treble the cost at least, if there are people to buy the allotments. We wish both the colony and the company every success; and we have no fear that the energy and enterprise of the South Australians—who have overcome greater difficulties before now—will surmount all but the most overwhelming obstacles. Moreover, they are entitled to the full support of the Home Government, as the occupation of this outlying portion of Australia might be accomplished by the French, who are on the look out in those seas for the extension of their power in rivalry to the British. Further news is expected shortly from the Government Resident, Colonel FINNISS, which we shall not fail to put before our readers when it arrives.

CEYLON.

Every facility and accommodation in banking operations is now afforded to merchants, planters, civilians, and others connected with Ceylon, no less than four of the London banks doing business with the East having agencies in Ceylon, namely, the Oriental Bank Corporation, Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China, the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan, and the Asiatic Banking Corporation. Not only are the advantages of railways and telegraphs to be enjoyed by the colonists, but gas and water improvements are to be introduced. The Ceylon Gas and Water Company, whose offices are at 76, King William-street, City, are in negotiation with the Ceylon Government for a concession, and when the terms of this are definitively agreed upon operations will be commenced, and Ceylon will then not be behind the other Eastern colonies in the comfort and advantages that result from scientific appliances in illuminations, and ready and abundant water supply to dwellings.

FRENCH COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH CHINA AND JAPAN.

THE "Exposé de la Situation de L'Empire," presented a few days since to the French Senate, in commenting on the relations of France with the Far East, adverts to the increase of French tonnage on the coasts and rivers of China, the evidences as to the further development of commerce in that quarter, to the favourable influence on trade likely to be exerted by the acquisition of Nanking for a foreign settlement, and states that arrangements have been made for obtaining a suitable site in the suburbs of Hankow for French residents, that a consular office is about to be opened at Ningpo, and, finally, that special privileges have been obtained for French shipping in the trade between Cochin China and the Chinese ports. Improved relations with Japan are referred to with satisfaction; the attack on Simonoseki is regarded as having broken the spirit of resistance which impeded the fulfilment of treaties, and as having decided the Court of Yedo to execute its engagement with foreign Powers. The late Japanese Ambassadors to Europe undertook, among other

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things, that a monetary compensation should be rendered for the murder of a French officer in Japan. The report looks hopefully on future trade relations with that country, and acknowledges the important service which the Japanese supplies of raw silk have conferred on the manufacturers of France.

SCHEME OF A FRENCH IMPERIAL FACTORY IN CHINA.

THE project entertained by the French Government of establishing an Imperial Factory in China, the headquarters of which shall be in Nanking and Shanghai, is not without certain recommendatory features. No means, probably, could be devised by our continental neighbours better calculated to promote, or, at least to stimulate their trading interests in that quarter, unwilling, as they are, to await the result of unaided individual enterprise and effort. A certain prestige would, no doubt, attach to the establishment and its branches that would not be without its effect on the Court of Peking, and induce the granting of special privileges to the agents of the Factory, privileges in which foreign nations would have no direct claim to participate. France relies on China for a supply of raw silk for her manufactures quite as much as ourselves on teas for consumption; but, we may be assured, France will not rest content with such a proportionate adverse balance, to be settled for in specie, as we are fain to put up with; she will, above all things, aim to enlarge the market for her productions and reach the great centres of inland distribution. We shall not be surprised to find, should the contemplated Factory be established, French steam-barges ploughing the Imperial canal, and its artificial and natural tributaries in all their length. A Factory will aid France, as it has before this aided other nations in the East, in carrying out a widely-extended system of barter, the most profitable form of interchange, especially in a country the Government of which is watchful that there shall be no export of the precious metals. In this barter trade, the obtaining of tea in exchange will almost be as great an object as silk; for, although France is but a moderate consumer of the article, a profitable re-export trade may be carried on with the Prussian and Russian ports. To French traders such a factory would afford special facilities. Not only could they replenish their stocks of goods and avail themselves to some extent of imperial means and imperial credit, and could always realise on teas collected from priests and farmers, or purchased from Mandarins, either obtaining the local market value or securing an advance, the difference to be made good upon advices received of sales in Europe. We are not yet informed as to the character of the special privileges accorded to French trade between Cochin and China, but these are not unlikely to aid the result. Our treaty right, however, to the establishment of inland stations will allow us to keep pace with French progress, favoured though it may be by certain prescriptive rights, and taking the empire as we are in flank, by way of Burmah and Thibet, and with more capital than ever invested in the trade, with the evident necessity that exists for the Chinese Government to enlarge the basis of foreign trade, if it would consolidate its power, we have no reason to suppose that France will steal a march upon us, whilst she is certainly free and welcome to pursue success in her own way.

CONDITION OF THE CEYLON ROADS.

CEYLON, at the present time, exhibits the strange anomaly of progress and retrogression. With a large increase in the annual area of cultivation, her roads have been suffered to go to ruin, to become under tropical rains like paddy grounds, their condition rendering whole districts barely accessible, limiting the means and enhancing the price of transport, and raising food to famine prices. But few new roads have latterly been opened, and districts demanding new outlets for their produce continue unprovided even with the requisite facilities for supplying their immediate wants. The condition of the roads has been pronounced infamous, yet with no less a sum than £214,000 in the Treasury, the few remaining labourers on the roads are called off for want of available funds; the headmen, whose name is legion, go unpaid; the Survey Department, so necessary to be kept in a state of efficiency, is lamentably restricted in its means; and the local Government fails to discharge its obligations in regard to native titles. The policy that has led to this neglect of roads is the more suicidal that tolls have remarkably augmented of late years, that the sums bid for Crown lands largely depend upon provided facilities of communication, and the amount of capital, skill, and labour invested in new districts on their accessibility, so that the moneys thus withdrawn are lost in another form. The disastrous effect on the fortunes of individual planters from the resulting cost of transport and price of food, compelling them to dispense with labour at a critical time lest their estates should be eaten up, and so narrowing the margin of possible gain that many of them must be reduced from competence to want, exhibits a picture of forlorn helplessness that we might have expected to find realised only under the exactions of some Indian rajah, or the uncontrolled cupidity of a Kandian prince. At one point alone in the Southern Province the estimated loss to planters from want of suitable repairs to roads is not less than £8,000 on 100,000 bushels of coffee there concentrated for delivery. Letters are before us showing that produce destined for shipment had been detained fully three weeks *en route*.

We may be sure the financial vultures have scented from afar their prey, and in the foreclosing of mortgages on estates on which advances have been made, will reap the present season their full harvest. Besides, impassable roads enhance the difficulty of providing satisfactory securities, and add to the charges on advances. The curtailment of investment of British capital will also be witnessed. English embarkers of capital in Ceylon are usually those impatient of low rates of interest, yielded by secure home investments and willing to undergo some risk, the risk of unpropitious seasons and uncertain labour. But in this neglect of arterial communication is a fatal impediment to success, to remove which the funds are actually on hand. Six years ago the roads of Ceylon were in excellent condition, its 150 miles of canal unobstructed; we witnessed none of the present hoarding up, the neglect to provide the essential means for giving vigour and activity to trade and industry. The witness who told the Trinity Board that Tenterden steeple was the cause of the Goodwin-sands was assuredly not far wrong, for we are gravely informed that the new railway, which in June next will be completed to Ambepussen, is the veritable cause of the bad roads. Not that it takes their route, or will supersede them, or can prove remunerative without feeders, but that the late Governor chose to construe home instructions, not to apply public funds to any work of magnitude until the cost of the railway had been met, to apply their repair. The contemptuous silence with which the late legislative application to the Colonial Office for *permission* to devote a surplus revenue, amounting to £214,000, to this and kindred objects, shows the opinion there entertained of men who have not energy or administrative skill sufficient to break their leading strings, manifestly afraid to take the initiative, to do their duty to the colony lest their own chances of promotion should be impeded; whilst in the demand to which the fictitious surplus has led, that the colony shall at once proceed to defray its military expenses according to an imperial estimate, an everlasting lesson is taught of the ultimate fruitlessness of long years of sycophancy. We regret the supineness of the Ceylon press in tolerating an accumulation of revenue at such a fearful cost, and cannot discharge altogether from blame the late unofficial members for waiting till "the floods came" before raising their voice of protest. It was in their power to have aroused public opinion before as well as now, and they might have appealed at least to the Home Government for redress. Nothing now remains but for the residents to agitate for an increase in the unofficial members of the Legislative Council from seven to ten, and to see that these individually represent the leading islands' interests; whilst we trust that the first act of the newly-inaugurated GOVERNOR will be to disburse in local improvements—more especially on roads, a balance that never should have existed. Let these roads be longer neglected, and their repair will be brought within the category of "works of magnitude," which the Home Government has for the present interdicted.

THE HON. SIR FREDERICK BRUCE, G.C.B.

As we intimated in January, Sir Frederick Bruce will not return to Peking, and the post now held by Mr. T. F. Wade remains to be filled. We believe that no settlement will be made until Sir Rutherford Alcock, who arrived by the last mail, has been consulted. Sir Frederick has been appointed to succeed Lord Lyons, who resigns on account of ill-health, as Minister at Washington. The dignity of G.C.B. has been conferred on Sir Frederick, and we understand he proceeds to his post on the 25th inst.

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Sir Hercules Robinson, whose appointment to the Governorship of Ceylon we announced some months since, has been formally gazetted to that post. Nothing has been notified as to his successor at Hong Kong.

Mr. Algernon Bertram Mitford has been appointed Second Secretary to the Legation at Peking. He was temporarily attached to the Embassy at St. Petersburg, and appointed Acting Third Secretary in H.M. Diplomatic Service, 1863.

Mr. R. K. Douglas, of the China Consular service, has undertaken the post of Curator of the Chinese Library at the British Museum.

DETERIORATION OF HOME STOCKS OF TEAS.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—Whilst allowing that the imperfect manufacture of tea is one primary cause of deterioration, there is no question that the dampness of our English atmosphere contributes in a very material degree to this result. An effective and economic correction may be found in the exclusion of atmospheric moisture from the warehouses in which China teas are stored by the introduction of a moderate degree of artificial heat. In fact, we do not deal tenderly enough with this sensitive product of an Eastern clime. All experience goes to show that a heat of 80 or 90 deg. will not injure tea, and so with the dry cold which the Russian overland teas encounter in winter time, on the Mantchurian and Siberian plains. Here I affirm, is the great preservative, arresting even the effects of faulty curing. Of course, such a suggestion as the above is sure to meet with opposition from warehousemen and dock companies; the objections of insurance offices and the regulations governing bonded warehouses would be met by introducing the heat through steam pipes, the boilers supplying the steam being at a distance. Whatever difficulties, however, may be raised, I cannot doubt but that means will be found for carrying this suggestion into practical effect, seeing that it is a matter of saving thousands of pounds annually to our tea importers.—Yours, &c.,

City, Feb. 20, 1865. MINCING LANE.

THE JAPANESE *QUID PRO QUO.*

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—I am not satisfied of the wisdom of the course pursued by foreign Ministers in Japan, in offering to release the Tycoon's Government from payment of any indemnity for the naval late operations, &c., provided that Simonoseki, or some more eligible port in the Straits, shall be opened to foreign trade. We have thus put a money value on the grant, as though the advantage were all on one side; instead of which it is our business to demonstrate to the Japanese Government and people themselves of free and unrestricted intercourse. The Tycoon's Government may be safely trusted for securing its own pecuniary enrichment, on duties levied on goods despatched by the guilds of Yedo to any foreign settlement, or foreign consular port, that may be opened in the Inland Sea. Because the Prince of Nagato would not pay that indemnity, his two palaces the one at Yedo the other at Kioto, were burnt, together with his servitors residing within them; and my own opinion is that, taking this barbarous act into consideration, the Tycoon's Government should have been compelled to pay at once the indemnity, in specie, to the uttermost farthing, instead of being offered the mild alternative of engaging to open to foreign trade a port in the territories of the hostile Daimio, over which it has never exercised the least control. But without further reference to civil or political complications, what I contend for is, that we should not be deprived of money so fairly earned, and so add to home burdens the expenses of an expedition undertaken to vindicate our treaty rights. Yours, &c.

Whitehall, Feb. 8, 1865. RED, WHITE, AND BLUE.

Literature.

Sequel to Some Glimpses of Life in the Far East By J. G. THOMSON, F.R.G.S. London: Richardson and Co., Cornhill.—The author of "Some Glimpses in Life in the Far East" has—as we prognosticated would be the case in our notice of that volume—been encouraged to publish the sequel he promised and, further than that, to throw aside his anonymous guise. The continuation is deficient in those personal details which communicated so much interest to its predecessor. The book before us partakes more of the nature of a collection of essays, many of which would seem to have already appeared in "The Journal of the Indian Archipelago," or to have remained in the essayist's writing-desk till the topic to which they refer has utterly faded from the sympathies and even memories of mankind. The first three-and-thirty pages are devoted to a history of the overbearing conduct of a Major Ross Macdonald, who was Superintendent of the island of Penang so long ago as the year 1796. The very titles of several of the other disquisitions show at once that they partake of the same defect, as belonging entirely to a state of things that passed away with the sovereignty of the East India Company, to which the author exhibits the same hearty antagonism that characterised his former volume. A large portion of the book is occupied in discussing, under one shape or another, what Mr. Disraeli made the conversation of clubs and drawing-rooms by introducing in one of his novels as "the Asian mystery." How is it, indeed, since all knowledge—whether physical or metaphysical—all arts, and all sciences, having sprung from the East, and thence been disseminated over the world, that the fountain and source of such benefits should seem in the present day to be either dried up, or that what current may still be flowing has lost its freshness and invigorating and vivifying power? This question Mr. Thomson assails in various ways, but without affording us a satisfactory solution. Is the fault in the people or their rulers? Has the race of Shem become utterly degenerate, or is it simply that the energy now lies slumbering in the mass, and demands the rod of some one of their old "world-tamers" to stir up the latent fire? To those whom such speculations delight, Mr. Thomson's pages will afford all that information which a long residence in the Far East and a thorough acquaintance with the native character and the language spoken over a wide area can alone confer. The reader for mere amusement will find such a treat as he has not met with for many a day in the story of "Sheik Abdulla the Younger," who gained from his instructor permission "to meet the Prince of the Devils, so that he might obtain an insight into his doings amongst mankind and other created things." The narrative abounds in incident, as may be supposed, and in Oriental fashion most of the mischief is laid to the door of the fairer sex, the more beautiful and handsome portion of whom his highness is pleased to call "my books." Of a very different nature, and of far higher import is the autobiography of Abdulla Moonshee, a native long connected with the first English Protestant missionaries to the Malayan Archipelago. Abdulla speaks in gratifying terms of the Milnes and Morrisons, and the plain unbiassed recital of their daily doings, given by one who was both their instructor and pupil, will form an eminently cheering fragment for those who yet hope to see Christianity triumph over Mahommedanism and Budhism. On the other hand, Abdulla's account of the German Missionary and his method of translating the Bible into Malayan, is like a chapter from Gil Blas, so naive and piquant is the disclosure. Abdulla's unvarnished tale is in reality one of the keenest satires on the countrymen of Niebuhr and Bunsen that ever was penned, and the telling force of the revelation consists in its evident truthfulness. A true German philosopher never has to learn, but always to teach. It is of little consequence to him whether his premises are right or wrong, or whether he has before him all those that might fairly lie within his reach. Two or three facts, or two or three words, will enable him to remodel a nation's history, or reconstruct a nation's grammar. The German knew nothing of Malay save what Abdulla taught him, but that did not prevent his insisting that the syntax and the spelling of the language should be altered to suit his theory of what it ought to have been. The next edition of the "Curiosities of Literature" should be enlarged by this singular chapter, and meantime we earnestly commend our readers to satiate their curiosity by perusing the "Sequel to Some Glimpses of Life in the Far East."

APPOINTMENTS, &c.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment of General his Royal Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, K.G., K.S.I., to be an Ordinary Member of the Military Division of the First Class, or Knights Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath.

The Queen has been pleased to give and grant unto the under-mentioned officers Her Majesty's Royal licence and permission that they may accept and wear the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honour, conferred upon them by the Emperor of the French, as a mark of his Imperial Majesty's approbation of their services, in conjunction with the naval forces of his Imperial Majesty, during the recent operations in the Straits of Simonoseki, in Japan, viz.:—

ROYAL NAVY.—Sir Augustus Leopold Kuper, K.C.B., Rear-Admiral, with the temporary rank of Vice-Admiral while serving in China, the insignia of Grand Officer of the said Order; Captain John Montagu Hayes, C.B., the insignia of a Commander of the said Order; Captain William Garnham Luard, Captain William Montagu Dowell, C.B., Captain Charles Taylor Leckie, and Captain John Hobhouse Inglis Alexander, C.B., the insignia of Officer of the said Order.

ROYAL MARINE LIGHT INFANTRY.—Lieutenant-Colonel William Grigor Suther, C.B., the insignia of Officer of the same Order.

The Queen has also been pleased to give and grant to the under-mentioned officers of Her Majesty's Navy, her Royal licence and permission

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that they may accept and wear the Military Order of William of the Netherlands, conferred upon them by the King of the Netherlands as a mark of his Majesty's approbation of their services, in conjunction with the naval forces of his Majesty, during the recent operations in the Straits of Simonoseki, in Japan, viz :—

Sir Augustus Leopold Kuper, K.C.B., Rear-Admiral, with the temporary rank of Vice-Admiral while serving in China, the Cross of a Commander of the said Order; and Captain John Montagu Hayes, C.B., the Cross of a Knight of the Third Class of the same Order.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Feb. 24	Deal	Batavia	Isis	Dunell.
— 25	Plymouth	Maulmain	Kate	Buxton.
— 24	Falmouth	Rangoon	Columbia	Paulson.
— 26	London	Shanghai	Glenclune	Turnbull.
— 26	Liverpool	Do.	Providence	Lee.
— 26	Deal	Do.	Agincourt	Winchester.
— 24	Texel	Padang	Tinnevelly	Plenge.
— 24	Do.	Batavia	Souburg	Zwaart.
— 24	Do.	Do.	Victoria	Gregory.
— 24	Do.	Banjoewangie	Huydecoper	Reinders.
—	New York	Foo-chow-Foo	Corea	
— 25	Falmouth	Batavia	Wilhelmina	Drummond.
— 27	Do.	Maulmain	Selina	Buck.
Jan. 24	Callao	Macao	Donna Maria Pia	Tulle.
— 26	Demerara	Canton	Brechin Castle	Parkinson.
Feb. —	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Leaping Water	Luckie.
— 2	St. Thomas	Amoy	Salacia	Johnson.
— 4	Havana	Macao	Medic	Dutiel.
Mar. 1	London	Yokohama	Amelia	Valentine.
Feb. 27	Off Dungeness	Banjoewangie	Vier Gezusters	O to.
— 27	Queenstown	Iloilo	St. Paul	Crowell.
— 17	New York	Shanghai	Prince of Wales	Crabb.
Mar. 1	London	Foo-chow-Foo	Lord Clyde	Withers.
— 1	Do.	Galle	Prince Llewellyn	Jones.
— 1	Deal	Foo-chow-Foo	Cumberland	Bell.
— 1	Liverpool	Singapore	Moneta	Spear.
Feb. 27	Texel	Banjoewangie	A. H. Wille	Haveken.
— 27	Do.	Tjilatjap	Ystroom	Hansen.
Mar. 2	Liverpool	Zebu	Royal Mint	
— 1	Brouwershaven	Java	Margaret Mitchell	
— 1	Off Dover	Do.	Golden Eagle	Lemmer.
Feb. 28	Texel	Batavia	Gelderland	Graaf.
Mar. 1	Brouwershaven	Do.	Vier Gebroeders	Bunk.
— 1	Do.	Sourabaya	Nieuwland	Pot.
— 3	Deal	Shanghai	Queen of the Ocean	Ellison.
— 3	Do.	Colombo	Lizzie and Kate	Morton.
Feb. 28	Palais Roads, B.I.	Pekalongan	Octavie	Warneck.
— 19	New York	Manila	Rattler	Almy.
Mar. 3	London	Colombo, &c.	Bonnie Dundee	Connor.
— 2	Off Dungeness	Banjoewangie	Macassar (Dut. barq.)	
— 2	Texel	Tjilatjap	Gebroeders	Wehdemeyer.
— 2	Do.	Batavia	Elisabeth	Storm.
— 2	Do.	Banjoewangie	Bantam	Claasen.
— 2	Brouwershaven	Macassar	Macassar	Coulson.
— 1	Cuxhaven	Hong Kong	Jupiter	Nobiling.
— 5	London	Shanghai	Palawan	Page.
— 5	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Carisbrook	Cooper.
— 5	Falmouth	Bangkok	Semper Fidelis	Perriam.
— 3	Cuxhaven	Hong Kong	Emily	Reichmann.
— 6	Deal	Colombo	Avon	Edmond.
— 3	Texel	Batavia	Brouwershaven	Huizer.
— 4	Brouwershaven	Foo-chow-Foo	Freya	Major.
—	Off Dover	Java	Andrew Jackson	

(See Commercial Postscript.)

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Feb. 2	New York	Shanghai	Uncowah	Rudolph.
— 3	Do.	Hong Kong	Powhatan	Potter.
— 25	London	Newport & Shanghai	Helen Douglas	Newland.
— 25	Clyde	Singapore & Penang	Priam	Irving.
—	Do.	Batavia & Singapore	Maythorn	Taylor.
— 27	Swansea	Shanghai	John N. Cushing	Swap.
— 20	Liverpool	Manila	Sales	Mendezona.
— 26	Cardiff	Do.	Fanny	Carlton.
— 26	Jersey Roads	Hong Kong	Mina	Astrom.
Mrch 2	London	Cardiff & Shanghai	Camilla	Jeffrey.
— 1	Shields	Ceylon	Thirteen	
— 3	London	Cardiff & Hong Kong	Horsa	Markwell.
— 3	Do.	Colmbo & Trincombe	Empress	Penrice.
— 3	Liverpool	Yokohama	Vinco	Hughes.
— 4	Do.	Hong Kong & Canton	Everest	Clarke.
— 4	Do.	Java via Cape of G. H.	Anna	Bockmaan.
— 4	Do.	Shanghai	Sarah Scott	Riches.
— 4	London	Yokohama	Simon Hobley	Blake.
— 6	Liverpool	Shanghai	Finzel	Hicks.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Thomas Blythe, Gleam, Castleton, Maravi. For Nagasaki: Lammermuir. For Shanghai: Peterborough, Queen of the Forth, Glencune, Lord Clyde. For Hong Kong: Cathaya. For Hong Kong and Canton: Yaratilda, Avondhu. For Singapore: Helen's Bank, Eliza Thornton. For Singapore, Bangkok, and Saigon: Radama. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Ilma. For Colombo: Jeddo, Sea Sprite.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Raphael, Sea Snake. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Empress. For Shanghai: Patna, Sea Mew, Bankside. For Hong Kong and Canton: Veronica. For Singapore: Der West, Vigil, Gyrn Castle, Bintang. For Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Yokohama: Shaftesbury (s). For Batavia and Sourabaya: Affghan. For Manila: Tigris. For Galle: Blanche Moore. For Galle and Maulmain: Louisa.

At GLASGOW.—For Singapore: Sparkler. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Majestic. For Colombo: Ione.

At NEW YORK.—For Hong Kong: Samuel Russell. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Amaranth.

SPOKEN.

CONCORD (Fch. barq.), Singapore to Bordeaux, Feb. 20, 43 N., 24 W.
CONSTANCE, Manila to London, Jan. 29, 12 N., 31 W.
SELUCIA (?) (barq.), from Amoy, 67 days out, Dec. 14, 35 S., 22 E.
DOUGLAS (barq.), New York to Hong Kong, Nov. 1, 9 N., 26 W.
ROBERT PEEL (Dut. barq.), Rotterdam to Singapore, 39 S., 13 E.
MARIA AGNES (Dut. barq.), Amsterdam to Padang, Jan. 13.
HAMBURG SHIP, No. 8,029, 3rd d.p., Manila to Lon., Dec. 1, 29 S., 47 E.
EMPRESS EUGENIE, Sunderland to Shanghai, Nov. 26, in the Banda Sea.
GUINEVERE, London to Shanghai, Jan. 4, on the line, 29 W.
ELIZABETH, Batavia to Amsterdam, Feb. 23, 48 N., 15 W.
NICOLO BARABINO, Cardiff to Shanghai, Nov. 30, off Formosa.
RIFLEMAN (barq.), for Nagasaki, Feb. 20, 43 N., 13 W.
MARION, Newcastle to Shanghai, Jan. 22, 8 N., 23 W.
JESSIE STOWE, Swansea to Batavia, Jan. 21, 4 N., 24 W.
OCEAN PEARL, Sunderland to Singapore, Oct. 30.
TRELAWNEY (?), Bangkok to Falmouth, 63 days out, Jan. 4, 28 S., 8 E.
TAMATAVE, Bordeaux to Hong Kong, Jan. 21, 27 S., 25 W.
GENERAL DE STEURS, Batavia to Rotterdam, Jan. 13, 9 S., 13 W.
NORDSTAR, Sourabaya to Amsterdam, Dec. 10, in the Straits of Bally.
OSCAR I., Sourabaya to Falmouth, Dec. 10, in the Straits of Bally.
JOSEPHINE (barq.), Colombo to London, Jan. 20, 18 S., 3 W.
WILLEM AND CAREL, Newcastle and Texel to Cheribon, 3 N., 23 W.
PRINCESS, of and from Hamburg for Hong Kong.
CHEFOO (Hamburg ship), for Macassar, off La Trinite.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

The shipping business has shown no animation since our last issue, chiefly owing to the wet weather which has generally prevailed. Coal freights have been less freely offered, and lower rates are asked. A few charters have been effected from Ceylon at 72s. 6d. to 75s. per ton.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 20s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bangkok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £30 to £32 and £1. 11s. For Shanghai: £40 and £1. 16s. For Manila: £1. 12s. 6d. For Batavia: £23 to £24, and £1. 2s. 6d. For Singapore: £26 and £1. 1s. 0d. For Galle: £25 and £1. 2s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 95 tons naval stores from the river Thames to Trincomalee, also for 10 tons naval stores from the river Thames to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Friesland (Dutch ship), from Amsterdam for Batavia, put into Rio Janeiro, Jan. 31, leaky.

Advices from Bordeaux under date March 1, state that a telegram from Royan reported that the Concorde (barque), Zisly, of and for Bordeaux, from Singapore and Penang, with black pepper and tin, had been stranded at Coubre Point in entering the river; crew saved.

Advices from Buenos Ayres, under date Jan. 11, state that the Geelong, Ferrier, from thence to Batavia, which struck on a wreck off Buenos Ayres, Dec. 8, had discharged to her light water-mark, and was being taken to the Tigre in charge of a pilot, when she got aground and became so leaky that she could not be kept afloat; when the tide left her there were only 3 feet water alongside, and her forefoot and keel, &c., were much damaged. She had been lying aground about a week, was strained all over, and her copper much broken. A survey had been held and she was recommended to be sold.

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The Corporation grant Drafts and negotiate Bills of Exchange, payable at the above places, issue Letters of Credit, and conduct every description of Banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian Securities, the receipt of Dividends, &c., and undertake the safe custody of Securities. They also receive Deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of Interest and Exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

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Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

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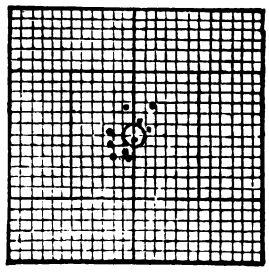

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Directors have This Day made a CALL of £2 per Share on the 10,000 New Shares in this Company, numbered from 10,001 to 20,000, both inclusive, PAYABLE on the 3rd day of April, 1865, at the Banking-house of the Company, 1 Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

By order of the Board,
R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

No. 1, Bank-buildings, March 6, 1865.

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AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

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The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at the places above mentioned, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the Overland Route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

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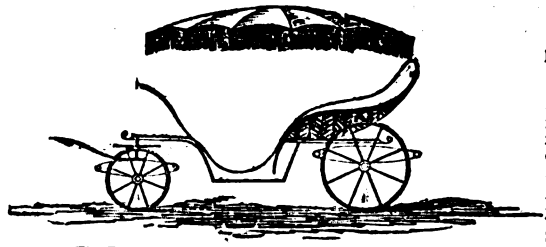

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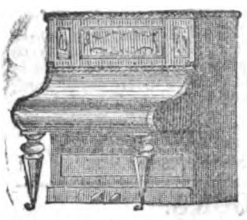

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"CHEMICAL LABORATORY,

"7, BURY COURT, ST. MARY AXE, LONDON, E.C., June 4, 1863.

"SIR,—I have analysed the two samples handed me on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., and found the 'Mixed Pickles' of H. and H. LEDGER, of 14, Mineries, Aldgate, to be quite free from adulteration and made with Pure Malt Vinegar.

"I also found H. and H. LEDGER'S 'Britannia Sauce' to be free from any injurious substances.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient Servant,

"For F VERSMANN F.C.S. Analytical Chemist.—ED. SCHREINER."

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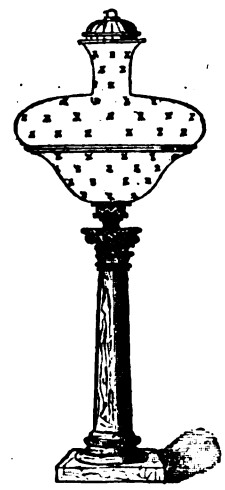
IMPROVED

ENAMELLED PUNKAH TABLE LAMPS.



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They are elegant and durable, are finished in exact imitation of many beautiful stones and marbles, such as Malachite, Lapis Lazuli, Serpentine, Sienna, Brocatella, Jasper, &c., and are not affected by heat, damp, friction, or insects; oil, spirits, or acids accidentally spilled. The enamel surface is so inseparable from the base (block slate, proverbial for its strength) that it cannot be removed except by an edged tool. It *requires* simply *dusting*, but if rubbed hard, it only adds a gloss to its appearance—at all times cool and agreeable.

After ten years' constant use and handling, these lamps are none the worse for wear.

Malachite (green), Serpentine (brown), or Lapis Lazuli (blue), are most recommended.

Table Lamp complete, with engraved glasses, as sketch, 72s.

A Plainer Lamp, without the Corinthian capital, 50s. complete.

Either pattern, with plain frosted glasses, 7s. 6d. each less.

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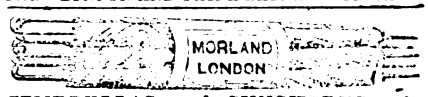

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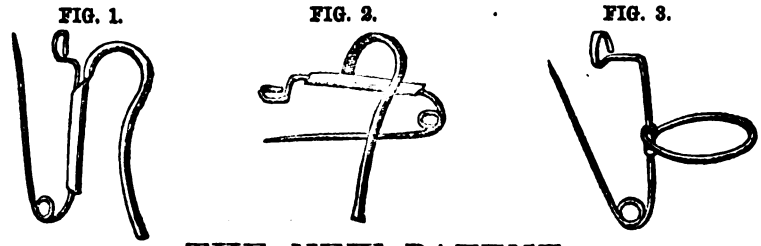

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FROM LIVERPOOL.

Destination.	Ships.	Tons	Class.	To Sail.
Hong Kong & Whampoa ...	Veronica ...	332	A 1 14 yrs.	About Mar.20
Shanghai ...	Patna	335	—	Mar.20
Yokohama ...	Sea Snake ...	425	A 1 14 yrs.	April 1
Singapore ...	Bintang (stm.)	316	A 1 9 yrs.	Mar.15
Batavia & Sourabaya ...	Affghan ...	623	A 1 12 yrs.	Mar.15
Calcutta ...	Cingala ...	799	A 1 14 yrs.	Mar.20
Calcutta ...	Wm.Fairbairn	1293	A 1 12 yrs.	April 5
Bombay ...	Sattara ...	939	A 1 12 yrs.	Mar.10
Mauritius ...	Lugarania ...	235	A 1 8 yrs.	Mar.25

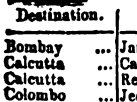
For terms of Freight or Passage apply to MCDIARMID, GREENSHIELDS, and Co., Liverpool.

GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL will despatch the undermentioned clipper SHIPS as under:—

Ports.	Ships.	Class.	Docks.	Date.
Calcutta ...	Varuna ...	A 1 12yrs	E.I.D.	Feb. 20.
Calcutta ..	Far East ...	A 1 13yrs	E.I.D.	Immedte.
Bombay ...	Seaforth ...	A 1 12yrs	E.I.D.	Mar. 10.

For Freight or Passage apply to GRINDLAY and Co., 55, Parliament-street, S.W.; or to GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL, 27, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

INDIA AND CHINA.

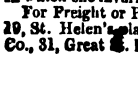


TOULMIN, LIVINGSTON, and Co. will despatch the following splendid VESSELS:—

Destination.	Ships.	Class.	Tns.	Docks.
Bombay ...	James Seddon .	A 1	1445	E.I.D.
Calcutta ...	Carleton ...	A 1	1058	E.I.D.
Calcutta ...	Revenue ...	A 1	797	L.D.
Colombo ...	Jeddo	A 1	323	W.I.D.
Rangoon ...	Adelaide ...	A 1	453	W.I.D.
Masulipatam & Maulmain....	Refuge... ...	5-6th 2-1	803	W.I.D.
Hong Kong & Whampoa ...	Avondhu ...	A 1	394	K.D.

31, Great St. Helen's, E.C.

With immediate Despatch.



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Shanghai ...	Lord Clyde...	A1 13 yr.	E.I.D.	April 5.
Hong Kong & Whampoa ...	Yaratilda ...	A1 14yr.	E.I.D.	With des.
Kanagawa (Yokohama) ...	Gleam ...	A1 12 yr.	W.I.D.	With des.
Nagasaki ...	Lammermuir.	A1 12 yr.	W.I.D	With des.
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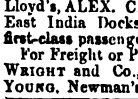
H. Kong & Whampoa	Cathaya ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Manila	A Ship ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Kanagawa	Thos. Blythe	W.I.D.	With des.
Singapore	E. Thornton.	W.I.D.	With des.

Apply at 5, Newman's-court, Cornhill, London; or York-Chambers, 55, King-street, Manchester.



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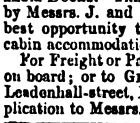
With immediate Despatch.



FOR MASULIPATAM and MAULMEIN, the fine fast-sailing ship REFUGE, 5-6ths 2 1, 803 tons register, J. HOWARD, Commander; West India Docks. This splendid vessel is celebrated for her rapid passages, and the good order in which she invariably delivers her cargoes.

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	Bottles.
Pindaree Chutnee	1s. 6d. and 3s.
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Green Mango, do.	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Cashmere, do.	1s. 6d and 3s.
Lucknow (sweet), do.	1s. 0d. and 3s.
Curry Sauce...	1s. 6d.
Tap, do.	1s. 6d.
Pickled Limes	1s. 6d.
Pickled Mangoes	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Essence of Chillies	1s. 9d.
Tamarind Fish	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Balachow	1s. 6d.
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Guava Jelly	2s. 6d. and 5s.
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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE SEVENTH Volume of this JOURNAL commenced on the 3rd of January, 1865. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 167*.] LONDON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.]

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Nov. 10	Jan. 8	Jan. 18
Nagasaki			„ 13
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			Dec. 8
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	„ 26	„ 19	Jan. 26
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 26
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 27
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Dec. 10	„ 25	Feb. 1
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	Nov. 26	„ 9	Jan. 22
COCHIN-CHINA—			„ 30
Saigon			
SIAM— Bangkok	Dec. 10	„ 30	Feb. 3
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			„ 4
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 4
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Dec. 26	„ 30	Feb. 8
Penang	„ „	„ 28	„ 10

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles per P. and O. Company's steamer Delta, arrived March 18.—From Hong Kong: Mr. E. Livingstone, Captain Baker, three second-class passengers, and four children. From Penang: Mr. J. D. Padday. From Yokohama: Mr. Charles Thorne. From Shangesi: Mr. Laidlaw.

To Southampton per Ripon, expected to arrive March 20.—From Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Marshall, Lieutenants Muslin, R.N., Christie, R.N., and Bullock, R.N., Mr. Taylor.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per French mail, March 19, from Marseilles.—For Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Mayers.

Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, from Southampton, March 20.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. M. Little and infant, Mrs. Robinson. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Medhurst and two infants. To Hong Kong: Mr. Stael, Capt. Melville Suther, R.N. To Ceylon: Miss Sconce, Mr. and Mrs. Watt, Messrs. H. E. Astley, E. Robinson, and R. J. Watt. From Marseilles, March 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Jose Loureiro and friend, Mr. A. Bodger, Mr. Rusden, Mr. Gilman. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt and three infants, Mr. A. Koch, Mr. C. S. Sherwood, Mr. W. H. Potter. To Ceylon: Mr. John Skinner. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Hugo Konig, Mr. H. Overbeck.

Per P. and O. steamer Poonah, from Southampton, March 27.—To Malta (en route to Shanghai): Mr. Latham.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, April 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. R. M. Reddie, Lieut.-Col. T. W. Lovell, C.B., R.E., Mr. C. G. Tatham, Dr. A. M'Kellan, R.N. Mr. W. C. Johnston. To Ceylon: Lieut. and Mrs. J. J. C. Miller and child, Mr. and Mrs. Hill, Mr. H. V. Ellis, Mr. A. Featherstonhaugh. From Marseilles, April 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. H. Peiuter. To Shanghai: Mr. Theotoky.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Dates hence are to Jan. 18. The London mail of Nov. 10 arrived out on Jan. 8.

The matter that had excited most interest in the settlement since the departure of the preceding mail was an action brought before a Japanese judge, and a cross action in Her Majesty's Consular Court, the result of which was anything but creditable to a Mr. A. Edelman, a foreigner trading under British protection. The case was also remarkable for being that in which a great improvement in the administration of justice between British residents and Japanese, effected by Mr. Flowers, Her Majesty's Acting-Consul, was first introduced. Formerly, in cases in which the latter were defendants, they have been heard in all the secrecy of the Japanese Custom-house. The authorities have now been induced to hear and determine such cases (of course by their own officers) in the British Consulate Court. The plaintiff in the case tried by the Japanese judge, with Mr. Consul Flowers assisting, was Mr. Albert Edelman, and the defendant Shebia Seigoro, a Japanese silk merchant. Edelman alleged that, on the morning of the 7th of November, Shebia called at his office with a sample of silk, and he having agreed to purchase it, at 4 o'clock Shebia brought nineteen packages. Edelman said it was then too late to inspect the silk, and it was therefore put into the godown. Shebia requested the payment of $1,000, which was made. The silk was inspected by C. Reinhardt, Magachia, Motogora, and Kaiidso (Edelman's assistant and coolies) when rubbish and stones were found secreted in the silk. Edelman, having separated the stones and rubbish from the silk, preserved 5½ piculs of damaged cut silk, only equal to waste, of the value of only $165, thereby causing a loss to him of $835, and he requested that Shebia should be prosecuted with the utmost severity. Mr. F. Crutchley appeared as attorney for the plaintiff Edelman.

On the complaint being translated to the defendant, and on being asked what he had to say to it, he denied it in the emphatic words—"It's a lie."

After hearing the evidence of the plaintiff and his coolies, and also that of Mr. J. M. Jaquemot, who said that it was not the custom to open silk in the absence of the native merchant, and that he had been acquainted with Shebia for three years and a half, had had many transactions with him, and always found him strictly honest, the Japanese judge said, "My judgment will be that Mr. Edelman shall return the whole of the silk of Shebia Seigoro to that merchant, and when he has done so, the Custom-house will take care that he gets back his $1,000. This is my present opinion, but I will consider how to put it more officially, and will send in my final decision in writing."

That final decision had since been received in the following terms:—

"Mr. Edelman refused to have the nineteen bales delivered to him inspected, and detained them in his godown, when they were inspected the following day. Three or four stones were found among the silk, but the binding of the bundle in which the stones were found differed in form from the binding which our merchant made; therefore our merchant was in doubt, and requested to have all the bales examined in the presence of Mr. Edelman, but he only examined some of the bales and refused to have the others examined, and conveyed them to his godown. As the said act was very unjust, our merchant insisted upon the examination, but instead of complying, the bales were shipped next day by him. The injustice of Mr. Edelman is very conspicuous. Mr. Edelman was not obliged to buy the silk without first satisfying himself as to the weight and quality, and if he thought that the article was inferior, he had only to return it to Seigoro, who would have given back the $1,000. But he did not do that. He exported the silk without examining the other bales, which is unjust, and I am sure you will agree with us in saying this is likewise unjust. The stones which Mr. Edelman brought to the Custom-house were large, whilst the stones which were in the bundles were small; and the said bales were examined with the assistance of Keidsro, Tori-

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itchi, and the servants of Mr. Edelman, Makasiki and Migostiki, after he had sent away Keidsiro for Seigoro, Torikitchi, Dudsiro, Eisock, and Kamekitchi; therefore we beg to request you will summon Mr. Edelman and said witnesses, and examine into the case.

"HAYAKAWA SIOZIRO,
"TOKI OSOOMI-NO-KAMI.

"8th day of 11th month (Dec. 6, 1864)."

In the British Consulate Court, Acting-Consul Flowers was Judge, Messrs. H. Wilgoss and J. Davison sat as assessors, and Shebia Seigoro was plaintiff. He claimed to recover from Edelman the sum of $4,918½ (errors and omissions excepted), balance due on 11 piculs and 147-10 catties of raw silk sold and delivered to defendant on or about the 9th of November, 1864, at the rate of $530 per picul. A Japanese officer attended to watch the proceedings on the part of the plaintiff. Defendant appeared by Mr. Frederick Crutchley, as his attorney. Application was made by defendant for the postponement of the case, which was overruled. Evidence on both sides was again heard. During the proceedings—the Court desired to inspect the defendant's books, and the constable was sent to bring them (the premises being in charge of constables who had been placed there when all the property of the defendant had been attached by the Consul), but returned with the intelligence that no books were to be found. Frederick Cullis deposed—

"I am book-keeper in Mr. Edelman's employ. I have seen no entry of nineteen bales of silk. I was not in Mr. Edelman's employ at the time of this transaction. I made some entries on the 17th in respect to some waste silk ex *Nepaul*. Of course I did not look over the books; I saw no entry of these nineteen bales; only 5½ and 4¼ piculs of waste silk. I saw no entry of buying or selling or shipping of these nineteen bales of silk. I merely made an invoice of 5½ and 4¼ piculs of waste silk sent to London. I do not know from whom it was brought; there were no entries about it. There have been no regular books kept since Mr. Edelman opened business. There was a rough cash book and a ledger, that was all. When I made out the invoices of which I have spoken. I obtained the particulars from Mr. Edelman's own mouth. I can't say what became of the books. I last saw them on the desk, about half-past two, on the day the godown was locked and sealed, when I went to the bank about a dishonoured cheque. I learned there that all Mr. Edelman's funds had been attached by the Consul. When I came back I found all the property had been attached, and an officer in charge. When I went to the house with the constable just now, I asked both Mr. Edelman and Mrs. Edelman where the books were? They said they had not got them, and did not know where they were."

Mr. Crutchley having addressed the Court for Edelman, the Court was cleared, and on the public being readmitted, the following finding was read.—

"The Court having considered the evidence in this case finds for the plaintiff, with costs against the defendant. The Court is satisfied from the evidence that the plaintiff on or about the 8th and 9th of November last sold and delivered to the defendant nineteen bales of silk, weighing between 10 and 11 piculs, at the rate of $530 per picul; and that of the amount due on the said silk plaintiff received only $1,000, leaving the balance claimed by plaintiff still due, namely, £4,918.50. The Court is also satisfied that the silk delivered by the defendant into the hands of Messrs. Wilkin and Robinson for sale or shipment, and upon which those gentlemen have advanced nearly $6,000, was the identical silk delivered by plaintiff to the defendant. It is clear from the amount advanced on that silk, and from the evidence of Mr. Robinson, a competent silk inspector, that the silk was value for the price claimed by plaintiff according to the agreement of sale. The Court finds, without prejudice to any ulterior proceedings which it may be necessary to take in this matter, that the defendant's conduct in this business has been irregular and censurable in the highest degree. If he had the intention of acting fairly and according to the usage of trade, defendant should have called for an assessment on the goods, and have laid the case before proper authority if any serious irregularity had shown itself, instead of which he caused the silk to be shipped in a manner which leaves defendant open to a very serious charge. The Court directs that judgment be entered up for the amount claimed by plaintiff, namely, $4,918.50, together with costs."

Mr. Consul Flowers had given notice that, on examining the voting papers for the election of delegates from whom the British members of the Municipal Council are to be chosen, the following gentlemen were found to stand the highest in the list:—A. J. Macpherson, N. P. Kingdon, F. C. Cornes, J. S. Barber, W. Kemptner, W. Macdonald, H. Willgoss, C. Rickerby, S. J. Gower, G. R. Davies, J. I. Miller.

The following notification, received from the Governor of Kanagawa, was made public on Dec. 31:—

It is hereby notified that as the new Mexican dollar will be received as current coin by foreigners, it will likewise be accepted by us as such. The above notification will be duly circulated in the native town.

(Signed) OFFICERS OF CUSTOM-HOUSE.

To the officers in Yokohama.

The weather had been seasonable, and there was but little sickness in the civil community. Small-pox, however, had been raging to a considerable extent on board some of the men-of-war in harbour, and among the garrison troops.

At the meeting of the British Episcopal Church Society, Messrs. Thomas and Wilkin were appointed trustees, and Mr. Malcolm treasurer, for the ensuing year; and it was determined that in order to relieve the treasurer from the necessity of being under cash advance, the pew rents should be collected at the commencement instead of at the end of the year, and at the same rates as heretofore. A vote of thanks was also passed to the Rev. Mr. Bailey for the trouble he had taken in looking after the making of the seats.

A sum of $2,594.50 had been collected for the sufferers by the late fire at Hommura, and distributed amongst them on the 6th and 7th January. The following acknowledgment had been received by Mr. Consul Flowers:—

I have to tender you my very great thanks for the kindness of the several nationalities in having united to collect so much money for the villagers living beyond the canal, whose houses were burned down by the sparks carried from the fire at English No. 66 (the United Service Club), on the 17th of last month (15th December). I thank you and the others who have taken so much trouble in this matter, of which I have already written to inform our Government. A respectful communication.

(Signed) HAYAKAWA SICJIRO.

10th day 12th month, 1st year of Genji. 7th of January, 1865.

The following is the report of Captain Kreeft, of the barque *Onward*, which was wrecked on the 29th December:—

"On the 27th December, after ten days fearful weather, the ballast shifted, and we were compelled to bear up for Yokohama. On the 29th at noon we were in lon. 142 deg. E., and 36 deg. 29 N., thick wet weather, wind veering from N.E. At 7 P.M. saw white water close ahead, and two minutes after struck; clewed the sails down, but kept them set all night. Wind increased to a gale, and the sea broke over the ship. At 1 A.M. she began to make water, and at daylight it was over her ballast. We were close to the beach, and at 10 A.M. effected a landing, erected a tent, and Mrs. Kreeft and child went on shore with the effects and treasure. I then wrote to Mr. Kingdon at Yokohama. We remained four days in the tent, receiving much kindness from the Japanese, but were at the same time closely watched. We were then removed to rooms in the temple, where we stayed until Saturday, the 7th of January, when H.B.M.'s *Coquette* hove in sight. The captain's gig came for us, and the crew and effects went off in a large boat. The gig had to put back, and did not get alongside until Monday, the 9th, causing us much anxiety, as we thought she must have been lost in the breakers. The Japanese have from first to last shown the greatest kindness and care for us, and they have my sincere and everlasting thanks. I would also tender my thanks to the captain, officers, and crew of H.B.M.'s *Coquette* for their great kindness.—F. C. KREEFT, Master."

The following notifications were issued at the New Year:—

Mr. Alexander Hutchinson Yule is authorised to sign per pro. for Ross, Barber, and Co.

Messrs. Wm. Bourne and Howard Galton have established themselves as Public Tea Inspectors and Commission Agents, also as Auctioneers for the sale of damaged goods, under the firm and style of Bourne, Galton, and Co.

Mr Frederick Horsfall Thompson is authorised to sign per pro. for Macpherson and Marshall.

Theodor Defflis and John Maack have established themselves under the style and firm of Defflis and Co., as Merchants and Commission Agents.

Messrs. A. Mundel and Co., of London, Paris and Shanghai, have established themselves as Merchants, Commission Agents, and General Storekeepers. Mr. E. Gadrat is authorised to sign for the firm at Yokohama.

Mr. Pauw is authorised to sign per pro. for Textor and Co.

V. Aymonin and Co. have established themselves as general Merchants and Commission Agents.

Geo. Smith and Co. have closed their business, and been succeeded by H. G. Farr and Co.

Dr. C. H. D. Visscher has also closed business.

CHINA.

TIEN-TSIN.

A letter from this place dated 8th Dec. states:—There has been but little business doing at this place during the summer, and that little has fallen chiefly to the share of the Chinese, who have been purchasing their goods and opium at Shanghai. A little camels' wool has been expected, as the duty has been reduced, but it does not pay to send any but the best to England; in fact, until trade is carried on directly with the Mongolians themselves, business will remain very slack in Western China. Nothing now will be doing, except a little in opium, until the China new year.

The ice was fast gathering in the river, and all vessels had cleared out but two. The steamer *Yeddo* was to leave on the 9th December. Most of the foreign residents had gone into the interior for the winter.

SHANGHAI.

The English Mail of the 26th November arrived out on the 19th January. The dates are down to the 26th. The following is rather a gloomy picture of the settlement:—

The attention of the public has lately been directed to the forlorn condition of numbers of foreigners who, from various causes, have been for a length of time unemployed, and know not from day to day where to find food to sustain life. Cast on this desolate shore, without money, without friends,

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without a possibility of obtaining honest labour, these poor wretches fall victims to sickness, starvation, and eventually death. The climate, against which the wealthy are able to defend themselves by taking ordinary precautions in the matters of food, drink, and clothing, finds in the destitute foreigner a victim utterly unable to resist its insidious advances. Scantily clothed, he is obliged to lie in sheds and outhouses which do not shelter his shivering body from the poisonous night air. Hungry and faint, he is compelled to eat food which itself carries the seeds of disease with it, and to swallow such noxious stimulants as his scanty resources enable him from time to time to obtain. The nature of those stimulants is known to many of our readers. Brandy, so called, which is nothing but arrack slightly coloured; whisky, in which the worst Chinese samshu is the principal element, and gin mingled with the mineral oils. Such are the fluids which famishing foreign outcasts are compelled to drink in order to obtain a fictitious strength. The effects of such fluids on the coats of the stomach are manifest. A few short weeks suffice to lay the poisoned victim in a pauper's grave, or, as we fear is more frequently the case, to dry up the springs of life suddenly in some native place of low resort, where fear of consequences incites the owners to dispose quietly of the body. Such is the state of things in Shanghai. A year or two ago such a phenomenon as a distressed foreigner was unknown. We had, it is true, plenty of rowdies whose everyday-life necessitated a certain amount of misery in their domestic arrangements, but we never saw a foreigner of any shade or colour clothed in rags and imploring the passer-by for temporary assistance. Yet this is a sight which may now every day meet our eyes. The general stagnation of business has thrown numberless men out of employment, and thus, while the newspapers are filled with notices of "employment wanted," and the mercantile offices are besieged by men anxious to obtain work of any kind, the lower classes are in the same predicament without any means whatsoever of obtaining an honourable livelihood.

It is announced that the French authorities have, contrary to all the Foreign Consuls, allowed gambling on payment of license fees.

The Shanghai Gas Company have made a call of 25 taels on the new shares.

From Hankow we learn that the Mahomedan rebels have invaded the province of Honan and captured the city of Kai-fung-fu; so it appears that the efforts which are described as having been made to check them have as yet met with little success.

No decision has been as yet made public as to the building of a new church, save that the church is to be proceeded with as soon as possible. The plans brought out by the new chaplain in November last have been revised, as they did not in some points suit the requirements of the place, but they have not yet been finally approved of.

We have been favoured with the following report of a rock in the China sea not mentioned in any of the charts. Our informant is Captain E. Boudrouct, of the French ship *Robur*. His account is as follows:—

On the 28th December, at 10 A.M., I was off the Island of Formosa, with a strong breeze from the north, and dull weather. I took sights, and subsequently at noon I made careful observations. At 2.30 P.M. I noticed at the distance of about four or five miles a group of rocks about twenty metres high. At 2 o'clock they were bearing S. W. ¼ S. They seemed perpendicular on all sides, the summits being of a uniform height, broken in two or three places. The side which I saw seemed between eighty or 100 metres in length. At 3.30 P.M. I lost sight of them in a fog. At 4 o'clock I came in sight of the island Koumi, of the Majicosima group, when I rectified my position. The position of these rocks is lat. N. 24 deg. 09', long. E. 122 deg. 33'. They are probably the same as those seen by the *Langdale* in 1854, which are placed almost correctly on the chart with respect to longitude, but 13' too far north.

The Consular Court at this place has been engaged with an inquiry into the case of the French ship *General Meslin*, which was run into and sunk by the steamer *Promise*. The result of these actions was as follows:—The Court awarded to M. Parnet, $1,133 personal effects, $157 for loss on perishable stores, $275 for merchandise lost, and $150 for detention—in all, $1,715. To M. Pinaud, $881; to M. Desvachez, $270; M. Dubuquois, his claim in full, $495; M. Loquerier, in full, $460. The main damages, being for loss of vessel and cargo, have not yet been assessed, although by the judgment given in the first cause heard, the *Promise* was, on account of her faulty steering, declared liable for the damage incurred, subject, of course, to final assessment by the Court.

The cause Somerville, Primrose, and Co. *v.* Fletcher and Co., was commenced on 13th January. The following, supported by the evidence of sundry witnesses, shows the plaintiffs' case, as they put it through their counsel before the Court:—

M. Myburgh stated that, on September 8, Messrs. Fletcher and Co. made a contract with Messrs. Somerville, Primrose, and Co. for the supply of 5,000 bales of cotton at 19 tls. 2m. 5c. per picul. Mr. Brand, on the part of Messrs. Fletcher and Co., refused to accept the sample bale, saying they would prefer to wait for new season's cotton; then shortly afterwards another lot was offered, which was refused on the ground of being partly old and partly new. October 1, 100 bales of new season cotton were tendered and accepted, and Messrs. Fletcher and Co. informed the plaintiffs that if the remaining 4,900 bales was of the same quality they should be satisfied. It seemed that Messrs. Fletcher and Co. had a contract with Messrs. Turner and Co. to supply them with cotton. Some days after 30 bales were tendered, the delivery of which was delayed on account of the absence of Mr. Brand, Messrs. Fletcher and Co.'s inspector. During this delay the mail arrived with the news of the convention in the United States, and the consequent fall in the price of cotton in England, and Messrs. Turner and Co. refused to accept the cotton. It was then agreed to appoint arbitrators, the question to be decided being whether the cotton was up to muster. The arbitration took place October 15th. It was decided that the cotton was not up to sample, and it was agreed that Messrs. Fletcher and Co. should send a bale as muster. After the fifteenth application was made for this bale, and it could not be obtained, a bale was then sent by Messrs. Somerville, Primrose, and Co. as a muster. It seems Messrs. Turner and Co. refused this, and, in consequence, Messrs. Fletcher and Co. did the same. Mr. Myburgh was prepared to show that Messrs. Turner and Co. had an object in refusing the cotton, as the price soon went down to 16 taels. With regard to the quality of the cotton, he considered that the "best dry Shanghai cotton" meant the best that could be procured in the market, in large quantities for shipment. A verdict was ultimately given for the defendants with costs.

In a cause heard on the 17th of January, Dow and Co. *v.* Moses and Co., the claim was for $2,000, for two boxes of treasure, alleged to have been shipped on February 13th, in the steamer *Feima*, by Messrs. Moore and Co., of Ningpo, and consigned to Messrs. Dow and Co., but never received by them. On the part of the defendants, if was alleged that they did not promise to deliver, that they had delivered the treasure, and that, by the negligence of the plaintiffs, the defendants are freed from any liability. Verdict for plaintiffs, $1,500 with costs.

We noticed lately the existence of a man of immense stature in Shanghai, known as "The Fychow Giant." We have now to announce his probable arrival by the next mail, in charge of Mr. Marquis Chisholm, the pianist, and subjoin as a curiosity an appeal he has published to the people of Europe:—

THE GREAT FYCHOW GIANT'S APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE OF EUROPE.

"Rulers and people of the Western Countries.

"I am making preparations to leave for a time my native home in the Celestial East. I am restless and fond of travel, yet I will try to rest with you for a little time, when I have come to you. Your countrymen here have told me that I must go, and I am anxious.

"For what signifieth the height, and strength, and weight and greatness of my body, if my head and heart be empty of all knowledge of the vastness of great Joss's world.

"I, therefore, send my chin-chin to you, and in one other moon I will be with you. "CHANG.

"Shanghai, China, 24th day, 12th moon, 30th year Tung-Chi,—January 20th, 1864."

FORMOSA.

H.M.S. *Swallow* has lately been executing a much needed survey of the Pescadore Islands, and of the channels between them and the west coast of Formosa. None of these islands exceeds three hundred feet in height above the level of the sea, while many are mere coral reefs; and they are, therefore, especially dangerous to shipping. On the opposite Formosan coast sandbanks only a few feet above the water are not less dangerous. When it is added that tides run very strongly through the channel, and that no harbour is known on this part of the island, the careful avoidance of the passage by mariners so long as it was unsurveyed is not surprising. Ships, notwithstanding, are sometimes compelled to pass through it, and wrecks frequently happen. The chart now being compiled on board the *Swallow* will be an invaluable guide.

HONG KONG.

The English mail of December 10 arrived out on the 25th of January. The dates are now down to the morning of the 1st of February. There is very little news to add since our publication on the 8th inst., per French mail.

The *China Mail* on the military changes says:—"Simultaneously with these changes, we may mention that the *Tamar* is expected daily from Gibraltar, with the 2nd battalion of H.M.'s 9th Regiment for service in this part of the East."

"Some military changes may be noticed. The coloured regiments at present stationed in China are on the point of being withdrawn, and the different staff departments in this part of the East are to be immediately reduced in strength." Shanghai

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and Taku are to be relinquished as military garrisons, while, following upon these changes, the 'Indian Allowances,' which have hitherto existed, greatly to the comfort and well-being of both officers and men are to be withdrawn. This is rather hard lines for the troops stationed here, and the proceeding seems in a manner to stultify the authorities at the War Department in having before considered such allowances necessary, as, indeed, most people in this most expensive of all parts of Asia consider them to have been. Five years ago 'Tentage Allowances' were withdrawn under circumstances of extreme hardship, the order being made retrospective and arrears accordingly called up. Surely Mr. Gladstone does not mean to improve his budget by means of this kind!"

The *Hindostan* has sailed for England with the Battery of Artillery who have so long and so honourably served in this part of the East. It is not empty praise to say that a better behaved set of men never served on this side of India. The theatres still continue to receive considerable attention; but the natural effect of the law of supply and demand appears to be thinning the attendances in some measure. Both companies, however, have occasionally good houses, and both deserve them. The Circus, also, gave a performance this week, under H.E. the Governor's patronage.

On the article which appeared in our last issue on the subject of gas we have the following:—

(To the Editor of the *Evening Mail.*)

Hong Kong, January 24, 1865.

DEAR SIR,—The remarks on the relative cost of oil and gas in your issue of the 20th are very pertinent and opportune; and at the rates proposed at present to be charged by the gas company, they may be quite sure that very few will decide to substitute gas for oil.

The case may be put to the gas company even more strongly than you have urged it. There is in the minds of many here a considerable prejudice against gas. Some dread the heat it will emit; others anticipate accidents consequent upon the proverbial carele-sness of Chinese servants. I do not share in either of these fears,, because of the improved system or ventilation which exists in our houses, as compared with residences in colder climates. I must say, however, that I participate in a decided and, as it appears to me, a well-grounded prejudice against the preliminary expenses attending the substitution of gas, in the shape of laying it on, whether to be paid directly by myself as landlord, or indirectly as a tenant by an increase to my rent. I also join in my neighbours' anticipations that if they lay on gas, their chandeliers, lamps, globes, &c., will be worthless except as adjuncts to the interesting and exciting game of "Aunt Sally."

The foregoing objections to the substitution of good for ill "lustration" are formidable enough without the additional difficulty of increased cost; and even if these objections are set aside by the rich and luxurious, to whom expense is no object, and who are willing to pay any money provided they can secure a better mode of lighting their mansions, such objections to the adoption of gas will be much greater among those of moderate incomes, and will be fatal to the use of gas among the Chinese.

I can only imagine that the company, having heard that the relative expenses in the East as compared with the West are as dollars to shillings have instructed their agent to charge four and a-half dollars per 1,000 feet because the London rate for that quantity of gas is four shillings and sixpence. If so, there can be little doubt that they have made a great mistake, and before very long they will discover that they must adopt a rate which will be within every householder's ability to pay, and thus render gas, as it is in London and other places, not only the best but cheapest mode of light.—I remain, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

OIL-GAS.

The *Evening Mail* of the 16th Jan. has an article upon the manner in which the funds of the Union Chapel have been managed, and complains that the committee had $10,000 lent out on interest the while they were soliciting fresh contributions for the purpose of building a new place of worship. The Rev. Dr. Legge, who is rather disparagingly adverted to, is a man of the most undoubted integrity, and has full and sufficient authority to sell the old building to defray the expenses of the new one. The whole affair is out of the control of the London Missionary Society, through whose instrumentality the first was built.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

We have dates to the 8th February. The French mail, with dates from London to the 17th December, reached on the 23rd January, and the regular London mail of the 26th December arrived on the 30th January by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Behar.*

The past fortnight had been a very quiet and unimportant one. The Chinese festival of their New Year commenced upon the 27th January, and had continued, with a few days of intermission, down to the time of the departure of the mail, being scarcely then finished. The Chinese compose three-fifths of the population, numbering, as they do, about 55,000 souls; and as they are by far the most extensive traders, this festival of theirs necessarily offers a considerable interruption to business. In addition to those on account of the Chinese festival, Monday, the 6th February, the anniversary of the foundation of the settlement, was observed as a holiday by the banks and all the public offices.

The temperature had been excessively high during the fortnight, and there had been no rainfall. A considerable amount of sickness had in consequence prevailed.

Two Courts of Inquiry had sat—one to inquire into the loss of the British barque *Canada*, Captain Orr, lost in the China Sea on the 24th December last, and the other to inquire as to the loss of the British steamer *Luzon*, Captain McGowan, on the coast of Luzon, near Manila.

The following notices have appeared in the *Government Gazette*:—The Governor has been pleased to grant Captain F. L. Playfair, assistant resident councillor, Malacca, leave of absence for ten days, for the purpose of visiting Singapore, to appear before a medical committee, preparatory to applying for furlough to Europe. The Governor has been pleased to make the following appointment as a temporary arrangement:—Mr. F. L. Baumgarten, to officiate as police magistrate and commissioner of the Court of Requests at Malacca.

PENANG.

For some days past (states the *Gazette*) the peace of the station has been broken by a feud between two of the principal Chinese secret societies, the Toh-peh-kong and the Ghi Hin. So far as we have yet learned, the former appear to have been the aggressors. Some time ago a new society called Ho Hap Siah was formed of separatists from Ghi Hin and others. The houses of members of this society were placarded with pieces of red paper having some figures engraved on them. It is said that this was to protect them from being attacked, and that if any of these houses be plundered the loss will be restored to the owners twofold. When men come into the streets and roads with the determination of fighting, they are known to each other by a piece of red cloth tied round their right wrists. If any are killed in the fight their relatives are to receive $400. Those who are sent to jail are to receive $4; if any were assaulted $120 a month for themselves or their families. Boats were sent out into the channel to waylay and attack boats belonging to men of the hostile society. We hear that at Telo' Ayer Tawar some violence was displayed by Malays, members of the Toh-peh kong, to Ghi Hin men. The first step taken by the Resident-Councillor on Thursday afternoon was to cause the head-men of the two societies to be summoned to serve as special constables and patrol the disturbed streets in company with the police. Yesterday morning he induced Khu Chau Sin, Ong Ah Ho, Tan Hap Swi, Neo Cham, Naina Merican Noordin, and two others, to act as mediators, and they were entirely engaged in putting a stop to further violence pending a settlement. Large bodies of peons, supported by a detachment of sepoys, paraded Bishop-street, Pinang-street, and the adjacent streets.

Last night (Feb. 3rd), it was rumoured that a disturbance was expected at Jalutong, and the Deputy Commissioners with a party of police proceeded to the spot. At first it appeared that all was quiet according to the account of the peon at Jalutong, who did not seem to know much about it. However just as the police came in sight, a Chinaman, who was dragging a curious sort of chest along the road, suddenly stopped, and seizing two muskets ran into the plantations on the sea side of the road. Finding himself hotly pursued he threw away the muskets; but as he emerged into the road some five or six hundred yards beyond the place where he left his small cart, he fell into the hands of the Deputy Commissioner, who was very opportunely at hand to receive him. One of his guns, loaded, was found close at hand, the other however was not recovered. This capture was the first instalment of the evening, and information being received of houses not far off in which Chinamen were lying in wait with their weapons, a search was immediately resolved on. The first seizure was of a stockade, constructed of sand bags, and two 4-pounder guns loaded nearly to the muzzle, together with several muskets, double and single barrelled, all loaded. Proceeding further, together with some of the headmen of the Chinese tribes, Oh Weekee, Tan Tek and Lee Coyin, another and a much larger and better constructed stockade was met with, and one of the men guarding it fired his musket, which, happily for the person first over, missed fire. The man, however, was soon overpowered, and an extensive seizure made of loaded muskets and spears. This last miniature fort was constructed of barrels filled with sand,

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with sand bags atop, and in the form of a semicircle, forming very efficient protection to persons using small arms. The whole was destroyed, the barrels broken and upset, and the bags ripped up. Across the road and on the sea side a house was come upon, which contained a quantity of material stolen during these riots, and consisting of rice, paddy, tea, tobacco, lahksa, joss paper, and many other articles, which were identified by one of the Chinamen present, and which was placed under custody. Seldom has Penang been the witness of such scenes, and too many words of reprobation cannot be passed upon them. Should this state of matters go on, there will be little else for its prevention than a total disarming of the Chinese. During the last few days there has been a detachment of sepoys patrolling the town; the police have had th t fully occupied in endeavouring to quell these riots. A number of convicts have been added to the above, and the disturbed state of the Chinese community still continues.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

BERNARD—On the 27th Feb., at the residence of her father, S. Saul, Esq., Carlisle, the wife of Capt. Bernard, of the P. and O. Company's Service, of a son.

BROWNE—On the 26th Feb., at Berrylands, Surbiton-hill, the wife of Edwd. P. G. Browne, Esq., Commander in the P. and O. Company's Service, of a daughter.

CRIBB—On the 13th Jan., at Fuh-chau, China, Josephine, the wife of the Rev. Arthur W. Cribb, C.M.S., of a son.

CUNNINGHAM—On the 26th Jan., at Pecheli-terrace, Elgin-street, the wife of John Cunningham, Engineer, of a son.

HALKETT—On the 13th Jan., at Hankow, the wife of L. W. Halkett, of a daughter.

LAIRD—On the 3rd March, at Claughton, Birkenhead, the wife of John Laird, jun., Esq., of a daughter.

LYALL—On the 8th March, at 14, Gloucester-square, the wife of George Lyall, Esq., late of Hong Kong, of a son.

SOAMES—On the 19th Jan., at Hong Kong, the wife of W. Soames, commander P. and O. Company, of a daughter, stillborn.

MARRIAGES.

SCYMGEOUR—STEELE.—On the 2nd March, at Forfar, by the Rev. W. G. Shaw, incumbent of St. John's Episcopal Church, John Sturrock Scymgeour, Esq., Manager Oriental Bank Corporation, Singapore, to Susan, second daughter of John Steele, of 3, Castle-street, Forfar. No cards.

VARCO—GREEN.—On the 28th Feb., at St. Giles', Camberwell, by the Rev. Robert Tapson, M.A., William Brown Varco, of China, to Ellen, only surviving daughter of the late Thomas Green, of Westerham, Kent

HARLAND—WILSON.—On the 8th March, at Norton Church, Derbyshire, by the Rev. H. H. Pearson, vicar, assisted by the Rev. Francis Wilson, rector of Armitage, Staffordshire, both uncles of the bride, the Rev. Albert Augustus Harland, M.A., Oxon, curate of St. Michael's, Chester-square, London, son of William Harland, Esq., M.D., Scarborough, to Louisa Ellen, youngest daughter of Henry Wilson, Esq., Westbrook, Sheffield.

WRIGHT—COLLETT.—On the 21st Jan., at Shanghai, by the Rev. C. H. Butcher, M.A., Consular Chaplain, William Algernon, eldest son of Rev. Dr. Wright, Colchester, Essex, to Bertha Emily, youngest daughter of Rev. Woodthorpe Collett, Brigatwell, Suffolk. No cards.

DEATHS.

DODGE—On the 8th Jan., on passage from Shanghai to Hong Kong, Mr. Dodge, 3rd Engineer of the steamer Ordhamme.

FINDLAY—On the 7th March, at Surbiton-hill, Surrey, George Findlay, Esq., late of Messrs. Fletcher and Co., China.

GUTHRIE—On the 12th March, at 8, Upper Wimpole-street, Alexander Guthrie, Esq., late of Singapore, aged 65 years.

HANSON—On the 29th Jan., at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, Edward Hanson, seaman.

MACKENZIE—On the 23rd Jan., at the Exchange Hotel, Hong-que, David Mackenzie, of Tairs, Rosshire, aged 28 years.

MARBLE—On the 22nd Jan., at Shanghai, Danforth Marble, United States America, aged 32 years.

MILLAN—On the 29th Jan., at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, William Millan, seaman.

MORISON—On the 4th March, at Hastings, John Scott Morison, grandson of the late Rev. John Morison, D.D., LL.D., minister of Trevor Chapel, Brompton, aged 18 years and 3 months.

GREENWOOD—On the 27th Jan., at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, John Greenwood, Private 67th Regt., aged 28 years.

TARRANT—On the 14th Jan., of inflammation of the lungs, Martha King Helena, youngest daughter of W. Tarrant, Esq., of the "Friend of China."

WITHERS—On the 24th Jan., at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, John Withers, Private 20th Regt., aged 34 years.

WOOLLETT—On the 4th March, Edith, the beloved wife of Wm. Sanford Woollett, Esq., of Havre, aged 24 years.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—CANTON.—The business done in this market during the fortnight has been chiefly confined to common and medium Canton teas, whereof settlements have been made on easier terms. Only one chop of Country Congous has been settled at 20 tls., being about 1½d. over last home rates. The holders of this description will be heavy losers because of the excessive transit fees, and are consequently very firm. The supplies of Country Green for the season to date approach 15,000 pkgs., the Hysons being for shipment to India. The rates for Canton made teas, both Scented and Green, have declined; the Gunpowders have been for shipment to France. The settlements of the fortnight are reported as under:—Congous: 1 chop Oonam at 20 taels, and 400 half-chests Canton packed at 16 taels. Scented Teas: 1,500 boxes Orange Pekoe, at 20 taels to 32 taels, and 7,500 boxes Caper, at 15 taels to 28 taels. Country Greens: 173 half-chests Hyson, at 66 taels. Canton Greens: 1,400 boxes Gunpowder, at 11 taels to 18 taels. The unsold stock on the market is stated as under. Congous: Country, 25 chops Canton packed, 3,000 half-chests; Oolongs, 4,000 half-chests; Scented Orange Pekoe, 6,000 boxes; Scented Caper, 10,000 boxes. Country Greens, 15,000 packages. Canton Greens, 20,000 packages.

FOOCHOW.—There has been little doing during the past fortnight, partly owing to the proximity of the Chinese new year, and partly to the firmness of holders. Common kinds, though in less demand, are fully maintained, whilst flavoury kinds have advanced the last day or two 5 mace to one tael.

KIUKIANG.—Advices from this port come down to the 16th instant. Green Teas: Since the 31st ultimo about 6,000 half-chests had been settled at a decline of 3 taels on common and 1 tael on fine teas, the supply of the latter class being comparatively small. Should teamen come to terms, a large business would probably be done after the holidays were over. Quotations were—Moyune, fine, 34 to 35 tls. per picul, common, 29 to 31 tls. per picul; Fychow, medium to fair, 27 to 30 tls. per picul, common, 26 to 27 tls. per picul; total settlements and shipments, 57,900 half-chests or 3,206.200 lbs., against 166.800 half-chests or 8,418.900 lbs. last year. Black Teas: One chop of the three on the market had been shipped on to Shanghai on native account, leaving two in stock. Quotations were as before.

HANKOW.—The settlements for the fortnight amount to only three chops, making the total for the season 727 chops, and leaving a stock on the market of four chops of a very undesirable description. The teamen evince no inclination to accept a reduction, and the present asking prices offer no inducement to Exporters to operate. Quotations are—Oonams, 12 to 15 tls.; Oopacks, 18 to 20 tls.

YOKOHAMA.—Better classes of medium and fine teas have arrived, but rather on a limited scale. Some few days back an easier feeling pervaded the market inducing purchases both for England and America, a few fair parcels of medium being bought at $23.50 to $26.00 per picul. Teamen, however, soon evinced more firmness, demanding former rates, and although prices are high and far beyond last season's, a fair business continues at quotations. Settlements for the month are estimated at 5,100 piculs, and unsold stock about 3,000 piculs. Common, $12.00 to $15.00 per picul; good do., $15.50 to $23.00 per picul; medium, $23.50 to $27.00 per picul; fine, $27.50 to $31.00 per picul; finest, $33.00 to $40.00 per picul. Total exports from 1st June to date, 3,743,526 lbs. against 3,683,188 lbs. same period last season.

SHANGHAI.—Black: Transactions have again been very trifling, and prices remained unchanged. Settlements have been 2,700 chests of fair to good Black Leaf, at 16 to 23 taels, Re-shipments amount to 6,100 chests the stock is reduced to 4,200 packages. Quotations: Ningchow and Oopacks, medium to good, 24 to 25 taels. Oonams, medium to good, 21 to 24 taels. Fair Black Leaf, 17 to 20 taels per picul.

RAW SILK.—The steamer from Japan to Shanghai, brought 835 bales, which, with a very trifling quantity shipped at Shanghai, comes on by this mail. Shanghai: Throughout the fortnight we have had a heavy market, th e transactions barely amounting to 500 bales. Prices may be considered the same as last mail, but as there has been so little business during the past few days, they must be looked upon as nominal. Contrary to the usual custom at this season of the year, there is an abundance of Sycee amongst the Chinamen, which allows the dealers to remain firm holders of silk, there being no inducement to realise, with the unusually low rate of interest. The unsold stock is estimated at 1,500 to 2,000 bales, characterised by a scarcity of good silk. The Japan mail steamer arrived on the 23rd inst. with 853 bales. Prices at Yokohama are quoted the same as last mail, and the stock is reported as from 400 to 500 piculs. The settlements of the fortnight are reported at 500 bales against 268 bales corresponding fortnight last season, 1,700 bales the season before, and 3,400 bales season 1861-62. The present stock is computed at 2,000 bales against 5,000 bales same period last season, and 4,400 bales season before.

YOKOHAMA.—Since the date of last report, the native dealers having shown a little more inclination to meet the market, a fair business has been done at slightly lower prices. Owing to the approach of the holidays, the Japanese bring their produce forward rather more freely, and, being anxious to close their accounts, we anticipate that some little concession may be further obtained for some few days to come. The best descriptions of all kinds are becoming extremely scarce, and are held with a comparative firmness; but the medium and inferior qualities are plentiful. The unsold stock now on the market amounts to about 700 or 800 bales. The total settlements to date may be estimated at 9,600 bales, against 13,250 same time last season. Ida, best, none; medium, 690 to 700; inferior, 670 to 700. Mybash and Sinchu. Best parcels offering, 690 to 700; medium, 670 to 680; inferior, 640 to 660.

RAW COTTON.

CANTON.—The sales of the fortnight are reported as under:—Shanghai, 1,074 bags at tls. 18.5 to 18.9; Ningpo, 1,267 bags at tls. 19.3 to 19.8; Shanghai, 948 bags at tls. 17.4 to 17.9; Japan, 272 bags at tls. 20 to 20.5.

HONG KONG.—The unsettled state of the Liverpool market with respect to this article has caused many exporters hence to retire from the trade. The local demand has continued sufficiently large to absorb the small imports from the North. Rates have been maintained, and consequently little has been shipped to Liverpool. The quotations are:—Shanghai, $25 to $26; Ningpo, $27 to $28; Japan, $31.

SHANGHAI.—The news brought by the English and French mails caused the rise last noted in this staple to continue till it reached its highest point about four days since when good dry Shanghai was worth taels 18.60 per picul. To the disappointment of holders, however, no large business was transacted, and the price has again fallen and closes weak at taels 17.50 to 18. The news of the advance brought large supplies in from the country, and there is a very considerable stock on the market, requiring however great care in selection.

YOKOHAMA.—Former advices in this connection may well be confirmed. Home markets still offering no inducement for operations at prices at which dealers seem willing to bring the staple forward, hence but a few small parcels have been offered at nominally quoted rates, while natives still assert commensurate prices to those asked can be obtained for their own consumption, the truth of which it is diffisult to ascertain or contradict, thereby implying that the crop has failed, to some extent, as last season's remunerative prices must have caused a much larger portion of land to be placed under cultivation, for that which proved so important an article of export.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—Does not meet with much inquiry at the hands of the dealers, and although quotations show for some qualities an advance upon previous quotations of about $3 per picul, the amount of business reported is

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confined to the settlement of 70 bales. Grey Shirtings: There is moderate amount of inquiry for these manufactures, which are at present in very small stock, but the dealers do not show any inclination to purchase beyond immediate requirements, and the transactions of the past fortnight do not exceed 4,000 pieces. Quotations show an advance of about 10 cents per piece upon the prices previously current, and importers are now demanding higher rates. White Shirtings: There is not much alteration noticeable in the value of these goods, but they are now beginning to attract more attention, the sales of the past fortnight amounting to 1,000 pieces. T-Cloths are in considerable stock, and have for some time past remained without much inquiry; recently, however, they have been in rather more request, and as their price is low when compared with the value ruling for Long Cloths, it is not unlikely that we may see a considerable improvement in their value when business is fairly resumed. The settlements effected during the past fortnight amount to 5,000 pieces. American Drills: The market is quite bare of these goods. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: The sales of these goods reported during the past fortnight amount to 850 pieces Dyed Shirtings, and 400 pieces of Coloured Brocades, at $2.50 per piece. Damasks: There have not been any sales of these goods reported. Chintzes: 250 pieces have found buyers. Handkerchiefs have been placed to the extent of 1,200 dozens at previous rates.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: These goods remain without any inquiry, and there has not been a single sale reported during the past fortnight. Long Ells remain at the prices previously quoted, with a moderate amount of business doing in the article; the sales of the fortnight amount to 1,000 pieces. Camlets have been in moderate request at the quotations previously current, and the settlements of these goods amount to 540 pieces. Lastings: 300 pieces have found buyers at about the prices previously current. Blankets: There are not any sales to notice.

METALS.—Iron Flat, &c.: The price of nail rod iron, both here and in the Canton market, shows a material advance upon the quotations given under date of last report, and it has also been dealt in to a considerable extent, the sales of the past fortnight being put up at 2,400 piculs and 2,800 piculs respectively. Lead: Quotations remain as under the date of last circular, with sales in this colony to the extent of 240 piculs. In Canton, where prices also show no improvement, the sales are put at 1,400 piculs. Tin: 675 slabs have changed hands. Tin-plates have been placed to the extent of 468 boxes.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.		6s. 6¼d. to 6s. 7d.	6s. 6d. to 6s. 7d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 8d. to 4s. 8¼d.	4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.
At Singapore	6	ditto	4s. 9d.	4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d.
At Manila	6	ditto	4s. 5d.	4s. 6d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 307 to 308 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 221 to 222 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 8 to 9 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 72 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 27 to 28 discount.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From Amsterdam: Jan. 11, Petronella Catharina.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Jan. 9, Polmaise; 24, Alexandrina. From Sunderland: 15, Empress Eugenie. From Cardiff: 20, Blackwood.

At FOOCHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From London: Jan. 16, Annie Archbell; 21, Borealis; 29, Fiery Cross. From Liverpool: 24, Tricolor. From Glasgow: 16, Tamana. From Newcastle: 21, Orion. From Sunderland: 21, Camoens. From Hamburg: 23, Antelope. From Boston: 25, Waterloo.

At MANILA.—From London: Jan. 16, Angela. From Liverpool: 18, Espana.

At SINGAPORE.—From Liverpool: Jan. 28, Ellen Sears; Feb. 1, Bentinck; 3, Velos; 5, Princess Dagmar. From Cardiff: 2, Arab. From Sunderland: 4, Ocean Pearl; 6, Antrim. From Shields: 5, Britannia. From Hamburg: 3, Marie Lucie.

At PENANG.—From Plymouth: Jan. 11, Johore (str.). From Sunderland: 20, Antrim.

At BANGKOK.—None.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—None.

From SHANGHAI.—For Liverpool: Jan. 19, Spes.

From FOOCHOW.—For London: Dec. 26, Sydney Eggers; Jan. 2, Star of the North; 15, Dilkhoosh. For Falmouth: 9, Kite.

From HONG KONG.—For Portsmouth: Jan. 26, Hindostan.

From MANILA.—For Falmouth: Jan. 17, Monarchy.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Feb. 7, Hawthorn. For Liverpool: Jan. 27, Lady Bowen. For Montreal: 31, Zizine.

From PENANG.—For London: Feb. 2, Avalanche.

From BANGKOK.—None.

VESSELS LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Gabalva. For New York: Benefactress.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Beatrice, Benvenue, Belle, and Naomi. For Liverpool: Carrizal, John Nicholson, Stuart Wortley, Spirit of Trade, Sailors Home, Constance, and Her Majesty. For New York: Fenella.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Laurel (full), J. M. Joshua, Maiden Queen. For New York: Queen of the Seas.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Lochnagar. For Liverpool: Lockett, and Prince Arthur. For New York: Diana, and Europa.

At MANILA.—For New York: Alhambra.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Alexandra, British Crown, Betty Perlbash, La Serana, and Norval. For Liverpool: Springwood, St. Magnus, and Sharpshooter. For Channel: F. O. Blohm, and George Heinrich. For Nantes: Emile. For Gibraltar: F. O. Lotus. For Boston: Rocket.

At PENANG.—For London: Dunmore.

At BANGKOK.—None.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

YOKOHAMA.—To London and Liverpool: Tea and cotton, £3. 10s. to £4; silk, £5 per ton of 50 cubic feet.

SHANGHAI.—To London: Tea and silk, £2. 15s. per ton.

FOOCHOW.—To London: £2 per ton.

HONG KONG AND CANTON.—According to the circular of Geo. Holmes, the only charter for Europe is the Fidelio (292 tons), at £2. 15s. per ton, the Europa (130), at £2. 15s., and Diana (322), at £3, both to New York. Some charters have taken place to load at rice ports to Europe at £3. 10s. to £4 per ton. To Rangoon and back the rates are 65 cents; Maulmain, 70 cents; Bangkok, 40 cents per picul.

MANILA.—There are again no settlements for the U.K. to report, but a few moderate-sized vessels could now obtain cargoes at £3 for sugar, and £4. 5s. per ton for hemp.

SINGAPORE.—To London: £2. 15s. dead weight, and £3. 10s. per ton light freight.

PENANG.—The Dunmore is the only vessel on the berth for Europe, and is loading light freight at £3. 5s. per ton.

BANGKOK.—The freight market continues exceedingly depressed.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—Jan. 10, Stad Assen, from London to Batavia; 13, Esperance, Bordeaux to Saigon; Java packet, Amsterdam to Batavia; 19, Wm. Dixon, Liverpool to Singapore; 20, Turandat, Hamburg to Singapore; Charlotte Jane, Falmouth to Singapore.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—5, Maria Agusta, Singapore to Copenhagen; 12, Comet, Japan to London: Courier, Shanghai to London; 13, Star of the North, Foochow to London; Anglo-Saxon, Shanghai to London; Jas. Vennicombe, Hong Kong to Liverpool; O'Thigen, Manila to London; 15, Bedfordshire, Shanghai to London; Sydney Eggers, Foochow to London; Mercator, Sarawak to Liverpool; 17, Maury, Singapore to London; 18, Anna Helen, Shanghai to London; Canadian, Shanghai to London; 19, Corneille David, Manila to London; and, 22, Spirit of the Deep, Shanghai to Liverpool.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—Jan. 8, Game Cock, Manila to New York; 19, Catharina, Shanghai to New York; 26, Velverdade, Japan to New York; and 25, Eastern Chief, Shanghai to Montreal.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—March 13, at Falmouth, from Macao, Nornen; 10, off the Lizard, from Banjoewangie, Johanna; 14, at Deal, from Colombo, Elizabeth Ann; 11, at Texel, from Batavia, Elshout; 12, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Noach; Feb. 21, at Havana, from Macao, Joseph; March 14, at Youghal, from China, M. S. Elphinstone; 14, at Portsmouth, from Ceylon, H.M.S. Orontes.

DEPARTURES.—March 13, from Liverpool for Shanghai, Sarah Scott; 14, for Galle, Blanche Moore; for Shanghai, Sea Mew.

SPOKEN.—Helen Cook (?) (Dutch), Bali to Amsterdam, 41 days out, 35 S., 35 E.; Lutcken, Hamburg to Macassar, Jan. 19, 1 S., 23 W.; Maalstroom (Dutch barque), Amsterdam to Japan, Jan. 11, 17 S., 31 W.; Shark, Manila to Queenstown, Feb. 10, 4 N., 26 W.; J. Stanton, Shanghai to Liverpool, Jan. 17, 32 S., 13 E.

MISCELLANEOUS.—At St. Helena: Feb. 6, from Macao, Isabel, Decourt, and sailed, 7, for Havanna; 7, from Batavia, Duke of Newcastle, Mackenzie, and sailed, 9, for Texel; 9, Wilhelmina and Clara, Abrahams, and sailed for Amsterdam; 13, from Manila, Theresa, Denicke, and sailed for Liverpool.

At Port Elizabeth: Feb. 2, from Shanghai, Diligentia, Porter, and sailed, 3, for London.

SIR R. ALCOCK, K.C.B.

Sir Rutherford Alcock was yesterday presented to Her Majesty by Earl Russell, and in the evening dined with the Prince of Wales at Marlborough House.

THE SANCI DIAMOND.—The *Owl* states that the celebrated Sanci diamond has been purchased by Messrs. Garrard, of the Haymarket, for Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy, of Bombay, for £20,000. The historical interest attached to this stone is remarkable, and quite authentic. It formerly belonged to Charles the Bold, of Burgundy, then passed into the possession of the Sanci family, from whence it took its name, ultimately became one of the Crown jewels of France, was worn at the coronations of Lewis XIV. and XV., and was stolen at the sack of the Tuileries in 1789; it then passed to the Queen of Ferdinand VII., of Spain, who gave it to Godoy, Prince de la Paix, and from him was transferred to the Demidoff family, its last possessors.

SUGAR REFINING IN JAPAN.—The *Greenock Advertiser* says:—One of the Japanese princes has resolved to erect a sugar refinery in Japan, and has engaged two skilled Europeans to assist him in carrying out his project, one of these being a Greenock man who has been for some time employed as pansman in two of the principal sugar refineries in this town. He left for his future sphere of employment early last week, and his engagement is for three years.

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PROPOSED CHINESE SETTLEMENT IN BRITISH GUIANA.—It is rather a rare event for all the papers in the colony to be unanimous, but in the matter of the proposed Chinese settlement all of them are agreed that, at all events, the experiment ought to be tried, believing that, if successfully carried out, it would be to the advantage of the colony at large. Notwithstanding the opposition of the elective section of the Court of Policy, we trust and believe it will be carried out. The West Indian mail just arrived from Demerara brings intelligence of the arrival of the ship *Brechin Castle* at Georgetown, from Whampoa, with 269 emigrants. She was the first arrival from China this season; and at the time of her leaving there were six other vessels loading for the West Indies, out of which four were for Demerara.

The telegraph between India and Europe has been completed. As early as 8.25 A.M. on Wednesday, the 1st inst., a telegram dated Kurrachee, *the day before*, reached London, announcing that the line was open. One of the first announcements is to the effect that the ship *Warrior* sailed from Kurrachee on the 28th of February, for Liverpool. The International and Electric Telegraph Company have published their tariff for messages, which is as follows:—To Kurrachee, £4. 10s. 6d.; to Point de Galle, £5. 8s. No money returned for messages not delivered.

President Lincoln has approved the Bill for the establishment of a mail steam ship company between San Francisco and China.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

TAXATION AT HONG KONG.

(6th.) Mr. LESLIE asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies whether the Government still intended to levy an assessment of £20,000 per annum on property at Hong Kong towards defraying the expense of maintaining the garrison there, and whether he would lay upon the table of the House copies of all correspondence with the local authorities, the memorial of the resident community of Hong Kong, and the reply of Her Majesty's Government relative to the proposed tax.—Mr. CARDWELL said it was intended to adhere to the arrangement by which the colony of Hong Kong was called on to pay the very reasonable contribution of £20,000 a year to its military and naval defence. If the hon. member would move for the papers, he should be perfectly ready to give them.

THE AGRA AND MASTERMAN'S BANK (LIMITED).

The thirty-first annual general meeting of the shareholders of this bank was held at the London Tavern, Bishop-gate-street, on Saturday 11th inst.; GEORGE GORDON MACPHERSON, Esq., in the chair.

The GENERAL MANAGER (Mr Mackintosh Balfour) read the notice convening the meeting. The report of the directors has already appeared in our journal.

The CHAIRMAN said: I rise to move the adoption of the report that has just been read, a copy of which has been in the hands of the proprietary for some days; but previously to doing so, I propose, as is usual on occasions like the present (when we have the pleasure of seeing so many of our friends and shareholders assembled together), to enter into some details on the matters referred to in the report, as well as to offer a few observations, which I trust may prove interesting and acceptable to you, in relation to the administration of your affairs, which have been under our control during the past year. In the first place, I would remark that although this is the thirty-first annual general meeting of the Agra Bank, it is the first that has been held since it was amalgamated with another and assumed its present designation of the Agra and Masterman's Bank; and I feel sure that it cannot fail to be highly gratifying to you to be informed that the amalgamation has been completed in the most satisfactory manner. (Hear, hear.)

There must be, as I dare say many of you are aware, considerable difficulty in bringing two large establishments together and into good working order, even where the accounts have been kept on the same principles; but in our case the difficulty was greatly increased, from the circumstance of the accounts of the two banks having been formerly conducted upon two different systems, which rendered the necessary fusion a work of time and of extraordinary labour on the part of our establishment. Some estimate may be formed of the vast amount of extra labour that was thus imposed on our establishment, when I inform you that it required for months the daily attendance of a large proportion of our staff many hours after the usual time of business before all difficulties were surmounted, and a correct and complete fusion of the accounts accomplished—a result most creditable to all concerned, and obtained, too, in the midst of the late commercial crisis, which of itself was quite sufficient to tax the best energies of any banking or commercial establishment. It is now, therefore, a very pleasing part of my duty to express to you how much we owe to, and how highly the board of directors appreciate the great ability, zeal, and perseverance displayed by our excellent managers, and the combined staff under their supervision, at a period of so much importance—(hear, hear)—and I feel very sure that it will gratify you to learn that the directors have recognised such devotion to the interests of the bank in a liberal and substantial manner. (Hear, hear.) Having made you acquainted with some of the difficulties we had to contend with in consequence of our amalgamation, I have now much greater pleasure in referring to some of the advantages we have thereby obtained and now enjoy. We have acquired a large increase to our London business—(hear). Secondly, we have become members of the Clearing-house, a position which it was absolutely necessary we should obtain to enable us to carry on our London business successfully and with satisfaction to ourselves and mercantile customers—(hear). Thirdly, we have become the possessors of one of the most valuable freehold properties in the City of London—(hear). Fourthly, we have moreover the benefit of the advice and assistance of our new colleagues, the partners of the late firm of Messrs. Masterman, Peters, Mildred, and Co., not only at our board, but daily in the bank parlour, which has greatly tended to keep their old and valuable connection together, notwithstanding the numerous and various expedients had recourse to in these days of hot banking competition (to use the mildest phrase) to induce customers to take their accounts elsewhere.

We have, however, you will be glad to hear, managed to keep not only what we got, but we have gained an accession of valuable business, and if that business continues to increase as it has done since the amalgamation, I see no reason why the Agra and Masterman's Bank should not rival the oldest and greatest of its competitors in the field of public estimation. (Hear, hear.) Having now mentioned what may be considered the practical results arising from the amalgamation, I must add that every liability incurred thereupon has been discharged, and the directors have been enabled to increase the reserve fund to £500,000 sterling—a sum at which, as stated in the report, they propose it shall stand. (Hear, hear.) You will observe from the balance-sheet that we have taken the opportunity to classify our liabilities or engagements, so as to afford the information to all which the most eminent writers and authorities on banking consider essential. We have given equally full particulars as to our assets. Amongst them you will see one, which I have no doubt will elicit the usual annual inquiry from a shareholder (now present), and I may as well answer it in anticipation. I allude to Government securities, which, according to the report, stand at £397,280. (Hear, hear.) This is largely in excess of the amount of the reserve fund, before the addition was made to it; and since the 1st January last purchases have been made which swell the amount to £521,214. This I mention to show how keenly alive the directors are to the expediency of keeping at least the amount at credit of the reserve fund in Government securities. (Hear, hear.) The next point to which I would beg your attention, and upon which I think we have reason to congratulate our shareholders, is the manner in which the new capital has been subscribed during a time when money has been so exceptionally dear, and when pressure has been so severe on all sides. (Hear, hear.)

The number of our shareholders was 725 last year, and the number now on the register is 908, a very satisfactory proof of the estimation in which the bank is held by the public. You will appreciate this the more fully when I tell you that a majority of the new shareholders are gentlemen who are likely to benefit us as well as themselves by joining our bank. (Hear, hear.) I shall now make a few observations on the working of the bank during the past year, and, considering the difficulties I have already alluded to, the large addition to our capital, and the salutary restrictions which from the depressed state of trade it became necessary to impose on business both at home and abroad, the result which has enabled us to pay dividends equal to 20 per cent. per annum on the whole capital of one million and a half sterling, and to carry forward a handsome sum, cannot but be considered highly satisfactory. (Hear, hear.) Notwithstanding the restrictions I have just alluded to (and in proof of them I may mention that our acceptances since 1st January have been decreased by more than one million sterling)—I say notwithstanding these restrictions, and all our caution and prudence, it would be affectation—nay, it would be untrue—if we attempted to disguise from you that we have suffered losses by the late failures, and heavier ones, too, than were by any means pleasant; but it will be cheering to our shareholders to know that ample provision has been made out of the profits of the year, not only for all the bad, but also for the doubtful debts, thus rendering our position safe and comfortable, after the effects of a somewhat critical and disastrous period in the commercial world. (Hear, hear.)

You have doubtless learned from the public press that the monetary difficulties had extended to China, which from the very depressed state of the trade we were led to expect, and I have great pleasure in stating that at the present moment we have no reason to anticipate any loss from our branches in that country—(hear). In Bombay there has been excessive speculation and inflation of credit, but latterly regular business appears to have been entirely neglected, and public attention has been directed to reclamation schemes, financial companies, and new banks—a triad which was worked so well that the shares of all rose to a very high premium before one foot of land was reclaimed from the sea, or a single share allotted. I need scarcely tell you that we have held entirely aloof from such business—(hear)—and quietly await results which a recent telegram leads us to suppose are not far distant. This state of things, as well as the unsatisfactory future of cotton, led the directors some time since not only to curtail their local business in Bombay, but to limit the shipments of gold from Australia, for which purpose the sub-branch at Melbourne was principally established. I think I have now alluded to every point likely to interest you, but should I have omitted anything, or failed in making myself sufficiently clear on any of the subjects I have referred to, I shall be happy to supply any deficiency that may be pointed out to the best of my ability. I now beg to conclude by moving that the report of the directors and balance sheet be received and adopted—(hear).

Alderman FINNIS (deputy chairman) had great pleasure in seconding the proposition. He felt that after the clear and lucid statement of their excellent chairman he (Alderman Finnis) need only refer to one point, and that was the very large increase of shareholders. And if each of those would bring new customers to the bank he thought he could safely say that next year, instead of a dividend of 20 per cent., the shareholders would receive 25 per cent. (Hear, hear.) The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

Upon the proposition of Captain J. G. JOHNSTON, seconded by Mr. C. R. TULLOCH, the retiring directors (Major General James Ramsay, Colonel James Holland, Mr. G. Hay Donaldson, and Alderman Finnis) were unanimously re-elected. Alderman FINNIS, in acknowledging the vote, thanked the shareholders for their renewed mark of confidence, and assured them that the re-elected directors would do everything in their power to promote the prosperity of the bank. (Hear, hear.)

Upon the proposition of Colonel W. MACGEORGE, seconded by Colonel MARSHALL, the retiring auditors (Mr. J. H. Williams, and Mr. W. Farr, D.C.L., F.R.S.) were unanimously re-elected.

Upon the proposition of General W. M. RAMSAY, seconded by Mr. W. F. FAWCETT, it was unanimously resolved that the thanks of the shareholders be given to the board of directors, to the general manager (Mr. Mackintosh Balfour), to the London manager (Mr. W. Shipman), and to the local committee and managers of the branches, for their able and satisfactory management of the bank's affairs for the past year, and to the auditors for their efficient supervision of the accounts. The vote was appropriately acknowledged by Major MACGREGOR. A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1865.

OUR TEA TRADE WITH RUSSIA.

NOTWITHSTANDING that our Tea trade with Russia has not, as yet, corresponded to the expectations entertained when the new tariff came into force, and that the Russian Minister of Finance has estimated his receipts from Customs' duties on this article at a lower sum than was realised in 1863, which he styles an abnormal year, we have good reason to believe that the Russian market will ultimately provide a valuable vent for much of our surplus stock. It is true that the irregular manner of doing business in Russia is the greatest difficulty with which the exporter has to cope, and can only be overcome by the adoption of the system which suits the English market; that teas are not moved off with any regularity; that in the finer descriptions of our re-exported teas a vacillation of taste on the part of the higher classes has baffled all calculation, and that the present modified tariff rate is much too high to encourage consumption of the article in a country almost destitute of a middle class. On the other hand, the importations of tea by way of Kiachta has almost ceased; our inferior teas, after paying duty, compete favourably, both as to strength and price, with the lower sorts of caravan tea, and it is highly probable that the Russian Government will shortly establish a differential duty for the latter class of teas, so as to admit them at 32½ copecks per lb., instead of 65 copecks (2s.), as at present. Not that the Russian Government designs striking a blow at the Kiachta trade, or restricting the importations at that station to those China wares which already exceed even the tea in value, but that it evidently seeks to bring this beverage within the means of the artisans and agriculturists who compose the mass of the population. The recent expedition by the Amoor river and its Sangura tributary, to the very capital of Mantchuria, with a view to commercial purposes, shows that Russia looks rather to the extension than otherwise of direct importation, favoured not only by a drawback of 15 per cent. on the present tariff rates, but possibly, and in their own interest, by the abolition of the present heavy transit duties which the Chinese have hitherto levied on the overland trade. No country is more interested than Russia in securing direct intercourse with the Far East, for to her the "route" of trade is also the predestined line of conquest. The northern traders have in part themselves to thank for the foreign competition now induced, whilst their demand for better descriptions were simply exorbitant. In addition to this, the deterioration in the caravan tea had reached a point demanding the corrective, which competition from other quarters could alone supply. Our own importers have latterly had to make complaints of defective curing and manufacture, but, in addition, the adulteration of the Kiachta teas has been extreme, even to the introduction of leaves of unknown plants. Our superior teas re-exported to the Baltic ports are pronounced superior both in flavour and other qualities to those received from the North, and in other descriptions it is allowed that we give a better article at a cheaper rate. A barter trade, however, is never very sensitive, and the established organization for the distribution of caravan teas is not easily set aside. Russian manufacturers, moreover, are eager to avail themselves of this barter trade to dispose of their cloths and woollens, and the value of the Kiachta teas, the imports of which in each of the last few years has reached 15,000,000 lbs.

A country combining, as Russia does, an aptitude for the adoption of both Western and Oriental tastes cannot fail, hereafter, to consume largely a beverage which in such a climate is as much a necessity as a luxury. The Russian Government derives a revenue of £20,000,000 from the spirits distilled from the cereals of the country; but even should the increased use of tea affect this revenue, it would find compensation from other directions. Leitch Ritchi has written amusingly on the civilising influence of tea; it is certain that its more extensive use in Russia would exercise an ameliorating and appreciable influence on the character of the Muscovite population. Our own interests are purely commercial, but whilst urging on the Russian Government the establishment of a differential duty in favour of lower class teas, we may be permitted to point to those which primarily affect itself alone. It is evident, then, that the present tariff rate on tea, virtually excluding the mass of the people from its use, must encourage an enormous amount of smuggling along the extended frontiers of the empire, and that this smuggling must continue on the increase until the Customs' duties be reduced. The 2,000,000 lbs. of tea sent yearly from Prussia into the neighbouring Russian provinces probably represents less than half the amount which finds its way thither from Konigsberg. When regular traders are also smugglers, it is evident that we can be undersold, and it is far from surprising that Prussian exportations of the article should find a market at St. Petersburg as well as Moscow. All this, however, admits of remedy. As the chief factors of exported China teas, as having a larger trade with Russia than any other country, and able to provide the cheapest transportation, it evidently rests with us to hold in our hands the virtual monopoly of further supplies arising out of increased demands. The Kiachta trade has been singularly stationary for years together, even in the absence of competition by sea or land; and it is evident that we must command the area of distribution within the circle of the wide circumference of which the completed lines of railway from northern and southern Russia, centering at Moscow, will be the radii. Our supply of tea to the southern Russian ports are encouragingly increasing, and it is noticeable that both at Taganrog and at Odessa the supplies are all from England. Our entire exportation of tea to Russia last year amounted to 1,714,031 lbs., against 2,859,828 lbs. in 1863. To our total supplies to the Russian market may fairly be added 1,500,000 lbs. sent from Prussia into the neighbouring provinces.

STEAMERS, &c., FOR CHINA.

Messrs. Denny and Co., Dumbarton, will despatch on the 21st inst. a steamer named the *Corea*, 874 tons, and 150 H.P. We believe she proceeds to China to find a market; from all accounts she is a first-rate vessel. Her passage out, however, will settle many points to enable a competent judgment on her qualities.

The screw-steamer building on Clyde for Messrs. Robertson and Co., to replace the *Sea King*, will shortly be ready to launch; and the clipper also building on Clyde, under the superintendence of Captain Maxton, will be ready to launch in June. Captain Roberts, late of the *Mirage*, is superintending the building of a large screw-steamer at Aberdeen, in conjunction with Messrs. Mackay and Co. She is to proceed to Australia, and thence to China, to load home, and we hear that Messrs. Smith, Kennedy, and Co. have an interest in her, and will act as the consignees in China.

A fine clipper ship, named the *Robin Hood*, has been launched at Sunderland for the China trade. The steamer *Shaftesbury* leaves Liverpool on the 16th with a general cargo for Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Nagasaki, and Yokohama. She is 1,200 tons burthen, and 250-horse power; commanded by Captain Aitkin, and despatched by Messrs. Wakefield, Nash, and Co.

Correspondence.

THE STRAITS AND THE RAJAH OF JOHORE.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—The Tumongong of Johore has on several occasions been rather hardly dealt with in your columns, and in your number of the 28th

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ult. I find a letter from a correspondent, who calls himself "An Old Resident," discussing the politics of that country in a spirit which evinces a strong feeling of hostility towards its ruler and his immediate predecessors. Your correspondent writes in the interests of the titular Sultan of Johore, on whose behalf he is pleased to vilify the policy of our own Government in upholding the Tumongongs past and present. According to him, this policy was attributable to the "piratical proficiency" of the late Sovereign of Johore which "brought him into notice," and induced Governor Bonham to take him by the hand, &c.

This is rather a strong statement, considering that the Prince alluded to was brought up, almost from childhood, in Singapore, that he was constantly under the eye of the local authorities, and was a pensionary of the Government, whose goodwill he had every reason to conciliate. But why did not "An Old Resident," in further illustration of the policy which he denounces, proceed to inform your readers that, during the administration of Governor Bonham's successor, Colonel Butterworth, this same Tumongong was (nearly twenty years ago) presented with a sword by the Supreme Government of India inscribed in acknowledgment of his successful services in putting down piracy? The fact might perhaps have been regarded by your correspondent as supplying somewhat too strong an evidence of the disposition of the British Government to act on the rule of contraries, when punishment would have been so justly due and so easily administered; but your readers may judge for themselves how far its suppression is evidence of "An Old Resident's" fairness and candour.

Then, as to the treaty between the two parties, entered into under the cognizance of the Government of India, by which the so-called Sultan finally and in express terms yielded up to the Tumongong the territory and sovereignty of Johore; your correspondent not only says that "it was the result of an unfair exercise of the power of Government," but that "both Colonel Butterworth and Mr. Church, the Resident Councillor, regretted afterwards what they had done, and the latter has left his opinion upon record."

Why, the treaty in question was concluded ten years ago, when Governor Butterworth, not content with merely seeing to its due execution, took especial pains to give the affair all the significancy and *eclat* in his power, and made it the occasion of an imposing ceremonial, at which the principal Europeans (one of them, in all probability, "An Old Resident") and native inhabitants of Singapore were assembled. This was only a few months before Governor Butterworth finally took his departure for Europe, after administering the Government for 12 years, during which he must have become perfectly familiar with the whole bearing of the questions at issue between the parties—and yet in the short space of these few months he repented of his share in the transaction! This is another strong statement, in opposition to which I venture to assert that Colonel Butterworth from first to last never expressed himself but with feelings of very great satisfaction with the whole transaction, and, as to his sagacious and experienced subordinate, Mr. Church, taking to sackcloth and ashes for his share in it, there is no doubt in my mind that *his* repentance will be found equally apochryphal. Nothing less than a "record" will indeed be sufficient to substantiate your correspondent's allegations on this point, and, if he can produce it, so much the better for him.

But in truth there could be no room or cause for these alleged regrets. The treaty, in everything but the pecuniary benefit it secured to the Sultan, was virtually no more than a formal recognition in terms of a state of things which had been in existence from the very commencement of our relations with the Sultan and Tumongong. The former was then nothing more than the shadow of a name, and the circumstance of his being allowed to retain the title of the ancient Kings of Johore is no more a proof of his rights over the territory, properly so called, than it proves his rights over Pahang, Bintang, including Rhio, Battam, the Carimon, Lingin, and various other adjacent countries and islands, which, in former times, composed what has sometimes been called the *Empire* of Johore. A truce, therefore, to reproaches against our government for unfair exercise of its power, in lending effect to a convention which only put the seal to what had already been so long an accomplished fact.

So far I deal with mere matters of fact in "An Old Resident's" communication, and I do not think it neccessary to follow him into the views and opinions he expresses regarding the general state of the countries of the Peninsula governed by Malayan Princes, or the policy he recommends in respect to them, which may be summed up in his recommending our hoisting his friend the Sultan to the top of the tree, with the addition of "an able Resident, as at Mysore," to assist him in the development of the territorial resources of these countries, &c. I confine myself to what is going on in Johore, under the influence of the only Malayan Princes who can be said to possess enlightened ideas of government; and if your correspondent will remain blind to the first promising symptoms of a state of things which he professes a wish to see realised throughout the whole Peninsula, I am happy to be able to show that the press in Singapore is not equally short-sighted on the subject:—"In the South (of the Peninsula) the late as well as present Tumongong of Johore have anxiously applied themselves to the improvement of their dominions. As far as possible, the elements of good government have been introduced, and every encouragement has been given to settlers of industrial pursuits. This has resulted in a large increase of population, and a consequent augmentation of the revenue." Such is the language used by the principal newspaper of Singapore more than two years ago; and the agency of the same enlarged ideas, under which these good fruits have been produced, has not since been in less active operation. In addition to the Johore Saw Mill Company, alluded to by your correspondent (of course, invidiously), other establishments under the management of Chinese have been formed—the prospectus issued of a joint-stock company for the cultivation of sugar, towards which the Tumongong, with his usual liberality, has agreed to give a free grant of a large tract of land, and mineralogists have been and are now exploring the country. This may be considered as affording some answer to the question asked by your correspondent, "Can life and property be safe under such a system?—so far, at least, as *one* territory of the Peninsula is concerned, with respect to whose sovereign I may hope, if I do not expect, to find him more just in future.

—Yours, &c.,

A SINGAPOREAN.

March 6, 1865.

COST PRICE OF TEA.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—I find the chairman of one of our Indian Tea Companies putting the cost price of producing a pound of tea at 6d.; in the work of Sir John Davis on China the average price given by the teamen of that country to the priests and farmers, of whom they make their collections, is stated at 3d. per pound. Here is a difference of 50 per cent., easily accounted for by the newness of the enterprise in India, and the cost of labour; even Chinamen having been imported to attend to growth, culture, and manufacture. It appears to me that our Indian Tea Companies would find their account in extending their orders for Chinamen, who, unlike the Indian coolies, are usually inclined to hold to their contracts, and are not so apt to make themselves "scarce."—Your, &c.,

City, March 3, 1865. DARJEELING.

Monetary and Commercial.

The directors of the Oriental Hotels Company (Limited) have issued a circular, in which they describe the steps that have been taken for the erection of a first-class hotel at Cairo, in Egypt. The foundation stone was laid on the 18th of January. Arrangements have also been made for establishing an hotel at Galle, existing buildings having been utilised for that purpose. The prospects of the undertaking are referred to in favourable terms, and the report concludes with the remark that "the two hotels will demand all the present capital of the company, and the directors propose to devote the whole of their attention to them, until they are in active and successful operation."

The directors of the East Indian Railway Company have announced that they are prepared to receive applications at par to the extent of £1,200,000, for 5 per cent. debentures, for five years, and renewable at the option of the holder for a second term of five years. These debentures will also carry the option of conversion into shares. Payment of both principal and interest is guaranteed by the Secretary of State for India.

A call of £2 is to be paid on the 10,000 new shares, numbered from 10,001 to 20,000, in the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited), by the 3rd of April.

Mr. Gwyther, who lately returned from China, has joined the London office of the Bank of India, Australia, and China.

The Singapore Gas Company have made a call of £1 per share.

The letters of allotment of the China Steam and Labuan Coal Company have been distributed. The shares are now at 2 discount.

The *Money Market Review* has the following on the fall of cotton prices:—

"Continuously since the vast speculation in raw cotton last November we have written that a great fall in the price was inevitable, and that, with the fall in cotton, money, or the price of discounts, would also tend downwards. The two events are now in course of realisation. The supply of cotton exceeds the demand, and stocks rapidly accumulate. There is now no longer the inducement to send abroad the precious metals wherewith to buy raw cotton, and while cotton accumulates in Liverpool, bullion and specie increase in the Bank vaults. Cause and effect were never more clearly traced, but as regards money there is this additional reason, that, with the decline in raw cotton, and the losses of cotton speculators, the disposition to speculate in anything is gone. Speculative winners, as a rule, increase their stakes, but speculative losers close their books and grow sick at heart over their losses. The demand for money is, therefore, reduced by two distinct causes, but both arising from the cotton famine and the American war.

"Present indications, however, lead to the inference that our money market will not again be much disturbed by the cotton famine and its results. The neck of the speculation is clearly broken at last, without, in our view, much prospect of its revival. The numerous cotton circulars of the 1st of the month all report a nearly hopeless decline during the month of February, while Messrs. Neill Brothers put down the London imports at 57,719 bales from 1st January to 24th February, against deliveries of 29,227 bales, and a stock in Liverpool of 578,000 bales on the 24th February, against 466,000 on the 1st January. In fact, the stock of raw cotton now on hand in Liverpool is larger than at any period since December, 1861. The prices of cotton have fallen during February about 2½d. per lb. for American, 3½d. for Egyptian, and for short staples 1d. to 2d.; while since the 1st January the fall has been 7½d., 8½d., and 4½d. to 5d. per lb."

The Returns of the Board of Trade for the month ending the 31st of January in the present year give the total declared value of exports for the month as £10,489,339, against £10,413,586 in the month of January 1864, and £8,045,155 in the same month of 1863. Amongst the principal changes in the exports there is again a considerable increase in arms, ammunition, and military stores. Of beer and ale there has been a slight decrease. There has also been a decrease in coals and culm, but an increase in cotton piece goods, the figures of the latter being 123,695,916 yards, against 114,565,058 yards

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in January 1864. The trade with the Far East furnishes the following figures to the present return :—

EXPORTS TO CHINA AND HONG KONG.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
	For the Month of January.		
Cotton yarn	130,000 lbs.	1,000 lbs.	153,722 lbs.
Cotton manufactures	1,356,838 yds.	2,135 981 yds.	4,138,368 yds.
Worsted stuffs	462,990 ,,	743,014 ,,	576,978 ,,
Woollen and worsted cloths	93,491 ,,	78,293 ,,	65 604 ,,
Lead	568 tons	506 tons	333 tons
	Value for the month.		
Cotton yarn	£12,198	£180	£17,571
Cotton manufactures	32,481	63,251	101,093
Worsted stuffs	31,263	53,865	48.437
Woollen and worsted cloths.	19,024	16,947	13,207
Lead	12,202	10,810	7,710

The quantities and values of Cotton Manufactures exported to other ports and countries of the Far East during the first month of the present and two preceding years is returned as follows :—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
	For the Month of January.		
Ceylon	498 672 yds.	1,728,083	542.912 yds.
Singapore	1,263.009 ,,	660,508	2,653.494 ,,
Java	813,876 ,,	361,415	1,386,927 ,,
Philippine Islands	—	2,213,905	3,051,403
	Value for the month.		
Ceylon	£10,788	£53,471	£16,620
Singapore	31,679	15,818	62,588
Java	19,757	11,125	36,435
Philippine Islands	—	61,003	79,872

Of Cotton Yarn 79,400 lbs. was despatched to Singapore in the month of January last, valued at £8,591.

IMPORTS.

Of Raw Cotton we have now the quantity imported from British India and China for the month of January, and the value for the month and year ending 31st December :—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
	For the month ended 31st January.		
British India	76,426	29,973	27,861 cwts.
China	—	7,851	17,396 ,,
	Value for the Month ended 31st December.		
	1862	1863.	1864.
British India	£5,044.695	£8,950,670	£5,857,263
China	23,081	389,841	543,655
	Value for the year ended 31st December.		
British India	£22,042,381	£34,700,661	£38,214,723
China	108,995	2,164,995	6,242,504

Of Unrefined Sugar imported from Java and the Philippine Islands the quantity for the month of January is stated to be 485 tons of the 3rd quality, and 20,672 tons of the 4th quality. We have now also the value for the month and year ended the 31st December :—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
	For the month ended 31st December		
2nd quality (not equal to White)	—	£6	—
3rd (not equal to Brown clayed)	£43,570	148,330	—
3rd (equal to Brown Muscovado)	—	—	£9,897
4th (not equal to Br. Muscovado)	—	—	70,602
	For the year ended 31st December.		
2nd quality	£49.736	£4,557	£634
3rd (previous to April 16, 1864)	352,262	841,216	41,205
3rd (subsequent to that date)	—	—	161,602
4th (do. do.)	—	—	202,017

Of Hemp, the quantity imported from the Philippine Islands during the month of January in the present year was 7,781 cwt. ; and the value of the import for the month and year ended the 31st December in the three last years is stated thus :—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
For December	£49.560	£87,546	£33.060
For the Year	225,414	421,004	309,251

Coffee, from Ceylon, there was imported in the month of January in the present year of 2,812,099 lbs., against 3,619,207 lbs. in 1864, and 4,827,164 lbs. in 1863. The value for the month and twelve months ending the 31st December was as follows :—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
For December	£122,540	£476,516	£169,813
For the Year	2,045,125	2,898,086	2.374,299

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer Ellora, from Southampton on the 4th inst., was :—In gold, to Madras, £866 ; in silver, to Calcutta, £10,000 ; to Singapore, £86,250 ; to Hong Kong, £27,696 ; to Shanghai, £14,750. Total, in gold, £866 ; in silver, £138,696.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Within the past ten days the business transacted has been mostly of a forced character and at a further decline ; the recent disasters in the China trade and imports being still beyond all precedent, most importers continue to press Teas forward, in some cases without regard to cost, whilst the trade act with the greatest caution, and hold no more stocks than is absolutely requisite for their immediate requirements. For export the continental demand has been on the smallest scale, but transactions to Canada have been more extended, still not on the same scale as in previous years. The deliveries for home consumption continue satisfactory, and must convince operators in China that the losses incurred are not from any fault in the home trade, but to the simple fact of season after season paying too high a scale of prices, and shipping the season's yield in six instead of extending it over the twelve months. Home consumption for London from 1st January to 28th February, 1865, 9,843,000 ; for 1864, 9,882,000 ; export from do., 1865, 2,800,000 ; for 1864, 2,526,000 ; sent coastwise from do., 1865, 4,700,000 ; for 1864, 5,453,000 ; total for 1865, 17,343,000 ; for 1864, 17,861,000. Blacks.—There has been a full supply of dust and siftings on offer, most of which have been disposed of at 7d. to 9d. per lb., the inferior to good flavory, as well as Kaisow kinds, although taken largely for immediate use, have continued in over supply, and prices have given way another ½d. to 1d. per lb. Medium to fine Kaisows have sold at rather lower prices, and for finest the inquiry is still limited, with but little offering. The common kinds of imitation Kaisow, made from Tayshan leaf, have sold lower by 1d. per lb. ; in medium and fine there have been no transactions. In black leaf of common to fair quality sales have been made with much difficulty, and invariably in favour of buyers ; several chops of medium second crop Oopack and Oonam kinds have sold from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 7d. per lb., and for fine and finest a little better inquiry has existed, and 2s. 3d. has been paid for a few first crop Monings. There have been but few transactions either in Souchong or Oolong. Scented Tea: Considerable sales were effected the early part of the month both in Canton Orange Pekoe and Caper. The demand latterly has subsided, and late transactions in Caper have been at 1d. per lb. decline for medium qualities. Foochow Orange Pekoe has also given way, say 2d. per lb., as the supply to hand of late is in excess. Arrivals of Caper have come in more freely, but, owing to previous moderate supplies, have realised full rates. Green : Until within the last week the business done was confined to home purchases ; latterly buyers for Canada have entered the market, taking good common to fair Young Hyson and a few finest. The trade have bought mostly of Imperial and Gunpowder of Ping Suey growth, as no arrivals have taken place of this season's Fychow or Moyune. In Japan growth the late imports of uncoloured have sold at 1s. to 1s. 1d. for good common to fair, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d. for good to medium ; the demand for such, however, is by no means active. The sales which commenced on the 7th comprised 35,987 packages, of which 29.489 were without reserve. The quotations are : Broken leaf, 7d., fair red leaf 11d. to 12½d. A chop of common black leaf, 10½d., and two chops late import 10½d. to 11d. Fine Moning (bulked) 2s. 1½d. Fair Oolong, 8½d. to 9d. The imports at 1st March stand at nearly 36 millions, against 26 in 1864. The deliveries about 18 in each year. Stock 112, against 97 in 1864.

SILK.—Good and fair Tsatlees maintain their price well, but coarse and inferior Taysaams, which form the bulk of the recent arrivals, are heavy of sale, and can be bought cheaper. In Japan Silk there has been some little business in Mibash at a decline of 1s. to 1s. 6d. per lb. from the highest point ; we are still without any arrivals of the finer qualities, the stock of which is now nearly exhausted. The deliveries for the month, 2,312 bales of China, and 889 bales of Japan, show that high prices are beginning to tell upon consumption. The China letters by last mail report total exports since 1st July of China and Japan Silk, 30,300 bales, against 30,100 bales in 1863, and 52,100 in 1862.

	Ordinary,		Superior.	
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Tsatlee, No. 1 and 2	26 6 to	28 0		
,, No. 3 and 4	24 0	25 6	26 0	
,, No. 5	23 0	24 0		
Ditto, Hang-Chow	23 6	24 6		
Yuenfa	16 6	23 6	24 6	25 0
Taysaam	19 0	23 0	24 0	24 6
Ditto, skeins	None.			
Ditto, long reel	21 0	22 0	22 6	
Canton	14 6	20 6	21 0	22 0
Chinese Thrown	19 6	20 0	21 6	22 6
Mibash, dyepot Japan	26 0	27 0	27 6	28 6
Ida, bricks	23 0	25 0	25 6	29 6
Sodai ,,	23 0	24 6	25 0	26 0
Oshu, re-reeled	25 0	26 0	26 6	28 0
Koshu, Selé	24 6	25 6	26 0	27 0
Accaezan, ships	22 6	23 6	24 0	25 6
Mashiah	22 6	23 6	23 0	27 0
Hatchojee, Tussah	15 0	17 6	20 0	24 0

SUGAR.—Messrs. Carey and Browne state, in their circular of the 9th: The low range of prices ruling at the date of our last, afterwards induced the home trade to operate with more confidence, and with a gradually improving general demand, stiffer rates were realised for strong refining sorts, and many holders having withdrawn their parcels from the market, increased firmness has since been manifested, and some further advance has been established, so that the value is now 6d. to 1s. per cwt. above our quotations of the 9th ultimo ; the soft and inferior brown descriptions, however, have mostly been in but moderate request, and the transactions in these have been only practicable at comparatively cheap rates. Of the sales in the month we note 260 tons Penang, good brown to middling yellow, 28s. to 31s. ; good middling and good, 32s. to 33s. ; 400 tons Clayed Manila, at 28s. to 28s. 6d. ; 100 tons grey Java, at 35s. ; and 70 tons from Singapore, very low pasty brown, 20s. 6d. to 21s. 6d. ; middling and good white Siam, 35s. 6d. to 36s. 6d. The total imports into the United Kingdom in the first two months of the present year have been about 26,000 tons more than the scanty supplies of 1864, and notwithstanding an increase of 21,000 tons in the aggregate deliveries, by which the general stock has been reduced 10,000 tons since the 1st February, the comparative surplus is larger than previously, amounting to 62,000 tons Raw, and 4,000 tons Foreign Refined, above the quantity on hand at the same time last year. According to the Board of Trade Returns for the month of January, recently published, the total of the duty-paid entries in the United Kingdom during that month were 40,180 tons, against 28,680 tons in 1864, and 38,880 tons in 1863.

COFFEE.—Only a moderate degree of animation has been observable in the colonial market during the past month, but as good qualities in the Dutch sale went off at some improvement, and the supply of Plantation Ceylon has been very scanty, this description has met ready buyers at extreme prices. The Native kind has been brought forward freely, and in the early part of the month the value somewhat declined ; more recent transactions, however, have been on a par with the rates current on the 9th ult., and the total business is again of rather important amount. Supplies of Mocha have been very limited, and for retail lots of good and fine qualities, advanced prices have been paid The transaction of the month are as follows :—800 casks, 1,060 barrels and bags Plantation Ceylon, fine ordinary small to bright colory (part of the new crop), 78s. to 87s. ; 500 casks, 6,000 barrels and bags Native—small 65s. 6d. to 66s. 6d., good and fine ordinary 69s. to 72s., pickings 40s. to 42s. ; 200 packages Mocha—chiefly fair clean garbled, 97s. ; 1,500 bags Manila —even pale yellowish 72s. 6d. to 74s., good ordinary brownish mixed 67s. to 68s., low ordinary 54s. ; and 1,200 bags Sundries—picked Bally

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Singapore 66s. 6d. to 67s., fair 58s. to 60s., Madras garblings 37s. The arrivals in this port since the 4th ult. have continued of moderate extent, and as the deliveries for export have augmented, the stock is 1,000 tons lighter than that of a month since, and also below the corresponding one of 1864.

RICE.—With the exception of a temporary increase of demand about the middle of the month, when important transactions, chiefly in soft grain kinds, were effected at full rates, the market has had a dull tone, and old white Bengal, which has been offered more freely, has recently declined 6d. per cwt. The total business done is about 130,000 bags, fair to fine Rangoon 9s. 3d. to 9s. 9d., low heated to middling 7s. 9d. to 8s. 7½d., middling to good Nakrenzie 8s. 7½d. to 9s. 3d., low 7s. 6d., common heated to middling Moulmein 7s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.; middling to fair pinky Madras 11s. 3d. to 11s. 6d., low middling to good old white Bengal 11s. 3d. to 12s. 9d., good pearly Moonghy 11s., and 400 tons Ballam, at first at 10s. 6d. to 10s. 9d., lately at 11s. 1½d. to 11s. 3d. ex ship.

CAMPHOR.—Has been very inactive, and recently at auction declined 2s. 6d. to 5s. per cwt., three-fourths of 200 cases China, in lead, selling at 92s. 6d. to 95s.

CARDAMOMS.—Good Malabar scarce and dearer, and other kinds firm: 11 cases Malabar sold at auction at 5s. 8d. per lb. for good; and of 48 packages Madras more than half sold at 3s. for fair long, and 3s. 4d. to 3s. 5d. fair Aleppy; 12 bags Ceylon retired.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—In moderate demand at the previous value, and of 3,762 boxes at auction one-third sold at and after the sales at 75s. to 87s. per cwt., for 3rd to fine 1st pile. Buds: Being in better supply are materially cheaper, and of 91 boxes at auction three-fourths sold at £11 to £11. 2s. 6d. per cwt. for good.

CINNAMON.—We quote 1st sort 1s. 8d. to 2s. 7d.; 2nd 1s. 5d. to 2s. 3d.; 3rd 1s. 3d. to 1s. 10d.; 4th and Jungle 10d. to 1s. 5d. per lb. Very little business doing.

COCOA-NUT OIL.—The market has been more firm and active, especially Cochin, which has advanced 10s. per ton, with good business; only 67 casks Cochin at auction.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Very quiet: 100 bags at auction retired. Dragon's Blood: Good and fine scarce, and wanted; common quality cheaper; 42 cases ordinary lump sold at auction at 72s. to 84s. per cwt. Galangal Root: Steady; 52 bags at auction sold at 16s. per cwt. for fair. Rhubarb: Firm, but quiet; 20 cases at auction all retired.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Nothing of any consequence doing. Damar: Remains steady, but quiet; 209 cases at auction all retired. Gamboge: Of 28 cases at auction, one-third sold at £10 to £10. 10s. per cwt. for fair pipe, being cheaper.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Remains very quiet; no auctions held; private business very small; fine would sell readily, and there is some inquiry for ordinary at present low prices. India Rubber: Of 112 baskets Penang at auction, half sold at 1s. 2d. per lb. for mixed but good average; 157 packages Assam sold at 6d. to 1s. 0¼d. ordinary to fine; private transactions very limited.

HEMP (MANILA).—This market has been very quiet, with scarcely any business: no auctions held. Quotations: fair to good roping, £27 to £28 per ton.

HORNS (DEER).—Firm: 7 tons Ceylon, 6 Madras, and 4 Singapore sold at auction at 50s. to 52s. per cwt. for 1¾ to 1¼ lb. average; 42s. to 46s. for 2 to 1¾; and 30s. for 2¼.

JAPAN WAX.—Very quiet: 200 cases at auction all retired; very little doing privately.

OILS.—Anniseed: Sales are reported to have been made at 6s. to 6s. 1d. per lb., and more recently in small quantities 6s. 2d. Cassia: Very dull; no auctions, demand very small. Cinnamon, and Mace and Nutmegs: Nothing doing in either of these Oils.

SAGO.—Large dearer; small steady; 513 packages at auction sold at 23s. per cwt. for good large, and 18s. 6d. to 19s., middling small. Flour: Flat, and rather cheaper: of 1,352 bags at auction, one-third sold at 14s. per cwt.

SHELLAC.—This market has once more become very quiet, prices generally going back slightly; of 1,067 packages at auction, one-third sold: Orange, at £6 to £6. 10s. per cwt.; Garnet, £5. 12s. 6d. to £5. 17s. 6d.; Liver, £5. 10s. to £5. 12s. 6d.; Button, £6; Native, £5; and Blocky, £5. 10s. to £5. 17s. 6d. Very little trade privately.

SPICES.—Cloves: Penang rather dearer: 4 cases sold at auction at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 3½d. per lb. for fair; Zanzibar, ⅜d. lower; and of 2,517 bags, two-thirds sold at 3d. to 3⅛d. for middling to good. Mace: Only 8 cases Penang at auction, sold at 11d. to 1s. per lb. for ordinary red, being firm. Nutmegs: Firm: 60 cases Penang at auction sold at 2s. 2d. to 2s. 6d. per lb. ordinary to middling bold, and 10d. to 1s. 4d. inferior small to fair medium. Pepper: Black, in improved demand, and at prices not previously obtainable, Sumatra realising 3⅞d., and Penang, 3⅛d. to 3¼d. per lb., and both very firm thereat. White: Is 1d. per lb. dearer, and good business has been done in Singapore up to 6¾d., and in Penang (very common) up to 6¼d.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch. Pegue: Is again dearer; and of 1,760 bags at auction, half sold at 24s. 6d. to 25s. per cwt. for good. Privately limited business has been done up to 25s. 6d. to 26s., for fine. Gambier: Steady, but quiet: and of 1,425 bales at auction, three-fourths sold at 27s. per cwt. for good cubes, and 22s. 6d. fair block: private transactions very limited.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Camphor: Has been very inactive, and recently at auction declined 2s. 6d. to 5s. per cwt., three-fourths of 200 cases China, in lead, selling at 92s. 6d. to 95s. Galls: Are very scarce, and Bussorah are quoted at £11 to £12 per cwt. for good blue. China much dearer: 384 cases sold at auction at 58s. to 59s. 6d. per cwt.; with siftings at 40s. to 41s.; and 12 cases Japan, at 54s. for good clean: subsequently large business done up to 65s. to 67s. 6d. per cwt. for China. Musk: Has realised fully former value, with good competition at auction; and 50 cases Tonquin sold at 22s. 6d. to 25s. 6d. per oz. middling to fair; 1 tin Nepaul, at 15s. 6d.; 3 tins Cabardine, 10s. 6d. to 11s. 3d.; and 6 tins Grain at 18s. to 25s. 6d. for ordinary. Rattans: Auctions have embraced 8,959 bundles Singapore, and 7,559 bundles Penang, the whole of which sold, and generally at higher prices—4s. 8d. to 8s. 9d. per 100 Sapanwood: Firm; 10 tons Siam at auction sold at £10 per ton, and 10 tons very fine Batavia at £14. 15s. to £15. Mother-o'-Pearl Shells: Steady; of 195 cases Manila at auction, three-fourths sold at £5. 7s. 6d. to £5. 10s. per cwt.; 50 cases Singapore retired. Soy: Remains firm and scarce, with inquiry at the higher quotation, but none offering. Star Anniseeds: Steady; 150 cases at auction sold at £5. 15s. to £5. 17s. 6d. per cwt. for good. Sticlac (Siam): Fine dearer; 161 cases at auction mostly sold at 36s. to 56s. per cwt. for ordinary small to very good. Tortoise-shell: Very dull, and only saleable at low prices; of 7 cases Singapore at auction, three sold at 13s. 6d. to 14s. per lb.; 4 cases Mauritius sold at 11s. to 15s. 6d. and hoof 19s. 6d.; and of 2 cases Sydney, one sold at 11s., and 4 cases indirect retired. Turmeric: No China offering; Java scarce; nothing of any interest doing. Vermilion: Of 32 cases at auction half sold at and after the sale at 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d. per lb.; privately 2s. 6d. has been accepted, but no more to be had at that price.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 10s.; nail rod, £8. 15s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10; sheets, single, £10. 15s. to £11; Staffordshire bars, £8. 15s.; rails, £6. 10s. to £7.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £15.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £95 to £96 per ton; yellow metal, 8d. to 8¼d. per lb.

TIN.—95s. to 96s. for block; 96s. to 97s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 28s. to 29s.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £20 to £20. 7s. 6d.; W.B., £21. 15s.; shot, patent, £23; sheet, £21; spelter, £19. 15s. to £20; zinc, English sheet, £24. 10s.; quicksilver, £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. Frenc and Smith:—Throughout the past month our market has continued dull, with but little variation in prices, business being confined pretty much to immediate requirements. Iron: Welsh has been rather more in demand, but without any improvement in price; in Staffordshire no increase of orders, and in Scotch Pig there is no activity. Copper: The quotations for both English and foreign are rather firmer, although comparatively but little business has been done. Tin: English is in moderate demand and rather better in price; Straits declined from £92, which it reached early in February, to £87. 10s., but is now firm at £88. 10s. Tin Plates continue dull in demand, and prices remain the same. The shipments last month were 75,000, against 64,000 in February, 1864. Lead is also very dull, quotations unaltered but not very firm. Spelter improved during the month about 15s. per ton; and in consequence of Zinc having advanced in price in Paris since the close of February month, there has been a good deal of business in Spelter here within the last few days, and prices have gone up to £19. 15s. and £20. The stock in London is 8,575 tons, against 8,220 same period 1864.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£26,466
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£83,256
Singapore	£3,007	£163,520
Penang	—	£3,500
Yokohama	—	£750

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£33,966
Penang	—	£1 628
Hong Kong	—	£35,000
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£5,200
Yokohama	—	£3,000

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£56	—
To Saigon	—	£3,360
To Batavia	£1,032	—
To Hong Kong	—	£14,880
To Shanghai	—	£9,870

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0	to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4	
Silver in Bars	0 5 1¼	
Mexican Dollars	0 5 0	

Shipping Intelligence.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Mar. 5	Shields	Singapore	George Avery	
Jan. 21	Buenos Ayres	Samarang	George and Henry	Peters.
— 28	Rio Janeiro	Batavia	Brewster	Clarke.
Mar. 7	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Tae-wan	Moore.
— 7	Do.	Ceylon	Moor Hill	Surrey.
— 5	Shields	Singapore	Drusus	Hansford.
— 8	Cardiff	Japan	Louisa Brigantou	Turner.
— 8	Lamlash	Do.	Otentosama (s.s.)	McCallum.
—	Liverpool	Yokohama & Nagasaki	Empress	Dall.
— 2	Cardiff	Manila	Hercules	Colonius.
— 9	Do.	Do.	Nordcap	Wolf.
— 9	Liverpool	Shanghai	New-Kee	Fuller.
— 11	Do.	Singapore	Gyrn Castle	Tindell.
— 9	Texel	River Amoor	Elisabeth	De Boer.
— 11	Liverpool	Yokohama	Raphael	Winsdale.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

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ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Mar. 5	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Landbouw	Kleinenberg.
—	Plymouth	Maulmain	Samoset	Cobb.
— 8	Liverpool	Rangoon	Columba	Polsen.
— 5	Texel	Batavia	Nicolas Witzen	Portengen.
— 9	Deal	China	Esperanza	Murrell.
— 6	Off Dungeness	Foo-chow-Foo	Caliban (?)	
— 9	Deal	Do.	Prince Alfred	Ellison.
— 5	Gibraltar	Maulmain	Cameo	Law.
— 10	Falmouth	Do.	Henry	Robin.
Feb. 23	New York	Foo-chow-Foo	Ravenaworth	Kerwin.
—	Do.	Manila	Horatio	
Mar 10	Deal	Macao, &c.	Cambalu	Wood.
—	Off Sandgate	China	Zemphor (?) (brig)	
— 8	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Mercator	Wonde.
— 11	Falmouth	Manila	Amur	Berg.
— 12	Deal	Foo-chow-Foo	Blencathra	Doron.
— 12	Do.	Shanghai	Toftcombs	M'Phun.
— 12	Do.	Manila	Constance	Rowe.
— 12	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Melbrek	Taggart.
— 11	Do.	Zebu	Beatrice	
— 12	Deal	Ceylon	Star of Ceylon	Johnson.
— 12	London	Colombo	Syren	Jones.
— 12	Falmouth	Java	Hadassah	Dickson.
— 12	Do.	Maulmain	Lady Valiant	Perry.
Feb. —	New York	Manila	Windward	
Mar 13	London	Penang	Wellington	Ditchburn.
— 13	Deal	Singapore	Maid of the Tyne	
—	Off Youghal	Hong Kong	Mount St Elphinstone	Davidson.
—	Queenstown	Manila	Ocean Home	
— 12	Off Falmouth	Bassein	Josh. Holmes	
— 12	Off Salcombe	Ceylon	Eclipse	Harris.
— 12	Falmouth	Rangoon	Amphion	Dalhstadt.
— 11	Off Hastings	Batavia	Anna Digna	

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Thomas Blythe, Gleam, Castleton, Maravi. For Nagasaki: Lammermuir. For Shanghai: Peterborough, Queen of the Forth, Glenclune, Lord Clyde. For Hong Kong: Cathaya. For Hong Kong and Canton: Yaratilda, Avondhu. For Singapore: Helen's Bank, Eliza Thornton. For Singapore, Bankok, and Saigon: Radama. For Penang: Rifle. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Ilma. For Colombo: Jeddo, Sea Sprite, Skimmer of the Waves. For Colombo and Cannamore: Star of Ceylon.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Sea Snake. For Shanghai: Patna, Sea Mew, Bankside. For Hong Kong and Canton: Veronica. For Singapore: Simoon, Der West, Vigil, Bintang (s.). For Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Yokohama: Shaftesbury (s.). For Batavia and Sourabaya: Affghan. For Manila: Tigris. For Galle: Blanche Moore. For Galle and Maulmain: Louisa.

At GLASGOW.—For Singapore: Sparkler. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Majestic. For Colombo: Ione.

At NEW YORK.—For Hong Kong: Samuel Russell. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Amaranth.

SPOKEN.

KIRKCONNEL, (barque), Singapore to Queenstown, Feb. 18, 9 N., 28 W.
GENERAL DE STEURS, Batavia to Rotterdam, Feb. 24, 39 N., 34 W.
DIONYSIA CATHARINA (Dut. ship), Lpl. to Soura., Jan. 14, 2 N., 26 W.
CONCORD, Manila to London, Feb. 15, 31 N., 29 W.
ERNST AND MARIA (Bremen barque), Trieste to Hong Kong. Feb. 8.
NONPAREIL, Liverpool to Shanghai, Jan. 2, off Galy Island, Gillolo.
MOUNTAIN ASH, Japan to London, Jan. 14, 35 S., 23 E.
ROBERTUS HENDRICUS, Java to Rotterdam, Jan. 17, 31 S., 13 E.
VENILIA, Colombo to London, Jan 17, 31 S., 13 E.
HORIZON, Manila to Wick (?), Jan. 2, 19 S., 3 W.
ESTER (brig), Swansea to Singapore, Dec. 16, 35 S., 10 W.
PEEP-O'-DAY, London to Shanghai, Dec. 15, 35 S, 17 E.
LYDIA HILTON (3 mstd. schr.), Sund. to H. Kong, Dec. 24, 36 S., 7 E.
LITTLE EDITH, Japan to London, in the Straits of Sunda.
SCOTIA (?), (Hamb. ship), from Bat., 39 days out, Jan. 8, 30 S., 44 E.
NEVA (ship), Colombo to London, 45 days out, Jan. 26, 15 S., 7 W.
MINISTER VAN HALL, Amsterdam to Japan, Dec. 1, 33 N., 173 E.
THEODOSIA (barq.), from Hong Kong, Feb. 21, 19 N., 37 W.
DELHI, Hong Kong to Liverpool, Jan. 18, 5 S., 16 W.
CARACTACUS (ship), London to Hong Kong, Feb. 17, 32 N., 20 W.
LOUISE (Dut. ship), Bali to Amsterdam, 40 days out, Jan. 8, 33 S., 30 E.
MAGGIE ATKINSON, Colombo to London, Jan. 13, 35 S., 24 E.
JACOBA CORNELIA (Dut. barq.), Bat. to Europe, Feb. 23, 27 N., 36 W.
DOROTHEA HENRIETTA, Rotterdam to Batavia, Jan. 9, 18 N., 25 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

The export market has of late worn a more animated appearance, and there having been but few arrivals from the Eastward, we have now to report a slight but marked improvement in outward freights. According to latest advices, a little inquiry has been made for ships from Java to the Continent or United States at 70s. to 75s. per ton, but beyond this little business has been done in homeward charters. Coal freights to China continue dull, but the P. and O. Company have made a contract for the delivery of 10,500 tons at Galle.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 20s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £33 and £1. 8s. For Shanghai: £40 and £1. 18s. For Manila: £1. 12s. 6d. For Batavia: £23 to £24, and £1. 2s. 6d. For Singapore: £26 and £1. 1s. 0d. For Galle: £25 and £1. 2s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 95 tons navy provisions, &c., 14 tons naval masts, and 38 small spars, from the river Thames to Trincomalee.

CASUALTIES.

Later advices from Buenos Ayres, under date Jan. 26, report that the Geelong was still lying aground, and that pumping her had been given up.

The Amelia, Valentine, arrived in the River Thames from Yokohama, reports that on the 27th February, Beachy Head bearing N.W., distant about 16 miles, she was in contact, in a dense fog, with a barque, and had foreyard and topmast backstays carried away, with other damage.

Accounts from Tremblade, dated 2nd March, state that the Concorde, Zisly, of and for Bordeaux, from Singapore, which was stranded at Coubre Point, had broken up.

The Friesland, Sipkes, from Amsterdam for Batavia, which put into Rio Janeiro 31st Jan. leaky, has discharged part of her cargo there.

The Priam, Irvine, from Clyde for Singapore, put into Lisbon leaky.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At ST. HELENA.—Jan. 20, from Batavia, Jacoba Cornelia, Lowens, sailed for Amsterdam; 22, from Manila, Ocean Home, Brown, and sailed, 23, for Queenstown; 25, from Banjoewangie, Columbine, Koh, and sailed, 27, for Rotterdam; from Canton, Magenta, Janvrin, and sailed 26, for New York; from Batavia, Anna Digna, Ouman, and sailed, 26, for Amsterdam; 26, from Amoy, Falcon, Watson, and sailed for New York; from Batavia, Graf v. Hoogendorp, Frabricius, and sailed, 28, for Rotterdam; 28, from Banjoewangie, Kon. Ned. Yacht Club, Zwart, and sailed for Amsterdam; from Patjitan, Nova Zembla, Mammes.

At ALGOA BAY.—Jan. 17, Alcyone, Kruisinga, sailed for Batavia Maria Catherina, de Bos, sailed for Java.

At NATAL.—Jan. 4, Frede, sailed for Singapore.

At MAURITIUS.—Jan. 18, Rainbow, Kelly, sailed for Batavia.

LIGHTS ON THE YANG-TSE KIANG.

Hydrographic Office, Admiralty, London, Feb. 17, 1865.

The Harbour Master at Shanghai has given notice that on and after the 5th day of December, 1864, lights would be exhibited from the Kiu T'Oan Beacon, on the south side of entrance to the Yang-Tse Kiang, on the east coast of China.

The upper light is a fixed white light, placed at an elevation of 70 feet above the mean level of the sea, and in clear weather should be visable from a distance of five or six miles.

The lower light is a fixed red light, at an elevation of 30 feet above the mean level of the sea. This light is intended to keep vessels clear of the dangerous spit that has formed off the beacon, and it will not be visible from a vessel's deck 15 feet above the sea, until she is in 18 feet, low water springs.

The Beacon is chequered Red and White, and surmounted by a brigh brass ball. By command of their Lordships,

GEO. HENRY RICHARDS, Hydrographer.

Mem.—This notice affects the following Admiralty charts—China. East Coasts, sheets 8 and 9, Nos. 1,199, 1,480, 2.412. Estuary of the Yang-tse, No. 1,602; and Hong Kong to Lian Tung, No. 1,262; also China Pilot, p. 211, and Hydrographic Notice, China, East Coast, No. 2.

GARDNERS'
£2 2s. DINNER SERVICES.

CUT WINES, 3s. 6d. per dozen; CUT QUART DECANTERS, 7s. 6d. per pair

Regimental Messes supplied at the lowest possible prices. Engravings free by post.

INDIAN LAMPS ON AN IMPROVED PRINCIPLE.

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PATENT ENAMEL GREAT CLOCK DIALS AT THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY. ESTABLISHED 109 YEARS.

453, STRAND, CHARING-CROSS; AND 5 AND 6, DUNCANNON-STREET, ADJOINING.

BOYVEAU LAFFECTEUR'S ROB.

The only one authorised and adopted in France, Belgium, Austria and Russia.

THIS Vegetable Syrup, prepared and guaranteed genuine by the signature of Dr. GIRAUDEAU DE ST. GERVAIS, is very superior to the purifying syrups. It effects a radical cure, without mercury, of all affections of the skin, scurf, scrofula, &c., and symptoms arising from the acrid state of the humours. The Rob is especially valuable in diseases which have resisted the effect of mercury or iodide of potash. The general entrepot is 12, RUE RICHER, PARIS.

Sold Retail.—London: Jozeau, Hannay. New York: Fougera, Gaudelet, Milhau. Gibraltar: Patron and Danilowich. Malta: Dr. Pirotti, Rugeja, Magri, and Rolando, Esperanza. Alexandria: Bellamore, Galette, Perime, Bombay; Framjee Nesserwanjee and Co. Singapore: Martin and Little Batavia: L. Platon and Co. Macao: J. D. Freita.

THE BANK of HINDUSTAN, CHINA, and JAPAN (Limited).

NOTICE of CALL of £5 per Share on 20,000 New Shares Third issue.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Directors have This Day made a CALL of £5 per Share on the 20,000 New Shares in this Company, PAYABLE on the 12th day of April, 1865, at the Banking-house of the Company, 1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Interest at 10 per cent. per annum will be charged on all calls not paid on the above date.

By order of the Board,

R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

No. 1, Bank-buildings, March 13, 1865.

WHITWORTH RIFLES.

THE MANCHESTER ORDNANCE AND RIFLE COMPANY beg to give notice that WHITWORTH ORDNANCE RIFLES and AMMUNITION are manufactured by Mr. Whitworth's Patent Machinery only at their works in Sackville-street, Manchester.

Application may be made either at the above works, or at the Company's Office, 28, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

The Rifles and Ammunition may be also obtained through the agency of any respectable Gunmaker.

N.B.—In the International Match at Wimbledon in 864 all the competitors used the Whitworth Rifles

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THE AGRA & MASTERMAN'S BANK

(LIMITED).

THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of Shareholders of the AGRA and MASTERMAN'S BANK (Limited), held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, E.C., on SATURDAY, March 11, 1865,

GEORGE GORDON MACPHERSON, Esq., Chairman, in the Chair.

The Notice convening the Meeting and the following Report and statement of accounts were read:—

The Directors, in submitting to the proprietary the audited accounts for the year ended 31st December last, beg to report that, after making ample provision for bad and doubtful debts, the available surplus is £263,120. 8s. 6d. Out of this sum the Directors have paid two half-yearly dividends at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum each on the original shares of the Bank, adding a bonus of £2 per share for the first six months, and of £3 per share for the second six months, thus making the total distribution for the year 20 per cent., free of income-tax, on the original capital of one million sterling.

The directors have also paid a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum on the new capital of £500,000, adding a bonus of £1. 5s. per share, together equal to 20 per cent. per annum free of income-tax, for the half-year just ended. The balance of £16,321. 11s. is carried forward to credit of profit and loss account for the current year.

The Directors have the pleasure to report that the amalgamation with the private bank of Messrs. Masterman, Peters, Mildred, and Co., has been successfully completed, and that the new capital authorised by the special resolutions passed at the extraordinary general meetings of the Company held on the 7th and 21st May last has been subscribed.

Every arrangement incident to the amalgamation has been made, and the Directors, after fulfilling the engagements into which they entered, have been able to make up the reserved fund of the Bank to £500,000, at which they propose that it shall in future stand.

The sanction of the Board of Trade has been obtained to the present designation of the Bank, and the Directors have applied to Parliament for an Act to enable the Bank to divide their shares.

Since last annual meeting the Directors have opened a sub-branch of the Bank in Melbourne.

They have also arranged for the sale, on satisfactory terms, of the premises, No. 27, Cannon-street, and of the building now occupied by the branch of the Bank in Calcutta.

The present auditors being eligible for re-election, in terms of the deed of settlement, offer themselves accordingly.

By order of the Board,

MACKINTOSH BALFOUR, General Manager.

BALANCE-SHEET, 31st December, 1864.

LIABILITIES.

No. 1. Dr.	£.	s.	d.
To Paid-up Capital	1,500,000	0	0
To Reserve Fund	500,000	0	0
To Amount due by the Bank on Customers' Balances, Fixed Deposits, and Note Circulation in China	5,977,756	17	2
To ditto on Acceptances by Head Office for Branches and Country Banks	4,408,860	8	4
To ditto on Exchange Accounts, Letters of Credit, Circular Notes, &c.	4,859,120	5	4
To Profit and Loss	263,120	8	6
	£17,508,857	19	4

ASSETS.

Cr.	£.	s.	d.
By cash in hand and at call at Head Office and Branches	1,945,620	5	3
By Government Securities	397,280	3	6
By Discounts, Loans, Credits, &c.	6,048,341	17	10
By other Securities, including Gold and Silver Bullion, Bills Purchased, &c.	8,891,668	17	0
By Freehold Premises in London, Edinburgh, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, and Sydney, and Leasehold Property at the other Branches	225,946	15	9
	£17,508,857	19	4

G. B. DALBY, Chief Accountant.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, from January 1st to December 31st, 1864.

No. 2. Dr.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
To Payment of Dividend on Paid-up Capital at 10 per cent. per annum, for half-year ended 30th June	50,000	0	0			
To Bonus at £2 per Share	40,000	0	0			
To Payment of Dividend on old Shares at 10 per cent. per annum, for half-year ended 31st December	50,000	0	0			
To Bonus on ditto at £3 per Share	60,000	0	0			
To Payment of dividend on new Shares at 10 per cent. per annum, for half-year ended 31st December	23,399	8	9			
To Bonus on ditto at £1. 5s. per Share	23,399	8	9			
				246,798	17	6
Balance carried forward				16,321	11	0
				£263,120	8	6

Cr.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
By Balance brought forward from 31st December, 1863	10,508	10	2			
By Gross Profits at Head Office and Branches, to 31st December, 1864 (after making provision for bad and doubtful debts)	564,612	14	0			
	575,181	4	2			
Less Interest allowed on Current and Deposit Accounts	203,672	15	2			
				371,508	9	0
Total Expenditure of Head Office and Branches, including Rent, Income-tax, Taxes, Stamps, Salaries, and Miscellaneous charges				108,388	0	6
				£263,120	8	6

G. B. DALBY, Chief Accountant.

RESERVED FUND ACCOUNT, 31st December, 1864.

No. 3. Dr.	£.	s.	d.
To Balance at credit of Reserved Fund	500,000	0	0
	£500,000	0	0

Cr.	£.	s.	d.
By Amount on 31st December, 1863	225,000	0	0
By ditto since added, as per Report on other side	275,000	0	0
	£500,000	0	0

G. B. DALBY, Chief Accountant.

We have examined the preceding Statements (Nos. 1, 2, and 3) with the Books, Vouchers, and Securities, at the Head Office in London, and with the detailed Returns and Balance-sheets signed by the Auditors of the several Branches, and we hereby certify to the correctness and satisfactory character thereof

London, 2nd March, 1865.

WILLIAM FARR,
J. HILL WILLIAMS, } Auditors.

The following resolutions were duly moved, seconded, and carried unanimously:—

1. That the report and statements now read to the meeting, and previously circulated to the shareholders in Europe, be adopted.

2. That Major-General James Ramsay, Colonel James Holland, George Hay Donaldson, Esq., and Alderman Thomas Quested Finnis, be re-elected Directors.

3. That John Hill Williams, Esq., and William Farr, Esq., F.R.S., be auditors for the present year.

4. That the thanks of the shareholders be given to the Board of Directors; to the General Manager, Mr. Mackintosh Balfour; to the London Manager, Mr. William Shipman, and to the local committees and managers of the branches for their able and satisfactory management of the Bank's affairs for the past year; and to the Auditors for their efficient supervision of the accounts.

5. That the thanks of the meeting be given to the Chairman for his able conduct in the chair.

G. G. MACPHERSON, Chairman.

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ALBERT INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

FOR FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCES.

8, Finch-lane London, E.C.

LOSSES and CLAIMS upon POLICIES granted by this Company can be made PAYABLE at the following places in India and China through the Company's Agents, as under:—

Bombay—Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, and Co.
Calcutta—Messrs. Grant, Smith, and Co.
Madras—Messrs. Bainbridge, Byard, Gair, and Co.
Singapore—Messrs. Cumming, Beaver, and Co.
Hong Kong—Messrs. Johnson and Co.
Shanghai—Messrs. Johnson and Co.
Yokohama—Messrs. De Coningh and Co.

JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL, £2,000,000.
Paid-up Capital, £500,000.
HEAD OFFICE, No. 4 LOMBARD-STREET.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Francis Boykett, Esq., Chairman (Messrs. Timothy Wiggin and Co.).
John A. Russell, Esq., Deputy-Chairman (Messrs. Grey and Coles, and Grey and Co., Bombay).
Thomas Cardwell, Esq. (Messrs. Thomas Cardwell and Co., and Cardwell, Parsons, and Co., Bombay).
Charles A. Fearon, Esq. (Messrs. Fearon and Co., late of Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co., China).
William Maitland, Esq. (Messrs. M'Killop, Stewart, and Co.), Calcutta).

COMMITTEE IN BOMBAY.

The Hon. Michael H. Scott (Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, and Co.).
Robert Hannay, Esq. (Messrs. Grey and Co.).
Cowasjee Jehanghier, Esq.

GENERAL MANAGER.

Anthony Morrison. Esq. (late Agent at Bombay).
ACTING-MANAGER—F. W. Lawrence, Esq.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England; The London Joint-Stock Bank.

AGENTS IN IRELAND.

The National Bank.

AGENTS IN SCOTLAND.

The British Linen Company.

BROKERS.

Messrs. Foster and Braithwaite.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Freshfields and Newman.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. Coleman, Turquand, Youngs, and Co.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

The Corporation grant Drafts and negotiate Bills of Exchange, payable at the above places, issue Letters of Credit, and conduct every description of Banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian Securities, the receipt of Dividends, &c., and undertake the safe custody of Securities. They also receive Deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of Interest and Exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.
Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England.

The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)

Branches and Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo, Kandy, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Point de Galle, Manila, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow, Nagasaki, and Kiu-kiang.

Deposits received at ten days' notice, on the usua terms and for fixed period, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued and Bills negotiated payable in India, China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable through out Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government loan notes effected so that the interest may be paid in England. Every other de scription of Banking and Agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms. J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

THE AGRA and MASTERMAN'S BANK

(Limited).
(Established in 1833.)
Incorporated by Royal Charter.
Paid-up Capital, £1,500,000 (one million and a-half sterling).
Subscribed Capital, £3,000,000 (three millions sterling).
In 20,000 Shares of £100 each, and 20,000 Shares of £50 each.
Number of Shareholders, 908.
Reserved Fund, £500,000.

HEAD OFFICE.

Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

GEORGE GORDON MACPHERSON, Esq., Chairman.
Alderman THOMAS QUESTED FINNIS, Deputy-Chairman.

GENERAL MANAGER.

Mackintosh Balfour, Esq.

LONDON MANAGER.

William Shipman, Esq.

ASSISTANT MANAGER.

T. F. Robinson, Esq.

INSPECTOR OF BRANCHES.

Richard Barnes, Esq.

AUDITORS.

J. H. Williams, Esq., and Wm. Farr, Esq., F.R.S.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Uptons, Johnson, and Upton, 20, Austinfriars.

EDINBURGH BRANCH.

17, St. Andrew-square.

DIRECTORS.

THOMAS RANKIN, Esq., 68, Queen-street, Chairman.
Daniel Ainslie, Esq., 48, Moray-place.
Benjamin Burt, Esq., M.D., 31, Charlotte-square.
George Moir, Esq., Advocate, Sheriff of Stirlingshire, 14, Charlotte-square.

MANAGER.

Robert Hunter, Esq.

Branches in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee, Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Sydney, Melbourne.

Current accounts of firms and individuals are kept at the head office, on the terms customary with London bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received at seven days' notice of withdrawal, at rates fluctuating with those of the Bank of England; and for longer periods at fixed rates, particulars of which may be obtained upon application.

Sales and purchases effected in British and foreign securities, in East India stock and loans, and army, navy and civil pay and pensions realised.

Every other description of banking business and money agency, at home and abroad, transacted.

Letters of credit and circular notes issued, payable at the chief cities of Europe and Asia, and also at Cairo and Alexandria.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.
Paid-up capital, £750,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

Bombay.	Colombo.	Penang.	Hong Kong.	Yokohama
Calcutta.	Kandy.	Singapore.	Shanghai.	Mauritius
Madras.	Galle.		Hankow.	

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at the places above mentioned, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the Overland Route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

No. 52, Threadneedle-street, London, E.C.

THE UNDERSIGNED LICENSED PILOTS FOR THE PORT OF SHANGHAI, CHINA,

BEG to inform SHIPMASTERS that their Schooners DANIEL WEBSTER and A. J. WESTEWELT will be found at the OUTSIDE PILOT STATION on the YANG-TZE-KEANG, with thoroughly qualified PILOTS on board. The schooners distinguishable by being painted white, and having the word Pilot on the mainsail.

To regular traders the undersigned are known to be among the oldest and best Pilots on the River:—

DANIEL MARTIN. JOSEPH SHERMAN.
ALEXANDER SMITH. JOSEPH CARGILL.
JOHN COATES. JOHN KURSH.
EDWARD BRAND.

DOCKS.

PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

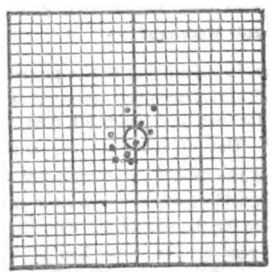
AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 280 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caissoon Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1864.

AMMUNITION.



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12 FEET SQUARE

Represents average shooting at 500 yards with

ELEY'S BEST ENFIELD CARTRIDGES

ELEY'S AMMUNITION

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION FOR

SPORTING OR MILITARY PURPOSES.

Double Waterproof Central Fire Caps. Felt Waddings, to prevent the leading of Guns, Wire Cartridges, for Killing Game, &c., at long distances, Breech-Loading Cartridge Cases of superior quality, for Shot Guns and Rifles.

Jacob's Rifle Shell Tubes, Cartridges and Caps for Colt's, Adams', Deane's, Tranter's, and other Revolvers.

BALL CARTRIDGES

For Enfield, Whitworth, and Henry Rifles; also for Westley Richards', Terry's, Wilson's, Prince's, Deane's, and other Breech Loaders.

"Black Buck Shells," for 10, 12, and 16 Bore Breech Loaders.

The "Metford" Shel Bullet, for Enfield and Whitworth Bore Rifles.

Bullets of unifor eight made by compression from Soft Refined Lead.

ELEY BROTHERS, GRAY'S-INN-ROAD, LONDON, WC.
or of Messrs. SMITH, ELDER, and CO., and their Agents.
Wholesale Only.

"CHINA MAIL" OFFICE.

PUBLISHED at this Office, No. 2, WYNDHAM-STREET (back of the Club):—

1.—THE EVENING MAIL,

EVERY DAY.

PRICE,—2 dols. per month.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING.—First insertion, Ten lines and under, 1 dol.; each additional line, 10 cents. Subsequent insertions, per week, 50 cents and 5 cents—("Auction" Notices excepted, for which only One Charge per week is made).

2.—THE CHINA MAIL,

ONCE A WEEK.

(On Thursday Night.)

PRICE—15 dols. per annum; Single Copies, 44 cents.

ADVERTISING.—First insertion, Five lines, 1 dol.; each additional line, 20 cents. Subsequent insertions, 50 cents and 10 cents.

3.—THE OVERLAND MAIL.

ONCE A FORTNIGHT.

(The Morning of the Mail's despatch.)

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ADVERTISING.—The same as in the Weekly. All "Notices of Firms" appearing in the Weekly will be inserted in the *Overland*, and charged for, unless otherwise ordered. A. SHORTREDE & CO.

Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

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EXCLUSIVELY DEVOTED TO THE DISCUSSION OF COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL TOPICS.

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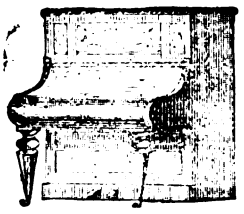
TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND INDIA.



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PATENT PIANOFORTE MAKERS,

PIANOFORTES, WITH ALL THE LATEST IMPROVEMENTS EXPRESSLY FOR EXPORTATION.

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FACTORY, LITTLE STORE-STREET.

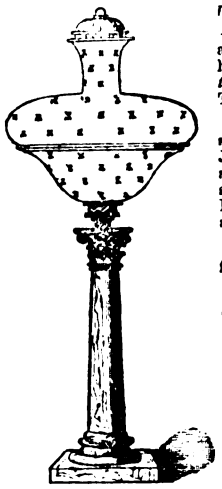
ILLUSTRATED LISTS FORWARDED FREE ON APPLICATION.

IMPORTANT TO RESIDENTS, MILITARY MESSES, &c., IN INDIA, CHINA, &c.

TUCKER AND SON'S

IMPROVED

ENAMELLED PUNKAH TABLE LAMPS.



THE celebrity which TUCKER AND SON'S LAMPS have acquired in the East for burning *steadily* under the Punkah or in side draughts, and *brilliantly* with any of the *coarse native oils*, renders eulogy unnecessary; but having been enabled, by increased facilities of manufacture, very considerably to *reduce the prices* of the above favourite (but hitherto expensive) description of their lamps, T. and Son beg to notify the fact to the Eastern public.

They are elegant and durable, are finished in exact imitation of many beautiful stones and marbles, such as Malachite, Lapis Lazuli, Serpentine, Sienna, Brocatella, Jaspez, &c., and are not affected by heat, damp, friction, or insects; oil, spirits, or acids accidentally spilled. The enamel surface is so inseparable from the base (block slate, proverbial for its strength) that it cannot be removed except by an edged tool. It *requires* simply *dusting*, but if rubbed hard, it only adds a gloss to its appearance—at all times cool and agreeable.

After ten years' constant use and handling, these lamps are none the worse for wear.

Malachite (green), Serpentine (brown), or Lapis Lazuli (blue), are most recommended.

Table Lamp complete, with engraved glasses, as sketch, 72s.

A Plainer Lamp, without the Corinthian capital, 50s. complete.

Either pattern, with plain frosted glasses, 7s. 6d. each less.

*** *The above Lamps are supplied to burn Petroleum or Rock Oil also.*

Orders can be sent through any merchant or Agent, or, if accompanied by a remittance, direct to

TUCKER AND SON,

ARUNDEL LAMP WORKS, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

ESTABLISHED 1818.

RENOWNED

FOR HIS SPECIAL PREPARATIONS FROM THE FAMOUS

VIOLETS OF PARMA.

ESSENCE OF VIOLETS FOR THE HANDKERCHIEF.
VIOLET POMADE LIQUEFIED.
EMOLLIENT VIOLE SOAP.
SUPERFINE VIOLET POWDER.
FAU DE TOILETTE, STRAWBERRY AND VIOLET, COLD CREAM; EAU DE LAVANDE AMBREE PERFUMED OILS, &c.

A LA CORBEILLE DE FLEURS.

TRADE MARK.

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SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED.

EXTRACT OF VERBINA FOR THE TOILET.
EAU DE COLOGNE, EXTRA STRONG.
EXQUISITE SCENTS FOR THE HANDKERCHIEF.
HYGIENIC ELIXIR FOR THE MOUTH.
SUPERFINE MILK OF LETTUCE SOAP.
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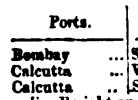
Destination.	Ships.	Tons	Class.	To Sail.
Hong Kong & Whampoa ...	Veronica ...	332	A 1 14 yrs.	About Mar.25
Shanghai ...	Patua	325	—	Mar.25
Yokohama ...	Sea Snake ..	425	A 1 14 yrs.	April 1
Singapore ...	Bintang (stm.)	316	A 1 9 yrs.	Mar.20
Batavia & Sourabaya ...	Afghan ...	623	A 1 12 yrs.	Mar.18
Calcutta ...	Cingala ...	799	A 1 14 yrs.	Mar.20
Calcutta ...	Wm. Fairbairn	1293	A 1 12 yrs.	April 5
Mauritius ...	Lagerania ...	235	A 1 8 yrs.	Mar.25

For terms of Freight or Passage apply to McDIARMID, GREENSHIELDS, and Co., Liverpool.



GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL will despatch the undermentioned clipper SHIPS as under:—

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Calcutta ...	West Derby .	A 1 18yrs	E.I.D	Mar. 20.
Calcutta ..	Staffordshire	A 1 12yrs	E I.D.	April 20.

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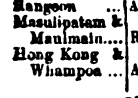

TOULMIN, LIVINGSTON, and Co. will despatch the following splendid VESSELS:—

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Calcutta ...	Carleton ...	A 1	1058	E.I.D.
Calcutta ...	Revenue ...	A 1	797	L.D.
Colombo ...	Jeddo	A 1	823	W.I.D.
Rangoon ...	Adelaide ...	A 1	453	W.I.D.
Masulipatam & Maulmain....	Refuge... ...	5-6th 2-1	803	W.I.D.
Hong Kong & Whampoa ...	Avondhu ...	A 1	394	K.D.

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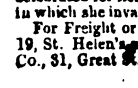

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Kanagawa (Yokohama) ...	Gleam ...	A1 12 yr.	W.I.D.	With des.
Nagasaki ...	Lammermuir.	A1 12 yr.	W.I.D	With des.
Singapore ...	Helensbank .	A1 10 yr.	S K.D.	With des.

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H. Kong & Whampoa	Cathaya ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Manila	A Ship ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Kanagawa	Thos. Blythe	W.I.D.	With des.
Kanagawa	Maravi ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Singapore	E. Thornton.	W.I.D.	With des.
Penang	Rifle ...	W.I.D.	With des.

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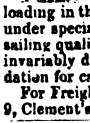

DIRECT for CALCUTTA, the magnificent clipper-built ship CARLETON, A 1, 1,058 tons register, J. YOUNG, Commander; East India Docks. This splendid vessel offers a first-rate opportunity to shippers requiring quick despatch.

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DIRECT for RANGOON, the splendid clipper ship ADELAIDE, A 1 12 years, 453 tons register, F. COOPER, Commander; lying in the West India Docks. This beautiful vessel, so well known in the India trades, offers a favourable opportunity to shippers desirous of despatch.

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Cashmere, do.	1s. 6d and 3s.
Lucknow (sweet), do.	1s. 6d. and 3s.
Curry Sauce...	1s. 6d.
Tap, do.	1s. 6d.
Pickled Limes	1s. 6d.
Pickled Mangoes	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Essence of Chillies	1s. 9d.
Tamarind Fish	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Balachow	1s. 6d.
Genuine Cayenne	1s. and 2s.
Nepaul Pepper	1s. and 2s.
Guava Jelly	2s. 6d. and 5s.
Preserved Mangoes	2s. and 3s. 6d.
Do. Jamaica Ginger	from 3s. 6d.
Do. Chinese Ginger	...jars 5s. and 10s.

Genuine Arrowroot, 1 lb. tins, 2s.; 7 lb. tins, 10s. 6d. each

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Printed for the Proprietors by WOODFALL and KINDER, Milford-lane, Strand, W.C., and published by JOHN ELLISON, at the Office of the "LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH," 12, George-yard, Lombard-street, E.C., in the parish of St. Edmund the King —Wednesday, March 15, 1865.

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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 168.] LONDON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Nov. 26	Jan. 25	Feb. 1
Nagasaki			
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
—Tien-tsin			Dec. 8
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	Dec. 17	Feb. 6	Feb. 9
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 9
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 10
Swatow			
Hong Kong	„ 26	„ 7	„ 15
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	„ 10		„ 7
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			„ 12
SIAM— Bangkok			„ 5
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			„ 15
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 16
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Jan. 17	Feb. 20	„ 22
Penang	„ 10	„ 12	„ 24

Telegrams of the French mail, due on 7th April, have been received, and it is believed private telegrams are up to the mail due on the 13th.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles, per P. and O. Company's steamer Ellora, arrived March 27.—From Hong Kong: Captain and Mrs. Gordon, Messrs. E. Townsend, R. C. Lambert, Weston, Rawson, J. Lord. From Singapore: Monsieur C. C. Pin, Captain Kramer and child, Mr. and Mrs. Goldie.

To Southampton, per Massilia, expected to arrive April 2.—From Shanghai: Mr. Coates and one second class passenger. From Hong Kong: Mrs. Gifford, three children, and servant, Assistan surgeon Wheatley, and seven second-class passengers. From Singapore: Five second-class passengers. From Penang: Dr. and Mrs. Clarke. To Gibraltar.—From Hong Kong: Mr. Bustanante and one second-class passenger.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, from Southampton, March 20.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. M. Little, infant, and two European servants, Mrs. Robinson, and one second-class passenger. To Shanghai: Mr. Grange and five second-class passengers. To Hong Kong: Mr. Steel Capt. Melville Suther, R.N., and five second-class passengers. To Ceylon: Miss Sconce, Mrs. Watt, Messrs. H. E. Astley, E. Robinson, and R. J. Watt, and two second-class passengers. To Calcutta: Major and Mrs. Marquiss, two infants, and European servant, Ensign W. F. Rudman, Miss Clara Newton, Captain Theobald, Mr. S. H. Lean, and eleven second-class passengers. To Madras: Misses Gorton, Wolferston, and R. M'Kenzie, Mrs. Heath and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Puckle, Mr. A. R. Alston, and three second-class passengers. To Suez: Two second-class passengers. To Alexandria: Mr. J. A. S. Grant, Mrs. Phillips and female servant, three second-class passengers, and one child.

From Marseilles, March 29.—To Shanghai: Mr. H. W. Woodward. To Hong Kong: Mr. Rusden, Mr. Gilman, Mr. Lutkens. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Schmidt, two infants, child, and European servant, Mr. A. Koch, Mr. C. S. Sherwood, Mr. W. H. Potter, Mr. and Mrs. Scrymgeour. To Ceylon: Mr. Kinnear, Mr. A. R. D. Mount. To Calcutta: Major C. H. Hallett, Messrs. J. Wells, groom, and J. M. Clelland, Rev. C. Bennett, Captain C. H. Larpent. To Madras: Captain and Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. N. Denison, Captain J. M. Grant. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Hugo Konig, Mr. H. Overbeck. To Calcutta: Mr. A. T. M'Lean.

Per P. and O. steamer Poonah, from Southampton, March 27.—To Malta (en route to Shanghai): Mr. Latham.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, April 4.—To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Medhurst and two infants. To Hong Kong: Mr. R. M. Reddie, Lieut.-Col. T. W. Lowell, C.B., R.E., Mr. C. G. Tatham, Dr. A. M'Kenna, R.N., Mr. W. C. Johnston, Dr. Freer. To Ceylon: Lieut and Mrs. J. J. C. Miller and child, Mr. and Mrs. Hill, Mr. H. V. Ellis, Mr. A. Featherstonhaugh. From Marseilles, April 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. H. Painter, Mr. A. Rodger, Mr. Vanner, Mr. Jose Loureiro. To Shanghai: Mr. E. M. Satow, Mr. Theotoky. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. A. O. de Zarate, Baron R. de Tuyll.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Dates are to the 1st February. The London mail of the 26th November arrived out on the 25th January.

The newspapers received by this mail may, perhaps happily, be said to contain nothing worth extracting. All is quiet; and in the intervals of business the inhabitants of the settlement have been enabled to amuse themselves unchecked by apprehension or anxiety. The lovers of skating have had a long burst of that pastime; the Garrison Games were held on the 26th January; and equestrians have begun to resort in considerable numbers to the splendid Park-road (from the Bluff and Creek, round the Mississippi Valley and hills), which is now near completion.

Colonel Fisher, the United States Consul, is accused of being opposed to the establishment of a Municipal Council on the plan proposed; and the difficulties he has it in his power to throw in the way of a Council formed without his sanction are great. The *Japan Herald* says:—"Though many respectable Americans are, we know, willing to pay their share of the expenses, and conform to the rules of a municipal body, still, especially on questions of keeping order in the streets and in licensing and controlling public-houses, the municipality would be constantly in collision with the United States Consul, and we fear that almost insuperable difficulty would be found in working it." However, we learn that a meeting of the delegates elected by all the other nationalities, to decide finally on the question, was appointed for the 6th February.

Several cases of smallpox had occurred in the camp and afloat, but we hear of none amongst the civil community. A scheme for an ice-house has been started by Mr. Risley, who is supported by a list of subscribers, who are willing to unite in providing means for the erection of the necessary structure, the working the ice, &c. The ice thus provided is to be sold at ten cents per lb.

The following commercial changes are notified:—

The interest and responsibility of Mr. Wm. Hallensleben in the firm of Grosser and Co. ceased on the 31st December.

A. N. Shillingford and S. Rowell dissolved partnership as Civil and Mechanical Engineers on the 31st December.

NAGASAKI.

Messrs. Maltby and Co.'s tea-firing establishment was burned down on the 13th January. The newly-formed fire-brigade rendered able assistance, and were well seconded by the crews of several men-of-war in port. The property was insured in the China Fire Insurance Company, for about $8,000.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

The English mail of 10th Dec., arrived out on the 31st Jan., and the French mail of 17th Dec. on the 6th Feb. The dates are down to the 9th.

From the *North China Herald* we gather the following items.—The Chinese new year festivities have passed by without any demonstration of rowdyism on the part of either foreigners or natives. Our readers will recollect the circumstances of a case that occurred during last December, in which an Englishman named Dodds fired recklessly into a Chinese boat, and

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mortally wounded a woman. The prisoner was sentenced to deportation, and to pay a fine of $500.

A meeting of the pew-renters, and others interested in the English Church at this port, was held at the British Consulate. Sir Harry Parkes occupied the chair. The report for the past year was read, and the accounts submitted and passed. After much discussion, it was resolved that Mr. G. G. Scott's plans for the new church, as enlarged by Mr. Kidner, be adopted, and that the appointment of a clerk of the works be left in the hands of the trustees. It was also resolved that building operations shall commence so soon as, in addition to the sum of Tls. 25,000 at present available, Tls. 20,000 shall be collected. The remainder of the sum required will subsequently be raised by mortgage, or by such other means as may seem advisable to the pew-renters. The plans submitted by Mr. Kidner will afford room for seven hundred and fifty sittings, while Mr. Scott's plan, if adopted in its integrity, would accommodate no more than four hundred and sixty. A letter from the Secretary of the Municipal Council, proposing that a portion of the Church compound should be devoted to the erection of a town-hall, and enclosing plan, was read, but it was unanimously resolved that the Church compound should not be infringed upon.

The eighteenth annual meeting of the friends and supporters of the Chinese Hospital was held on Tuesday the 31st Jan. The following are the names of the office bearers appointed for the year 1865 :—

TRUSTEES.—T. Hanbury, Esq., W. Lockhart, Esq., H. W. Dent, Esq., R. R. Tyers, Esq., W. G. Cuthbertson, Esq., R. C. Antrobus, Esq., F. R. Gamwell, Esq.

COMMITTEE.—H. W. Dent, Esq., Treasurer; T. Hanbury, Esq., Auditor; Rev. W. Muirhead, John Major, Esq., P. Loureiro, Esq., Dr. Johnston, Dr. Henderson, Secretary.

MEDICAL OFFICERS.—J. Henderson, M.D., F.R.C.S.E., Surgeon; J. Johnston, M.D., M.R.C.S.E., Surgeon.

We have already announced the anticipated departure of the 67th Regiment, and we now learn from intelligence lately received from Hong Kong that the 2nd Beloochees and the 22nd Regiment of Madras Infantry will leave for India within this month or early in the next, while the 99th have been countermanded. Taku and Shanghai will thus be left without the protection of a foreign garrison, but there will be two regiments stationed at Hong Kong and one in Japan, which will suffice to ensure the safety of the foreign settlements.

A second report has been issued by Mr. Clarke to the Municipal Council of Shanghai respecting the bund line, upon which the *North China Herald* has the following remarks :—

The deterioration of the river channel, the inconvenience and offensiveness of the mud bank—which is extending so rapidly in advance of the bund—and the utter insufficiency of the present jetties, have been so often dilated on and are so fully admitted, that to insist further on the necessity for adopting some remedial measures is needless. The urgency of the case is fully admitted by everyone except the Chinese ; but they, while acquiescing with apathetic readiness in every representation made on the subject, appear utterly unable to contemplate the necessary improvements otherwise than as a remote contingency. The closing of the Soochow creek alone appears to excite some anxiety in their minds. When, on a recent occasion, Mr. Clarke marked out the proposed new bund line for the Taotai's inspection, the latter approved complacently of his suggestions, but said that Peking must be consulted before so extensive a design could be carried out. When, however, the possibility of walking across the Soochow creek at low water was practically demonstrated, he suddenly manifested a much deeper interest.

The weather has been changeable, with two days of nearly continuous rain. The thermometer shows maximum by day 68 deg., and the minimum by night 34 deg., against maximum 70 deg. and minimum 33 deg., the register during the previous week.

Tseng Kuo Tsueh, whose degradation we mentioned some weeks ago, has since died, either by his own hand, as some assert, or from disease brought on by exposure and dissipation.

The clipper ship *Serica* arrived in ninety-five days from Torbay. The *Serica* was the first ship home last year, and she has now added additional renown to her name. Last year the *Fiery Cross* accomplished the run in the same time.

The property of Mr. James Cock has been made over to Mr. Charles Cumine and Mr. F. R. Gainwell.

Mr. T. B. Twiss has also made over his estate to J. D. Cope and W. Cheshire.

The members of the Sussex and Northern Lodges, the Zion Chapter, and the Celestial Encampment met at a Masonic banquet given by them in honour of R. W. Bro. S. Rawson, P.P.G.M., P.G.S. of Royal Arch Masonry, and P.G.C. of Templar Masonry in China. R. W. Bro. Rawson's departure from China will be deeply felt by the brethren in Shanghai, as for many years, both at this place and in the south, he has devoted his attention to the advancement of the interests of the craft.

A general meeting of the Shanghai Rowing Club was held on the 2nd of February, when Mr. Hayes, the Hon. Sec., presented the balance-sheet for the past year. The old committee having retired in accordance with the rules, Mr. Maitland proposed that the following gentlemen should form the committee for the ensuing year :—H. W. Dent, Esq., R. C. Antrobus, Esq., H. S. Geary, Esq., W. Stout, Esq., Captain ; H. Cope, Esq., Hon. Sec. Mr. Hayes seconded. Carried unanimously.

A trial of some interest took place before the Consul, Sir H. Parkes, between the owners of the ship *Her Majesty*, and Dadabhoy and Co., on the 24th of January :—

The parties to this suit had agreed, by a charter-party dated September 14, 1864, that the ship *Her Majesty* should take on board at Shanghai a cargo of cotton, or other merchandise, and therewith proceed to London or Liverpool, as ordered by the charterers ; the ship to have a lien on cargo for freight £3. 10s. per ton of 50 cubic feet. Seventy working days to be allowed, and demurrage beyond that time to be paid by the charterers at the rate of $80 a day. The plaintiffs had done everything to entitle them to have the cargo on board the ship, but the defendants had not fulfilled their agreement, and the plaintiffs claimed £6,500 in consequence.—The defendants replied that the time allowed for the loading of the vessel had not elapsed, and that the plaintiffs had wrongfully refused to receive cargo tendered by the defendants in pursuance of the agreement which had been concluded between them. The plaintiffs had thus discharged defendants from the performance of the charter-party.

The Court decided that the charter-party continued in force, and ordered Messrs. Dadabhoy 80 Mexican dollars demurrage per day, from the 7th to the 24th Jan., and after that date 100 do. per day.

Another action before the same Court was between the master and owners of the steamer *Titan*, and the master and owners of the steamer *Fire Dart*, and *vice versâ*. This was a cross action in which both cases were merged in one by mutual consent. The plaint brought on the part of the steamer *Fire Dart* was to the effect that the persons having the management of the steamer *Titan* did on or about the 7th of January, 1865, in or near the entrance to the Wongpoo, so negligently and unskilfully navigate and direct their vessel that she came into violent collision with the steamer *Fire Dart*, and in consequence the *Fire Dart* was greatly injured and delayed ; the collision was entirely attributable to their fault and misconduct, and the sum of tls. 1,453 was claimed as compensation. On the part of the *Titan* a general denial was made of the above charge. The cases occupied a long time in the trying, and so conflicting was the evidence that, had not the disinterested evidence of Lieutenant Chowne, of the *Barossa*, who witnessed the collision been forthcoming, the Court would have found difficulty in deciding. That officer's evidence, however, showed that the *Fire Dart* put her helm a-port, in order to avoid collision with a vessel that was approaching her on her starboard bow. The rule that two ships meeting should put their helms a-port was misapplied under these circumstances ; as it is only intended to be followed when vessels meet "end on, or nearly end on," and this could not be construed to mean two or three points on either board. When collision became imminent, the *Titan* stopped her engines and put her helm hard a-starboard, while the *Fire Dart* simply kept her helm hard a-port, without attempting to stop, and kept her engines going even during the time that the vessels were in collision. The Court therefore decided in favour of the *Titan*.

HANKOW.

We learn that so much apprehension is felt lest the rebels should spread into the adjacent provinces, that Tseng Kuo-fan has detached five thousand picked men, under an experienced general, to guard the city of Ying-chou-fu, on the borders of the Anhuei province, about two hundred miles south of Kai-fung. It is strange that the Mahometans did not seize the opportunity afforded by the unsettled state of the empire during the Taiping occupation to push their designs, but if they now prosecute their present undertaking the insurrection will in all probability prove as serious in its character as was the Taiping movement.

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HONG KONG.

The French mail of 17th Dec. arrived out on the 1st Feb.; the English mail of 26th on the 7th. The dates are now down to the 15th.

The leading item of interest was the robbery of the vaults of the Central Bank of India. It appears that the amount carried off by the thieves is somewhere about $115,000. Of that sum a small portion has been recovered. The affair was managed by means of a tunnel, which was dug between a drain and the floor of the bank's treasury vault, a distance of sixty feet. A flag was raised up and entrance to the vault obtained. Here were many bags of dollars, four boxes of gold bars. several boxes of small silver coin, and $63,000 in bank notes, The bank not having a note-issue of its own, the notes were those of various other banks, and their numbers had not been taken, it not being customary in Hong Kong to keep the numbers of bank-notes on hand. Two boxes of gold bars were removed, as well as all the paper money, also two bags of dollars and a box of ten-cent pieces. The authorities at Canton and Macao were at once communicated with, so that they might be upon the alert, and we hear that some arrests have been made at Macao. The police of Hong Kong made vigilant search throughout the city and the island, and succeeded in apprehending between twenty and thirty men on suspicion. On the person of one of them was found $5,755, and two bars of gold having the bank's mark upon them. Further search being made, seven gold ingots were found on the premises (a matshed at Wanchi) where the man (along with others since discharged for want of evidence) was taken. The latter has admitted his guilt, and has given up the names of eight Chinamen who were engaged with him in the robbery. He has also made statements which, with other evidence of a direct nature, have led to the taking into custody of the bank's comprador, two shroffs, and two coolies. The charges against them have been made at the Police Magistrate's Court, and a remand granted for the production of further evidence.

H.M.'s troop ship *Tamar* has arrived with the 2nd Battalion 9th Regt. from Gibraltar. She is to proceed to the Cape with the 99th Regt., and thence home with return troops.

The weather had been unseasonably warm, and the hope of any winter was almost given up.

The *Fiery Cross* arrived from England in 88 days, from pilot to pilot.

The *Evening Mail* notices the following items :—

The competition between the H.K.V.A. and the H.K.V.R.—or the carbine versus the long Enfield, resulted in a slight advantage to the former, the scores being 440 against 412. A few remarks were made concerning the prospects of the race meeting; and as the various classes of horses are this year well represented, while it is said they will likewise be unusually well ridden, the races next week promise to be as full of interest as on any previous occasion. There was a meeting of the Legislative Council, when some rather important matters were disposed of. The most serious part of the business was the defeat, on the second reading, of the Limited Liability Ordinance; this has aroused a strong feeling against the pseudo-popular element in the Legislative Council, and an effort will probably be made for some reform in that direction. The Governor, it is believed, is himself in favour of the defeated measure; and were he to exercise his prerogative of passing it on his own responsibility, it is very certain that he would be supported by public opinion. The military mulct was likewise formally consummated by the production of the reply of the Secretary for the Colonies brushing away every objection, and giving instructions to raise the money wanted. Other colonies have been treated in much the same way; and we observe from some Cape Colony papers that the Mauritius has been subjected to an increase of £13,000 a year, raising the sum now annually raised there to £45,000. An indignant member of the Council there showed some spirit by stigmatising it as "a peremptory summons," "an autocratic act," and so forth; but the money, of course, was voted; and Cape Colony is in momentary expectation of a like demand. The autocratic element is a somewhat novel feature as thus presented in English administration.

His Royal Highness, Lee-Shai-yin, Shee-king, and Imperial Protector General of the Celestial Dynasty—for such are the high-sounding, though rather empty, titles assumed by the rebel chief, Shi-Wong—is now at Changchow, between Foochow and Amoy, and has employed his leisure moments in composing two proclamations, which for philanthropic professions and enticing promises of doubtful value, are almost unequalled. And yet they are of some importance, for they show how little confidence he feels in his own success, and the utter mistrust of those to whom he appeals. His first manifesto is merely an apology for his rebellion, winding up with a touching reference to the past wickedness and deserved downfall of the present dynasty, and calling on the people to aid him in his self-imposed task. In his second he changes his tone a little, and, alluding to the crops which are now ready for harvest, and had been deserted on his approach by the inhabitants, who fled with all their portable goods to the nearest cities, he says, "Come and gather in your fruits without fear, and humbly pay your taxes to me," and goes on to pledge himself that no harm shall accrue to them from his soldiers, if they will only accede to his demands. This may be all very fair and straightforward, or it may be only a lure, and as such the Chinese are inclined to consider it. The penalty of non-payment of taxes is more than dimly hinted at in the "proclamation;" and as it is possible (1) that many of the farming population may have no ready cash to pay the taxes with; (2) that the taxes may be so high as to leave little or nothing to make farming worth while to the husbandman; (3) that the people have no faith whatever in rebel promises; or (4) that they would not be able to get a fair market for their grain when it was gathered in, but would have to sell it to the followers of the Shi Wong at the latter's own price, it is not likely that the proclamation will have the effect of luring the fugitive peasantry within the rebel lines. The whole spirit of the document evinces a desire to inspire confidence in the people, and it directly confesses that such confidence has been lost, if indeed it ever existed, which is doubtful. It is quite clear that, as a body, the Chinese are much more inclined to remain as they are, than to risk their lives, or property, for other new rulers.

The *Canton Observer* has been recently established at Canton.

As the *White Cloud* steamer was returning to Hong Kong, a young man, who lately was clerk in a good position at Canton, made a most determined effort at suicide by leaping overboard, but was fortunately rescued just in time.

At the Queen's Theatre Madame Denet has earned laurels in "The Creole," and Miss Jenny Arnot in "Nan Good for Nothing." Mr. Taylor also acted creditably on the occasion of his benefit, as *William* in "Black-eyed-Susan." The "Lady of Lyons" brought out Miss Edorim and Mr. Creswick very favourably.

A fire broke out in a matshed situated just below Messrs. Dent and Co.'s new stables. The flames, quickly spreading, caught the matsheds under which the building is going on, and had it not been for the energy displayed by some of the spectators in pulling down a portion to leeward, much greater damage might have been done; as it was, a pretty large stack of wood in the gorge beneath was entirely destroyed. Messrs. Dent and Co.'s and the police engines were quickly on the spot. It is stated that, in order to cover the military contribution of £20,000 per annum, a stamp-tax must be introduced as in India and Singapore. We hope the residents will be able to avoid such a vexatious impost on mercantile operations.

On the Volunteers the *China Mail* says :—After three years' existence the Volunteer Corps of Hong Kong continues to flourish, having been, moreover, strengthened by a company of Rifles and an excellent band, which latter continues to practise with undiminished ardour, and to improve with more than usual speed. Since the departure from the colony of Major Brine, R.E., who so effiently discharged the duties of colonel to the corps, Major Scott, of H.M.'s 22nd N.I., has been elected colonel, but, unfortunately, that regiment is about to be withdrawn, and it will be necessary to obtain the services of another officer to supply his place.

The *Government Gazette* announces that the Police and Lighting-rate for 1865 for houses in the city is eight and a quarter per cent. (Is the odd quarter just to exercise the brains of the collectors?) This rate, as regards houses in Victoria, will be levied exclusive of a Lighting-rate of one and a-half per cent. under section 12 of the above Ordinance, and of a half-yearly Water-rate of two per cent. per annum under the provisions of Ordinance No. 12 of 1860.

Tenders will be received at the Surveyor General's office for the extension of the Praya in the neighbourhood of Bonham

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Strand; also for the erection of 1,500 ft. of sea wall, and for the erection of a new harbour master's office.

A reward of $1,500 is offered for the capture and conviction of the robbers of the Central Bank of India, noticed above.

SIAM.

The *Siam Times* aduocates the introduction of the telegraphic wire into Siam, connected with a line from Rangoon to Penang and Singapore. Our contemporary urges—"But we need not wait to become connected with the great lines of India before availing ourselves of its benefit. A line from the city of Bangkok to the mouth of the river is demanded at once. The inconvenience, to say nothing of the losses, which merchants and business men have suffered during the last few years, would have paid the cost of it. We are informed that responsible parties have offered to furnish all the material, and put up a good substantial line from the city to the village of Paknam at the mouth of the river, for three thousand dollars. This is certainly a small sum for the immense advantages it would confer. But the line ought to go further, and extend to the Bar, where a station could easily be made, so as to connect immediately with the shipping. To extend it to the Bar where vessels could report themselves at once, with whatever news they might have, would probably cost only about another thousand dollars and more than double its benefits."

The American steam rice mill is undergoing thorough repairs preparatory to future operations. This mill was the first in the field, and laboured under many difficulties in preparing and adapting machinery to Siam rice. Messrs. Odman and Co.'s, steam rice mill has recently, been considerably enlarged by the arrival of new machinery most of which is set up and will be ready as soon as there is any rice to hull or clean. The new steam rice mill of Messrs Markwald and Co. now in process of erection, on the piece of ground recently purchased by them for that purpose, is making good progress. These three mills when in operation will perform the work of many thousands of coolies, whose labour will then be available for branches of industry to which machinery cannot be applied.

Two more of the vessels which we reported some time ago as in a forward state of construction, have now been launched. One is upwards of 700 tons and the other about 200 tons burthen. All the vessels built by the Siamese this season display a manifest improvement in modelling.

A notification dated "Bangkok, Dec. 31," states that the interest and responsibility of Mr. David King Mason in the firm of D. K. Mason and Co. having ceased, the business will continue to be carried on by Mr. Robert Simpson Scott, under the firm of Scott and Co.

JAVA.

The *Javasche Courant* publishes the following statement, which speaks for itself:—

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

	1863.	1864. Probable crop.
Coffee	1,100,891 pic. ..	479,946 pic
Sugar	1,104,256 „ ..	1,116,766 „
Indigo	518,849 lbs. ..	446,748 lbs.
Tea	1,139.189 „ ..	575,617 „
Pepper	18.609 „ ..	—
Cinnamon	159,373 „ ..	169,505 „
Cochineal	8,872 „ ..	15,000 „
Tobacco	9,000 „ ..	—

The coffee and tea crops show a falling off of no less than 620,945 pic. and 563,572 Amsterdam pounds respectively. The failure in the crop of the former article is to be attributed to the heavy and continuous rain during 1863.

The same paper gives the following statement of the private crops during the same period, including the deliveries to Government:—

	1863.	1864. Probable crop.
Coffee	137,818	84 220
Sugar	1,008.209	797,483
Indigo	206.646 lbs.	199.085 lbs.
Cochineal ..	16 000 „	Not yet known.
Tobacco ..	132.485 pic... ..	46,594 pic.

showing a difference in the two first articles of 53,598 pic. and 210,721 respectively.

If we take the difference of the Government Coffee crop between 1863 and 1864 at an average rate of 38½f. per picul, we find the Government a loser by 23,906,382f. Add to this, 130,000f.—the export duty on 53.598 piculs private coffee, at the same average valuation, which would otherwise have flowed into the Treasury, but which is now lost—we get the enormous sum of twenty-four millions, thirty-six thousand, three hundred and eighty-two guilders, a dead loss to the Government in the matter of Java Coffee alone.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Our intelligence is to the 22nd February. The London mail of the 10th January arrived out on the 14th February, and the London letters and papers by the French mail of the 17th January were delivered on the 20th February.

The Chinese holidays that cause such an interruption to trade, and which form a somewhat prominent feature in the social aspect of the settlement at this season of the year, have now closed, and that utilitarian but singular people have once more returned to the ordinary channels of their industry. A large number of deaths from cholera have occurred among the native population.

According to a *resumé* of the Straits Budget for 1865-66, put forth in the *Penang Argus*, the total estimated receipts are 2,114,676 rupees. The total disbursement on account of the Straits is 1,108,011 rupees. The *Argus* says:—"We find the sum of Rupees 91,500 for sales of postage stamps, and 46,950 for collections made by the post-offices, making a total of 138,450, placed to the credit of the General Government of India; and Rs. 27,344 for post-office establishments, contingencies, and discounts for postage stamps to its debt. By this arrangement, made conformably to the rules of the Supreme Government, the sum of Rs. 121,106, being the net proceeds of the postal revenue of the Straits, are taken off, which if placed to the credit of the Settlements, as in fairness they should be, the Budget would show a surplus of Rs. 1,127,776. The troops in the Straits cost Rs. 754,000, which sum is not included in the Straits disbursements, but placed to the debit of Madras."

The *Straits Times*, taking the revenue of 1863-64 for the basis of its argument, states:—"We present a secure Government revenue of £192,000, or at about the rate to our population of 15s. a head, and this independent of the municipal rates of the three stations, which alone support an extensive police force. The entire expenditure, for the same period, including every payment except that for Military, amounts to about £115,000. We have thus a balance of £77,000, out of which the cost of Military has to be paid. In the last year the full cost of this was £64,000—so that, even after payment of such a large sum, we are left with our accounts on the right side by something like £12,000. These figures are taken from the Administration report itself, so that there can be no gainsaying them."

The Post-office was removed on the 10th Feb. to the premises formerly occupied by the Supreme Court. In addition to the greater accommodation afforded by the building, various improvements have been made in order to expedite the delivery of letters.

Captain F. L. Playfair, Madras Staff Corps, Assistant-Resident Councillor at Malacca, is granted leave of absence for twenty months, from the date of embarkation, for the purpose of proceeding to Europe, on medical certificate. Mr. F. L. Baumgarten assumed charge from Captain Playfair of the office of Police Magistrate and Commissioner of the Court of Requests at Malacca on the 1st Feb., the date from which the latter officer availed himself of the leave granted to him.

On the 7th February, the chief officer of the British ship *Pudsey Dawson* was charged by the master with riotous and insubordinate conduct. The charge was proved, and the defendant sentenced to four weeks' imprisonment in the House of Correction. The accused stated to the Court, in answer to a question, that he was a lieutenant in the Royal Navy on half-pay.

The case of the master of the British ship *Beth Shan* against the master of the Siamese ship *Resolute*, on a petition to recover $4,000 for salvage, assistance rendered, and in a claim for damage by collision, was heard on the 20th January, before the Hon. Sir R. B. MacCausland, Recorder. The Court decided that the damage sustained by the *Beth Shan* by the collision with the *Resolute* was an accident; that the towage or salvage was not completed; and therefore the tender of $2,000 by the supercargo of the *Resolute* as compensation was ample; and that each party pay his own costs.

Captain Flarty, of the British barque *Mary Spencer*, which arrrived on the 14th Feb. from Rio Janeiro, reports that

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in coming through the Straits of Malacca when close to the light-ship, he was in company with a large British ship deeply laden, showing 2nd pen. No. 4,577, of Marryat's Code (answering to *Mantheo*). The vessells kept in sight of each other for two days, and when the *Mary Spencer* lost sight of the *Mantheo* on the night of the 10th, the latter vessel was apparently steering too far mid-channel, and in the direction of a reef to the southward of the South Sands. Captain Chant, of the English barque *Skiddaw*, from the Mauritius, arrived on the 15th February, reports that he saw a large ship on shore on the South Sands, and that she struck about 5 o'clock on the morning of the 11th. The vessel made no signal whatever, and the *Skiddaw* kept on her course.

The Court of Inquiry into the loss of the British barque *Canada*, from Bangkok to Hong Kong, found she ran on a reef, supposed to be a continuation of the Lizzie Webber shoal. "Though this reef is only shown in the chart to be about two miles in extent, yet by observation the captain got when in his boat, it appears to extend about 25 miles in a south-west direction from where the vessel ran ashore, viz., in latitude 8 degrees 11' north, and longitude 113 degrees 2' 7" east." Mr. Peter Orr, the master, was acquitted of blame.

During the downward passage from Bangkok of the steamer *Chow Phya*, a supposed rock or reef was sighted; the steamer was steered towards it to examine it, but on coming up to it, it was found to be a vessel bottom upwards. The *Chow Phya* then proceeded on her passage. The mate and one hand of the Hong Kong schooner *Fah Kee*, loaded with timber bound to Hong Kong, which was capsized, came down to Singapore in the *Chow Phya*.

The chief officer of the British barque *Fearnot*, Captain Cathbert, reports the loss of that vessel on Lincoln Island, at three A.M. on the 14th of January last. The vessel was bound on a voyage from Amoy to Singapore, and at the time of the wreck experienced thick weather, with a north-east wind. After the vessel was wrecked, the captain left in the long-boat, with six men and three Chinese, with the intention of going to Saigon for assistance. The chief officer, with five seamen and six Chinese, were left on the island, which place they subsequently left in the pinnace on the 22nd Jan. on account of pirates boarding the wreck, which contained specie amounting to $5,000, and were picked up on the 5th Feb. by the barque *Cedars*, bound to Rangoon.

At a meeting of the Sporting Club held at the Exchange Rooms, the days for the coming races were fixed for 25th, 27th, and 29th April. Mr. Fergusson was elected secretary in place of Mr. Lochiel, who tendered his resignation.

The finding of the Court of Inquiry relative to the loss of the *Luzon* was—

That the vessel was wrecked on a reef call Palauig, which appears on the Spanish chart of the island of Luzon, and this reef is not so clearly laid down on the chart with which the *Luzon* was navigated. That the loss of the vessel was attributable to this circumstance. The Court finds that every precaution had been taken by the captain in navigating the vessel, but at the same time it is of opinion that he was very imprudent in hugging so closely, on a dark night, a shore of which he had not a chart in his possession on a large scale, and of which he had no previous experience. The Court considers the conduct of the second mate, Mr. Alexander Reid, highly reprehensible, in not at once putting the helm hard-a-port without calling for the captain when he heard a noise on the port beam supposed to be breakers, he being at the time the officer in charge of the deck, and considers him deserving of reprimand, and reprimands him accordingly. The Court regrets not being able to obtain the evidence of the chief mate and others of the crew who are now in Manila. Finally, the Court begs to put on record the kind treatment shown by the authorities at Luzon to the shipwrecked crew.

PENANG.

The British brig *Hero*, which left this for Rangoon on the 5th February, returned to port on the 12th, her commander, Captain Gallacher, having died suddenly at sea, about four days after the vessel sailed.

At the close of the late session the Grand Jury made a presentment to the Judges, in which they stated—

That there have recently been riots of the most serious nature among the Chinese population, leading to robbery, arson, and murder, in broad daylight, by gangs of armed men. That this is only an aggravated repetition of outrages that have for years disgraced this station, and are evidently increasing in magnitude, and threaten the most serious consequences to al classes of the community. In practice it is found that the present state of the law and the defective organisation of the police totally fail to prevent the recurrence of these outbreaks. They are solely the effects of Chinese Secret Societies, whose pernicious influence has been often denounced by Grand Juries of the Straits Settlements. The Jurors believe that the respectable portion of the Chinese themselves would gladly see these societies suppressed or rendered harmless, but for obvious reasons are afraid to move in the matter, or take any steps towards so desirable an object. The jurors consider that special legislation should be adopted to meet this grave evil, as has been done in the United Kingdom in the case of Secret Societies in Ireland, and so in that of the crime of garotting.

The Recorder remarked in reply that "he quite agreed as to the necessity of repressing the Chinese tumults, and for that purpose he thought that some legislation was desirable, not to suppress those societies—that was out of the question—but to register them, and deal with them as Friendly Societies were dealt with in England. The disorders which broke out occasionally among the Chinese owed their gravity and importance unquestionably to those societies, and it would be desirable to try whether their purses might be reached when it was so difficult to get at the persons who misconducted themselves. As to the danger to be apprehended from the Secret Societies, different persons measured it by different standards, and he, personally, did not view them in quite as serious a light as they seemed to see them. There was no disaffection towards our Government, no attacks upon the public force, or even upon private persons unconnected with the societies. They beat, sometimes killed, the members of their rival societies, and destroyed their property, but there the mischief, serious enough no doubt, closed."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

ATHLUMNEY—On the 23rd March, at Somerville. Lady Athlumney, of a son.
AUCHINCLOSS—On the 15th Feb., at Batavia, the wife of P. W. Auchincloss, Esq., of a daughter.
FABRIS—On the 31st Jan., at Shanghai, the wife of E. A. Fabris, of a daughter.
GUNTHER—On the 5th Feb., at Shanghai, the wife of G. Gunther, of a son.
HANCE—On the 3rd Feb., at Whampoa, the wife of Dr. H. F. Hance, H.B.M.'s Vice-Consul, prematurely of a daughter, stillborn.
HOUGHTON—On the 18th March, at 33, Gordon-square, Mrs. Henry J. Houghton, of a daughter.
MAYNE—On the 2nd Feb., at Tanglin, Singapore, the wife of Capt. J. O. Mayne, R.E., of a son.
MCCLELLAND—On the 11th March, at Trearne House, Ayrshire, the wife of Charles Grey McClelland, Esq., of Singapore, of a daughter.
MORRISS—On the 2nd Feb., at Shanghai, wife of Edward Morriss, Esq., of a daughter.
SILLAR—On the 25th March, at Richmond, Surrey, the wife of David Sillar, Esq., of a daughter.
STRACHAN—On the 15th March, at 4, Leamington-terrace, Edinburgh, the wife of George Strachan, Esq., late of China, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

JACKSON—WEDGWOOD.—On the 11th February, at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, D.D., Colonial Chaplain, Thomas Wilde Jackson, of Ningpo, to Margaret, daughter of T. B. Wedgwood, of Rock Ferry, Cheshire
OLSEN—WATSON.—On the 14th Feb., by the Rev. C. J. Watchouse, A. Olsen, Master Mariner, to Arabella Catharine Watson.
ROCHE—STEVENSON.—On the 21st March, at Blackheath Congregational Church, by the Rev. Edward Steane, D.D., and the Rev. Joseph Beazley, Edward Roche, Esq., of Belmont-hill, Lee, late of Shanghai, to Emily Ada, youngest daughter of the late Leader Stevenson, Esq., of Vambrugh Fields, Blackheath. No cards.
SCHEBACH—ROHDE.—On the 25th Jan., at Shanghai, in Trinity Church, by the Rev. Mr. Butcher, Mr. C. Schebach, to Miss Emma Rohde.

DEATHS.

ARMSTRONG—On the 31st Jan., Mr. Adam Armstrong, of Singapore.
DORAL—On the 30th Jan., at Singapore, after a painful illness, Mathilda, the beloved wife of Mr. John Doral, aged 32 years.
DEVINE—On the 5th Feb., at Shanghai, Thomas J. Devine, pilot, aged 31 years.
DWYER—On the 9th Feb., at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, Thomas Dwyer, private 6th Regiment, aged 26 years.
DE FARIA—On the 4th Feb., at Macao, Francisco Xavier Lobato de Faria, Lieut. Asst.-Commandant of Police Force, of apoplexy.
LINSTEAD—On the 15th March, Emmeline Rose, aged 28, the beloved wife of T. G. Linstead, Esq., of Hong Kong, and second daughter of H. P. Wellborne, Esq., of Adelaide Villa, Camberwell.
ROBB—On the 18th Feb, at Marine Villas, Singapore, John Riach Robb, eldest son of Daniell Robb, Esq., shipbuilder, aged 2 years.
ROBERTSON—On the 3rd Feb., at 4, Coleman-street, Singapore, Archibald James Spottiswoode, second son of Dr. Robertson.
RICHARDSON—On the 31st Jan., at Kowloon, Geo. Richardson, private 99th Regiment, aged 27 years.
TALLMAN—On the 2nd Feb., at Shanghai, on board the Fire Dart, H. C. Tallman, 1st Assistant-Engineer, aged 21, of New York City, U.S.A.
WILLIAMS—On the 1st Feb., at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, John Williams, seaman.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—Exporters appear to be more cautious than they were. The teamen, though very firm, appear inclined to yield a little, but to nothing like the extent required, and the consequence is that but a small business has been done.

CANTON.—Country Congous: Teamen remain very firm while bids become weaker, consequent on the discouraging mail news. No settlements have taken place during the fortnight. Country Greens: Nothing has as yet been done in these kinds beyond the Hysons already advised. Canton made Teas: Scented Teas have within the last two days received more attention, and some small settlements have taken place at about former rates. The settlements of the fortnight are reported as under:—Scented Caper: 1,200 boxes at 17 to 24 taels. Canton Gunpowder: 750 boxes at 13 taels. Country Greens: 87 chests Hyson at 58 taels.

AMOY.—Throughout the month the market has been inactive, and prices have had a downward tendency. Oolongs: Settlements reported amount to only 2,156½ at $13½ for inferior, $16½ to $18 for common to fair, and $22½ to $26 for good to fine cargo. Of the latter description there are now very few left, but common to fair cargo teas are in tolerable supply, and we quote common to good common $15 to $16½, and fair cargo $17 to $18. For Anhois at present there is no inquiry. Congous: 207½ c. have been taken at $ 16½ to $18, which lays down considerably over present home rates.

FOOCHOW.—The few settlements reported since the despatch of the last mail, have been effected at an advance of about five mace, and consist of the following:—Congous, 3,708 hf. and 814 ch. do. at taels 7¾ to 10¼ for dust and broken leaf, taels 14½ to 16¼ for common to good common, and

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taels 17¾ to 19¼ for inferior flavory. Pekoe: 168 ch. common at 18¼ to 19 taels. Oolong: 1,950 hf. ch. at 12½ to 16¼ taels for inferior to fair cargo.

SHANGHAI.—Business has been almost entirely suspended during the last fortnight, owing to the Chinese holidays.

HANKOW.—The few chops remaining on our market have been settled at Tls. 12.50 to 19.00 per picul, which we estimate lay down in London at 1d. per lb. over last home rates. The settlements, amounting to 17 chops, consist of common to fair Blackish Leaf Teas, greatly wanting in strength. About 5 chops are still expected to arrive before the end of the season, which, if not exceeded will make the export from this port one million pounds over that of the previous year. The export for this season to date now stands thus:—Season 1864-65, 744 chops, 408,660 chests, 36,776,500 lbs.; Season 1863-64, 661 chops, 392,393 chests, 35,355,464 lbs. Being an increase this season of 1,421,064 lbs. The stock 31st January 1865, nil.

KIUKIANG.—Green Teas: 6,000 packages had been settled during the fortnight, chiefly in barter at full rates for medium, but with a decline of one tael for common Moyunes. These purchases with the shipments had reduced the stock to 139,000 half-chests. Teamen were not anxious to sell, but they would soon be obliged to realise to obtain funds for the purchase of leaf for the new season.

NAGASAKI.—Transactions have been made at slightly higher prices. About 1,0 0 piculs medium to fine leaf have been purchased since the native new year, and there is every appearance of holders obtaining higher prices, as stocks are now much reduced, and purchases must be made in order to keep the tea firing-places at work.

YOKOHAMA.—A trifling business done in this staple; indeed, owing to the New Year's festivities in this as in other exports, matters have been unusually quiet. A few transactions, say 2,000 piculs, principally for the American market, reported.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—The Native New Year holidays have of course interfered with purchases in the country. Our unsold stock is therefore reduced to about 1,500 bales. Until the home advices become more favourable and the demand here less sluggish, the silkmen are not likely to operate in the country, where the supply of silk is very limited and prices extremely high. Tsatlees, No. 1 chops, Tls. none, 2 do. taels 470 to 480.

YOKOHAMA.—Some of the dealers, being desirous of closing their accounts, made slight concessions, but the generality of the others stood mostly firm. The market has been closed for the last five or six days for the festivities of the Japanese new year, but will re-open shortly. However, as the last advices from Europe are rather unfavourable, and the exchanges rising again, we hope some effort will be made to obtain a reduction of the present prices. The unsold stock amounts to between 600 and 700 bales, mostly composed of second-rate and inferior descriptions. Settlements to date are about 10,000 bales, against 13,400 same time last year; and there is a very general impression that the total exports of this season will not exceed 15 to 16 thousand bales, or about the same quantity as last year.

CAMPHOR.—HONG KONG.—No further supplies to hand since the issue of last report, and the only sales reported are 100 piculs at $19, and 100 piculs at $18 packed. Balance of stock is held at $19 per picul packed, which must be called market value to-day.

RAW COTTON.

HONG KONG.—There is little to report by this mail. Shippers to England are out of the market, and Chinese dealers are the only purchasers—these buy only small lots. The settlements have consisted principally in Shanghai staple at from $25½ to $27. A few parcels of Ningpo have also been placed at $28 to $28.50. The sales of the fortnight amount to about 4,000 bags, the imports for same period exceeding 6,000 bags. The market appears to harden, owing to the local demand being about equal to the supply; shipments to England are thus checked, especially as the last advices are not encouraging.

SHANGHAI.—Purchases were made for Liverpool at 17 taels for good Shanghai, and 18 taels for best Kongpoot. The total settlements of the fortnight are estimated at 5,000 bags for Hong Kong, and 7,000 bags for Liverpool. Since the new year the supplies from the country have ceased, and stocks are consequently small. The exports to Great Britain since 1st June amount to 179,000 piculs, against 239,000 same period last season, and 67,000 the season before.

YOKOHAMA.—The market has re-opened by purchases of about 2,000 piculs at $25 to $26 (the exact price is not known), and the demand has not become general yet. There is no stock in the market, but should the demand continue no doubt fresh supplies will soon reach. The exports from June 1 to date amount to 22,910 bales, against 92,399 bales same period last year, and 6,050 do. the year before.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—Meets with hardly any inquiry, and prices of the lower numbers show some decline upon the quotations given under date of last circular. The sale of the fortnight amount to 295 bales, in addition to which some 50 bales of damaged Twist have been moved off by public auction. Grey Shirtings: During the early part of the fortnight, and prior to the arrival of the English mail steamer, these goods showed an advance of about 10 cents per piece upon the quotations previously current. Since then their value has declined about 5 cents per piece, and settlements are put at 8,500 pieces. White Shirtings: There are not any material alterations to notice in the value of these manufactures, which have been in moderate request, the sales of the fortnight reaching to 5,000 pieces. T-Cloths: Have met with a fair amount of inquiry since the beginning of the month, but prices are, perhaps, slightly easier; the settlements of the fortnight amount to fully 10,000 pieces, in addition to which 4,650 pieces have found buyers at public sale. American Drills: This market is quite bare of these manufactures, but a sale of 800 pieces of English Drills, at $5 per piece, is reported. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: Have been in very moderate request at previous rates, and the sales reported amount to 500 pieces of Dyed Spots, and 300 pieces of Coloured Brocades. Damasks: There have not been any sales of these goods reported. Chintzes: 1,500 pieces of Chintzes have found buyers. Handkerchiefs have been in moderate request, and sales of 1,200 dozens are reported.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: These goods continue to meet with but slight inquiry, and the sales of the past fortnight do not exceed 200 pieces of all descriptions. Long Ells: These manufactures show some improvement in value, and have been freely taken during the fortnight, the bulk of the purchases being on foreign account; settlements amount to fully 3,500 pieces. Camlets: There has not been quite so much inquiry for these goods, during the past fortnight, and prices remain unchanged, the sales amount to 350 pieces. Lastings: There are not any sales of these goods to report. Blankets: The purchases effected during the fortnight amount to 600 pairs.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: Without much alteration to notice in value, the transactions in the various descriptions of Iron imported amount to a moderate average, and consist of the sale of 1,680 piculs of Nail Rod, and 2,300 piculs of Bar Iron at the quotations previously current. There is not any business reported from Canton. Lead: There has not been any inquiry for Lead in the Hong Kong market, and not more than 220 piculs are reported sold. In Canton the settlements amount to 1,200 piculs at previous rates. Tin: 650 slabs have changed hands. Tin-Plates: Have met with considerable inquiry during the fortnight, and have found buyers to the extent of 1,260 boxes.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	6s. 4¼d. to 6s. 6d.	6s. 5d. to 6s. 6d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 6¾d. to 4s. 7¼d.	4s. 7d. to 4s. 8d.
At Singapore	6 ditto	4s. 6¼d.	4s. 7d. to 4s. 8d.
At Manila	6 ditto	.....	.....

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 304 to 308 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 215 to 216 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 9 to 10 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 72 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 21 to 22 discount.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1863-64.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to Dec. 31, 1864	890696	49579814	41324756	453017	8478750	100727932	24941
Corresponding period last season	1535326	45078650	38608454	1930668	11526242	98679340	33431

SHIPMENTS IN JANUARY, 1865.

Ship	From		SILK. Bales.
Ganges (mail str.)	Shanghai, &c.	—	805
Pembrokeshire	Kanagawa	473,761	
Star of the North	Foochow	1,286,900	
Medina	Kanagawa	141,400	253
Canadian	Shanghai	907,736	
Spirit of the Deep	Do.	754,932	52
Kite	Foochow	136,000	
Alfred Hawley	Kanagawa	366,649	
Dilkhoosh	Do.	1,086,500	
Carnatic (mail str.)	Shanghai	—	783
Countess Russell	Do.	1,166,590	
Jubilee	Do.	985,190	
Imperatrice (French mail str.)	Do.	—	178

TO UNITED STATES.

	Piculs.
From June 1 to Dec. 31, 1864	9055161
Corresponding period last season	13884276

SHIPMENTS IN JANUARY, 1865.

Velocidade	Kanagawa	253,510

TO MONTREAL.

Eastern Chief	Shanghai	393,324
Princess of Wales	Do.	435,680
Shelbourn	Do., via Foochow	388,310

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Bales.
From June 1 to Dec. 31, 1864	488634
Corresponding period last season	1389907

SHIPMENTS IN JANUARY.

Taffarette	Hong Kong	365,200

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Tea pkgs	Boxes.
From June 1 to Dec. 31, 1864	22723	56
Corresponding period last season	105721	...

SHIPMENTS IN JANUARY.

Derby	Hong Kong	386

TO AUSTRALIA.

From 1st June to 31st Dec., 1864	2,160,238 lbs.
Corresponding period last year	3,343,027 „

SHIPMENTS IN JANUARY.

Northern Crown	Foochow	250,716
Peronia	Do.	208,200

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TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1813 to 1814.....	...	...	...	51,022,600	...
„ 1845 to 1846.....	...	...	...	57,334,400	18 60
„ 1850 to 1851.....	...	...	...	65,972,000	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854.....	...	...	...	77,227,800	61,180
„ 1855 to 1856.....	...	...	...	92,240,800	50,180
„ 1857 to 1858.....	...	...	...	76,990,255	68 31
„ 1858 to 1859.....	...	...	...	65,789,792	85,13
„ 1859 to 1860.....	...	...	...	85,560,452	04.16
„ 1860 to 1861.....	...	...	...	90,066,160	70,644
„ 1861 to 1862.....	...	...	...	109,854,040	79,199
„ 1862 to 1863.....	...	...	...	121,273,580	72,848
„ 1863 to 1864.....	...	...	...	117,463,586	46,005

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1864...	260829	154	1793	7802	—	189

SHIPMENTS IN JANUARY, 1865.

Ship.	From	Cotton, pcls.
Yorick	Shanghai	10 105
Anna Helena	Do.	7,904
Pembrokeshire	Do.	129
Spes	Do.	3,368

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1864...	2382	—	—	420	—	1145

SHIPMENTS IN JANUARY, 1865.

Tafferette	600	—	—	—	—	—

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1864...	500	2500	—	—	—	—

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1864...	395	18815	29298	2540	3050	95580

SHIPMENTS IN JANUARY, 1865.

Derby ...	146	616	14,069	—	—	44000

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Dec. 31, 1864...	—	1171	7287	1515	10240	—

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From London: Jan. 22, Cymbeline.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Jan. 27, Cissy; 28, Egmont; 29, John Norman. From Liverpool: 27, Lauderdale and Nonpareil; 29, Bella. From Sunderland: 29, Shakespeare. From Newport: 25, Nicolo Barabivo. From Shields: 25, Vanguard. From Cardiff: 30, Pilen Elena. From New York: Feb. 7, City of Mobile; 9, Heversham.

At FOOCHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From England and Gibraltar: Feb. 7, H.M.S. Tamar. From Liverpool: 12, Banda. From Sunderland: 11, Eudora.

At MANILA.—None.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: Feb. 13, Early Dawn. From Liverpool: 14, Macassar; 17, Governor Longdon. From Sunderland: 14, Skiddaw. From Hamburg: 11, Turnadot.

At PENANG.—None.

At BATAVIA.—From Glasgow: County of Ayr.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—None.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Jan. 25, Jubilee; 25, Countess Russell; 26, Naomi; 31, Belle; Feb. 6, Benvenue. For Liverpool: Jan. 31, Sailors' Home; Feb. 1, Constance; 4, Spirit of Trade.

From FOOCHOW.—For London: Jan. 28, Laurel. For New York: Feb. 5, Queen of the Seas. For Montreal: Jan. 30, Shelburne.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For Liverpool: Feb. 4, Lockett. For Cowes: Kite. For Bordeaux: Jan. 29, Jean D'Arc. For New York: 17, Europa.

From MANILA.—None.

From SINGAPORE.—For Portsmouth: Feb. 14, Hindostan. For Falmouth: 14, Blohm. For Boston: 16, Rocket.

From PENANG.—None.

LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Gabalva and Mirage. For New York: Benefactress.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Bertrice and Stanley. For Liverpool: Carrizal, John Nicholson, Stuart Wortley, Blackwood, Agamemnon, and Celestial. For New York: Fenella.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Maiden Queen.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Lochnagar, Ocean, and Silome. For Liverpool: Prince Arthur. For New York: Diana.

At MANILA.—For Falmouth: Kestrel, Madura, Oliver Cromwell, For New York: Alhambra.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Alexandra, British Crown, Betty Pearlback, Norval, and La Serena. For Liverpool: Springwood and Sharpshooter. For Channel: George Henrich.

At PENANG.—For London: Dunmore and Alice.

At BATAVIA.—For Channel: Adelaide, Willy, Mauritius. For Amsterdam: Huntress, Java Packet, Jan Van Schaffelaar, Zeenymph, and Theodore Machtilda. For Rotterdam: May Queen, Ouderkerk, a. d. Amstel, Medea, and Johannes Anthonius.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

YOKOHAMA.—To London: Cotton and tea, £3. 10s. to £4 per ton; silk, £5 per ton of 50 cubic feet, nominal.

SHANGHAI.—The only settlement reported is the Agamemnon, for Liverpool, at £2. 17s. 6d. per ton, 45 lay days.

FOOCHOW.—To London: £2 per ton.

HONG KONG AND CANTON.—The circular of George Holmes gives the following settlements:—The Ocean (450 tons), on the berth for London, at £3 to £3. 5s. per ton; Sir W. F. Williams (1,000), Manila or Zebu, to London at £3 sugar, £4 hemp; Fiery Cross (689), Rangoon to Hong Kong, at 60 cents per picul; several other vessels have been taken up for Rangoon or Bassein at 60 to 65 cents per picul.

MANILA.—There is no unemployed foreign tonnage in port, and as there will no doubt soon be a demand for vessels for the U.K., rates should advance. At present £3 to £3. 10s. for sugar, and £4. 5s. per 20 cwt. for hemp could be secured.

SINGAPORE.—The tonnage in harbour is large, the following rates for U.K. are maintained with difficulty, viz.:—Tin, £2 to £2. 5s.; Gambier and Sago flour, £2. 15s.; and £3. 5s. Light Freight. There is no demand for vessels to load home from Rice ports.

PENANG.—For London: The Dunmore is loading at £3. 5s. per ton dead weight, £3. 10s. light freight, and £4 measurement.

BATAVIA.—To United Kingdom, Rice, £2 to £2. 5s.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—Jan. 31, Hampton Court, Cardiff to Bangkok; Feb. 6, Maria Anna, Rotterdam to Batavia; 7, Watergens, Sunderland to Singapore.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—Feb. 6, Molderian, Sarawak to London.

CASUALTIES.

The British barque Fear-not, Capt. Cuthbert, from Amoy, bound to Rangoon, went on shore on some portion of the Paracels on the night of Jan. 14th. A portion of the crew have arrived at Hong Kong, reporting the total loss of the vessel, and the fact of some of their companions being left behind.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

The Persian Gulf telegraph, or, as it is termed, the "Direct Overland," brought us on the 24th advices of Tea, Silk, and Exchange from Shanghai to 21st, and Hong Kong Feb. 26, in anticipation of the French mail due on 7th April. It is stated that telegrams are in the city of three days later.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN TABLES.—March 23, at Cuxhaven, from Manila, Malvina Vidal; 27, at Deal, from Ceylon, Venilia; from Manila, Ocean Home; from China, J. Stanton, jun., and Elizabeth Dawson; 26, at Falmouth, from Rangoon, Colonist; at Queenstown, from Singapore, Kirkconnell; 22, at Scilly, from Yokohama, Little Edith; 25, at Liverpool, from Manila, Olano; off Torbay, from Batavia, Wildeman; at New York, from Shanghai, Magenta; from Amoy, Falcon; from Batavia, Rangoon; 25, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Gysb. K. G. v. Hoogendorp; off the Start, from Ceylon, Clodian; 4, at Havana, from Macao, Emigrante; 28, at London, from Colombo, &c., Mary Scott; 28, at Deal, from Ceylon, Johann Daniel.

DEPARTURES.—March 11, from Rotterdam for Batavia, Marie; 25, from London for Hong Kong and Canton, Yaratilda, for Colombo, Jeddo; 24, from Liverpool for Manila, Tigris. March 25, from Clyde for Singapore, Sparkler; 27, from London, for Sunderland and Galle, Juanita; 25, from Sunderland for Yokohama, Harkaway; 28, from Liverpool for Batavia and Sourabaya, Affghan.

SPOKEN.—Gysbert Karel Gr. *v.* Hogendorp, Batavia to Rotterdam, Jan. 17, 32 S., 14 E.; Johann Daniel, Colombo to London, Jan. 30, 12 S., 10 W.; Nicolina (Hamb. ship). Batavia to Amsterdam, Feb. 20, 3 S., 19 W.; Corea (barq.), New York to Shanghai, Feb. 24, 3 N., 23 W.; Sylphide, Batavia to Rotterdam, Jan. 13, 34 S., 28 E.; Ocean, Singapore to Marseilles, March 1, off the Azores; Daybreak, Shields to Hong Kong, Dec. 20, 40 S., 58 E.; Edinburgh Castle (ship), Clyde to Singapore, Dec. 26, 37 S., 77 E.; Ala (British ship), bound to Ceylon, Jan. 2, 40 S., 59 E.

CASUALTIES.—The Johannes, Rademakers, from Batavia for Rotterdam, which put into Simon's Bay, leaky, Dec. 6, has been condemned

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there. The loss of the Fear Not in the China Seas has been reported at Lloyd's.

The Carausius (barq.), of Hartlepool, from Shields, for Colombo, got on shore on the north part of the Goodwin Sands, March 23, but was assisted off by a Trinity steam vessel, and proceeded without apparent damage.

The Bravo, Nordstrom, from Batavia for Amsterdam, arriv4d off Dover March 27, with loss of mainyard, canvas, and other damages, and would be towed in the next day.

The Charlotte, of Derby, Longmead, from Schiedan, for the Amoor, put into Falmouth, March 27, leaky, and with cargo shifted.

The Kaap Hoorn, Dik, from Batavia, which arrived off Dungeness, March 16, and sailed for Holland, put back to Dungeness Roads, March 22, from the Noord Hinder Light ship, with loss of sails.

The Carausius, Baird, from Shields for Colombo, which went on shore on the Goodwin Sands 23 March, has put into Plymouth to examine her bottom; but no damage is anticipated.

MISCELLANEOUS.—The Admiralty have ordered the Wellington for Trincomalee, and the Avondhu for Hong Kong, to be surveyed.

LAID ON AT LIVERPOOL.—For Manila, Olano; for Singapore and Penang, Simoom.

OPENING OF WESTERN CHINA.

Though Indian news may be thought somewhat foreign to the topics to which the columns of this journal are more properly devoted, nevertheless that conveyed in the following letter from a Bombay correspondent is not without special interest, referring as it does to the possibility of an immediate extension of our Indian frontier to Thibet on the north, and on the east to within a few hundred miles of Western China. Should, therefore, as hinted at by our correspondent, the annexation of Bhootan become an unavoidable measure, then the problem of communication with China through our Indian possessions, which has been so long advocated by us, will be in a fair way of solution from a direction hitherto overlooked. It is along the frontiers of Bhootan that the principal tea-growing districts of British India lie, and the great difficulty in developing the trade is the want of coolie labour, the natives of Bengal disliking the climate. The conquest of Bhootan might thus render available a fine hardy race, whose labour would become highly prized by those engaged in the culture of tea in the vicinity of their native territory. It is too wide a subject however at present to speculate on, and our information too imperfect with reference to the course about to be adopted. For the present, therefore, all we can do is to watch the course of events.

Bombay, 28th February, 1865.

It will be fresh in the memory of your readers that some two months ago a force, the details of which appeared in your columns, was despatched from the north-eastern frontier of India into the adjoining State of Bhootan, for the purpose of annexing a tract of land intervening between the British territory and the highlands forming the southern boundary of Bhootan; the land in question being known as the Dooars. The cause of this annexation was the repeated raids made by the Bhootanese against the property of natives living under British protection.

The expedition was entirely organised by the local Indian Government, and, with the exception of a few Europeans to man the Armstrong mountain guns, it was determined that the force should be entirely composed of native troops. At the time, a strong feeling adverse to so dangerous an experiment was expressed, and the Commander-in-Chief, Sir Hugh Rose, was strongly opposed to the measure, and urged the necessity for a portion of the force being formed of European Infantry. The Govenor-General, however, overruled the opinion, and disregarded the advice of this distinguished and experienced soldier. The result has been disaster and disgrace, with an enormous outlay, and great sickness and mortality in prospective, from the necessity having arisen to employ a large European force on the frontier of Bhootan, at the very period of the year when it was decided to be dangerous even to keep native troops there.

As no European troops accompanied the force, and the Bhootanese were apparently viewed as an enemy so little dangerous as to admit of being disposed of by native troops alone, but little interest originally attached to the expedition. About the end of November, the force being all ready, advanced from four different points along the British frontier; namely, from Julpigorie, Cooch Behar, Goalparre, and Gowhatty; the former being the extreme west, and the latter the extreme east of the line of operations, about 180 miles intervening between them. The Julpigorie column advanced into the Dooars, and after a very trifling resistance captured the fort of Dalimkote; the only loss being three officers and some men killed by the accidental explosion of one of the artillery waggons. This was the only military event of any interest. The other three columns advanced, and took possession of the passes through which the descents on British territory were effected, and the affair was believed to be over, and orders had been issued for the withdrawing of the force before the sickly season commenced.

The most eastern post thus held was Devangiri. There, a force of 700 native infantry and a mountain battery were stationed. On the 29th of January, at a time of fancied security, the Bhootanese came down and attacked the place. They were so imperfectly repulsed, that they continued their endeavours to dislodge the garrison, and at the interval of a week had so nearly succeeded that, as a last resource, the British troops, under cover of night, evacuated the place, and made a disorderly and disastrous retreat, abandoning their guns, and leaving a portion of their sick and wounded behind. Thus will have to be done over again, with a large force chiefly composed of Europeans, that which the native troops were thought to be more than equal to triumphantly effecting.

Sir John Lawrence and his coadjutors in this badly managed affair, having now had their eyes completely opened to their folly, in supposing that such a measure as annexation of territory from a fine hardy hill people could be efficiently carried out by native troops, have applied to Sir Hugh Rose for assistance to save the frontier from attack, now thought imminent; and three European regiments, with a large force of artillery, are about to be despatched for the protection of the north-eastern frontier the moment the necessary transport can be got ready. The troops now under orders are the 55th Regiment from Lucknow, the 80th Regiment from Dum Dum, and the 2nd Battalion of the Rifle Brigade from Meerut; also a battery of artillery from Fort William, at Calcutta, and another from Barrackpore. In addition to this European force, the 29th, 30th, and the 31st Native Infantry Regiments (Punjaubees) are also ordered up without delay. The 55th are to defend the frontier on the east, the head-quarters going to Gowhatty. The 80th are to defend it on the west, the head-quarters going to Darjeeling, to which place also several engineer officers are ordered to proceed to place it in a state of defence. Great activity prevails in the arsenal at Fort William, getting munitions of war ready. So we are again in for another of these troublesome, dangerous, and most expensive mountain wars. So much for Bengal civilians being allowed to interfere in military matters! So much also for the overweening conceit of Indian officials in the prowess of their native army, and also for a certain amount of the spirit of jealousy and antagonism towards what is more purely British!

Devangiri will have to be retaken; but the question which the Government finds it difficult to decide is, whether to attempt it at once or wait until next November, as it becomes unsafe to move troops into the Dooars after the middle of March, owing to the malignant fevers and dysenteries that commence there and prevail for several months, so much so as to make the Dooars dreaded by the Bhootanese themselves, who avoid them during the pestilential period of the year. Altogether, we have made a sad mess of the business, and the first event of importance of Sir John Lawrence's Viceroyalty has been by no means creditable to his judgment, or reassuring with respect to his capacity for the high and important post which circumstances have led to his being called on to fill.

An impression prevails amongst some well qualified to judge of the matter, that it is simply folly endeavouring to carry out the annexation of the Dooars, unless we are prepared to live in a state of chronic frontier warfare with troops ready to replace those that will be from time to time swept off by sickness; and that we must either make peace with the Bhootan Government, and endeavour in a friendly spirit to prevent the raids complained of, or we must annex the whole country. In other words, conquer Bhootan, and extend our frontier to Thibet, and thus at once open up direct overland communication with China through that country, which, being tributary to the Emperor, might not be a matter of very great difficulty. Thus the matter at the present time stands—a large European force under orders for the frontier of Bhootan, and the Government undecided as to the course of action to be pursued.

Since writing the foregoing, later news has been received from the frontier, which verifies the fears entertained that the Bhootanese, emboldened by their recent successes, would immediately commence aggressive operations within the British territory. Armed parties have descended from the hills, and are now engaged ravaging the frontier to the eastward, plundering the inhabitants, carrying them off prisoners, burning hamlets and villages. General Mulcaster, the present commander of the expedition, is stated to be hemmed in, and hardly able to move beyond the space occupied by his camp. This officer is about to be superseded by Brigadier-General Tombs; an appointment the expediency of which is strongly questioned, as, though he is an Indian Artillery officer of some distinction, he is not looked upon as possessing the special qualities that are deemed essential for the successful management of a hill campaign. By the last accounts from Calcutta, the 55th Regiment had arrived there, having come down by express train from Lucknow, and was to start immediately for the eastern extreme of the operations. The 80th Regiment also was on the point of starting for the western extreme. The Rifle Brigade had not arrived when the last news left. The Artillery force was having mountain Armstrong guns substituted for their ordinary field guns.

P.S.—It has been decided to send howitzers and not Armstrongs.

THE LATE SIR ROBERT H. SCHOMBURGK.

We notice with regret the death at Berlin, on the 11th inst., of Sir Robert Hermann Schomburgk, a scientific traveller and official whose name was well known in all learned circles, and who was the son of the Rev. J. F. Lewis Schomburgk, Protestant minister in Thuringia, by his wife, Mdlle. Krippendorff, daughter of Herr J. Kreppendorff, councillor of the Princes of Reuss Gerr. Although he had attained to three score years his constitution had been much broken by long residence in trophical countries. In the years 1835 to 1839 he undertook expeditions into the interior of British Guiana, under the direction of the Geographical Society of London, and in the years 1840 to 1844, as Her Majesty's commissioner for surveying the boundaries of British Guiana between Brazil and Venezuela. On the latter occasion, after enduring much fatigue and great privations with his small party, he completed the circuit of the colony from its sea boundary to within forty-two miles of the equator, in the course of nearly three years. An abstract account of this expedition is given in "Simmond's Colonial Magazine," vol. I., p. 40, 1844. For these services he was knighted by Her Majesty, and it was in these expeditions that he discovered and introduced into Europe the beautiful and gigantic water lily, which he named after the Queen, and which he assumed for his crest.

Sir Robert was well known to the scientific world as an eminent naturalist and geographer, and a good geologist and surveyor. The following is a list of some of the papers contributed by Sir Robert to various publications of which we have a knowledge:—"On the Lake Parima, the 'El Dorado' of Sir Walter Raleigh, and the Geography of Guiana."—"Simmond's Colonial Magazine, vol. 5, p. 381. "A Description of the Muriche, or Ita Palm of Guiana (*Mauritia flexuos*), and its uses by the Aborigines."—*Ibid*, vol. 6, p. 43. "On the Geological Structure of Barbados."—*Ibid*, 7, p. 470. "A Visit to Turner's Hall Wood, Barbados, in 1846."—*Ibid*, 8, p. 482. "On the Commercial Statistics of the

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Republics in South America."—*Ibid*, 13, p. 260, 14, p. 40. "On the Manufacture of Beetroot Sugar in the Zollverein."—*Ibid*, 14, p. 134. "On a Comparative Vocabulary of Eighteen Languages and Dialects of Indian Tribes Inhabiting Guiana."—*Ibid*, vol. 15, p. 46. "On the Heavy Swell along some of the West India Islands called the Ground Sea, or North Sea."—Journal Royal Geographical Society, 5, p. 23. "On the Currents and Tides of the Mona Passage." — Nautical Magazine, 1850. p. 585. "On the Vegetable Products of Siam."—Technologist, 1, p. 355. "On Siamese Products transmitted to the International Exhibition, 1862."—*Ibid*, 2. p. 444. "On the Ton-khai, or Paper Tree, of Siam (*Trophis aspera*)."—*Ibid*, 4, p. 337.

Sir Robert was also an extensive contributor to the Magazines and "Annals of Natural History," the "Proceedings of the British Association," and other journals. His published works are the following:—"A Discription of British Guiana, Geographical and Statistical," with map, 155 pp.; Simpkin and Marshall: 1840. "Views in the Interior of British Guiana," folio, 52s. 6d.; coloured, 84s.; Ackerman: 1841. "Journal of an Expedition from Pirama to the Upper Country, &c., and from thence o Demerara," executed by order of Her Majesty's Government, with maps, reprinted from the "Journal of the Royal Geographical Society," 1845. the "History of Barbados," royal 8vo., with an accompanying maps of the island, 722 pp., 31s. 6d.; Longman and Co.: 1848. "Ruin British Guiana under Jahren," 1840-44, 3 vols. imperial 8vo., 70s.; Williams and Norgate: 1849. Sir Robert was a Philos. Dr. and Knight of Royal Prussian Order of the Red Eagle, of the Royal Saxon Order of Merit, and of the French Legion of Honour, corresponding member of the Royal Geographical, Zoological, and Entomological Societies of London the Ethnological of Paris member of the Imperial Academy, &c.

In the close of 1845 Sir Robert, then acting as chairman of a company originated by Mr. Simmonds, to establish a railway in the island of Barbados, was deputed by the directors to proceed to the island to examine and report upon its facilities and resources, and, during a lengthened sojourn, made a complete survey of the island. He was soon after appointed British Consul for San Domingo, and subsequently Consul-General of Siam, and his official reports to the Board of Trade contained much valuable imformation. He, in 1859, proceeded, with Mr. Clark as interpreter, on an overland tour to Maulman, through Changmei, the capital of the tributary kingdom of Laos, and returned to the seat of his consulate on May 9, 1860. Sir Robert returned last year to Europe, having retired from official duties, but passed the whole winter confined to his bed. His funeral at Berlin was attended by a large number of scientific men, and also the English Ambassador, Lord Napier, the Minister for Paraguay, the Prussian Minister for the Interior, Count D'Eulenburg, and many notabilities of the scientific world of Berlin.

THE MADRAS AND COLOMBO STEAM SHIP COMPANY (LIMITED).

This company have just completed their second steamer, the *Negapatam*, of 340 tons, and she will be shortly despatched to Negapatam to take up her post. Should the company succeed in obtaining a subsidy from the Ceylon Government of £3.000 per annum, the communication will be efficiently maintained and coolies conveyed at a reduced rate, and for a subsidy of £8,000 the coolies will be conveyed free. Here is another question awaiting the decision of the new Governor, Sir Hercules Robinson.

THE HAMBURG STEAMER "CHINA."

This vessel, which was noticed in our last Hamburg correspondent's letter, came over to Grimsby for coals, and proceeds to Singapore and Hong Kong. She is commanded by Capt. Muller, late of the *Sir Geo. Grey*, and will be consigned to Messrs. Siemssen and Co., in China.

Correspondence.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—Allow me a few lines in reply to the letter from "A Singaporean" which appeared in your last issue. That writer assumes that I am an enemy of the Tumongong of Johore. I am no such thing. Those have been his enemies who, by an act of injustice, have placed him in a false position, have isolated him from his brother chieftains, and have prevented the political and commercial development of the Malay Peninsula.

To this policy I have ever been, and ever shall be, the uncompromising opponent.

I maintain what I asserted in my last with reference to "piratical proficiency;" to the coercion employed towards the Sultan; and to the regret expressed by Mr. Church. Evidence is easily procurable which will prove the two first assertions, and as to the latter I have seen and read the record of it.

I must decline to admit that the prospectus of a sugar company, *in posse*, is any proof of commercial progress; nor can I allow that monopolies, actual or attempted, indicate the possession of enlightened ideas of government. Those are principally to blame for the censure the Tumongong has obtained who have stimulated his rapacity and pandered to his ambition. But, after all, the Sultan and Tumongong are but secondary objects. The chief question at issue is this—Is the policy at present pursued that which is best adapted to establish British influence over the native chiefs, and to develope the neglected riches of their territories? Justice, and a due regard to the feelings and wishes of the natives, should be our rule; and I maintain, and the opinion is that of officials with whom I have conversed on the subject, that the reconstruction of the empire of Johore in the Peninsula is the most easy, honest, and politic means to attain such an end. This would not affect the true position of the Tumongong.—Your obedient servant,

AN OLD RESIDENT.

London, March 18, 1865.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

BRITISH SUBJECTS IN CHINA.

(20th.) Colonel SYKES, in calling the attention of the House to the alleged inability of the British Government to enforce Orders in Council and ordinances by Superintendents of Trade, relating to British subjects in China, said that he did not see the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs in his place, but as the noble lord at the head of the Government, who was always in his place, was present, he would probably give a more explicit reply than the House could hope to obtain from the Under-Secretary. The statement that the Government could not enforce these Orders in Council and ordinances for the control of British subjects in China would, if it went abroad, necessarily have a mischievous effect. China swarmed with freebooters, filibusters, rowdies, and deserters from ships who were seeking their fortunes in that empire, ready at all times to take service on one side or the other, and to keep up the existing anarchy. His object was to make it understood that the Queen's orders could be and would be enforced. Parliament authorized the issue of these orders for the control of Her Majesty's subjects within the Chinese dominions, or 100 miles of the coast thereof; and in 1855, by virtue of the powers vested in him, the Chief Superintendent in Hong Kong, Sir John Bowring, issued an ordinance declaring, among other things, that any British subjects taking part with the Government or the rebels would be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by not more than two years' imprisonment, or by a fine of not more than 5,000 dollars. This ordinance was in operation during the whole time that our officers—Sir James Hope, General Staveley, Captain Dew, and others—were fighting against the rebels, so that by siding with the Chinese Government those officers actually committed a misdemeanor, for which they were punishable, as he had mentioned. An order was published in Her Majesty's name granting permission to Captain Osborn and Mr. Lay to enlist British subjects, not for the service of the Emperor of China, but expressly for service under Captain Osborn and Mr. Lay. The House would not fail to remember the dreadful events which followed from the perfidy of the Futai, the ally of Captain Gordon, under whose guarantee the princes of the rebels surrendered only to be assassinated, and yet Captain Gordon remained in the service of that Mandarin. Her Majesty's Government, however, upon learning the facts, with very proper feeling issued an ordinance that all British subjects should withdraw from the service of the Emperor of China or of the Mandarins. It had been argued, most incorrectly, as he believed, that the orders did not apply to all British subjects in the service of the Mandarins of the Emperor of China, but he submitted that it was unquestionable that those orders did apply to all Her Majesty's subjects, and therefore the orders ought to be enforced. The question then remained, were there any British subjects now in the service of the Emperor of China or of his Mandarians? The Consuls were quite aware of their powers, and only required stimulating to put those powers in force. Nothing was required but an expressing of will on the part of Her Majesty's Government to induce the Consuls to act upon those powers. He held in his hand a narrative written by a merchant in Shanghai who, finding since the occupation of the silk districts by the Imperialists that the supplies of silk were diminishing, made a journey through those districts in order to discover the cause of such diminution. An extraordinary statement had appeared in a leading journal to the effect that since the rebels obtained possession of the silk producing districts there had been a gradual diminution in the supply of that article, while from official returns it appeared that from May, 1860, when the rebels first obtained possession or those districts, the supplies of silk had gone on annually increasing until the Imperialist regained possession. The gentleman to whose narrative he had referred stated that he was informed that under the Taiping rule the country seemed happy and flourishing, and from personal observation in other districts where the rebels exercised authority, the people of those districts had nothing to complain of in the working of Bentham's theory of the greatest good for the greatest number. The gentleman he referred to next proceeded to ascertain whether the mulberry trees were as numerous as before, knowing that unless those trees were maintained the supply of silk must fall off. When Colonel Burgevine went to Nanking, the country between that city and Soochow was a garden, and thickly inhabited; but now the country was a desert, the houses had disappeared, and the inhabitants had all fled from the Imperialist victors, whom they dreaded as tigers. At a distance of about twenty-seven li from Soochow, this gentleman came to a place which was formerly a custom-house station, but now occupied by a portion of Gordon's old force. There, too, he found seven British subjects—Colonel Doyle, Major Murphy, Major Lawless, and four others, who were engaged in drilling an artillery force for the Emperor's service. There were heavy guns of foreign manufacture, large quantities of English gunpowder, shot, and shell, and all that, notwithstanding the ordinance of 1855, which made it a misdemeanor in any British subject to supply warlike materials to either party. This gentleman further stated that he found the anti-foreign feeling was reviving, the people being indignant with those who had assisted to re-establish the power of the Mandarins. In another place he found a Dr. Macartney, formerly of the 99th Regiment, superintending the manufacture of rifle bullets, and thus it might happen that the merchants of Shanghai would have to seek shelter on board our ships from an enemy who used against them the rifle bullets which Dr. Macartney had taught them to manufacture. At Ningpo, under the very eyes of the Consul, Major Pook and other officers were engaged in the service of the Mandarin. Then, when the gentleman came to look for the mulberry trees which were so important for the production of silk, he found that in the conquered districts they had all been cut down by the Imperialist troops for firewood. Her Majesty's acting Consul at Amoy had recently issued an ordinance that passengers coming in British ships were not to be allowed to land without proper passports, but were to be detained by the captain of the ship until the fact had been notified to the Consul, who would give or withhold his permission, as he thought fit, and that all persons leaving the port in British ships must have their passports *vised*. Some time ago the Ministers of the four great Powers had agreed to re-

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commend to their Governments the withdrawal of their subjects from the service of the Emperor of China. He was not aware whether that agreement was still in existence, but as a matter of policy it ought to be acted upon; and he, therefore, begged to ask the noble lord at the head of the Government whether, in the name of humanity, our Consuls ought not to be called on to withdraw all British subjects from the the service of the Emperor of China and the local Mandarins, who were evidently manufacturing *materiel* of war, no doubt to be used against ourselves ultimately from the feelings which were now being manifested.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that, though the question had not been addressed to him, yet, as it involved a matter of law, perhaps the hon. gentleman would allow him to say a few words in reply. The hon. and gallant gentleman seemed entirely to overlook the nature of consular jurisdiction in China, or any other foreign country where such ajurisdiction had been conferred by the local Government, in assuming that Consuls had the same means at their control for the enforcement of the laws they had to administer as were possessed by the authorities of the country in whom the territorial jurisdiction resided. In this country the Government had at its disposal the police, the *posse comitatus*, and the army, if necessary, for the enforcement of the law; but a Consul had no power except what he derived from the co-operation of his countrymen, or which might be conferred on him by the Government of the country in which he lived. Upon these circumstances, it was clear that, if the law were violated, Consuls in no case could proceed except upon information properly before them, or proper evidence that a breach of law had been committed. It was impossible that they could send a roving commission all over China to find out who might be or might not be disobeying the law, and to summon them, whether they were in the service of the Emperor or not, to answer for offences of which no one had accused them. The Consular Courts had the same duties to perform as other courts in criminal cases—they had to receive information properly verified, and to decide according to law; but they were not to go about all over China trying to find out all possible offenders. The Government of this country could not be held responsible for the discovery and punishment of all British subjects who might commit offences in any part of China. When these subjects were within the consular jurisdiction, and were properly accused—on proper evidence—then it would be time enough to inquire whether they had offended against the ordinances. It was quite impossible that these ordinances could be executed all over a great empire like China—they would only be enforced in those places where our Consuls were situated.

CONSULAR COURTS IN CHINA.

(23rd.) Mr. KINNAIRD asked the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether it was proposed to take any steps to remedy the evils arising from the Consular Courts in China being the only accessible courts for the trial of civil and criminal as well as the ordinary police cases, the Consuls not being lawyers by education, and the amount of business having become very large.—Mr. LAYARD said that measures were in progress for establishing a Judicial Court at Shanghai, and a judge, an assistant-judge, and a law secretary would be appointed. All the provincial consular courts in China would be under their jurisdiction; the consular judge would have the power of going circuit; there would be an appeal from the provincial courts to his court, and from his court to the Privy Council.

INDIAN ALLOWANCES IN CHINA.

(March 23.) Mr. W. LESLIE asked the Under-Secretary for War whether the Indian allowances hitherto made to Her Majesty's troops serving in China were about to be withdrawn.—The Marquis of HARTINGTON said that after the withdrawal of the Indian troops serving in China, the Indian allowances, given to the British troops with the view of placing them on the same footing as the Indian troops serving in that country, would be withdrawn, and a new scale of allowances would be fixed suitable to the circumstances of the case.

"THE TIMES'" CORRESPONDENT.—The *Herald* has the following letter on *The Times'* Shanghai correspondent's letter of Jan. 25:—In to-day's *Times* I find this statement in the article headed "China:"—"From 70,000 bales in 1862 the export of silk fell to 30,000 in 1863, and to 27,000 in 1864, and yet people have been known to maintain that the presence of the rebels had an encouraging effect upon trade." Now, Sir, this passage evidently implies that the fall off of silk was caused by the rebels (Taipings). This I entirely deny to be the case. The Taipings captured Foochow in May, 1860, and from that time until the middle of 1863 held and occupied the whole silk district of Chekiang. I am one of those who maintain that they did increase our trade, and I give the following figures to prove it; they are copied from the "Overland China Trade Report:"—The last year previous to the capture of Foochow and the occupation of the silk districts, the export during the season, 1st of June to end of May, 1859-60, amounted to 69,137 bales; after the producing districts fell into Taiping possession, the export increased to 88,754 bales, season 1860-61; to 73,322, season 1861-62; and to 83,264, season 1862-63. These figures cover the period of entire occupation of the silk districts by the Taipings, and extend to the end of May, 1863. Since that time, by the instrumentality of Major Gordon's and other mercenary legions, we English have carried the horrors of Manchoo war and triumph into these districts, and have succeeded in driving out those Taipings who were not slaughtered by our long-ranged artillery, starved to death, or tortured to death when captured by the Imperialists. This is the result. From 83,264 bales in the season 1862-63, the exportation of silk has fallen to 45,861 bales, season 1863-64; and up to present dates the export is 5,854 bales less than during the corresponding period of last season. Had the Taipings not acted with wonderful forbearance during their unjust expulsion from the silk territory by British means, we should have had no silk at all since that event; as it is, we have only felt the natural consequences of the hostilities carried on by ourselves. To-day's *Times* also contains a wildly-eulogistic leader upon Major Gordon, though further than the effect his exploits have produced by the fall-off of silk, destruction of life, and replacement of the Bible by Buddhism, it would be difficult, indeed, to know what good that gallant officer has accomplished. The Taipings now hold possession of the famous Vu-e, or Bo-hea tea districts; they are operating successfully within a few miles of our treaty ports, Amoy and Foochow; therefore, I ask, what has been the result of our needless intervention in China? What temporal or spiritual benefit has been obtained by the sacrifice of many thousands of our fellow-men, who have adopted our Bible and declared us their "foreign brethren?" I have knelt many a time among the Taipings, and with them prayed from our Bible; those holy books have been destroyed by our mistaken interference, and the idols have been re-established on their ashes. We have driven the Taipings from Shanghai and Ningpo, but they have reappeared before Amoy, Foochow, and Swatow; and, unless we massacre them again, will undoubtedly capture those important treaty ports. The silk has fallen off more than half its former amount, and the silk districts, free and open under Taiping rule, have become shut against Europeans by the very Imperial mandarins we have placed in possession of them. These facts are incontrovertible, and sufficiently illustrate the evil and suicidal policy pursued by our present Government towards China. Time and space prevent a notice of the subject at length, but I trust in a short time to give the justice-loving British public a work showing the Taiping side of the Taiping movement.—ANGLO-TAIPING, 15th March.

A FEMALE SEAMAN FROM CHINA.—Captain Dewar, master of the *Amoy*, appeared at the Thames Police Court, before Mr. Woolrych, to answer the complaint of Sarah Thomas, who, although a woman, claimed wages as a "seaman" for services on a voyage from Hong Kong to London. Mr. Smith stated the case for the complainant. She claimed a balance of £9. 10s. for her services in the ship. Mrs. Dewar had only been eight days out of her confinement when the vessel sailed, and Mrs. Thomas, who was a married woman, was engaged to attend upon her on the voyage. The complainant expressed a wish to sign the ship's articles, but this was objected to, and a special agreement was signed by the complainant, her husband, and the defendant. Mr. Smith then read the agreement, which stipulated that, in consideration of her services she should have a free passage to England, and receive £20. The sum of £10. 10s. was paid in advance under this agreement, and £9. 10s. was due. Mrs. Thomas had applied to defendant, and he said "I can't pay you; I must pay it to your husband." He contended the complainant had a clear right to her wages, not as an able seaman, but as an able sea woman. Stewardesses, nurses, and midwives had sued for wages at sea in the Thames Police-court, and been successful. The sex was immaterial. Mrs. Thomas acted as a steward.—Sarah Thomas, a respectable young woman, said she was a servant at Hong Kong. On the 20th of September, 1864, she signed the agreement now produced. Captain Dewar said she was under services to Mrs. Dewar. She attended wholly and solely to Mrs. Dewar and the children, except as to repairs and alterations of the captain's under-clothing. Mr. Woolrych ordered the defendant to pay the sum of £10. 10s. and £1. 1s. costs.

A ROMANTIC COURTSHIP AND MARRIAGE.—The *Sunderland Times* prints the following:—"Some time ago the mate of a Sunderland vessel, while at a Chinese port, fell ill of fever and subsequently died An Englishman and his wife, living in the land of 'barbarians,' were kind to the dying man, and in his last moments strove by their attentions to ease, as far as they could, his passage from this troublesome world. The kindness shown to the suffering seaman came to the knowledge of his widow in Sunderland, and she, in a letter to the Englishman and his wife, thanked them for what they had done, and begged they would, in return, send her their *cartes* as a remembrance of the debt she owed them. After the lapse of some months, she received an answer from the Celestial Empire, from the Englishman, in which he conveyed the melancholy intelligence that, shortly after the departure of the vessel to which the mate belonged, he had the misfortune to lose his wife, who now lay interred by the side of his friend, the husband of the woman to whom he was writing. Acting upon the high encomiums he had heard of the character and qualities of his fair correspondent, he judged she was a suitable person to fill the place of his deceased partner, and at once 'popped the question,' giving as a reason for his promptness that so long a time was required for the transmission of a letter and its answer, it would be half a year before he knew what her reply would be. Enclosed was his portrait, and he begged a return of the favour. The letter, as may be imagined, was a surprise to the widow; but after weighing all the circumstances, she consented to be 'wooed.' The courtship, thus strangely commenced, continued to progress until a few weeks ago, when the happy man who was to be the bridegroom arrived in England, was not long in finding his way to Sunderland, and the 'banns' were at once proclaimed in Bishopwearmouth Church."

GOVERNMENT COLLECTION OF SPECIMENS OF EASTERN ART.—In order to exhibit to manufacturers, and especially cotton-manufacturers, the wants of our Indian people, Government has collected, at great expense and much trouble, specimens of all the most characteristic, useful and costly of the native manufactures in cotton, silk and wool. Not only does the collection of these specimens represent every class of frabric now manufactured and worn in India, but it exemplifies the characteristic art of the people of the East in decorating the materials with those admirable patterns and colours which are the inheritance of their race. These patterns and colours are enjoyed by the people; and it will be hopeless to attempt to rival them without an equal knowledge, not only of the mechanical processes of manufacturing the material and copying the patterns, but also of the feeling for art which inspires that decoration. It is felt that, as we buy an enormous quantity of cotton and silk from India, while the people there take only bullion from us in exchange, the balance of trade is against us, and that our manufacturers would secure an ample field if they could enter the Indian market with textile fabrics fit for native use, and decorated in accordance with native tastes. In order, therefore, to enable English manufacturers to study the demands of the Indian market, the collection of textile fabrics and patterns above referred to, which contains twenty specimens of each sort, has been divided into twenty complete sets; the objects have been placed in volumes, each set amounting to eighteen substantial folios, comprising about 700 examples. These sets of eighteen folios each are to be distributed to the leading seats of manufacture in this country, and deposited in the Chambers of Commerce in those localities where they may be consulted by those desirous of information.

NEW K.C.B.'s.—Her Majesty was graciously pleased to approve of the

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appointment of Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir Frederick William Grey, K.C.B., First Naval Lord of the Admiralty, to be a Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath. Admiral Grey is the third son of Charles, second Earl Grey, K.G., who was Premier in 1830. Sir Frederick never saw much active service. At the same time, Her Majesty also approved of the appointment of Rear-Admiral Sydney Colpoys Dacres, C.B., Commander-in-Chief of the Channel Feet, to be a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath. Admiral (now Sir Sydney) Dacres, K.C.B., served with great distinction during the Spanish war, and was nominated for his services during that period a Knight of the Legion of Honour and of St. Ferdinand. In 1855 he served in command of the *Sanspareil*, 70, in the Crimea, and for distinguished service was again nominated a Knight of the Legion of Honour, and a Knight of the Order of Medjidie, receiving the Cross of the Redeemer of Greece, the Order of St. Ferdinand, besides several medals and other decorations. Sir Sydney Dacres is the second son of the late Admiral Sir Richard Dacres, who represented a younger son of the ancient baronial house of Dacres of Gilleland.

STEAM SHIPBUILDING ON THE CLYDE.—The *Tarifa*, another of the Mediterranean steamers belonging to Messrs. Burns, has made a trial trip, under the command of Captain Inglis. She is upwards of 2,000 tons burden, and has engines of 300-horse power; she was built by Messrs. Thomson, of Govan. In "running the lights" she attained a speed of 13 miles per hour,—a rate which is expected to be considerably increased when she is under canvas. The *Tarifa* has since left the Clyde for Liverpool, from which port she will make her first voyage for Egypt. The Turkish Government has ordered an iron-plated ram on the Clyde. She is to carry guns of heavy calibre, and will be provided with an iron beak upwards of 20 feet in length, projecting underneath from the stem. Messrs. Hedderwick and Co., of Govan, have launched for the Madras and Colombo Steam Navigation Company (Limited) a smart screw of 340 tons, named the *Negapatam*. She is being fitted with engines of 60-horse power by Messrs. J. Howden and Co.

SALE OF MODERN PICTURES BELONGING TO DUNCAN FLETCHER, ESQ.—Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods have given notice that they will, in May, sell by auction the beautiful collection of pictures formed by the above-named gentleman, who is leaving London. The catalogue will include 18 pictures of the highest importance, viz., an English Landscape, by Sir A. W. Callcott, R.A., and Sir E. Landseer, R.A., one of the chief attractions of the celebrated Bicknell collection; also the Prize Calf, by Sir E. Landseer; Good Night, by T. Webster, R.A.; and a Street in Cairo from the same collection; the Palm Offering, one of the finest works of F. Goodall, R.A.; and a Welsh Scene with Figures, by the same artist; Contrabandista, a grand work of C. Stanfield, R.A.; Sheepwashing, by Sir D. Wilkie; Eastward Ho! by H. O'Neill, R.A.; an Italian Vintage, by T. Uwins, R.A.; Dunstaffnage Castle, by Copley Fielding; a Landscape, by P. Nasmyth; a Chef-d'œuvre of Rosa Bonheur; and four exquisite works of Edouard Frere; also a beautiful collection of exquisite Carvings in Jade; splendid specimens of ancient Chinese enamel, porcelain, Japan cabinets, &c.

POST OFFICE DEDUCTIONS.—Some important alterations have taken place both in the home and foreign services. Book packets now going to Malta or Egypt are carried at 2d. instead of 3d. per 4oz. weight, while packets for Malta, which formerly could only be sent *via* Southampton, can now go by the Marseilles route as well. The last notice refers to book packets addressed to Shanghai, Canton, Amoy, Foo-chow-Foo, Ningpo, Swatow, or Whampoa. It states that they may be forwarded by the British mail steamers, either *via* Southampton or *via* Marseilles, under the same conditions in all respects as book packets addressed to Hong Kong. The charge will be as follows—viz., *via* Southampton, for a packet not exceeding 4oz., 4d.; above 4oz. and not exceeding ½lb., 8d.; above ½lb. and not exceeding 1lb., 1s. 4d.; above 1lb. and not exceeding 1½lb., 2s.; every additional ½lb., 8d.; *via* Marseilles, for a packet not exceeding 4oz., 6d.; above 4oz. and not exceeding ½lb., 1s.; above ½lb. and not exceeding 1lb., 2s.; above 1lb. and not exceeding 1½lb., 3s.; every additional ½lb., 1s. The postage must in all cases be paid in advance.

PATTERN POST TO FOREIGN PORTS IN CHINA.—On the 1st April next, and thenceforward, patterns or samples of merchandise may be transmitted by post between England and Amoy, Canton, Foo-chow-Foo, Ningpo, Shanghai, Swatow, and Whampoa, by British packet, either via Southampton or via Marseilles. The following will be the rates of postage, which must be prepaid by means of postage stamps, viz.:—Via Southampton—For a packet not exceeding 4 oz., 4d.; above 4 oz. and not exceeding ½lb., 8d.; above ½lb. and not exceeding 1lb., 1s. 4d.; above 1lb. and not exceeding 1½lb., 2s.; above 1½lb. and not exceeding 2lbs., 2s. 8d. Via Marseilles—For a packet not exceeding 4 oz., 6d.; above 4 oz. and not exceeding ½lb., 1s.; above ½lb. and not exceeding 1lb., 2s.; ab ve 1lb. and not exceeding 1½lb., 3s.; above 1½lb. and not exceeding 2lbs., 4s.

THE LATE MURDERS IN JAPAN.—There was distributed this morning a Parliamentary document bearing the title of "Japan, No. 3, 1865," and containing "Further Papers respecting the Murder of Major Baldwin and Lieutenant Bird, at Kamakura, in Japan." The papers relate entirely to the executions that took place at Yokohama, in December, of the principal and accomplices in the crime, and embrace the official reports of the British officials who attended on those occasions. These have already appeared in the *London and China Telegraph*. A dispatch from Sir R. Alcock to Earl Russell, dated Dec. 23, informs him that "Toki Osumi no Kami, the Governor of Kanagawa, who was so tardy in giving information to Her Majesty's Consul, and in other respects gave rise to very sinister suspicions, has been removed from his office, and disgraced at my requisition. It was necessary that he should be punished, if only as some guarantee for the future; and once satisfied that I had just cause for complaint, I am bound to say the Gorogio yielded, after some delay it is true, but with a very good grace in the end." After Sir Rutherford's departure, Mr. Consul Winchester, in a despatch dated Dec. 29, narrating the execution of one of the actual perpetrators of the crime, observes on it:—"Every unprejudiced mind must consider it as evidence of a great change in the policy of the Government towards Foreign Powers. A year ago it would have been in vain to hope for such an exhibition of strength on the part of the Administration of the Tycoon. It could not have dared to face the outcry which such a proceeding would have created. Happily, the force imparted to it by the destruction of Choshiu's power at Simonoseki, has enabled it successfully to take a step entirely consonant with the true principles on which the friendly intercourse between nations is founded." Extracts are given from the *Japan Herald*, showing "the true political significance and importance of this act of the Japanese authorities—" referring to the execution of the two men first arrested.

SALE OF THE HOUSE AND FURNITURE OF DUNCAN FLETCHER, ESQ.—Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods respectfully give notice that they will sell by auction, in April (unless previously disposed of by private contract), the valuable lease and contents of the mansion, 12, Hyde Park-square, the residence of Duncan Fletcher, Esq., who is leaving London. The house has been quite recently substantially repaired and decorated in the most beautiful taste, with every modern convenience and elegance, and forms a most *recherche* and attractive residence; and the whole furniture and fittings have been selected with great taste, and executed by Messrs. Jackson and Graham in their best style within the last eight months.

THE SAILORS' HOME AND ADMIRAL HALL.—The annual meeting of the Southampton Sailors' Home was held a short time ago, on which occasion it was unanimously resolved to present an address to Admiral W. H. Hall, C.B., F.R.S., in token of the important service which he had rendered to sailors' homes, as one of their originators. Subsequently the gallant admiral was entertained at a banquet on board the steam-ship *Poonah*, when the presentation of the address took place, and when he was highly complimented by the Mayor of Southampton and several other gentlemen, on the great services he had rendered his country in China, and subsequently in the Baltic during the Russian war.

NEW IRON SCREW TRANSPORTS.—The Lords of the Admiralty have ust given orders for the construction of an iron screw steam fleet, upon a noble scale, for the conveyance of our troops to India, and to maintain the efficiency and punctuality of reliefs for our army in that part of the world. The firms to whom the Admiralty have entrusted the construction of this fleet include the most eminent shipbuilders in the world. The dimensions and capacity of these vessels, presenting a pleasant contrast to the unhealthy and comfortless transports of old times, may be judged from the following details of the ship contracted for by Messrs. Money Wigram and Sons, of Blackwall-yard. The length of this vessel between perpendiculars will be 360 feet, and that of her keel for tonnage, 326 feet 9½ inches. Her extreme breadth, as well as that of her tonnage space, will be 49 feet; her depth in hold will be 22 feet 4 inches, and her burthen 4,173 tons. The engines of this ship, furnished by Humphreys and Tennant, will be of the nominal power of 700 tons, but under the perfection to which engine-making has been brought by the great firms of the present day, they will really be capable of exerting the enormous power of 4,200 tons. She will be furnished with surface condensers, and all modern improvements for economising fuel, as well as with various features contributing to the health, convenience, and safety of all on board. The speed of this ship is to be 15 knots, and she will have ample accommodation for 1,200 men, besides the numerous officers and crew required by so large a vessel. There will be four other vessels of nearly similar dimensions, proportions, and general arrangements, one of which will be built by the Thames Ironworks and Shipbuilding Company, with engines also by Humphreys and Tennant; another will be built by Palmer Brothers, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, with engines by Maudslay and Gield; another by Laird and Co., of Liverpool, with engines by themselves; and the fifth by Messrs. Napier, of Glasgow, who will also furnish their own engines.

THE "SPIRIT OF THE OCEAN" V. "ROBIN HOOD."—This was a suit instituted by the owners of the ship *Spirit of the Ocean* against the owners of the ship *Robin Hood* (which vessel our readers will remember was sunk in the Channel outward bound to China) for the purpose of obtaining a decree of limitation of their liability under the 54th section of the Merchant Shipping Act Amendment Act of 1862. The two vessels came into collision off Dungeness on the 22nd November last, when the *Robin Hood* sunk. She had a general cargo on board, which was lost. The owner of the *Robin Hood* had instituted a suit against the owners of the *Spirit of the Ocean* to recover the damages occasioned by the collision, and the question was whether the owners of the latter vessel were entitled to a decree that they are not liable in respect to the damages caused by the collision beyond £8 or each ton of the registered tonnage of their vessel.—Judgment for the owners of the *Spirit of the Ocean*, with costs occasioned by the opposition of the owners of the *Robin Hood* to the prayer of the petition.

IN RE FRANCIS PEARSON, CHINA MERCHANT BANKRUPT.—The adjudication in this case was obtained upon the petition of the Fore-street Warehouse Company (Limited), and the bankrupt was described as of 20, Threadneedle-street, and also of Shanghai, in China, merchant, in copartnership with George Seymour. At a first meeting, now held, Mr. Robert Slater, of the Fore-street Warehouse Company, was appointed creditors' assignee. The debts and liabilities are believed to be about £6,000, and the assets consist for the most part of balances upon consignments to Shanghai and Japan. The bankrupt did not surrender.

EXPORTATION OF OPIUM FROM INDIA.—A return recently issued shows that in the official year of 1863-64 there were exported from our Indian possessions 42,621 chests of opium, principally to China. The gross revenue realised thereon was Rs. 5,20,72,358. In 1829-30 the exportation consisted of 9,678 chests, and since then it has been increasing, though not always regularly. In 1854-55 it rose suddenly to 51,421 chests, but the following year it fell to 44,938 chests. With these exceptions the exportation for the official year first mentioned was the highest.

CHINESE COINS PACKED IN COTTON.—While unpacking a bale of Chinese cotton at Bacup, the other day, the men so employed discovered two gold coins, one about the size of a threepenny piece and the other smaller, with holes punched through them, wrapped up in a piece of rag. Many silver pieces have also been found amongst this kind of cotton, and a curious sheet of Chinese characters, printed on a sort of straw paper, carefully folded, was found in a bale at Bacup last week.

DEPARTURE OF SIR FREDERICK BRUCE, G.C.B., FOR WASHINGTON.—The Royal Mail steamer *China* left the Mersey early on the 25th for New York, with a full cargo and a fair complement of passengers, among whom was Sir Frederick Bruce, the newly appointed British Minister and Envoy Extraordinary to Washington.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1865.

COLONEL SYKES ON CHINA.

IF it were not for Colonel SYKES, Parliament and the public would forget that England had any relations with China. Here has a moribund session been sitting night after night for the last two months, and not a debate about his favourite topic, "the Taiping Rebellion." Bad luck to GORDON for putting an end to that most uncivil of civil wars, for his political capital is gone. It was the chief subject for him to make a speech upon, so that his constituents knew that he was at his post. But, bother it! here it was put an end to, and a dissolution fast approaching. So, like Paddy at Donnybrook Fair, he trailed his coat through the House of Commons the other night, hoisted the Taiping banner, and flourished his mulberry-tree shillelah, daring any man to tramp on the tails of his upper garment. In affectionate terms he dwelt upon the ill-usage his protegés had met with at the hands of British subjects, and hoped that Her MAJESTY'S Government would carry out the instructions to Consuls, forbidding them to enter the service of belligerents in China, to the strict letter of the law. This he interpreted in the most extended sense—that the whole Empire of China should be searched by officers of the Consulate to discover and seize offenders wherever located, and bring them before the nearest Consul for punishment. In proof of his assertion that there were numerous British subjects illegally drilling Chinese artillerymen, he flourished in the face of members a copy of what he termed the "leading journal at Shanghai," wherein a silk inspector, travelling on business, had seen seven of these delinquents drilling men, and one actually teaching the Imperialists to manufacture rifle bullets, while shot and shell, gunpowder and guns, of English manufacture, were stored in the Chinese magazines. This no doubt is a crying shame, as his friends, who used to supply the Taipings with rifles of the umbrella pattern, and percussion caps in the style of HOLLOWAY'S pills, have lost that lucrative trade; which apparently this silk buyer found to his cost when he had to pay dollars for the product instead of smuggled munitions of war, on which he had 100 or 200 per cent. profit. Then this Parliamentary representative of defunct Taipingdom gave another flourish to his shillelah, and with a "hooroosh" tried to bespatter the name of Colonel GORDON with dirt, but it was perfectly ineffectual, and made his hands uncleaner than before; as also his attempts to blemish the reputation of Dr. MACARTNEY. He wound up his speech by asking the noble lord at the head of the Government whether the Consuls ought not to be called on to withdraw all British subjects from the service of the Emperor of CHINA and the local mandarins. The rodomontade uttered by the gallant member for Aberdeen will be found in another column, as well as the decisive and curt reply to his question by the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, who answered instead of the Premier or Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, as it involved a matter of law. In that short speech it will be observed how neatly, with one prick from the point of legal acumen, the bladder which Colonel SYKES had puffed out to such large dimensions, immediately collapsed. He simply showed that consular jurisdiction in any foreign country had no power beyond the co-operation of British subjects resident there, or what might be conferred on them by the Government of the country in which they lived. He further showed the absurdity of giving a roving commission to any officers of the Consulates, all over China, to examine their countrymen suspected of being in the service of the EMPEROR. Just imagine the chief constable of the Shanghai Consulate, with his *posse comitatus* of three policemen, travelling among a population of four hundred millions, to find out any stray Englishmen, and apprehend them if not able to give an account of themselves. But why did he not include the British officers in the Chinese Maritime Customs, who are in the EMPEROR'S service? The whole topic was sufficiently puerile to drop after the ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S reply, as members have had this subject brought up *usque ad nauseam* by the Colonel and his fellow advocates of Taipingism.

THE NEW MINISTER FOR PEKING.

We have to announce that, as intimated previously, Sir Rutherford Alcock has been appointed to succeed Sir F. Bruce as Minister at Peking at the reduced salary of £6,000, and will leave this country with Lady Alcock next September. The announcement that Sir Rutherford would proceed *via* Siberia is premature; this route would convey him to Peking direct, and deprive him of the opportunity of visiting the consular ports, which it is desirable he should do before settling down at Peking. The antecedents of Sir Rutherford Alcock are too well known to need any description from us. The post which he has just quitted as Minister in Japan has been fraught with overwhelming danger and difficulty, and we tremble at his removal from that quarter. It is not yet decided who is to be appointed as his successor. Colonel Neale was requested some three months since to proceed as *Chargé d'Affaires*, but was obliged to decline on the ground of ill health; and our information is that the matter remains in abeyance. It was a capital mistake for our Government to recal Sir Rutherford in the middle of his policy. In glancing over the list of names in the China Service, there can hardly be two opinions as to the best person to fill the post being Sir Harry Parkes. It is of the last importance, that a man of considerable energy and pluck should be nominated, or we shall certainly have to face a war with Japan to maintain our Treaty rights. It was averted last year simply by Sir Rutherford attacking Cho-shiu, and insisting on the opening of the Straits of Simonoseki.

The following notice appears in the *Spectator*:—

As we supposed, Sir Rutherford Alcock has been appointed Envoy Plenipotentiary at Peking, in succession to Sir F. Bruce. We trust the Regent of China will like a change everybody else is certain to approve, and is prepared to observe treaties a little more strictly than heretofore. If he does not, Sir Rutherford Alcock will be quite prepared to make him, and has fought Taoutais at Shanghai and Daimios in Japan quite long enough to know how. The appointment will, we believe, either consolidate British influence in Peking, meaning by "influence" the power of guidance, or produce another war, and the first result is by far the more probable of the two. We congratulate the Daimios on their liberty, and the Mandarins on having found a master.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF THE PRUSSIAN TREATY WITH JAPAN.

OUR Hamburg correspondent adverted in a recent letter to negotiations about to be opened by the Government of Prussia with that of Japan for securing an exchange of Prussian money, weight for weight, with Japanese coins of similar intrinsic value, and the circulation of the former throughout the Empire at this valuation, modifying to this extent Article XV. of the Prussian Commercial Treaty. The demand—which would not only displace in Prussian dealings the Mexican dollar as a medium of exchange, but overthrow the present conventional assessment, nearly as it approaches to the true spirit and intent of our own Treaty—is both too general and too specific; first, as undertaking to accomplish more than any one Power will itself succeed in, and omitting consideration of any Japanese silver coin with which either the Prussian thaler, itself 750 fine, or the double thaler, 900 fine, is at par; and, secondly, as demanding an interior circulation on which we have ceased to put any great value, requiring, as we do, simply an equitable exchange. To argue, as our representative did, when he consented to forego our treaty-right in the matter of currency, that an exchange on the terms it provided would be an infringement of the prerogatives of the Sovereign of the Empire, was to overlook the great fact that the rate merely denoted the equivalent obtainable at the Imperial Mint, and by no means implied circulation of foreign money in the interior and along the coasts, against the policy of which there might be many and various

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reasons. It is true that the symbol of three (ichi-) bous* is stamped on each Mexican dollar received, but our complaint is, not that it fails to be circulated throughout the Empire at this value, but that it should be appraised at the Imperial Mint as silver bullion brought thither from the mines of Niphon, or at less than one-third its value, and the value of the metal as coined into Japanese money taken weight for weight. This concession of vantage ground on the currency question, leading to the manufacture by the Japanese of a special coin for purposes of exchange, was the more unreasonable in view of the abundant evidence we have had of the very effectual control exercised by the Japanese Government over the amount and character of the coinage of the Empire, as shown in the premium such money carries, and the preservation for centuries of the same standard as between the gold and silver currency. Allowing that the Mexican dollar had been all along exchangeable for three native circulating (ichi-)bous, it is plain we would have had the same advantage whether it circulated or not; and as to any additional premium such an exchange involved, this, we may be sure, would have been amply counteracted by present Government transit dues and commissions on the sales of native merchants. It is impossible that the question of foreign exchange in Japan, resting as it does on a purely arbitrary basis, can long remain in abeyance. We cannot coincide with the *North American Review* when it asserts that, provided we can buy tea and silk, and camphor and coal at a profit, the use that the Japanese Government makes of our coin is nothing to us. It is to be remembered that the merchant's profit consists properly in the difference between the true local value and that determined in foreign markets (less freightage, sales' commissions, &c.). Is it nothing to us that the Japanese Government should appropriate one-third of the value of our coin in addition to an arbitrary control in the supply of the fictitious coin manufactured for the settlement? Permitted aggression in one form invites it in another. The letter we recently published from a merchant at Hakodadi complaining that only 3,600 kas could be obtained in exchange for the dollar instead of 5,000 as formerly, is an instance in point. If the Japanese have any standard it is the 100 *kas*; and, allowing for the additional valuation placed on this coined copper and iron money, such a deduction from exchangeable value is far beyond the premium it carries. Immediate attention should be given to this point, a further depreciation being thus imposed on the Mexican dollar to the injury of our local trade. The overthrow of the whole present system of exchange implied in the Prussian demand is not, we apprehend, to be accomplished without the co-operation of the other great maritime and commercial Powers. Such co-operation would not be wanting to any well-devised plan. In the currency is an instrument of power which may be employed to vitiate every newly conceded privilege, and accordingly we would advise that communications at once be opened between the great maritime Powers as to the claims to be jointly put forward in the matter.

THE MEMORIAL FROM CEYLON.—CEYLON MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

Our colonies, which form so material an element in the greatness and power of Great Britain, find their value, not like those of Greece and Rome in the military force they can furnish to defend the great central heart of the Empire, but, there giving scope to industry and offering investments to capital, in the advantages they offer for the development and extension of our trade, the employment of our shipping, materials for our manufactures, and contributions to our revenue through the duties levied on their products. But the value to strictly Imperial interests of such colonies as the Cape of Good Hope and Ceylon, which unite to these advantages the merit of being important strategical positions indispensable to the protection of foreign commerce and general trade, is incalculable. What would not France give, what price would be too high for Russia, in acquiring such a colony as Ceylon? So far does the military outweigh the agricultural worth of Ceylon from this point of view, that we preferred to let the Dutch have in preference the rich island of Java, though the work of clearing its forests was before us. What Cuba was to Spain as a key to her extensive dominions in the Mexican Gulf, Ceylon is to Great Britain. This

"Utmost Indian isle of Taprobane"

is the outpost of our Indian possessions, the natural basis of naval operations, the rendezvous of our Pacific fleets—a leading station on the overland route, and the first object of attack by any maritime Power in case of war. To a colony like Ceylon, furnishing productions peculiar to tropical climates, and receiving in exchange our manufactures in return, it might have been supposed easy to apply those liberal principles which Parliament and public opinion have engrafted on our colonial policy; to deal, at least, in a conciliatory spirit, without the intervention of restrictive or oppressive regulations. "Plenty of good land and liberty to manage their affairs in their own way," appeared to ADAM SMITH to be "the two great causes of the prosperity of all new colonies." Ceylon, it appears, has the former but not the latter; and matters are all the worse that the chart by which her local pilots have steered her course has been marked with unintelligible hieroglyphics mapped by some "hidden hand" in Downing-street. Although acquired in 1796, Ceylon is to all intents a new colony, and the policy dealt out to her is only comparable to a nipping frost, threatening the early promise of the harvest. A surplus heaped up at such a fearful cost to acquired proprietary rights has been turned into a financial rod, and on the assumption of an overflowing cup she is commanded by the Home Government to contribute immediately £137,000 per annum, to be gradually augmented to £200,000, for military expenditure. Without any reference to public opinion, even as to the amount of the assessment, an ordinance permanently alienating this amount of her revenue was made a *conditio sine qua non* for allowing her Council hereafter to initiate their own measures in dealing with the revenue and matters of internal administration—a right, by the way, conceded years since by her charter. The Home Government knows well that the elective and representative members are swamped in the Legislative Council by a preponderance in numbers of obsequious officials; hence the passage of the ordinance, as directed, does not relieve the Colonial Office from the disgrace of its high-handed and arbitrary act. The same official impatience which overlooked their stolid neglect of duty as the cause of the surplus, which failed to foresee that the representative members would resign rather than immolate themselves, could not possibly take into account that the millions of pounds sterling invested in Ceylon, not only in the purchase of land and its culture, but in advances on growing crops, is for the most part London capital, and that the main returns are realised here. Arrogance is seldom unallied with impatience. Mr. CARDWELL, when writing his despatch, was probably as unaware of the truth as the Knights of St. ARTHUR of the presence of the holy Sangriel.

What the colonists contest is not the principle of contributing to military expenditure, but the right of being consulted in the matter of this demand as those who have to meet it. The Home authorities have been boldly bearded. The merchants, planters, and the whole body of British residents, are united in a phalanx against this form of despotic rule; not in a factious spirit, but with the natural resentment of a community dealt with in an inconsiderate manner. The course taken has proved as impolitic as it was hasty. There is no more sure way of repressing those noble elements which make defence glorious in an unequal contest, or stimulate a people successfully to repel aggression, than to make them feel that tinge of shame which comes from being thought only worthy to be driven. What are the Courts of Europe to think of a despatch implying that a British colony must be officiously coerced before it will properly contribute to its defence? What are other colonies to think of it? Sound feeling and good sense underlie the Ceylon memorial to the Home Government. This resolution of right is sufficient to make the ghost of more than one dead Colonial Secretary rise protesting from its ashes. We trust the matter will excite the attention of Parliament, affecting as it does the abnegation of those principles of colonial policy it has endorsed. The Ceylon colonists are

* We here give the true spelling of the Japanese coin in accordance with the somewhat guttural native pronunciation, and it is only for the sake of clearness we avoid giving the plural denomination in its true etymological form. Some consideration must be accorded for the present to custom, as represented by the uniform practice of foreign residents and consuls in maintaining the use of the same prefix, however they may spell it or pronounce it, for a single coin or any number of coins. *Ichi* literally signifies *one* bou, *Ichi* being the Japanese for one, just as *ni* bou is expressive of the dual number, or *two* bous, and so on. The plural of the coin as distinct from any specific number would be *bous*, to follow the idiom of our language. It is singular that writers on Japan should have missed this point, for the contraction of any term in commercial use is always a desideratum.

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willing to pay, and to pay well, for their defence; why insult them by giving to the tax the character of a forced contribution?

Literature.

Etudes Asiatiques de Geographie et d'Histoire, by LEON DE ROSNY. 8vo. Paris: Challamel, Ainé.—This volume contains a number of articles from the practised pen of M. Leon de Rosny, the perpetual secretary of the Ethnographical Society of Paris, author of several works on the Japanese language, on the figurative writing and hieroglyphics of various nations, ancient and modern, and, in conjunction with M. Cortambert, of an important descriptive work, illustrated with maps and engravings, entitled *Tableau de la Cochin Chine*.* M. de Rosny treats of Annam, Siam, Persia, the Parsis and China, but his chief topics are Japan and the Japanese, for both of which he has an evident liking. Speaking of the laws of that empire, our author says:—"I avow, however, that from certain points of view the Japanese code is excessively severe. On the other hand, the law is precise, clear, and simple, and every one is made acquainted with it at the earliest moment. Everything considered, Japanese legislation is as good as that of Europe; it punishes less frequently, without, however, allowing more guilty persons to escape, and with all its rigour causes less blood to be shed than our European laws." M. de Rosny dwells forcibly on the superior position of Japanese women as compared with those of any other Eastern nation, and the following passage, if not over-coloured, may naturally make us ask whether we in the West can lay claim to such high praise:—

"The education of girls is the object of special attention with the Japanese. A woman is expected to know how to read and write thoroughly, which is not an easy matter considering the number and often complicated forms of the Japanese letters. She is expected to have some knowledge of history, geography, and the natural sciences, and her education is not considered complete unless she adds to these some talent for painting, music, and poetry. Women who excel in this last-named art, and they are not few in Japan, pass for accomplished women. Many poets of the fair sex enjoy a high reputation, and their works are in every one's hands. There are few ladies in Japan who are not passionately fond of reading, and who do not give the greater portion of their time to the perusual of the romances and other works with which the literature of the country is annually enriched. Endowed with such an education, the woman of Japan becomes the life and soul of the family in which she enters: she takes an interest in her husband's affairs; she directs those of the house, and, when a mother, becomes the first instructress of her children. Besides the elementary knowledge which she is capable of disseminating around her, she teaches the precepts of religion, and inculcates the sentiments of family and of country in the hearts of her pupils. The three ideas of family, country and religion, are perhaps more intimately bound up together in Japan than anywhere else. Each family is under the care of a chief who reigns absolute master over the domestic hearth, and in the same way the nation is governed by a chief who reigns in the name of the religious sovereign as his lieutenant and vicar. Thus is maintained throughout the whole Archipelago the sentiment of national unity which is the first condition as regards the duration and the future both of States and peoples."

M. de Rosny's opinions with respect to the Government of Japan will doubtless not be universally accepted, but his claim on behalf of that people of great superiority over their neighbours, not only with respect to capacity for practical matters, but in the knowledge of the principles of science and art, and for the care which they bestow on literature, will hardly be questioned. M. de Rosny's book, like that of every impartial and thinking man who has written upon Eastern nations, should teach us that we have a good deal to learn before we are in a position to decide on the relative advantages of our own civilisation as compared with that of other nations. M. de Rosny has collected a great deal of interesting matter from ancient Chinese and other documents respecting Cochin-China, Annam, and Cambogia, and his papers relating to these countries acquire an additional interest from the important events which have made Saigon a French dependence.

* 1 vol. large 8vo. 1862. Paris: Challamel, Ainé.

Continental Intelligence.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MARCH 14.

A capacious iron screw-steamer of 900 tons, with engines of nominally 150-horse power, built for the China trade, has been successfully launched from the works of Messrs. J. C. Godeffroy and Son of this city. She has been christened the *China*, and is the longest vessel ever built at Hamburg, her length on the water line being 230 feet. On the slip just vacated by this launch another large iron vessel for the Eastern trade is to be constructed for account of another ship-owning firm of this city, the keel of which has already been laid down.

The board of directors of the Suez Canal Company have invited the Board of Trade of this city to send delegates to Egypt to be present at the opening of the canal on the 9th of April, and to make the passage of the whole length from Port Said on the Mediterranean to Suez, and from Ismaila to Zagazig, in a barge drawn by a steam tug. The canal has at present everywhere a minimum depth of five feet, with a width of fifteen metres. At the instance of the Canal Company, the administration of the French Post-office steamers in the Mediterranean have agreed to grant a very liberal reduction in the fare for the company's invited guests, who will be conveyed from Marseilles to Alexandria for the charge of 341 francs, and the same sum for their return. During their stay in Egypt the expenses for board, lodging, and local conveyance of the invited delegates from their arrival at Alexandria on the 6th of April till their departure from thence on their return to Europe will be liberally borne by the Suez Canal Company, and suitable arrangements for that purpose are now being made by them at Alexandria, Cairo, Suez, Port Said, Ismaila, and Zagazig.

The Old Giro Bank of Hamburg now publishes weekly the amount of bullion in its cellars. The returns for last week were:—

	Value Bco. Marks.
Bars of silver	11,234,610
Silver coin	6,426,525
Gold in coin and bars	495,262
Total ..	18,156,397

Great disappointment is felt at the result, it being generally supposed that the amount of silver in the bank was considerably larger.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, March 14.

Our papers are filled up with particulars relating to the funeral procession that will escort the corpse of the Queen-Dowager from her late residence to the royal vault at Delft, on the 17th inst. Several Princes have arrived at the Hague, besides some Ambassadors, who, in the name of their respective Sovereigns, will pay the last honours to the corpse of our most beloved Queen-Mother. The Netherlands Indies will be represented in the procession by the Colonel-Commandant, an officer, a corporal, and an invalid from Bronbeek.

Mr. Philippus van Blom has been elected member of the Second Chamber for Dokkum.

I have to mention the loss of two very hopeful artists, Mr. A. G. Bilders and Miss Steffens, who both died suddenly, in the first years of their prime. Their pictures are highly valued by amateurs.

It is a fact worth recording that a Paris house has given an order to the well-known firm of Hermans and Co., of the Hague, for thirty-three carriages for British India. This speaks volumes for the manufacture of these gentlemen, whose reputation stands high in Netherlands India.

I told you that Captain Kool appealed against the verdict of the Court. A few days ago the matter came on before the Provincial Court at the Hague. The Advocate-General, however, asked at once that the accused should be arrested, and that the judges should pronounce a penal verdict.

The King has been pleased to confer on W. A. Jellinghaus the knighthood of the order of the Netherlands' Lion.

ROTTERDAM, March 24.

Our papers are still filled with particulars of the funeral of the late Queen Dowager, which took place on the 17th inst. The ceremonies were as usual, and the curiosity of the public not less than is customary on such occasions.

Political news is very scarce. Parliament is still discussing the Medical Laws. The debate has been already thrice adjourned, and the Bills are hardly recognisable, so numerous and important have been the amendments. The general opinion is that finally they will be rejected.

The International Sugar Convention meets with much opposition from the trade in general.

I expect to be able, within a short time, to give your readers some particulars as to the cargoes loading for the Far East.

At the yard of Messrs. Paul van Vlissingen en Dudok van Heel, at Amsterdam, the keel is laid for an iron screw steam

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ship of 600 tons, named *Minister van Staat Rochussen*, for account of the Netherlands India Steam Navigation Company (Limited) at London.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The auction of the Trading Company, held on the 15th, went off very satisfactorily. Good ordinary quality was paid with ½ to ¾ cts. beneath valuation; the other qualities were paid with ¼ to ½ cts. above valuation. Since the auction there was a good demand, 8,100 b. Padang, ex Mentor; 3,300 b. Java, ex Tinnevelly; 1,200 b. ex Druses, changed hands at auction prices, besides 1,000 b. Macassar, ex Elizabeth and Jacoba, sold at prices that did not transpire.

TEA.—The market is inactive, the trade being occupied in inspecting the parcels to be offered in the sale on the 5th, arrived here per Freya; the black sorts are highly esteemed, as they are in general of a good and fine quality.

SUGAR.—In waiting for the auction of the Trading Company the market was dull, and nothing could be realised unless the price was lowered with ¼ f. to ½ f.; some parcels Java were sold at 4½ f. under November. The auction of the Trading Company, consisting in 76,770 kr., went off as follows (all were sold):—

	Standard.	Kranjangs en Kan.	Average good to fine. March 22, 1865.	Average good to fine. Nov. 25, 1864.	Average weak. Mar. 22, 1865.	Average weak. Nov. 25, 1864.
Yellow ..	.. No. 10	273	—	—	—	30¾
„ ..	.. „ 11	676	—	—	27	32½
Grey ..	.. „ 12	1,392	30¼	—	27¾	33¾
„ ..	.. „ 13	3,434	31¼	36¾	28¾	35½
Half Withe ..	.. „ 14	6,897	31½	37½	29½	35½
„ ..	.. „ 15	5,072	32½	38¼	30½	36¼
Withe ..	.. „ 16	6,234	33	38¾	31½	37½
„ ..	.. „ 17	10,108	33¾	39¼	32½	37¾
„ ..	.. „ 18	18,730	34	42¾	32¾	—
„ ..	.. „ 19	11,891	34½	43½	33	—
„ ..	.. „ 20	2,391	35	—	—	—

RICE.—The market has become flat, with sellers where there were before buyers.

TOBACCO (JAVA).—The market remains inanimated; the arrivals are very large; the stock now at Amsterdam amounts to 10,241 p.

COTTON.—According to the Liverpool market, the prices were better here for the last days, but only a limited business was transacted in E.I. sorts for export.

BANCA TIN.—The sales have been extremely light, and at rather lower prices. 500 bl. were sold at 56¾f., and 400 bl. at 57f.

HIDES.—1,400 p. E.I. sold per Loevesteyn, 2,746 p. do. ex Sirius, besides 176 p. Buffalo ex do.

CAMPHOR.—In much demand; sellers decline, however, to operate without an advance.

COCHIN COCOS OIL.—25½f.

CASSIA VERA.—The 1,718 p. Cassia Vera, ex Mentor, were sold at inscription at prices that did not transpire.

VANILA.—On the 30th, 90 ch. Java and 300 ch. Bourbon, just arrived, will be offered in sale.

RATTANS.—With much transactions at firm prices; 2,251 b. ex Loevestein, 1,400 b. ex Leaping Water, 15,334 b. ex Wilhelmina, and 1,500 b. ex Elizabeth and Jacoba, were sold.

INDIGO.—Only 30 chests Java, private import, were sold at full October prices. The Trading Company has fixed that the Spring Auctions shall take place on the 2nd and 4th of May. At these sales will be offered 4,047 ½ and ¼ chests Java, besides 80 chests Java. Cochineal, the valuation is on average 30 cents higher, compared with the October prices. These sales are the most important of the last year; in every quality there is a nice choice. The private stock is not large, and the general belief is that the good qualities will be paid above the valuation. The private stocks consist of 373 chests Java, and 26 chests Manila, Indigo, which will be partly sold on the 4th of May. The quality of the Cochineal is good. The prices will be regulated after the London market.

MONEY.—The funds' market showed dulness, at the present higher level of prices. With regard to public securities generally, it may be remarked that the influence exercised by the favourable condition of the money market is counteracted by the dulness which prevails in some of the staple trades, as well as in the produce markets. Bank discount bills, 4 per cent.; acceptances, 4½ per cent.; open market, 4 to 4½ per cent.; N.W.S., 2½ per cent., 62 1-16th; 3 per cents., 72 13-16th; 4 per cents., 96 per cent.; Handelmaatschappy, 144⅞; Turin Bank, 100. Change: London, 3 mo. f.11.68½; 2 mo. f.11.73; short, f.11.84; Paris, 3 mo. f.46.42; 2 mo. f.46.56; short, f.46.85; Hambro, 3 mo. f.34.87; 2 mo. f.34.95; short, f.35.10.

SHIPPING.—ARRIVALS.—March 16, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewanie, Cherokee; at Texel, from Batavia, Anna Digna; 18, at Texel, from Banjotwangie, Zeemanshoop; 21, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Cortgene; 22, at Browershaven, from Batavia, President van Ryckevorsel; from Passaroean, Robertus Hendrikus.

DEPARTURES.—March 18, from Brouwershaven to Sourabaya, Salatiga; 19, to Batavia, Delft; 20, from Texel to Java, Baltimore.

READY TO SAIL.—Galilei, Jason, for Batavia; Frederik Hendrik, for Padang; Baltimore, for Sourabaya.

LOADING AT AMSTERDAM.—For Kanagawa and Decima: Jacqueline and Elise, Julie, Bantam, Batavia. For Padang: Pauline, Constance, Eleonore, Brouwershaven. For Macassar: Elizabeth and Jacoba. For Batavia: India Packet, Staatsraad van Ewyck, Krimpenerwaard, Kandanghauer. For Samarang and Batavia: Maduru, Vertrouwen, Koning Willem II. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Anna and Sophie, Maria Regina, Koophandel. For Samarang: 'Estafette, Sliedrecht, Mathilde, Maria Veronica. For Sourabaya: Petronella, Quintet, Staatsraad, Van der Houven.

FREIGHTS.—Quotations of Messrs. Fauchey, and de Vletter, Shipbrokers at Rotterdam.—The only alterations since our last are:—For Batavia and Sourabaya, Johannes Lodewyk, 755 tons; Triton, 750 tons, 18f. to 20f. for B., 25f. to 30f. for S. For Sourabaya direct, Antonio Petronella, 711 tons, 25f. to 30f. For Batavia and Samarang, Hendrika, 752 tons, 18f. to 20f. for B., 25f. to 30f. for S. All per last of 2,000 ks., or 120 cubic feet. Amsterdam 15 per cent.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From JAVA.—Per Joseph William, Capt. Bik: Messrs P. T. Uhlenbeck and fam., P. S. Vasseur and Doruis. Per Anna Digna, Captn. Auman: Messrs G. P. W. Boers, Vos Kuil and Strom.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

To JAVA.—Per Catharina Wilhelmina, Capt. de Boer: Mr. van Neck and Mrs. Schluter. Per Frederik Hendrik, Capt. Glazener: Mr. H. W. Hamilton, of Silverton Hill.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MARCH 24.

Last week a meeting of more than fifty of the most eminent merchants, manufacturers and shipowners of Copenhagen was held in the reading-rooms of the Exchange in that city, for the purpose of taking into consideration a proposal that has been started under very high patronage for the formation of a joint-stock shipping company, in shares, with a view to develop the Danish carrying trade in the Far East. Amongst the gentlemen present was Vice-Admiral Bille, who, it will be remembered, was sent on a diplomatic mission last year to Peking to exchange the ratifications of the Treaty of Commerce concluded between Denmark and China, and who communicated to the meeting some interesting particulars of the extent of the trade in China, and various episodes founded on the result of his own experience. As might have been expected, the general feeling of the meeting was highly favourable to the execution of the project. Several gentlemen of commercial experience and high standing delivered their opinions as to the best course to be pursued, and all agreed that the time was well chosen, and that there was every chance of its becoming a successful, patriotic, and profitable undertaking. The meeting, over which presided Herr Hansen, Judge-Advocate of the Supreme Court at Copenhagen, eventually elected six gentlemen to form a provisional committee, and to draw up the prospectus and statutes of the new company, to be submitted at the next sitting. The gentlemen thus elected were—Admiral Bille; Privy Councillor of Legation, Mr. Strike; Mr. Boy, Councillor of State; Bank Director Tietgen; Mr. Le Maire, merchant at Copenhagen; and Mr. Holm, shipowner at Aalborg.

The lamented death of the late Sir Robert Schomburgk on the 11th inst., at Berlin, was inserted in the Hamburg papers by his brother, Mr. C. Schomburgk, a merchant in this city.

I have to report the death of Mr. J. H. Baur, the senior partner of the old and eminent firm of Messrs. J. H. and G. F. Baur, of Altona, who have for many years had very extensive dealings with China and other parts of the East. The deceased lived to the patriarchal age of ninety-six, and during his long and successful commercial career had acccumulated a princely fortune, which rumour asserts to be forty millions of marks banco (about three millions sterling), the whole of which he bequeathes to his grandchildren, who carry on the business under the old firm.

The proposed new flag for the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein does not appear to find favour with the public, and at a meeting of shipowners and captains of vessels held a few days ago at Altona, it was resolved by those present to decline the use of it, at all events till generally recognised by maritime States. One of the captains present related that after the revolution of 1848, when he was authorised to display the German tricolour (black, red and gold), he had occasion to visit Chinese and other ports in the East, and the flag being unknown and unrecognised, he was everywhere presumed to be a pirate. He therefore fully concurred with the opinion so unequivocally expressed by the meeting, that under present circumstances it was far more safe for them to sail under the Prussian or Austrian flag, of which they now enjoyed the option. In consequence of this decision, the eminent shipbuilder and large shipowner of Altona, Herr Dreyer, who is at present fitting out a vessel to load for China, has applied for and received permission from Berlin, to sail her under the Prussian flag, which is now pretty well known in the Far East.

A painfully interesting letter from a young Hamburg sailor, of the name of Peter Christensen, to his parents in this city, came to hand by the last overland mail, with a description of his adventures and sufferings, he being the sole survivor of the crew and passengers of the Hamburg three-masted schooner *Canton*, Capt. Neufing, totally lost in the Chinese waters in January last. The ill-fated vessel was a fine craft of 327 tons, nearly new and well found, the property of Mr. J. Elderts, of this city, by whom she was built expressly for the China trade, and left this port last year. When the catastrophe occurred she was on a voyage from Swatow to Singapore and Penang, and had no less than 540 coolies on board as passengers, all of whom, together with the captain, mate, and a crew of

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ten men, have found a watery grave, with the single exception of the young man Christensen. From his description, it appears that they left Swatow on the 29th of December, and, after a prosperous run, came in sight of the lighthouse of Pedro Branca in the Straits of Singapore early in the morning of the 6th of January. About 4 o'clock A.M. the captain altered the course of his vessel and bore up to the north-west, when she suddenly struck with great violence on a sunken reef, and nearly filled with water. She, however, soon got off again and floated into deep water, but as the pumps were of no use and the vessel was quickly settling down there was no time to launch the barge stowed on deck, and only one small boat could be let down, but this was immediately swamped from overcrowding by the unfortunate coolies. In the meantime the foremast fell overboard, and the bows were under water. When the stern part of the vessel had sunk to within three feet of the surface, Christensen, who had lashed himself to a plank, jumped overboard, and was carried by the current to the island of Bitang, where he arrived on the 8th, having been for fifty hours in the water. He was kindly received by the natives, and when he was somewhat recovered, forwarded to the hospital at Tandjang, Penang, where he wrote his letter and expected shortly to be in a condition to be removed to Singapore. He appears to be the sole survivor, as assistance was sent off immediately to the North Coast, but the people returned without finding any one alive, after burying eighty corpses that had been washed on shore, among whom were ten Europeans. The vessel was insured in this city for 150,000 marks banco.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Short supplies from over sea, and the poor assortment offer but few inducements to buy, nevertheless prices of all descriptions are well supported. Sales of the week, 6,000 bags.

SUGAR.—Both Raw and Refined quiet, with no alteration in values.

RICE.—Nothing of importance to notice; cleaned grain continues to have a steady sale at full quotations.

SPICES.—Some fresh arrivals of Cassia Lignea have come to hand, but are not yet brought to market. Ginger is again lower. There is an improved demand for Pepper, which has given greater strength to the market. A parcel of 404 gonjes of cloves has arrived, but was sold afloat previously.

DRUGS.—There is an increased demand for Chinese galls and prices are considerably higher. Camphor is also in more request, with an improvement in the values. Amongst the sales of the week were 150 chests of candied ginger, 200 chests of Chinese galls, 10 chests of Rhubarb, 17 casks of Balsam Copaivæ, and 10,000 lbs. of Refined Camphor.

SPELTER.—A further rise has been established, and greater confidence is felt in this metal. Since last mail the following sales are reported:—4,500 centners for spring delivery, and 1,500 centners in loco at 13 Mks. 4 Sch. Bco., 500 centners spring delivery at 13 Mks. 6 Sch., and 3,000 centners for delivery in July and August at 13 Mks. 4 Sch. Discount, 2¾ to 3¼ per cent.

SHIPPING.—SAILED FROM CUXHAVEN.—Raleigh, to Decastries Bay, Ellida, to Nicolayefsk, Amoor.

IMPORTS OF THE WEEK.—From Canton, Hong Kong, Whampoa, and Macao, per Emily, per Minerva, per Gustav, and per Ernst: 1,762 chests and 460 half-chests of Tea, 4,300 chests of Cassia Lignea, 727 chests of Candied Ginger, 16 chests of Porcelain, 125 chests of Star Anniseed, 268 rolls of matting, 90,000 Canes, 190 chests of Galls, 1,000 chests of Fireworks, 30 casks of Soy, 50 chests of Oil of Anniseed, 50 casks of Cocoanut Oil, 170 chests and 26 packages of merchandise.

RUSSIA.

The Cabinet of St. Petersburg has forwarded a circular to its diplomatic agents abroad, with reference to the position of Russia in Central Asia. Russia, this document states, has had to take measures for imposing respect on inconvenient and turbulent neighbours, which has been also the task of the United States in America, of Holland in her colonies, and of England in India. This reason has actuated Russia in establishing herself, upon the one side at Syr-Daria, and upon the other at Lake Issyk-Koul, and in consolidating these two lines by advanced forts, which have gradually been pushed forward into the heart of those distant regions, without, however, securing the permanent tranquillity of the frontiers of the empire. For, first, between the extreme points of this double line there is an immense unoccupied space in which the forays of pillaging tribes continue to paralyse colonisation and hamper trade through caravans. Further, Turkestan and Kokand, now united, now separated, always at war, either with each other or with Bokhara, render fixed relations and regular intercourse utterly impossible. The Cabinet of St. Petersburg is nevertheless unwilling to adopt the line of policy England has followed in India, by subjugating in detail the small adjoining States. Russia desires not to aggrandise herself beyond bounds in Central Asia, but to consolidate the organisation of the provinces she possesses. Thence the Russian Government has determined upon three principal measures. First, that the two fortified lines, the one reaching from the Chinese frontier to Lake Issyk-Koul, the other extending from the Sea of Aral to Syr-Daria, should be united by fortified points, so as to place all the posts in a position mutually to support each other, and not to leave any gap through which the invasions of the nomadic tribes can be carried out with impunity. When the line is thus completely advanced, forts are to be established in sufficiently fertile places, not only to secure their provisionment, but also to facilitate regular colonisation, an essential condition of the future prosperity of the country and of the civilisation of the neighbouring tribes. Lastly, this fortified line must be fixed in a definitive manner, in order that the Russian Government may escape dangerous encroachments, which, from reprisal to reprisal, would culminate in a policy of unlimited extension. The circular concludes by alluding to the mission often attributed to Russia, viz., to carry civilisation into the Asiatic countries adjoining the empire. Civilisation possesses no more efficacious agent than commercial relations, and these, which everywhere require order and stability, render a radical transformation of manners in Asia essential. Above all, it is important to make Asiatics understand that it will be more to their advantage to favour and protect trade through caravans than to plunder the traders.

FRANCE AND THE FAR EAST.

The *Moniteur* publishes a letter from Shanghai, according to which the inhabitants of Honan, who have hitherto been the staunch supporters of the Government, and afforded great assistance in putting down the rebellion of the Taipings, are becoming very discontented themselves, and are preparing for a revolt, for which purpose they have engaged the services of Chen-Kao-Shui, formerly an Imperial general, but now in disgrace, and no longer in the army, to organise their military forces. The heads of the Honan authorities have already purchased for ready money a large quantity of arms and ammunition - amongst other things 10,000 lbs. of gunpowder—from the European merchants at Shanghai. In the other provinces, especially Kiang-su and Che kiang, a better feeling of royalty prevails. The fears entertained at Amoy of an attack from the rebels have for the present been dissipated, as the latter appear disinclined to come into contact with the 'foreign devils."

The *Courier de Saigon* of January 20 now announces officially that the French treaty with the Court of Annam has not been ratified by the Emperor Napoleon, and adds that the original draft of M. Aubaret has been mutilated by additional claims that cannot be allowed, as the King of Annam will not recognise the French protectorship over the six provinces that were ceded, and, moreover, had introduced new clauses tending to fetter the free extension of French commerce. For these reasons M. Aubaret refused his signature. The above-named colonial official organ states that the harbour and roadstead of Saigon presented a very lively appearance, and that last year more than fifty vessels had cleared out with cargoes of rice for adjacent countries where there was a scarcity of that grain.

The *Pays* states that the Mikado, who for some time past had resisted European influence, had at length recognised the treaty of Simonoseki. A fresh territory of land near Yokohama has been ceded to France by the Temporal Sovereign, and workshops, magazines, and a hospital were being erected on it. A mixed commission, consisting of officers of the different European naval squadrons, has surveyed the "Inner Sea," and designates the harbour of Simonoseki as the most important one to open to European trade. The Tycoon has further granted permission to the European Powers to appoint consular agents for that port.

COLONEL GORDON.

(THE TIMES.)

The merchants who trade in China have done a graceful act in sending Colonel Gordon home to us with a vote of thanks and congratulation. This officer has just closed a career of foreign service which reflects equal credit upon himself and upon the community which claims him as a compatriot; and there is nothing exaggerated in the terms of the address which has been presented to him at Shanghai. His position has been, as the Shanghai merchants say, one of unequalled difficulty. He has been conspicuous for gallantry and for ability in organisation and command, and he has given to the Chinese Government an example of a foreign officer serving them with honourable fidelity and undeviating self-respect. This spectacle of high principle and chivalrous conduct in a soldier who had every opportunity to satisfy any amount of greed of gain is not only gratifying to our national pride, but it is also valuable to our national interests. When a British officer is emancipated from the stringent obligations of his own service, and allowed to go forth with an independent command in a *melée* of barbarians, it is satisfactory to know that he comes back to us untarnished in fame, and that he has left behind him among those barbarians memories of acts of humanity, disinterestedness, and gallantry which even they must admire, although they may feel no desire to imitate. Colonel Gordon seems to have well earned the golden opinions he has gained, and we think we may ratify in England all the fervid testimonies which come with him from China.

To this Captain of Engineers the Chinese Government owes that the organisation of the rebellion is broken up, that the old capital of China is recovered to the Emperor, and that the silk districts are freed from the locusts that were devouring them. To him also the European community owes the comparative safety and quiet which exist in that portion of China which is most immediately concerned with our principal trading operations. It is now five years since the banditti, who had so long harboured at Nanking, issued in what seemed to be irresistible force from the shells of the cities whose substance they had devoured. They spread themselves over the great alluvial plains which lie between Nanking and Shanghai; they sacked the towns, they slaughtered the people, and they drove before them an unresisting multitude, which no man might number, but which rolled on in waves of famine, until it surged against the outer ramparts of the European settlement at Shanghai. Then it was that the hideous scenes of slaughter and the broad horizon of blazing cities moved our Admiral and our Commander of the Land Forces to draw a cordon of 30 miles round the settlement, and to make this a frontier line beyond which the murderers should not murder and within which the fugitives might at least starve in peace. The Chinese officials were abject and useless before this great invasion. They were ready to catch at any offer of assistance. Something must be done. These millions could not be left to starve in their asylum, where nothing was afforded to them but immunity from violent death. Then first arose the offers of foreign mercenary bands, who proposed to go beyond this cordon of 30 miles, and drive back the rebels, and recover the land from which the fugitives had been expelled. Ward, the American, a brave, energetic, but rapacious adventurer, who had been too unscrupulous to be tolerated even in California, was the first to raise a rowdy band of European and American desperadoes, and to offer them for hire to the Chinese Governor of Shanghai. The exigency was so great that even our Admiral patronised "General Ward," and condescended to act with him. But the "General" sold his victories at so much apiece, exacted contributions on every side, and was rather more formidable to the Chinese governors than to the Taipings. He was, however, brave, as a leader of ruffians need be, and he fell fighting. He was succeeded by Burgevine, also an American, one of the episodes of whose career was his desertion to the Taipings. It was the intolerable evils attendant upon the employment of these adventurers

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which compelled the Chinese Governor of Shanghai to apply to Admiral Hope and Brigadier-General Staveley to nominate some English officer, who might form a force of disciplined Chinese to act against the Taipings beyond the radius. This application led to the appointment of Captain Gordon, an officer of engineers, who had distinguished himself in the Crimea, and who was then serving at Shanghai. Gordon accepted the very perilous offer. He went upon half-pay, thus risking his prospects of promotion, and taking a step in which only one officer—a medical officer—was found to follow him. He applied himself diligently to the formation of a force of 5,000 disciplined Chinese, whom he was compelled to officer by European soldiers and sailors and non-commissioned officers from the army and navy and mercantile marine. It was with these very difficult materials that Gordon did his work. He assumed his command in March, 1863. By dint of a prompt provost-marshal he pommelled the Chinamen into a sense of the impropriety or impolicy of general plundering; by higher qualities of command he managed to obtain the confidence and even the obedience of the rough soldiers whom he had converted into lieutenants and captains and majors. In April, 1863, he took the field against 100,000 fighting Taipings, and he went out into those vast plains where the paddy fields and cotton fields alternate with mulberry plantations and bamboo groves, where a network of canals intersects the unvarying flats, and where nothing breaks the line of vision but the waving reeds of the funeral mounds and the charred ruins of walled cities. Here he worked with immense patience and courage. His difficulties were greater with his own troops than with the enemy. He could organise an artillery, he could teach the Chinamen to manage the cast-away smooth-bore muskets of the Indian regiments, he could even form a steam navy of two boats drawing three feet of water each; but he could not always get the Chinese Governor to pay his troops, and he could not always get his troops to follow him without their pay. The barbarous names of the cities he recovered would rather repel than excite the attention of the reader; and the slaughter he inflicted, the reverses he sometimes underwent, and the wounds he suffered would never give dignity or interest to a story which must be told of such places as Chang-Chow, Kin-Tan, and Sang Kiang. Soochow, however, may claim to be known even in Europe; for the city is famous for all that is imagined to be excellent in Chinese art, and has long been the seat of the most costly and elaborate manufactures which survive in that degenerating land. Having reduced all the surrounding country, Gordon had planted breeching batteries round the walls of this city, and had it in his power. The Taiping chiefs, finding resistance hopeless, surrendered on conditions, and the troops of the Chinese Governor were admitted within the fortifications. The Chinaman immediately gave loose to his instincts, broke all engagements, and, despite Gordon's indignation, the city was sacked. This was an outrage which neither Gordon nor the British Government could endure. Gordon retired from the active service of the Chinese Government, but was persuaded after a time that the evils which would accrue from leaving his followers without a leader would be so great that he must continue at least nominally at their head. When the news of the treachery of the Chinese Governor at Soochow reached England the order in council under which Colonel Gordon had obtained leave to serve was revoked. Gordon, however, had in the meantime accepted as his mission the task of destroying the rebellion. Although no longer able to command, he accompanied the Imperial army which besieged Nanking, and it was he who really took that city. The Chinese owe to him the recovery of their empire.

It must be admitted that these services have been handsomely acknowledged by the Government of China. The *Peking Gazette* has followed the career of this officer victory by victory, and he has received all sorts of quaint titles and high military grades in the Chinese service. On the other hand, he has been often left without money to pay his troops or rations to feed them, and he has had ample means of knowing how difficult it is to prevent an Imperialist force in China from degenerating into plunderers by sheer necessity. Ward and Burgevine were not without excuse for even their worst acts if such excuse can be found in the faithlessness of their Chinese superior officers, and in the destitution among their followers, which the misconduct of these officials occasioned. Whatever may be the credit due to Colonel Gordon for his skill and gallantry in the field, he deserves much greater credit for the higher moral qualities which enabled him to refrain from acts of resentment under unmerited ill-usage, and to hold in hand a European staff recruited from a low class of Europeans and a barbarian soldiery who were generally unpaid and often ill-fed. This was what very few men could accomplish, and what nothing but a high sense of professional honour, and a deep feeling of responsibility for the character of his country and his service, could have given even to Colonel Gordon the strength of purpose to carry through

ALTERATIONS IN THE FRENCH MAIL SERVICE.

A new convention, concluded between the French Government and the steam company of the "Messageries Imperiales," has been laid before the legislative body for their approbation and ratification, the chief stipulations of which are as follows:—The branch line of steamers between Saigon and Manila is abandoned, and the company no longer bound to continue that service, by which a mileage of 7,264 marine leagues is saved. On the main line to India and China the steamers will no longer touch at Penang,* thus effecting a further saving of 752 leagues. The company engages to run a monthly mail steamer, beginning on the 22nd of January, 1866, for the whole period of the contract, between Shanghai and Yokohama, in Japan, in connection with the line from Saigon to Shanghai. The distance between Shanghai and Yokohama is 345 leagues, so that in twelve voyages out and home the steamers will pass over 8,280 leagues. The company binds itself that the mail steamers to the island of Reunion (formerly Bourbon) shall, from the 22nd July next to the 9th of September, 1871, go up to Suez instead of touching at Aden to receive and deliver the mails, as at present, calling off Mahé, with the exception of the monsoon months of June, July, and August. This line will be no longer a branch of the great India and China route, but a separate and independent one, to be called "the Reunion and Mauritius Mail Line." By this alteration the steamers will have to run annually 10,464 leagues between Suez and Aden on the Reunion line, in addition to the other routes, down to the 9th of September, 1871. For the 8,280 leagues to be run between China and Japan, the company is to receive a compensation of 41 francs 22 centimes per league, the same rate as is now paid for the line between Saigon and Shanghai, making an annual subvention of 341,301 francs 60 centimes. This subvention, payable in monthly instalments, will thus be as follows:—

From January 22,	1866,	to July 22,	1867,	433 857 frs.	97 cents.
„ July „	1867	„	1870. 404,934	„ 11	„
„ „ „	1870	„	1873, 376 010	„ 24	„
„ „ „	1873	„	1876, 347,086	„ 83	„
„ „ „	1876	„	1882, 318 162	„ 51	„
„ „ „	1882	„	1888, 289,238	„ 50	„

For the 10,464 additional leagues that the company is bound to run over annually, between Suez and Aden, on the Reunion line, from the 22nd of July next till the 9th of September, 1871, they receive from the French Government a compensation of 256,681 francs per annum, being at the rate of 24 frs. 53 centimes per league, or one-half of the subvention paid on the voyages between Aden and the Mauritius.

* They never did in reality, but it was agreed.

Naval and Military.

It is rumoured that the battalion of Royal Marines serving in Japan, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel W. G. Suther, C.B., will shortly return to England in H.M.S. Conqueror, provided Admiral King is of opinion that their presence is no longer required in Japan or China. Capt. Suther, who lately left for China and Japan, has been recalled.

It would appear from the following return that the 31st Regt. bears the palm for flogging. From this it may be concluded that Dr. Rennie, the author of "British Arms in China and Japan," has by no means exaggerated the acts of these men in China, although a correspondent in the *Army and Navy Gazette* would have it so believed:—A return has been issued, pursuant to a resolution of the House of Commons, showing the number of men flogged in the British army, whether at home, in India, or the colonies, in the year 1862, with details of their punishment, what for, when and where carried out, the number of lashes ordered, and if all were inflicted. Besides this, there is a simple return of the number of men who were during that time branded with the letter D or with the letters B C. One line suffices for the militia in these statistics, no single instance of either description of punishment having been ordered. In the cavalry regiments but very few cases of flogging occurred; in no regiment more than three, and in many of those having any cases only one such punishment was carried out. The 31st Regiment has a pre-eminence for the number of lashes which were inflicted in its ranks, thirty-three cases having been so punished; and the 67th Regiment comes next, with twenty-six cases. The others had much fewer. The 14th had fourteen; the 19th, twelve; Rifle Brigade, nine; the 8th, nine. Some others had nearly as many as this last; and a considerable number but very few. Many are not reported at all. There were forty-three cases in the Royal Artillery. The number of lashes ordered was in almost every case fifty, and in very few instances was any part of the punishment remitted. The offences were in all places of a similar description; insubordination, violence to superiors, desertion, disgraceful conduct, making away with necessaries, habitual drunkenness, &c. In all there were 379 cases, for which 18,600 lashes were decreed, and for which 18,180 were inflicted. There were 1,492 men marked with the D, and thirty-seven with the B C.

We have heard by the last advices from India that Rear-Admiral St. Vincent King, C.B., in his flag-ship Princess Royal, would leave Trincomalee for Singapore on April 4.

Deputy Commissary-General Maturin has arrived in England from China; on the termination of his leave of absence, it is rumoured he is to proceed to the Cape of Good Hope.

Captain William Haskoll, R.N., died on the 10th inst. at his residence, 39, Great Percy-street, Pentonville. He entered the navy on the 1st of March, 1809, as first-class volunteer on board the Victorious, 74, and attained the rank of lieutenant, after serving abroad and at home, on Dec. 18, 1826. His last appointment was on Feb. 17, 1838, as first, to the Cruizer, 16, in which he accompanied the armament to China in 1840, and in the course of the same year was present at the capture of Chusan and the blockade of Ningpo. On the return of the Cruizer with Sir Hugh Gough to China, having been sent with despatches to India, Mr. Haskoll commanded the second division of boats at the taking of Fort Macao on March 13, 1841, and assisted in the two series of operations against Canton, having charge, during the second, of the gunboats at the capture, May 25, of the fort below the Folly. He invalided on June 30, 1841, and on his arrival in England found he had been promoted to the rank of commander by commission dated 8th of that month. His captain's commission is dated April 23, 1856

The *United Service Gazette* urges that the appointment of Paymaster-in-Chief should be made to the flag ships at our principal ports at home as well as those on the China, Pacific, and other stations.

The Serpent, 4 screw gun vessel, fitting at Sheerness for surveying service on the coast of Japan, is to have a complement of 90 officers and men, and to be commanded by Commander Charles James Bullock, who served as lieutenant of the Merlin in the Baltic during the Russian war and commanded the Dove, tender to the Actaeon, on the coast of China and Tartary, from October, 1856 to the spring of 1862.

The new transport fleet which the Government have decided upon building for the conveyance of our troops out and home from India is to consist of the Crocodile, to be built by Messrs. Wigram, with engines by Ravenhill, Salkeld, and Co.; the Serapis, by the Thames Shipbuilding Company, engines by Humphreys, Tennent, and Co.; the Euphrates, by Laird Brothers, who also will supply the machinery; the Jumna, by Palmer and Co., with engines by Humphreys, Tennent, and Co.; and the Malabar, by Napier and Son, who build both ship and engines. The tonnage of the ships is fixed at 4,173 tons, and the nominal horse power is to be 700. It is stated that the two first-named are to run on this side, and the remaining three on the other side of the isthmus.

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Monetary and Commercial.

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We regret to announce that no better feeling exists in a commercial view. The state of the markets for East India and China produce, noticed in our usual place, fully justifies this. With losses on Tea reaching 40 and 45 per cent., and the same on Cotton, it is not surprising that several houses should be talked of as being in difficulties. The failure has been announced of Messrs. James Smith and Co., of Liverpool, and Messrs. Smith, Douglas, and Co., of London, in the Calcutta trade. The joint liabilities are stated to be nearly half a million, and it is apprehended that the liquidation will prove unfavourable. Their friends in Calcutta, Grant, Smith, and Co., it is said will not be compromised.

A general meeting of the shareholders of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China is called for the 12th, of the Commercial Bank Corporation on the 26th, and of the Oriental Bank Corporation on the 20th of April. Mr. Charles J. F. Stuart, the chief manager of the latter, lately left for India and China to make a tour of the branches, and give his advice on the present state of business in those countries.

The first ordinary general meeting of the Netherlands India Steam Navigation Company (Limited) is called for the 30th.

The provisional scrip for the new issue of shares in the Asiatic Banking Corporation are now ready for delivery, in exchange for the bankers' receipts.

In January tenders were invited for the conveyance of the mails between Ceylon and Sydney, the steamers to call at King George's Sound, Kangaroo Island, and Melbourne, on the passage, both outwards and homewards, to land the mails. An amended form has just been printed, but the alterations are not shown in italics, and are only to be discovered by a careful comparison of the two documents. In tender No. 1 the service was fixed by the calendar month, or bi-monthly, which gave 12 or 24 trips yearly. The second tender gives the parties tendering the option to put in for a fortnightly or four-weekly service. Every 14 days gives 26 voyages yearly, and every four weeks 13 completed voyages. All tenders must be sent in on or before the 10th of April.

The directors of the Scinde Railway Company have issued their tenth annual report, previous to the general meeting on the 29th of March. We observe that during the half-year ending December 31, 1864, the average weekly receipts amounted to £1,679. 11s. 1d., the gross returns of the half-year being £43,668. 8s. 2d; the receipts per line of mile opened were £415. 17s. 9d., or £15. 19s. 11d. per week. The number of train miles run was 158,988, the total receipts per train mile being about 5s. 6d. From the commencement of the line £1,977,659. 3s. 8d. has been received, and £1,938,819. 7s. 11d. has been expended. The Indus Steam Flotilla, Punjaub Railway, and Delhi Railway Companies, have also issued their reports in conjunction with the Scinde.

The company of the Isthmus of Suez has made propositions to several English capitalists to cede to them the right of constructing a railway from Alexandria to Ramlé. The conditions attached are very advantageous, and such as are likely to lead to its acceptance. The execution of the project would involve the construction of a floating bridge over the Nile, a novelty in railway engineering.

Mr. George Ross, late of the Oriental Bank Corporation, has been appointed Manager of the Colombo Branch of the Bank of Hindustan, China and Japan, in succession to Mr. David Hean, who will take charge of the Shanghai Branch.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer Ceylon, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was:—In gold, to Hobson's Bay, £100; to Madras, £785; in silver, to Madras, £10,002; to Calcutta, £10,000; to Singapore, £11,500; to Hong Kong, £29,935; to Yokohama, £1,250; to Foo-chow-Foo, £2,500; to Shanghai, £30,600. Total, in gold, £885; in silver, £95,787.

THE EXPORT OF BULLION.

The circular of F. M. PAGE states the export of bullion and specie to the East via Alexandria, in the first two months of this year at £2,093,456 against £6,408,007 in the same period of 1864, the export in January last being £1,342 346, and in February £751,110; being less for the former month by £2,663,500, and in the latter by £1,641,051 than in the same period of the previous year. The bulk of these moneys have, of course, gone to India. There is a falling off in the shipments this year at all points. China is debited with £250,826 for January and February of 1864, but in the same months of this year we have despatched but £135,970, the greater portion, £98,672, in February. To Ceylon the disproportion in shipments is yet more striking, this island figuring for £19,746 in the first two months of 1864, but only for £5,576 in the corresponding period of the present year. Shipments to Penang, Batavia, and Saigon for the two months reach £127,179, against £54,823 in January and February, 1864. We despatched to Madras up to the 1st inst. specie and bullion of the value £125,169, against £236,894 last year. Of the total export *via* Alexandria, in January and February last, £737,161 was in gold, £216,664 in Mexican dollars, and £1,139,631 in bar silver and coin. In neither month did we send any gold to China; our shipments of Mexican dollars thither were of the value of £93,580.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—The market continues its downward course. The public sales of last week, principally common to medium red and black-leaf kinds, with some large parcels of Ping-Suey Green, passed off with heaviness, and a decline of 2d. per lb. on Green, but which has been partially recovered privately, as some parcels have been sold at a profit of 1d. to 1½d. per lb. For export to the Continent, there is not a single transaction to record; to Canada a few purchases have been made in inferior to good flavoury kinds at 10½d. to 11½d. per lb. In red leaf, dust siftings and broken leaf have met with fair inquiry, and, as the supply on offer is moderate, prices are maintained; the inferior to good flavoury as well as Kaisow kinds are still in excess, and all sales have been in favour of buyers. Medium to fine Kaisow has been rather more inquired for, and last sales have recovered the decline noticed in our last; in finest the transactions are trifling. In Black leaf: Common to fair must be quoted lower, as well as good to medium; some chops of strong Oopack kinds fetching 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d. per lb., and with rather strong to strong Pekoe flavour, at 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d. per lb., those with full Pekoe flavour at 1s. 9d. to 1s. 11d. per lb. are scarce, but there are sufficient at 2s. to 2s. 3d. offering to meet present requirements. In imitation Kaisows sales have transpired ex Cambalu at 1s. 10d. to 2s. 1d. per lb. for strong and brisk pungent and malty kinds, which are taking the place of medium to fine Kaisows, common and medium qualities are unsaleable except at nominal prices. In Souchong fine and finest qualities have sold at 1s. 7d. to 2s. per lb. being a decline on the latter grade. In Oolong there has been rather more doing in medium qualities of strong and brisk burnt kinds at 1s. 5d. to to 1s. 7d. per lb. Scented Tea: Canton make of orange Pekoe maintains its price, as the supply continues very moderate; for Caper, however, prices are another 1d. lower, although the supply is not in excess—in fact, much below former years. Foochow Orange Pekoe is still scarce, under 2s., but above this price there is no inquiry, most of the trade being full. In Caper the demand is not active, but there is not much offering. Green: The bulk of the business has been in the Ping-Suey and Japan kinds that sold in public sale, showing 2d. per lb. decline. The present quotations for Ping-Suey, and which may be of service in China for the new season, are:—Twankay, 10d. to 11d. per lb.; Young Hyson, common to fair, No. 4, 1s. to 1s. 3d.; good to medium, No. 3, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 7d.; fine, No. 2, 1s. 8d. to 1s. 11d.; finest, No. 1, 2s. to 2s. 3d. per lb.; Gunpowder, common to fair, No. 4, 1s. 5d. to 1s. 8d.; good to medium, No. 3, 1s. 9d. to 2s.; fine, or No. 2, 2s. 2d. to 2s. 6d.; finest, 2s. 8d. to 3s. per lb. In Japan leaf sales have been made at a further reduction of 2d. to 3d. Several parcels of China sold during the past week show a loss on the invoice cost of 40 and 45 per cent. Some sales of Souchong were made at 1s. 1d. to 1s. 3d. for which 2s. 2d. had been refused last year, and many chops of Congous for which 1s. 6d. and 1s. 7d. had been refused have been sold at 10d. to 11d. The arrivals have been nearly 10 million lbs. since the 10th inst. The quantity afloat is about 18 millions. Stock in United Kingdom (March), about 120 against 96 in 1864.

SILK.—The scarcity of good qualities of both China and Japan Silk is now much felt, and any apparent reduction in quotations is owing more to deterioration in quality than to any further fall in the market. Deliveries from 1st to 24th inclusive:—China, 2,291 bales; Japan, 943 bales; total, 3,234 bales. Quotations are—Tsatlee, No. 1, 27s. 6d. to 28s.; No. 2, 26s. 6d. to 27s.; No. 3, 25s. 6d. to 26s. Taysaam: No. 1, 24s. 6d. to 25s.; No. 2, 23s. 6d. to 24s. Mibash: No. 1, 28s. to 28s. 6d; No. 2 27s. 6d. to 28s.

COTTON.—The circular of the London Cotton Brokers' Association for the week ending the 24th, reports continued dulness throughout the week, business closing flatly at an average decline of 1d. per lb The closing quotations were—China, middling fair 9d.; fair to good fair, 9½d. to 10d.; good to fine, 10¼d. Japan mid. fair, 9½d.; fair to good fair, 10d. to 10½d.; good to fine, 11d. to 12d. Quotations of fair same time 1864, China, 18d.; Japan, 19½d. The import of China and Japan into London from 1st. Jan. to 23rd March, was 11,867 bales, and the stock on the 23rd was 18,197 bales. The stock of all kinds in London on that date was 126,735 bales, against 91,022 bales in 1864. The arrivals in London during the week were 2,179 bales, of which the Comus, from Yokohama, brought 1,125. The cotton afloat to Europe on 24th March was 281,323 bales against 480,274 bales at same date of last year. Of that quantity 270 bales of China, and 1,101 bales Japan were for London, and 28,595 bales of China for Liverpool. The total stock at Liverpool on the 24th of March was 603.000 bales, against 306.190 bales in 1864. China has changed hands to a fair extent during the week at that port, closing at a reduction of fully ½d., while Japan has fallen 1d. per lb. from last week's rates. No transactions "to arrive" during the week. Quotations of China: Middling, 8d; fair, 9½d.; good fair, 10d.; good, 10½d.; fine, 11½d. From the increased arrivals to be looked for from America, and all parts, no advance in price can reasonably be looked for.

SUGAR.—The market has remained very dull throughout the week, and with a much lighter supply on offer, the business in landed parcels has been on a contracted scale at prices on the average rather in favour of the buyer. No Manila reported sold. On the 24th 523 baskets Java were held for stiff prices, and bought in; low to good white (duty 11s. 8d.) 37s. to 39s.; as also 602 bags Siam, yellow and low white, 33s. to 35s.; and middling white (duty 11s. 8d.), 36s. to 36s. 6d.

RUM.—Of East India only small quantities have been realised, Mauritius, at 1s. 5d., and common Penang, at 1s. 4½d.

COFFEE.—By reason of the late abundant arrivals the Colonial market

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opened heavily, and the public sales of Plantation Ceylon (chiefly of the new crop) went off languidly at a depreciation of 1s. to 2s. per cwt., on the extreme rates obtained during the recent scanty supply, which however, has since been partly recovered, the total quantity offered being 600 casks, 440 barrels and bags, and range of prices, as follows:—Fine ordinary to low middling, 78s. to 83s., middling to good middling bright, 83s. 6d. to 90s. 310 casks, 2,814 bags Native were held firmly, and only a small portion was sold; good ordinary, 69s. to 70s., fine ordinary and superior, 71s. to 72s. At public sale on the 24th 600 casks, 1,405 barrels and bags Plantation went off freely at the improvement, fine fine ordinary to good middling bringing 80s. to 91s.; 230 bags Native went at previous rates.

RICE.—A good demand has prevailed for soft grain descriptions. On the 24th 4,038 bags Madras were nearly all sold at previous rates, middling to fine pinky, 10s. 9d. to 11s.; ordinary heated, 9s. 6d. Business has been done in Rangoon, to arrive, at 10s. 6d. for the United Kingdom, or 10s. 1½d. for the continent, new terms.

CAMPHOR.—Subsequently to our last there was a revival of demand, and large business was done up to £5. 5s. per cwt. for China in lead, and £5s. 7s. 6d. Japan; but latterly the market has become more quiet, and £5s. 2s. 6d. for China in lead is the latest price.

CARDAMOMS.—Are generally rather dearer: 2 cases Malabar at auction retired; and of 30 bags Madras half sold at 3s. 4d. per lb. for fair long lean; and of 22 bags Ceylon, a few sold at 3s. 2d. for ordinary husky.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—In public sale 536 casks were mostly realised at and afterwards, the better qualities at firm prices, but the inferior in some instances rather cheaper; low middling, 77s. to 78s.; middling, 80s.; good, 83s. to 84s. Buds: 15 cases withdrawn at £11.

COCOA NUT OIL.—This market has been very firm and active, with large operations on the spot and for arrival. Cochin has advanced £3, and Ceylon £1 per ton. 568 casks Cochin, 158 casks Ceylon, 909 casks Sydney, and 450 casks Manila at auction.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Some inquiry at present quotations, £3. 15s to £4 per cwt. Dragoon's Blood: Quiet, only 4 cases at auction, retired. Galangal Root: Nothing of any moment doing. Rhubarb: Firm, but quiet; 39 cases at auction, all retired.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Only 40 cases Sumatra at auction, and those retired. Damar: Remains steady, and of 54 cases at auction three-fourths sold at 38s. to 39s. per cwt. for good quality, in sorts. Gamboge: Flat; 16 cases at auction sold at £8 to £11 per cwt. for ordinary to good pipe.

HIDES.—There was a moderate demand for East India Hides at the sales of the 23rd, principally for export, and about two-thirds of the quantity offered found buyers at last sale prices for the better descriptions, and at ¼d. to ½d. per lb. advance on the lower qualities. 1,982 Batavia Buffalo Hides offered, 416 sold at 5¾d. per lb.; 567 Singapore Buffalo Hides offered, 397 sold as above; 1,109 Singapore Cow Hides offered, 945 sold—Light, 5¼d. to 6¾ per lb.; Heavy, 5d. to 5¼d. per lb.; Thirds, 4¾d. per lb.

JAPAN WAX.—Steady: Good saucer sold at 64s. 6d. to 68s.; ordinary 59s. to 60s.; middling 62s. to 63s.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Remains very quiet, but fine would sell readily, as also ordinary, at present low prices. Of 7 tons at auction only one sold at 10¾d. per lb. for middling mixed; good reboiled has sold privately at 9d. India Rubber: Very quiet, 229 baskets Singapore at auction retired; good Penang has sold to a limited extent at 1s. 2d. per lb.

HEMP (MANILA).—This market has been inactive, and 4,974 bales, recently arrived, offered at auction, were all retired, except a small proportion of damaged. Private trade very restricted. Quotations £27 to £30.

OILS.—Anniseed: No auctions held: fair business done privately at 6s. per lb., at which price there are still buyers. Cassia: Quiet, and rather cheaper: limited business at the higher quotation. Cinnamon, and Mace and Nutmegs: Nothing doing in either of these oils: 3 cases Oil of Cinnamon at auction retired; Nutmeg Paste selling privately at 1d. per oz.

SAGO.—Steady; 1,481 boxes at auction, mostly sold at 18s. 6d. to 19s. per cwt. for middling small, and 19s. to 19s. 6d. for medium. Flour: Nothing of any interest doing.

SHELLAC.—This market has remained very flat, and prices are again generally rather lower. Of 1,047 packages at auction, less than half sold: Orange, at £5. 15s. to £6. 10s. per cwt.; Garnet £5. 5s. to £5. 12s. 6d; Liver £5. 7s. 6d.; Button £5. 7s. 6d. to £6. 2s. 6d.; Native £4. 12s. 6d. to £5.; and Block and Blocky £5. to £5. 15s. Very little trade privately.

SPICES.—Cinnamon: We quote 1st sort, 1s. 8d. to 2s. 7d.; 2nd, 1s. 5d. to 2s. 3d.; 3rd, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 10d.; 4th and Jungle, 10d. to 1s. 5d. per lb. Recent importations, 264 bales, offered at auction, and mostly sold at the currency of the recent quarterly sales. Cloves: Zanzibar rather dearer, and 6,141 bags at auction sold at 3⅛d. to 3⅛d. per lb. for midling to good. Mace: Firm, 16 cases Penang and 16 cases Singapore at auction, half sold at 7d. to 1s. 4d. per lb. for very low to fair reddish. Nutmegs: Have realised former terms; and 179 cases Penang, and 7 cases Singapore at auction, mostly sold at 2s. 1d. to 3s. 7d. per lb. ordinary to good bold, and 10d. to 1s. 5d. inferior small to good medium.

PEPPER.—Black: There was some improvement in this market subsequently to our last, but it has since become very quiet: of 3,100 bags Singapore at auction half sold at 3½d. per lb., and of 2,839 bags Penang one-fourth sold at 3½d. to 3⅝d. White: Has been brought forward plentifully, whilst the demand has for the present subsided: of 1,208 bags Singapore, and 372 bags Penang at auction, a few only sold at 6½d. per lb. for good quality of both. 33 pkgs. Tellicherry sold at 1s. 0¼d. per lb. for good, and 7¼d. to 8¼d. Coriander.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Quiet, with limited trade upon former terms: 900 bags at auction, all retired. Gambier: Dull; and of 1,363 bales at auction, one-third sold at 22s. 6d. for fair block, and 27s. per cwt. cubes.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Galls: Turkey are offering at less money, £10. 10s. per cwt.; China and Japan on the contrary again dearer: of 465 packages China at auction, three-fourth sold at 67s. 6d. to 71s. per cwt.; and of 647 packages Japan, two-thirds sold at 57s. 6d. to 66s. per cwt. Considerable sales also effected privately upon corresponding terms. Rattans: Steady, and 6,768 bdls. Penang at auction sold at 3s. 6d. to 5s. 6d. per 100. Sapan Wood: Flat; 43 tons Siam at auction, retired, and of 16 tons Manila, half sold at £6. 17s. 6d. per ton for common. There is export inquiry for good Manila. Mother-o'-Pearl Shells: Steady; 38 cases Singapore at auction retired. Soy: Remains firm, with inquiry; none offering. Star Anniseeds: Firm; 50 cases at auction sold at £5. 17s. 6d. to £6 per cwt. for good. Sticklac, Siam: Of 733 cases at auction, two-thirds sold at 44s. 6d. to 50s. per cwt. for middling to good small; 36s. to 40s. block; and 20s. to 21s. dust, being very firm rates, but latterly the market has again become flat. Tortoise-Shell: Very dull, and only saleable at low prices: 5 cases Singapore at auction, sold at 8s. 6d. to 13s. 6d. per lb. Turmeric: No China offering; Java scarce: nothing of any consequence doing. Vermilion: Further supplies have rendered the market more weak, and there are again sellers at 2s. 6d. ber lb.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 5s.; nail rod, £8. 15s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10; sheets, single, £10. 15s. to £11; Staffordshire bars, £8. 15s.; rails, £6. 10s. to £7.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £15.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £95 to £96 per ton; yellow metal, 8d. to 8¼d. per lb.

TIN.—95s. to 96s. for block; 96s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 28s. to 29s.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £20 to £20. 7s. 6d.; W.B., £21. 15s.; shot, patent, £23; sheet, £21; spelter, £19. 10s.; zinc, English sheet, £24.; quicksilver, £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—Since the date of our last circular, the Metal Market has remained quiet. Iron: Welsh continues in demand. In Staffordshire the manufacturers are not disposed to commit themselves largely, pending the dispute with the workmen; and firm quotations are difficult to obtain excepting for actual orders. In Copper there has been more activity, and prices are rather firmer. Tin: There is a fair inquiry for English, but at low prices. Straits lower, 86s. 6d. being the latest transaction. For Tin Plates a better demand. Lead and Spelter both inactive.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£57,066
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£2,500
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£113,191
Singapore	£3,007	£175,020
Penang	—	£3,500
Yokohama	—	£2,000

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£57,966
Penang	—	£1,628
Hong Kong	—	£45,000
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£6,620
Yokohama	—	£3,000

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£56	—
To Saigon	—	£51,124
To Batavia	£2,132	—
To Hong Kong	—	£14,880
To Shanghai	—	£9,620

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0	to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4	
Silver in Bars	0 5 1	
Mexican Dollars	0 5 0	

Shipping Intelligence.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Mar 13	Liverpool	Shanghai	Sarah Scott	Riches.
— 12	Rotterdam	River Amoor	Charlotte of Derby	Langmaid.
— 13	Shields	Galle	Blair Athol	Richardson.
— 16	London	Hong Kong	Cathaya	Stewarts.
— 12	Amsterdam	Batavia	Stad Leyden	
— 13	Shields	Japan	Cleveland	
— 14	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Herald	Storey.
— 14	Do.	Galle	Alvington	Harden.
Feb. 9	Callao	China	Claire	Robert.
Mar 16	London	Shanghai	Peterborough	Orchard.
— 14	Liverpool	Do.	Sea Mew	Williams.
— 14	Do.	Galle	Blanche Moore	Middleton.
— 15	Do.	Singapore, Hong Kong, and Yokohama	Shaftesbury, st.	Atkinson.
—	Swansea	Ceylon	Hastings	Hinckley.
— 17	London	Newport & Shanghai	Napoleon III.	Monat.
— 16	St. Michael's Mt.	Ceylon	Laura	Gyles.
— 17	Shields	Galle	Meggie	
— 15	London	Batavia & Sourabaya	Ilma	Stenman.
— 17	Leith	Galle	Nevada	Bartlett.
— 21	London	Yokohama	Thomas Blythe	Jago.
— 18	Liverpool	Galle & Maulmain	Louisa	Lever.
— 21	Do.	Shanghai	Bankside	Frail.
— 21	Clyde	Batavia	Majestic	Robertson.
— 21	Shields	Colombo	Carausius	
— 25	London	Singapore	Eliza Thornton	Maxwell.
— 18	Rotterdam	Batavia	Delft	
— 11	Liverpool	Singapore	Der West	Pust.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

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ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Mar. 13	Falmouth	Macao	Nornen	Pedersen.
— 10	Off the Lizard	Banjoewangie	Johanna	Verdum.
— 14	Deal	Colombo	Elizabeth Ann	Sanderson.
— 11	Texel	Batavia	Elshout	Akkermann.
— 12	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Noach	Ulrich.
Feb. 21	Havana	Macao	Joseph	Rousseau.
Mar 14	Off Portsmouth	Java	Cortgene	Schey.
— 14	Off Poole	Singapore	Northumberland	Small.
— 15	Deal	Colombo	Dunphaile Castle	Fleck.
— 12	Off the Start	Do.	Meggie Atkinson	Watson.
— 13	Off the Lizard	Batavia	Jacoba Cornelia	
— 13	Zierikzee	Do.	Joseph Willem	Byk.
Feb. 8	Panama	Manila	Luz	
— 7	Trinidad	Hong Kong	Montrose	Robinson.
Mar 13	Hamburg	Macao	Gustav and Ernst	Voigt.
— 14	Portsmouth	Ceylon	H.M.S. Orontes	
— 14	Plymouth	Do.	Josephine	
— 15	Do.	Japan	Mountain Ash	
— 15	London	Yokohama	Comus	Black.
— 16	Liverpool	China	David Horton	McMiller.
— 16	Do.	Do.	Gwalior	
— 17	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Delhi	Kenna.
Feb. 23	Havana	Macao	Leopold Cateaux	Nicaise.
Mar. 14	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Thomas Campbell	Green.
—	New York	Manila	Peruvian	
— 17	Deal	Colombo	Henry Ellis	Phillips.
— 13	Off Dungeness	Java	Zeemanshoop	Reimersen.
— 15	Do.	Pasaroeang	Robertus Hendrikus	Mulder.
— 16	Do.	Java	Brederode	Kruymell.
— 16	Do.	Do.	Kaap Hoorn	Dik.
— 10	Off the Start	Batavia	General de Stuers	
— 16	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Cherokee	Torrance.
— 17	Liverpool	Shanghai	Dennis Horton	M'Mullen.
— 16	Do.	Do.	Royal Bride	Shelford.
— 19	Holyhead	Manila	Earl of Mar and Kellie	
— 17	Off Dungeness	Java	Sophia Amalia	Laurens.
— 21	Portsmouth	Banjoewangie	Johanna	
— 22	Deal	Shanghai	Lochleven Castle	Stewart.
— 23	Do.	Penang	Southern Cross	Rogers.
— 22	Off Falmouth	Manila	Sea Belle	
— 22	Seaford Roads	Padang	Heuricus Gerardus	
— 20	Scilly	Batavia	Bravo	Nordstrom.
— 22	Do.	Japan	Little Edith	Lyas.
— 22	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Pres. v. Byckevorsel	Vogelensang.

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Gleam, Castleton, Maravi. For Nagasaki: Lammermuir. For Shanghai: Queen of the Forth, Glenclune, Lord Clyde, Queen of the Ocean, Prince Alfred. For Hong Kong and Canton: Yaratilda, Avondhu, Esperanza. For Singapore: Helen's Bank. For Bankok: Radama. For Singapore and Penang: Rifle. For Colombo: Jeddo, Sea Sprite, Skimmer of the Waves, Avon. For Colombo, Cannanore, and Cochin: Star of Ceylon.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Sea Snake. For Shanghai: Patna. For Hong Kong and Canton: Veronica. For Singapore: Simoom, Vigil, Bintang (s.). For Batavia and Sourabaya: Affghan. For Manila: Tigris.

At GLASGOW.—For Singapore: Sparkler. For Singapore and Penang: Roslin Castle. For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Three Bells. For Colombo: Ione.

At NEW YORK.—For Hong Kong: Samuel Russell. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Amaranth. For Batavia and Hong Kong: Enoch Train. For Singapore: Panic.

SPOKEN.

SOURABAYA PACKET, Amsterdam to Batavia, Jan. 22, 30 S., 25 W.
WAALSTROOM, Amsterdam to Japan, Jan. 11, 17 S., 31 W.
ELLEN RODGER, London to Shanghai, Dec. 30, 11 S., 31 W.
GERARD PIETER SERVATIUS, Amstm. to Bat., March 10, 50 N., 5 W.
ARAB STEED, London to Hong Kong, Jan. 19, 29 S., 103 E.
PRECIOSA, Newcastle to Singapore, Jan. 17, 38 S., 25 E.
SHIP, 3rd d.p., No. 231, from Shanghai, Jan. 9, 31 S., 13 E.
RICHARD HAMET (Fr.), Havre to China, Jan. 29, lat. 4, lon. 35.
NORMAN, Canton to Falmouth, in Banca Straits, Dec. 4.
JNO. STANTON, JUN., Shanghai to London, Jan. 14, 35 S., 23 E.
OCEAN, Singapore to Marseilles, Jan. 31, 10 S., 12 W.
CAMILLA, Shanghai to London, Nov. 7, in Gaspar Straits.
CHILDWICKBURY, Liverpool to Galle, Jan. 28, 6 N., 22 W.
PEIHO (Dan. barq.). Leith to Batavia, Jan. 31, 2 S., 31 W.
HURRY PUDDEMSEY, Liverpool to Singapore, 4 N., 21 W.
AGENORIA, Liverpool to Singapore, Jan 26, 24 S., 26 W.
ADEN, Liverpool to Japan, Jan. 31, 11 S., 34 W.
EARLY DAWN (barq), London to Singapore, Jan. 8, 13 S., 88 E.
BORNEO (ship), Penang to Boston, Jan. 28, 32 S., 35 E.
CORNUCOPIA (?) (barq.), Singapore to London, Feb. 28, 39 N., 29 W.
HEROS, Singapore to Liverpool, Dec. 7, in the Straits of Sunda.
THOMAS MITCHELL, Sourabaya to Rotterdam, Feb. 4, 7 N., 26 W.
ELISABETH, Hamburg to the Amoor, March 14, 49 N., 6 W.
CHALLENGER, London to Shanghai, Jan. 20, 26 S., 26 W.
WOOLSINTON (?), Colombo to London, March 3, 42 N., 45 W.
ELLEN STEWART (barq.), Baltimore to Hong Hong, Feb. 16 N., 48 W.
NICOLINS, Batavia to Rotterdam, Dec. 2.
BREDE (Dut. barq.). Amsterdam to Batavia, Oct 28, lat. 15, lon. 26.
JOAN MELCHIOR KEMPER, Amsterdam to Japan, 29 S., 28 W.
ZAMBLA (?) (Dut. ship), Batavia to Rotterdam, March 6, 37 N., 29 W.
ASIA, Batavia to Amsterdam, Feb. 17, 20 S., 1 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

The improvement in outward freights noticed in our last impression is still supported, and a more general disposition to do business is evinced throughout the export market. In homeward charters we have but to confirm our last advices, business having been restricted to 70s. to 75s. per ton from Java to the United Kingdom or Continent.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 20s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £33 and £1. 8s. For Shanghai: £40 and £1. 16s. For Manila: £1. 12s. 6d. For Batavia: £23. For Singapore: £26 and £1. 1s. 0d. For Galle: £25 and £1. 3d. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 74 tons naval stores, principally ammunition and combustibles, from the river Thames to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Jan Hendrik, Lelyvelt, from Batavia for Amsterdam, which put into Simon's Bay, Jan. 30, leaky, was discharging part of her cargo there.

The C. S. Lemon, from Manila for Liverpool, which put into Table Bay, Feb. 4, had experienced severe weather, cut away sails and sprung a leak, she was discharging cargo previously to undergoing repairs.

The President, Minne, from Bordeaux for China, put back in tow to the former port, having encountered a gale from N. to N.W., at the entrance of the gulf, during which she sustained severe damage, and would probably have to discharge part or the whole of her cargo.

The Nova Zembla (Dutch ship), Mammes, from Patjitan for Holland, which put into St. Helena, Jan. 28, making a little water, sailed again Jan. 30, with extra hands.

The Alfred the Great, Louttit, from Batavia for Amsterdam, which put into Simons Bay, Jan. 19, leaky, &c., was discharging and repairing there on Feb. 11.

The Joseph Willem, Byk, from Batavia, got aground, March 21, in Voorne Canal, near Neeuwsluis, and stopped the navigation through the canal.

Advices from Tremblade, dated March 14, state that part of the cargo of the Concorde, Zisley, from Singapore, for Bordeaux, which vessel was wrecked at Coubre Point, had been saved.

The missing ship, Claramont, now 201 days out, from Shanghai is exciting much controversy at Lloyd's The ship left Shanghai for England, on the 15th of September. She appears to have been spoken with on the 27th September, in lat. 9 N. lon. 109 E.; again in the Straits of Sunda on the 17th of October; again in lat. 29 S, 49 E, on the 11th of November, by the Ida; and, fourthly between St. Helena and Ascension by the ship Edward Percy; and the next heard of her is her arrival at Ascension on the 6th of December, and her sailing again on the 8th. About the latter end of last month her non-arrival created an advance of her premium, but no real anxiety was felt about her till about the 5th of the present month, when 40 and 50 guineas were paid on on her. On the 17th Her Majesty's ship Orontes arrived off Plymouth with intelligence that she had signalled the Claramont on the 17th of January, the other side of the Cape, namely, in lat. 30 S., long. 42 E. For a moment this news induced hopes that the ship was all right, and her premiums of insurance receded from 75 guineas to 50, but it was merely transitory, for on comparing the Orontes signalling with the Claramont's speaking, it was at once seen that the Orontes saw her nearly in the same latitude and longitude on the 17th of January as spoken in by the Ida two months previously, a circumstance most remarkable, unless the Claramont had after she had left Ascension been blown back again round the Cape to the latitude mentioned. The captain of the Orontes was telegraphed to ascertain if he had any doubts as to the ship signalled being the Claramont; the answer was in the negative. It has since transpired that the master of the Claramont Captain Macintosh, was seen on shore at Ascension on Dec. 8th by Captain Stewart, of the ship Edward Percy, from Hong Kong, who also sailed the same day for England, in company with the Claramont, but saw nothing of her afterwards. the Edward Percy, arriving at Liverpool as far back as Feb. 2 last. This information places the fate of the ship in the worse light that is possible, but still she may turn up. Eighty guineas of insurance has been paid on the ship.

CAPETOWN, Feb. 11.—About 600 tons of the cargo of the Johannes, Rademakers, from Batavia for Rotterdam, which put into Simons Bay, Dec. 6, leaky, will be laden on board the Gondola.

LISBON.—March 14, The Priam, Irvine, from Glasgow, for Singapore, which put in here, March 11, leaky, received pratique this morning, having had to perform three days' quarantine through the want of a bill of health. On the 15th inst. she was surveyed, and found to be tight in her bottom, but the caulking of her topsides and decks, very open from straining in bad weather; her bulwarks were broken, and one of her fore shrouds carried away; she has been ordered to be well caulked, and her damages repaired.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At ST. HELENA.—Feb. 14, from Singapore, Obey, Legros, and sailed for the Clyde; from Java, Sophie, Collberz, and sailed 15 for Amsterdam; from Foo-chow-Foo, White Eagle, Williams, and sailed for New York; from Banjoewangie, Philip v. Marnix, v. Runge, and sailed 15 for Rotterdam; 15, from Manila, Nuevo Lantero, Estival, and sailed for Alicante; Ottilie, Schramm, and sailed for London; 16, from Batavia, Bernard and Agnes, Ordeman, and sailed for Amsterdam; 17, from Singapore, Marie, Thin, and sailed 18 for Bordeaux; from Colombo Argali, Winn, and sailed 18 for London; 18, from Shanghai, Clara Babuyan, Errington, and sailed for New York; 19, from Hong Kong, Marie; from Sourabaya, Nordstern, Baetjer.

Off ASCENSION.—Feb. 4, from Colombo, for London, Venilia; 19, from Foo-chow-Foo, for London, Langdale.

At TABLE BAY.—Feb. 11, Hilda, Smidt, sailed for Ceylon.

At ALGOA BAY.—Jan. 24, Jane Pardew, M'Gregor, sailed for Colombo; Feb. 2, Formica, Freming, sailed for Colombo; 10, Oleander, Taylor, sailed for Colombo.

At MAURITIUS.—Feb. 7, from New York, &c., Yesso (s.), and left 14, for Hong Kong, &c.; 10, from Singapore, Hamlet, Stevens; 15, Carl, Schaw, sailed for Singapore.

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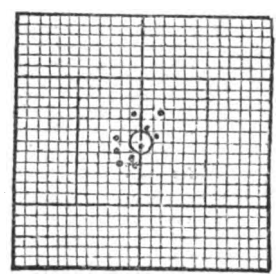

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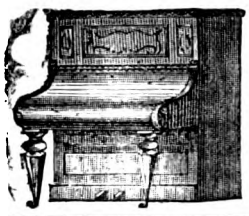

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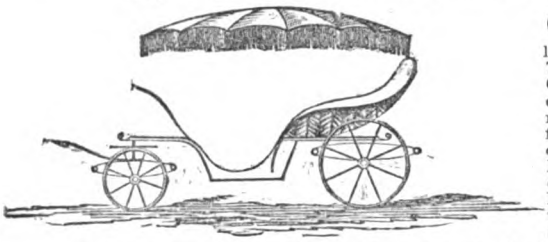

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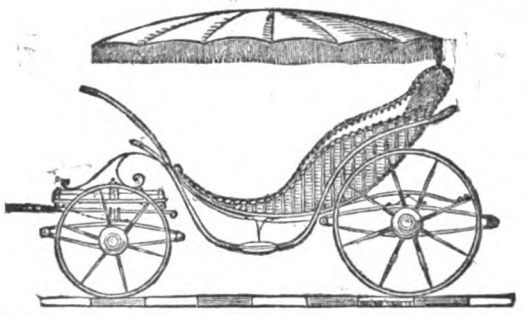

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"CHEMICAL LABORATORY,
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"SIR,—I have analysed the two samples handed me on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., and found the 'Mixed Pickles' of H. and H. LEDGER, of 14, Mineries, Aldgate, to be quite free from adulteration and made with Pure Malt Vinegar.

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Hong Kong & Whampoa	Avondhu ...	394	K.D.

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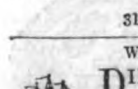

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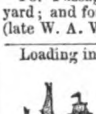

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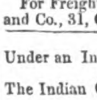

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Do Jamaica Ginger	from 3s. 6d.
Do. Chinese Ginger	..jars 5s. and 10s.
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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 169.] LONDON, MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama			
Nagasaki			
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			
Chefoe			
New-chwang			
Hankow			
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	Dec. 26	Feb. 14	Feb. 20
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Jan. 10	„ 23	„ 25
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila			
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			March 3
SIAM— Bangkok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			Feb. 20
JAVA—			
Batavia			March 2
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Jan. 26	March 4	„ 6
Penang			

The next home mail has been telegraphed as having reached Marseilles, and the letters will be delivered in London on Wednesday morning (March 12).

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Delhi, from Southampton, April 4.—To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Medhurst and two infants and European servant, and five second-class passengers. To Hong Kong: Mr. R. M. Reddie, Lieut.-Col. T. W Lovell, C.B., R.E. Mr. C G. Tatham, Dr. A. M'Kenna, R.N., Mr. W. C. Johnston, Dr. Freer, Mr. W. L. Nash, Capt. Burland, Mr. G. E. Wilkinson, and five second-class passengers. To Singapore: Mr. Odardo Beccari and one second-class passenger. To Penang: Mr. Lyster. To Ceylon: Lieut and Mrs. J. J. C. Miller and child, Mr. and Mrs. Hill, Mr H. V. Ellis, Mr. A. Featherstonhaugh, and one second-class passenger. To Calcutta: Capt. Watts, R.E, Mr. Balderson, Col. Bagot, Miss H. Taylor, Mr. Abbott. Mr. Morris Mr. Banyard, Lieut. R. J O'Brien, and four second-class passengers. To Madras: Mr. F R. Twynam, Miss Vincent, and three second-class passengers. To Suez: One second-class passenger. To Alexandria: Three second-class passengers and one child.

From Marseilles, April 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. H. Pember, Mr. José Loureiro, Mr G. F. Vienna, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. de Zarate. To Shanghai: Mr. E. M. Satow, Mr. Theotoky. To Singapore: Baron R. de Tuyll. To Calcutta: Mr. G. Woodbridge, Mr. J. M. Clelland, Lieut. H. Collett, Ensign Cutbill, Mr. M. K. Angelo. To Madras: General Smythe, Lieut. G. S. Neile.

From Malta.—To Calcutta: Mr. and Miss Howard.

Per P. and O. Co.'s steamer Pera, from Southampton, April 20.—To Hong Kong: Dr. A. B. Messer, R.N., Mrs. Carey and two sons. To Singapore: Mr. Frohlich, Mr. F. H. Gottlieb. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Mackenzie, Mr. Cross, Miss Cumberland, Mr. J. L. Dewar, Mr. C. B. Culpepper.

From Marseilles, April 26.—To Hong Kong: Mr. G. Raynal. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Rose.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

No later intelligence of any kind from this quarter has been brought by the French mail.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

The English mail of the 26th December arrived in the river on the 14th February. Dates hence are to the 25th February.

A *Peking Gazette* of the 2nd February confirmed Ting Jih-ch'ang in the Tao-tai-ship of Shanghai. There seems, therefore, every reason to suppose that the rumour of his disgrace was started by some person or persons anxious to diminish his popularity with foreigners.

Assistant-Commissary-General Eichbaum has received orders to leave for England by the mail of March 15th, and will be succeeded in the post of Military Accountant by Assistant-Commissary-General Murray. The latter officer will proceed to Hong Kong, as soon as he is relieved by Deputy-Assistant-Commissary-General Barlie, who left for Yokohama on the 16th February. The 2nd Belooch Regiment is under orders to leave Shanghai by the end of the month, if possible.

It is expected that Rear-Admiral Sir Augustus Kuper, K.C.B., will leave Nagasaki in H.M.S. *Euryalus* for this port, on the 22nd Feb. The *Adventure* is expected daily from Hong Kong, and will probably take the Beloochees to Bombay.

On Thursday, the 16th February, as the steam barge *Spunkie* was proceeding down the river, her boiler bursted, and Mr. Smeaton, late engineer of the steamer *Fei-ma* and a Chinese stoker, were killed on the spot. Mr. Nicolson, of the firm of Nicolson and Boyd, who was on board at the time the accident occurred, was also severely hurt, and has since died from the effects of the injuries which he sustained. Little damage appears, however, to have been done to the vessel by the explosion.

The following notice by native silkmen appears in the *Daily News*:—"During the long time that Chinamen have been transacting business with foreigners, it has never, until lately, happened that any 'cut' silk has been found in silk bales; whereas now some complaints have lately been made on this head, and silk brokers have been required to pay for damages arising therefrom. The silk brokers have now agreed together that they will not be responsible for any such claims, unless the silk so damaged is returned to them, and in this case only they are ready to make good any claim for damage."

In the case of Messrs. Hogg Brothers *versus* the China Fire Insurance Company, the Consular Court gave judgment on the 14th Feb. in favour of the defendants. In this action Messrs. Hogg Bros. and Co. sued the China Fire Insurance Company for 30,000 tls., insured on goods described in the policy as "their own in trust or on commission," and the defendants resisted the claim on the grounds that Messrs. Hogg Bros. were not interested in the goods in question, and that the loss had been fraudulently stated. The plaintiffs explained at the opening of the proceedings that their interest was not strictly that which was stated in their declaration; that they really sued for the purpose of protecting Ping-ke, the Chinese merchant to whom the goods insured belonged; and that entertaining themselves the same conviction, they had led Ping-ke to believe that the said goods were covered. Further, that as the fact of Ping-ke being the real owner of the goods was known to the defendants at the time the policy was effected, they, Messrs. Hogg Bros., claimed a right to sue upon the policy which stood in their name, and the general claim on the part of Ping-ke included a particular claim on their own account of 7,570 tls. The defendants denied all knowledge of the goods being Ping-ke's, and resisted the claim because the plaintiffs had laid the ownership of the goods entirely on Ping-ke, whom they (the company) had never insured, and the defendants declared that they had never received any intimation from Messrs. Hogg Bros. that the latter themselves possessed the particular insurable interest above stated.

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The Court were of opinion that no engagement was ever made by the Insurance Company with Ping-ke, either direct or through Messrs. Hogg Bros. as his agents; and in respect of the alleged fraudulent statement of loss, the Court and the Assessors also held that the plea was completely sustained:—

It has been as clearly proved by the plaintiff's witnesses as by those for the defence, that a shorter period than half an hour elapsed from the time that the godown keeper, being himself in bed in the godown, first discovered signs of fire until the roof fell in and showed that the contents of the building were then limited to two burning masses of loose cotton, some packages of tobacco, and a pile of coffin-wood. When extinguished these heaps showed not a trace of the cotton having been previously packed in bales, as the plaintiff's witnesses declared was the case, with the trifling exception of 500 or 600 catties. The loss is stated by Ping-ke at 703 bales of cotton, 518 bales of tobacco, and a few minor articles. If this statement were correct a very large proportion of this mass of material, although by no means readily consumable, must have been annihilated between the time of the breaking out of the fire and falling in of the roof, the cotton must have been thrown out of its form in bales into two loose heaps and every vestige of its former packed condition been obliterated. To the mind of the Court and assessors such a result would be physically impossible, and they are therefore satisfied that the godown, at the time of the occurrence of the fire, did not contain the quantity of goods stated in the claim.

At a meeting of the Branch Royal Asiatic Society, held on the 10th February, the following gentlemen were balloted for and duly elected members of the society:—Messrs. E. Milsom, H. S. Bidwell, and J. Newberry. The following gentlemen were then proposed:—Proposed by Mr. Kingsmill, seconded by Mr Brown, B. Barclay Esq., M.D. Proposed by Sir Harry Parkes, seconded by Dr. Henderson, G. Tyson, Esq., and H. G. Hollingworth, Esq, (Kiukiang).

The President read a letter which he had received from C. T. Jones, Esq., resigning his office as local secretary, on the plea that the distance at which he resides from the settlement prevents his performing effectively the duties attached to that post. Mr. Brown was elected to the vacant office.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were then read, and the routine business having been closed, the first paper for the evening, entitled "Northern Chinese Sugar-cane (Sorghum) and Its Uses," was read by Dr. Collins. The following is an abstract:—

After giving a short history of the introduction of the ordinary Chinese Sugar-cane (Saccharatum officinarum) among Western nations, it was stated that for some unaccountable reason, not only the Chinese but other nations have not, until recently, duly appreciated the Sorgho-cane of the North. In France and the United States the plant has been successfully cultivated during the last ten years, and is now very highly prized. The following were the points discussed in the paper:—1st, the *Botany*, 2nd, the *History*, 3rd, the *Culture*, and lastly, the *Uses* of Sorgho.

The following, from a work on *The Trees, Plants, and Flowers of China*, is the nearest approach to a Chinese botanical and historical notice of the plant by native writers, and this passage evidently refers to another species of Sorghum called *Kauliang*, though some of the characteristics of Sorgho (Loo'tso) are mentioned; viz:—black seed and saccharine juice. "*T'Sh-soo*: This plant has received several names, all referable to the district where it was first produced. The seed was brought from the Province of Sze-chuen, whose ancient name was Se T'sok. The names by which the plant has been called are Kauliang, T'sok-t'sack, Loo'tsee, Loo'tso, Mohtsih, and Tih-liang. The seed should be planted in good dry soil, early in the season—say April, if you would reap a good crop of seed. It ripens in autumn. The stalks are large and more than ten feet high—in leaves and general appearance resembling reeds, though the stalks are not hollow. The top resembles a broom, and is thickly covered with little red or black seeds, resembling kernels of pepper. This kernel is hard, and the heart of it is of a yellowish colour. When the plant is ripe the top is first taken off. The stalks are then gathered, bound in bundles, and placed in sheds to dry. There are two species of seed. The first is glutinous; and with a kind of rice is used in manufacturing alchoholic drinks—also made into cakes. The other seed is not glutinous. It makes good gruel, cakes, &c., and is useful to feed cattle. The stalks are manufactured into matting, &c., and the tops into brooms. The hulls of the seeds contain a red matter used in colouring red wines. The heart of the stalk is sweet, heating, slightly glutinous, and useful as a medicine in cases of diarrhœa."

The latest authorities place the plant of which we speak, some under the genus *Andropogon*, and others under that of *Sorghum*; indeed, the difference is so slight as to warrant their union in one. In regard to the various species of Sorghum grown in China (the names of some being given in the passage translated), there is not much doubt that they are identically the same plant, the differences between them being due to the long cultivation which the plant has undergone in different latitudes, soils, and other controlling circumstances, just as some of the grasses have sported into numerous varieties.

The leading differences besides appearance, between *Sorgho* and the ordinary Sugar-cane of middle and southern China, were stated to be these. The Sorgho is an annual plant, springing from and bearing seed, the cane is propagated annually, or every few years from cuttings, but yields no seed. The latter is seldom successfully grown above 25° or 30° N. Lat., or where the mean temperature is less than 65° or 68° Far., while Sorgho flourishes above 40° N. Lat. Indeed, wherever Indian corn will grow, it succeeds well, and ripens in much less time than ordinary cane. A lengthy description of the Sorgho was given, from the time it first appears above the ground until it matures—a towering plant from twelve to eighteen feet high.

The history of the introduction of Sorgho among Western nations was given as follows:—In 1851 Count de Montigny, at that time French Consul at Shanghai, forwarded, at the request of his Government, to the Geographical Society of Paris, a collection of such plants, seeds, and cuttings, found in this part of China as he thought might grow in Europe. Among this collection was a package of Sorgho seeds. These seeds were planted, and from them have sprung all the subsequent crops of Europe and America. The plant was introduced into the United States in 1854. Since that time, for various reasons, the area of Sorgho cultivation in the United States has steadily increased, until now it has become one of the great crops of the country. The same is true, to a limited extent, in France and Algiers, but these countries cultivate the plant, in the main, for different purposes, chiefly for alcohol, while in America it is raised for seed, forage, and for the manufacture of sugar, syrup, alcohol, vinegar and beer.

It must be confessed, however, that in one important particular Sorgho has somewhat disappointed public expectation in America, in that sugar is, with difficulty, manufactured from its juice, owing to a gummy principle which it contains. Still a large quantity of sugar is manufactured. The single State of Iowa, for instance (between 40 deg. and 45 deg. N. lat.), cultivated, in 1863, 36,667 acres of cane, which yielded 21,467 lbs. of sugar, 3,012,396 gals. of syrup, besides forage, alcohol, seed and vinegar.

It was for the purpose of observing the Chinese method of cultivating Sorgho, and especially their processes of manufacturing sugar from its juice, that Mr. C. came to China; for it is the impression in France and America that the Chinese are thoroughly acquainted with all plants indigenous to their country; and that the chief difficulty in obtaining sugar from the juice of the Sorgho was owing, either to some defect in foreign cultivation, in the mode of treating the juice, or in not possessing that species of Sorghum which yields the largest amount of crystallisable juice.

Strange as it may appear, there is nothing in the agricultural works or actual present practice of the Chinese to prove that they cultivate Sorgho (Loo'tso) for any manufacturing purposes whatsoever, but chiefly for chewing and sucking the stalks.

The plant, in this province, is cultivated chiefly on the island of Dzongming in the Yangtzse, just opposite Wusung; and from thence the Shanghai market is supplied. A sketch of the island was given, and the Chinese method of tillage. From all Mr. C. has read and seen, both here and in America, he is well satisfied that foreigners have nothing to learn from, but much to impart to the Chinese, in respect to Sorgho.

In regard to the *cultivation* of Sorgho for extracting sugar, it has been found that it may be successfully grown upon all lands where a fair crop of Indian corn can be cultivated. This simple statement covers the whole question of latitude and soils; and shows what an immense advantage Sorgho possesses over ordinary sugar-cane in respect to temperature, flourishing as it does in torrid and temperate zones alike. Mr. C. gave then a description of the soils, manures, and tillage best adapted to Sorgho. The Chinese and foreign methods of tillage, however, do not greatly differ, though the latter is probably superior. The uses of Sorgho were stated, and among them are the following. An acre of ground produces about 22,000 stalks, yielding from three to nine tons of comparatively dry forage, besides seed to the amount of from 25 to 40 bushels, weighing 36 lbs. to the bushel, and equal to oats or barley in nutrition. The hulls of the seeds yield a very beautiful purple tint used in colouring wines and silks. If the plant is cultivated for other purposes, an acre yields about 1,700 gallons of juice, giving from 10 to 13 per cent. of saccharine matter in the form of sugar or syrup, or about 6 per cent. of absolute alcohol. The yield of vinegar and beer is about the amount of juice consumed. Mr. C. explained the methods of manufacturing sugar, syrup, alcohol, ether, vinegar, beer and meal from Sorgho, and exhibited specimens of these articles made by himself at Shanghai last fall. In conclusion, he stated that in the cultivation of Sorgho in China there opens up a new and profitable field of enterprise, because the plant yields cheaply an abundance of saccharine matter, used in manufacturing some of the chief articles of modern consumption.

The second paper for the evening, on "The Geology of the Great Plain," by Dr. Lamprey, 67th Regiment, was then read. Lack of space prevents us from enlarging upon the topics introduced. Several interesting specimens were laid before the meeting, of shells, &c., found in different places, and illustrative of the subject. A vote of thanks having been passed to Dr. Collins and Dr. Lamprey, the proceedings terminated.

NINGPO.

On the night of the 5th February, a Ningpo boat from Wanchew, while lying in the river (Ningpo) was boarded by six Europeans with masks on, who overpowered the crew, robbed the boat of $213 in money, and the clothes that were of any use belonging to the crew. These scoundrels were armed with swords and revolvers, and threatened to kill the first that made any noise. After they had got all they could, they cut adrift the boat's sampan, and shoved themselves off.

The lighthouses are drawing fast towards completion, and will be lit for the first time about the end of the current or beginning of next month (March). At present, after leaving the Light Ship, nothing is seen ahead in the light way from Shanghai to Ningpo (says the *Friend of China*), till a glimpse is caught of an oyster-shell lantern over an upper room of the gateway to the dilapidated citadel on the hill at Chinhae; a light of use only in steering to within a couple of miles or so of the entrance to the river, and which it is proposed to do without as soon as the other lights are fairly in operation.

The new lighthouses comprise, one on the island of Tse-lee,

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about five miles from the river entrance, and another on the the islet of Pas-yeu, a quarter of a mile or so from Cho-poa-san (Citadel hill). The Tse-lee lighthouse, complete in all but glazing, is an octagonal building about twenty-five feet high, on a three feet thick brick foundation, with walls two and a-half feet thick on the base, reduced to two feet half the way up, and tapering from a diameter inside of eleven feet on lower story to six feet for the floor of the lantern. This Tse-lee or outer luminary, is 185 feet above the water, and a clear bright light will be visible in ordinary weather at a distance of eight miles or so. The greatest benefit derivable from this light will be by navigators who approach Ningpo river through the Kintang Channel—say by sailing ships, of which as many as thirty got ashore outside Ningpo during the last year only.

The inner light on Pas-yeu will be a dark red, a hundred and fifty feet above water, and particularly useful to steamers in helping them to strike the centre of the channel on either side of the islet. Until Chinese keepers are sufficiently acquainted with the duty required of them, common oil lamps, eight of them to each lighthouse, in plated copper reflectors, will be used, sliding on revolving carriages, twenty-four inches by twenty-four, and fed from the tops. Substantial cottages are built in the vicinity of each lighthouse for the accommodation of the keepers (one European and two Chinese to each); and on Tse-lee there is to be a flag-staff to warn ships when approaching dangers unawittingly, a gun for foggy day alarms, &c.

The lighthouses, however, are not the only useful improvements. Buoys are to be laid as follows:—One on Sesostris Rock near Pas-yeu island—where there is only twelve feet of water at low spring tides; one on Tiger's Tail; one on the Blonde Rock, and one on Alligator Point;—the cost of the whole of these arrangements being somewhat considerable when viewed as a contribution in progress by Chinese Mandarins.

HONAN.

The Mahometan rebels in Honan are pursuing their successes, and have now captured the city of Lo-yang-hsien, where they have strongly entrenched themselves. The course of this rebellious movement is marked by desolation and misery inflicted on the peaceful inhabitants, such as even the Taipings never approached in their wildest forays. The country around Lo-yang has been turned into a wilderness, and the villages have been without exception burned to the ground.

FOOCHOW.

The British steamer *Undine* reports having left Foochow on the 12th of February, arrived at Amoy on the 13th, arrived in Swatow same day, left on the 14th at three P.M., and arrived at Hong Kong on the 15th. The steamers *Maria*, *Prince Kung*, *Waratah*, and H.M.'s gunboat *Bustard*, were in Foochow; H.M.S. *Pelorus*, and gunboats *Bustard*, *Janus*, and *Flamer*. H.M.'s gunboat *Haughty* arrived in Swatow on the 13th. An expedition was sent out from H M.'s vessels in Amoy to a piratical village some distance up the river. No news, however, of what they had effected had reached Amoy before the departure of the *Undine*.

HONG KONG.

Dates are to the 25th February. The London mails of the 10th January arrived out on the 23rd February. The British steamer *Reiver* was chartered to carry the homeward mails by the Messageries Impériales in lieu of the *Labourdonnais*, which was to await at Hong Kong the arrival of the next French mail. H.M.S. *Tamar* was to leave for the Mauritius, Natal, and the Cape, on the 28th February.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 23rd February, all the members present, except the Surveyor-General and the Colonial Treasurer. After the minutes of the last meeting had been read and approved, the Governor intimated the matters to be considered were:—The third reading of an ordinance to amend the laws relating to offences against the person, &c.; the introduction of an ordinance for the incorporation, registration, and winding-up of joint-stock trading companies; and the revisal of the jury list for the present year. Beginning with the Limited Liability Act, as the second ordinance is sometimes called, his Excellency said that it was precisely the same ordinance which had already been submitted to the Council and rejected, but he believed that its rejection arose from the want of a due understanding as to the views of the Chamber of Commerce on the matter. A second address from the Chamber had been sent in, and there was no longer any room for misunderstanding. A petition from the foreign community in Hong Kong, signed by 354 names, was also in his Excellency's hands, both of which documents were read. After some remarks on matters of form, the second reading of the ordinance was carried by seven to two, the minority being the Hon. Mr. Whittall and the Colonial Treasurer (who arrived in time to vote). Mr. Whittall protested against the passing of the measure, for reasons to be furnished in the course of seven days; and a committee, consisting of the Hon. Mr. Chomley, the Hon. Mr. Murray, the Attorney-General, Judge Ball, and the Auditor-General, were appointed to report upon the ordinance before it should come on for a final reading. The Council then proceeded to revise the Jury List.

The Governor had been pleased to make the following appointments in the Hong Kong Volunteers:—

Artillery Company: First Lieutenant H. Cohen to be Captain, vice Myburgh, resigned; Second Lieutenant W. J. Henderson to be First Lieutenant, vice Cohen; F. I. Hazeland, Quarter-Master Sergeant, to be Second Lieutenant.

Rifle Company: T. G. Linstead, Colour-Sergeant, to be Lieutenant, vice Davidson retired.

In the Vice-Admiralty Court on the 15th, judgment was delivered in "the *Island Queen* v. the *Nepaul*." The judge said that he thought the amount tendered by the impugnants (the P. and O. Company), namely £3,000, and which amount was paid by them into the Court, was amply sufficient to pay the promovents for any salvage services they rendered to the *Nepaul* Judgment would be for the promovents (the *Island Queen*) for the amount so tendered, they paying all costs incurred subsequent to the time the tender was made to them.

At the Criminal Sessions, James Ellis, Inspector of Markets, was charged with extorting certain legs of mutton, turkeys, cases of brandy, &c., from the lessee of the Eastern Slaughter-house. Mr. Pollard assisted the Attorney-General for the prosecution, and Mr. Kingsmill appeared for the defendant. The trial lasted into the second day, Mr. Kingsmill addressing the Jury and calling Mr. May, Captain Quin, and Mr. Jarmain, who gave the defendant an excellent character for the time he had served in the Police force (over ten years). The defendant has been Inspector of Markets for six years, and during that time no complaint had ever been made by any of the market people. The Chief Justice summed up, and the Jury found the prisoner Not Guilty by six to one.

The trial of the men accused in the bank robbery case was remanded to Wednesday, March 1, as important witnesses for the prosecution were not yet forthcoming. Some discussion took place as to the accused being admitted to bail; which was refused, owing to the important nature of the case. If the witnesses arrived in the interval, the case would be resumed before the time mentioned.

The P. and O. Company have just completed a new landing wharf in front of their offices. It is made of the best timber, and will be found both commodious and economical by the company and the public. The wharf does not extend very far from the quay, and at the lowest neap tides gives a depth of twenty-three feet. The *Cadiz* was laid alongside of the new wharf, and the erection seems in every sense suitable for the purpose contemplated.

The *Daily Press* says—Messrs. Russell and Co. are erecting a wharf of the same description, opposite Wohang's, for the convenience of their Canton steamers. At least two wharves are either erected, or are being erected, at Wanchai, and we believe that others will spring up. The advantages to the colony in a commercial point of view from a system of deep water wharfage are too palpable and too well understood to require enlarging upon. Economy in the landing charges, the saving from pilferage and waste, and the despatch which can be given to ships, are the items on which the advantages will tell. Instead of rice being subject to a charge of eight cents per picul for landing, one or at most two cents would cover it. Instead of the pilferage and waste amounting to three per cent., they will hardly amount to one per cent.; and instead of a ship being a fortnight in discharging, four days will be sufficient. In delivering cargo from the godown the same advantages are multiplied.

Her Majesty's gunboat *Opossum*, which left for the Paracelle Shoal on the 5th February to receive the crew of the British barque *Fearnot*, which was lost upon the shoal on 12th Jan., has returned. She reports that she arrived at the Paracelles on the 8th, found six Chinese upon Lincoln Island who were part of the barque's crew. They stated that a Hainan junk had arrived three days previous and taken the treasure, con-

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sisting of about $5,000, off the wreck; that when the six Europeans remaining on the island saw them they took the ship's gig, and with only three gallons of water and very little provisions got clear away from the place. The gunboat crew examined Woody Island, Rocky Island, and the Amphitrite group of islands, these being to leeward of the wreck, but gained no tidings of the men; several fishing junks were interrogated, but said they knew nothing of them. Took some sails, &c., off the wreck, and left for Hong Kong on the 9th Feb. On Saturday, the 11th, when within sixty miles of Hong Kong encountered a heavy gale, which drove them back and they anchored under Namoa Island until the 14th, when the weather moderated, and they were enabled to come on to Hong Kong. [It will be recollected that the last number of the *London and China Telegraph* reported the safe arrival of the chief officer and five seamen of the *Fearnot* at Singapore, they having been picked up by the *Cedars*, bound to Rangoon. The steamer *Plymouth Rock*, while returning from Canton on the night of the 17th Feb., in order to take her place against the *Kinshan* on the following morning, ran into a junk at the entrance to the Throat Gates, sinking her almost immediately. Five men and about $15,000 worth of property were lost.

The Sailors' Home is progressing more favourably than the projectors ever dreamt of. There have been about one hundred inmates in it at one and the same time. Many hands having been shipped, the number at present is reduced to about seventy, subject to daily fluctuations. The inmates are happy and contented, and the concern is evidently a thriving one. There is a great want of accommodation for officers, engineers, and seafaring men of the better class (remarks the *Evening Mail*). It says a great deal for the accommodation and the fare of the establishment, that a slight sprinkling of these should take advantage of its operation, and mingle with the sailors, in preference to resorting to the existing boarding-houses, which have hitherto been maintained by their reception. Still such a state of things is unseemly, and should be put a stop to with all convenient speed. We presume it is not intended to give up the whole of the building constructed for the accommodation of the Indian sailors, to the superintendent; and we should say that the mess-room for officers might be made in that building. Furthermore, we should imagine that one of the dormitories (of course we mean in the large building) might be kept select for officers, until the other dormitories should be full and additional bedding be required —and even then a space might be screened off. We believe that the accounts exhibit a fair surplus on the first month's transactions, and that the fear lest the Home should not pay its expenses is a lost one.

The 16th of February was the first day of the races, which were continued on the 18th and 19th. Among the more important we may notice, the Canton Cup, value 100 guineas,—for Arabs only. Weight 10st. One mile and a half.—1, Forrester; 2, Early Purl (a fair second); 3, Colonist (nowhere).

The Hong Kong Club Cup, for all horses. One mile and a half. 1, Exeter; 2, North Pole.

The Selling Stakes, value $500, for all horses that have never won any race out of China. One mile and a-half. 1, Pathfinder; 2, Magnet (broke down).

The German Cup, presented by the German community, value 100 guineas, for colonial horses only. One mile and a-half. 1, Warrior (carried 3 lbs. extra); 2, Scamp; 3, Pathfinder (carried 2 lbs. extra).

The second day's racing included the Challenge Cup, value 500 guineas, for all horses. To be won two years consecutively by a horse or horses the *bona fide* property of the same owner. Two miles. 1, Haddington (led all the way); 2, Exeter; 3, Millionaire.

The St. Leger Cup, presented by a subscriber, for Arabs only, 10st. The winner of the Canton Cup excluded. One mile and a-half. 1, Early Purl; 2, Hadji.

The Parsee Cup, value $250, presented by the Parsee community, for all horses, English excepted. 1, Warrior; 2, Pathfinder, 3, Scamp.

After the race, however, an objection was lodged against Warrior by the owner of Scamp, on account of an alleged foul. In the discussion which followed, far too much warmth was exhibited, on the part of one of the stewards, which led to several severe remarks being made. The objection was afterwards allowed, and the race now stands as under:—1, Pathfinder; 2, Scamp; 3, Warrior.

The third and last day included the Fakei Cup, value $700, presented by the American community of Canton and Hong Kong, for all horses; one mile. 1, Anecdote; 2, Sir William; 3, Loafer.

The Fuhchau Cup, value 280 guineas, presented by the Fuhchau community, for all horses, English excepted; from the Black Rock, twice round and in. 1, Exeter; 2, Pathfinder; 3, Warrior.

The Shanghai Cup, value 100 guineas, presented by the Shanghai community; for all horses; two miles. 1, Sir William; 2, Traveller.

The Stewards' Plate, value $500; for all horses; one mile and a-half. 1, Sir William; 2, Exeter; 3, Anecdote. The best race of the meeting; won by a neck.

CANTON.

One or two numbers of a weekly newspaper, published in Canton, in the Chinese language only, and edited by one of the foreign missionaries there, have been sent to us. The copy last received contains two advertisements and five articles or paragraphs on different subjects. The advertisements announce (1) Dr. Hobson's Medical Work, in five volumes (in Chinese), for sale; and (2) the Medical Missionary Society's Hospital, open for the dispensing of medical advice and assistance, free of charge. The subjects touched upon in the same number of the paper are (1) a notice of the Government schools in Hong Kong, their number, and the manner in which they are conducted; (2) notice of a misdemeanor in a village in the district of Koiu; (3) the present condition of the Taiping rebellion; (4) notice of the bank robbery in Hong Kong; (5) an article on the revolutions of the earth. The undertaking is as yet in its infancy, and its prospects cannot be stated with certainty; but the small price (two cash) at present charged for each copy, must, we should think, ensure a large sale for "The Chinese and Foreign Weekly Newspaper," as it is called. So far as we know, the experiment of starting such a newspaper in Canton is new. The amount of matter given for the money seems very large; and should the immense native population of Canton take a fancy to the new journal—should ten thousand copies be sold every week—the undertaking would more than pay itself. In that case, it would most likely be enlarged and become a useful advertising medium, in which event, we have been told, the price might easily enough be reduced to one cash per copy.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Dates hence are to the 6th March. The London mail of the 26th January arrived out on the 4th March. The *Thunder* steamer arrived from Calcutta on the 3rd March, having on board his Royal Highness the Duke de Brabant, travelling under the title of the Count de Tervueren. The Hon. E. P. Levinge was also a passenger in her. The United States steam frigate *Iroquois* was at Galle when the *Ottawa*, the steamer that brought the London mails, left there. It was said she was coming on to Singapore, in search of the Confederate cruiser *Shenandoah*—which, as we know in England, was then in Australian waters.

The deaths from cholera were diminishing at Singapore.

The *Jubilaum*, Bremen barque, Vochler, master, bound from Rangoon to Hong Kong with a cargo of rice, had been wrecked on Batu Mandi, east of the Pedra Branca lighthouse. The wreck had been sold by auction for the sum of eighty-one dollars.

There was a rumour that a local joint-stock company was about to be started, to undertake general marine insurance business. It is urged that the amount of insurance effected at Singapore in a year is enormous, and that a local inspection and direction would give a company many advantages over other foreign offices.

The Governor has been pleased to accept the resignation by Mr. G. T. Wright of the office of Deputy Shipping Master and Assistant Master Attendant, Singapore, from the 3rd of Feb., 1864, the date of his departure from the settlement on leave of absence; and to appoint Mr. J. Anderson to those offices. Mr. D. C. Presgrave, J. P., has been appointed Deputy Coroner for Prince of Wales' Island.

Mr. Joaquim d'Almeida writes to the *Straits Times* in reference to the firm of Jose d'Almeida and Sons:—"We obtained our personal discharge from the Insolvent Court at the hearing on the 23rd of February, and there was no opposition made. His Honour the Recorder was pleased to com-

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pliment us on its being very creditable that there was no opposition made."

A coroner's inquest was held on the 22nd February, on the body of a European named Mark Donovan, steward of the P. and O. Company's steamer *Orissa*. Deceased came by his death by accidentally falling over the wharf at New Harbour, while attempting, it is supposed, to save a native seaman who had also fallen into the water. A verdict of accidental death was returned.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTH.

PURVIS—On the 1st March, at Glassmount, Singapore, the wife of John M. Purvis, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGE.

COOPER TICKELL.—On the 15th Feb., at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by Rev. J. J. Irwin, D.D., William M. Cooper, of H.B.M.'s Consular Service in China, to Mary Louisa, daughter of Colonel S. R. Tickell, late Bengal Staff Corps.

DEATHS.

CUMMINGS—On the 15th Feb., at the Seaman's Hospital, Hong Kong, Eduard Cummings, apprentice belonging to the ship Sea Nymph.

JEREMIAH—On the 5th Feb., at Singapore, Anthony Jeremiah, aged 34 years, 8 months, and 22 days.

NICOLSON—On the 18th Feb., at Shanghai, from injuries received by the explosion of the steamer Spitzbergie, Mr. Alexander Morrison Nicolson, aged 33 years, of Messrs. Nicolson and Boyd, Engineers. Deceased was a native of Stornoway, Island of Lewis, County of Ross, Scotland.

NOTT—On the 15th Feb., at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, Samuel Nott, corporal 99th Regt., aged 27 years, of consumption.

PARKINS—On the 26th Feb., at Mr. P. R. Lazar's residence, in Hylam-street, Singapore, after a few hours' illness, Mr. William Parkins, late of Penang.

ROBB—On the 23rd Feb., at Marine Vila, Singapore, Anne, the wife of Daniel Robb, Esq., shipbuilder.

SHORT—On the 13th Feb., in Singapore Harbour, Elizabeth Short, wife of Sergeant-Major Short, H.M.'s 99th Regt., on her voyage to England.

WILLIAMS—On the 15th Feb., at Shanghai, George Bond Williams, a native of Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A., aged 29 years.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Feb. 11, Eunice Nicholas; 14, Norwood. From Liverpool: 15, Gassamar. From Cardiff: 14, Sansparil. From New York: 9, Haversham; 19, Oliver Coutts.

At HONG KONG.—From Liverpool: Feb. 16, Abeona; 22, Albertine.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: Feb. 28, Eena and Gloucester. From Liverpool: 28, Mandarin. From New York: March 2, Tesso (str).

DEPARTURE.

From SHANGHAI.—For Montreal: Feb. 9, Shelbourne.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

A circular issued on Saturday (the 8th) notified suspension of payments by Messrs. Charles Joyce and Co. (formerly Joyce, Thurburn, and Co.), of 61, Moorgate-street, the old and respectable firm engaged in the Indian and Egyptian trade. The house must have stopped last Wednesday but for the arrival of remittances from Alexandria; the relief, however, was but temporary. Losses in cotton, especially Egyptian, have been so enormous that, notwithstanding the desire of friends to assist the firm if possible, it appeared hopeless to attempt the task. This may reasonably be imagined, when it is stated that the debts and liabilities represent £1,100,000, and that these are composed of direct engagements £600,000, and of indirect, £500,000, the principal portion of which, it is believed, will be covered. There is a firm at Alexandria interested, and an agency at Ceylon. The liquidation will naturally depend upon the realisation of cotton and other produce, cargoes of which are now coming forward. At present, from the position of the London and Liverpool markets, the prospects for creditors are anything but favourable.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—April 8, at Deal, from Shanghai, Diligentia; 5, at Cuxhaven, from Foo-chow-Chow, Persia; 6, at Bordeaux, from Singapore, Birman; 6, off Plymouth, from Java, Sophie; 8, Clyde, from Singapore, Obex; 6, off Land's End, from Ceylon, Argali.

SPOKEN.—Patna, Liverpool to Shanghai, April 4, 52 N., 8 W.; H.M.S. Falcon, bound to Singapore, off Cape Rachado.

DEPARTURES.—April 7, from Shields, for Shanghai, Hotspur; 8, from London, for Newcastle and Batavia, Solo.

CHINESE CURIOSITIES AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

A valuable and most interesting collection of Chinese gems, relics, State emblems, and works of art has just been opened at Norwood, in a special enclosure of its own, in the French Court of the Crystal Palace. As might be anticipated, the great bulk of the very rare and often most costly articles shown here came originally from the Emperor's Summer Palace of Yuen-ming-Yuen, near Peking—a palace which was given up to plunder and entirely destroyed in retaliation for the monstrous treachery by which so many English and French men and officers were captured under a flag of truce and tortured to death. The fortunate owner of this collection is Captain Negroni, of the 102nd Regiment of the Line, who has succeeded in getting together one of the most curious, and probably one of the most valuable collections of the kind that has ever been seen in this country. In the rare old kinds of Chinese porcelain the collection is unusually rich. There are some splendid specimens of jade ornaments in the collection; among them a jewel stand, formerly used by the Empress, inlaid with rubies, pink coral, and lapis-lazuli, and an exquisite model of a junk, with rowers, interior furniture, and everything complete, carved out of a single mass of white jade. There are many smaller groups and large vases with covers, and a seal belonging to the Emperor, with an inscription on the back warning those who found the treasure that death was the penalty of not returning it to the Emperor. In Oriental jaspers and agates, and real chalcedony, there are wonderful works in cameos, carved groups, and vases. The Chinese jewels are of rare beauty, and of considerable value. Among them are two jewel cases, one of mosaic work formed of sapphires, rubies, emeralds, and pearls; another of small pearls, diamonds, rubies, sapphires, and emeralds. Here, too, is a State ornament formerly worn by the Emperor, and composed entirely of precious stones; the Emperor's State waist buckle, formed of a large uncut sapphire. Among the gems proper there are some rare and extraordinary specimens, which would be of immense value if they were not all most seriously depreciated either by perforation, by bad cutting, or by being cut flat to make one good stone into several thin "rose" gems of the same size. Among others is an Oriental sapphire weighing 48 carats, a ruby weighing 24 carats, a pair of ruby ear-rings, worn by the Empress, weighing 16 carats each, an amethyst weighing 150 carats, a rose ruby which is said to weigh 500 carats, and a monster sapphire, said to be the largest in the world, and weighing 742 carats. In China of the rarest and most beautiful types the collection is as rich as in jewels and carvings, lacquer, and inlaid work. In what is called the European portion of the collection are some fine works which have been presented from Europe to various Emperors of China, and which now, by the strange vicissitudes of fortune, find their way back to this quarter of the world almost centuries after they were made. One of the most interesting of these is a box sent to China by Marie Antoinette, and which bears her cipher. It is one of the most complete and valuable of them all, and the automaton singing birds which surmount one portion of it may still be regarded at this day as models of mechanical excellence. Altogether, the whole collection is emphatically one of the best and most interesting of its kind that has ever been shown in England, and it is certain at Norwood to prove one of the most lasting attractions of this season.

CONSUL WINCHESTER'S DESPATCH.

(From the *London Gazette.*)

The following despatch, with its enclosures, has been received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in Japan:—

"Yokohama, Jan. 13.

"My Lord,—It is with great satisfaction that I find it my duty to bring to your Lordship's notice two additional instances of the humane and hospitable treatment, by the Japanese authorities and people, of shipwrecked crews, and of pains taken by them to preserve or recover property or gear belonging to stranded vessels.

"In November last the British barque *Ashmore*, proceeding to Hakodadi from this port, was wrecked at Benten Sama, or Low Island, in the Straits of Tsungaru; and Mr. Interpreter Enslie, who started from Hakodadi on the 27th of November, and was only able to reach the scene of the disaste several days later, refers in the highest terms to the kind attentions shown by the Prince of Nambu, who, immediately on hearing of the wreck, issued orders to render to the ship's company every possible assistance.

"Secondly, in December last, the British barque *Onward*, chartered to take the place of the *Ashmore*, was, on her voyage to Hakodadi, wrecked at Kashima, about 250 miles distant from Yokohama. The captain, his wife, two children, and crew were treated with the utmost kindness by the Hatamoto (squire of the village)—the property saved from the wreck, including all their clothes. A box of treasure ($5,000) was carefully guarded, and finally placed on board Her Majesty's steam despatch-gunboat *Coquette*, sent to their relief.

"It is also incumbent on me to point out the zealous and praiseworthy services of the gentlemen belonging to Her Majesty's Civil Service who proceeded to the assistance of these wrecks, and the risks to which the faithful performance of such duties exposes them. Mr. Enslie was seven days in reaching the *Ashmore*. Throughout this time he was in an open Japanese boat, exposed to the rigours of a commencing winter and the dangers of a stormy strait. Indeed, during his absence, the rumours of the boat being driven out to sea and cast away were so alarming and persistent that I deemed it right to ask Mr. Consul Vyse, who was here on unexpired leave, to return to his post on service in the *Osprey* which Sir Augustus Kuper was good enough on my representation to despatch to Hakodadi.

"In the case of the *Onward*, Mr. Satow, Student Interpreter of this Degation, proceeded in the *Coquette* to Cape Kona, and made his way on shore in the gig through a tempestuous surf, which they were only able to recross after their boat had been transported for four miles across a neck of sand to a more protected starting point.

"The procedure of the Japanese Government, in these cases, is so uniformly distinguished by genuine hospitality and kindness, and is in such marked contrast to the inhumanity and rapacity almost everywhere shown by the kindred race on the opposite coast of China, that I trust your lordship will hold me excused for occupying your lordship's time with details of events which are otherwise of ordinary interest.

"I have, &c., "CHARLES O. WINCHESTER.

"To the Right Hon. Earl Russell, K.G., &c."

"The following is the evidence of Capt. Jenkins, of the British barque *Ashmore*, wrecked off Cape Sarawasaki on the 24th of November:—

"'Left Yokohama on Monday, the 15th of November, 1864. Strong winds, fine weather, and at last arrived on the evening of the 24th off Cape Sarawasaki. At eight o'clock, bearing south, distance seven miles, strong wind and thick weather; took in top-gallant sails, double reefed the top-sails, and about half-past nine a man sung out, "Breakers on the starboard bow!" I saw a passage between Low Island and the Cape; tried to steer the vessel between, and about five minutes after the vessel struck heavily. The yards were immediately backed in order to move the ship off, but could do nothing, the seas making a breach over her, which hove her stern right on to the rocks and took the rudder off. I ordered the carpenter to sound the pumps about half an hour after she struck and found five feet of water in the hold; got the hands turned to, and got some provisions on shore; took a couple of sails to make a tent. At 4 A.M. found the water up to the lower deck beams. All hands went on shore by ropes. At daylight went on board and tried to save some of our effects. The mate and four

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hands got the whaleboat and tried to go to Hakodadi to report the wreck; I and the remainder of the crew stopped, trying to save all we could. Saved the treasure at great risk. At 8 30 the ship sank in 4½ fathoms water. On Friday afternoon the ship went to pieces. On Thursday morning, at 9.30, some Japanese came off bringing rice. Assistance from the Consulate arrived, but nothing could be done till Tuesday morning, on which day Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul came himself. We left for Hakodadi in junks the following morning.

"'Dec. 18, 1864.'" "'JOHN JENKINS, Master.

"'I, Ferdinand C. Kreeft, late master of the British barque *Onward*, of Melbourne, which was wrecked on the east coast of Niphon on the 29th of December, 1864, wish to express my thanks for the great kindness and protection received by myself, crew, and family from the Japanese authorities of Kasima, where the vessel was wrecked.

"'During nine days, and until relieved by Her Majesty's steamer *Coquette*, every want and necessary was supplied to us.

"'The magistrate or chief Yakonin of that locality was so civil and attentive as to personally escort us on board the *Coquette*, and further to render great assistance to Mrs. Kreeft and children, and also to the officers and crew of the *Coquette's* gig, detained during two days by an impassable bar, and eventually had the boat and treasure carried over a distance of four miles to another part of the coast, to enable them to get off; the said head Yakonin himself seeing the last safely on board the *Coquette*.

"'I have no hesitation in saying, from my experience, that the kind treatment and efficient assistance which I received from those Japanese authorities could not have been surpassed in any part of the world.

"'F. C. KREEFT.

"'Yokohama, January 11, 1865.'

"Done before me, at Her British Majesty's Consulate, Kanagawa, this 11th of January, 1865.

"MARCUS FLOWERS, Acting Consul."

COTTON CULTIVATION IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

At the meeting of the Cotton Supply Association some Consular reports were received from the Foreign-office relative to the cultivation of Cotton, of which the following were from China and Japan:—

Report on the cultivation of cotton in the province of Chekiang, in China, of which Ningpo is the foreign shipping port, by Mr. CONSUL FITTOCK.

Area of land planted with cotton in 1863, about 54,000 acres; and in 1864, about 106,000 acres. No foreign seed is used at present in the province. The amount of produce for 1863 was returned at 200,000 bales, and the estimated quantity for 1864 is 400,000 bales. The season for sowing is May, and the season for picking about the middle of September. It is difficult to say what prices would be remunerative under ordinary circumstances. The present price is about 9d. per lb., but is entirely attributable to the demand consequent on the stoppage of supplies from America; before that took place, and prior to the devastation of the country by the rebels, the average price was less than 5d. per lb.

The war in America has given an immense impetus to cotton cultivation in this province. Four years ago little or none was exported; in the present year, as stated, the export will amount to about 400,000 bales, or 63,840,000lb., and, so far as I am aware, the power of increase is regulated entirely by the quantity in demand. Other crops are, of course, made to give way for its cultivation, more especially rice, which the more remunerative price of cotton enables the agriculturist to give up producing, and buy from a foreign market. Thus three or four years ago the quantity of rice imported was insignificant, while last year it was valued at $9,706,182. The cotton crop is made to alternate with wheat or barley, and beans. The mode of cultivation is this: about May the cotton seed is sown in the intervals of rows of wheat and beans, which in that month are full grown, and conversely in October the wheat and beans are planted in the intervals of the standing cotton rows. The seed is covered in when sown with a heavy iron mattock with four teeth. The growing cotton is manured with canal mud, vegetable ashes, human excrement, &c., but manure is not so universally applied as in the cultivation of rice. Previous to the foreign demand for cotton, the produce of this province found its way to the markets of Fuh-Kien. Although the distance from Kuan-hai-wei to Ningpo by land is only about thirty miles, owing to the water-way having to double the extremity of a range of hills, by that route by which all the cotton for exportation is brought, it has to traverse about sixty or seventy miles. Twelve miles of the water is along a canal which communicates with the tidal river Yung, by one of the rude sluices over which the boats are hauled by capstans. As the entrance to the sluice is narrow, the detention sometimes is very great, and the inconvenience and difficulties to be overcome here, and at another place about three miles further on, where the boats have to pass a narrow bridge, under which is an obstruction of rock, impassable at low water, are excessive, and the time wasted in transition from Kuan-hai-wei to Ningpo varies from a couple of days to four or five. These obstructions, it is believed, are easily removable, but the inhabitants are too indolent, inert, and indifferent to take any interest in improvements of this kind. The sluice capstans are worked by a band of peasants, with no responsible or influential management. No kind of order or system is observed in passing the boats, and the master of each has to make his own bargain, except when foreign or accidental influence somewhat expedites matters. The city of Kuan-hai-wei is about thirty miles this side of An-chang, and within two or three miles of the sea. It contains about 10,000 inhabitants. The cotton plains skirt the Hang-chow Bay along the whole of its southern shore, and it is surmised the northern shore affords equal advantages for the cultivation of the cotton plant. Nearly all the upper plains of the province, in fact, are admirably adapted for this description of agriculture.—British Consulate, Ningpo, 29th December, 1864.

Report on the cultivation of cotton near the consular district of Kanagawa, in Japan, by Mr. CONSUL WINCHESTER.

No means exist for ascertaining the quantity of land under cotton cultivation. It is stated by Japanese farmers and others that the high price of cotton during last year has stimulated production to about double the amount of former years in this immediate neighbourhood. No data exists for estimating the whole amount of the crop; but the figures below refer to the exports from this port:—July 1st, 1863, to September 30th, 1863, 11,094 bales, not pressed by machinery, so that the precise quantity cannot be ascertained. For the whole year 1863, the export from Yokohama was 4,892,933lb. avoirdupois, as returned by the Japanese customs at this port. July 1st to September 30th, 1864, 3,396,600lb., or 11,322 bales, all pressed by machinery, weighing 300lb. per bale. The probable export of this year will, I think, be over 7,000,000lb., or approaching 8,000,000lb. The great point of destination for the cotton crop of Japan is Osaka, on the inland sea, from which it is distributed. The season for sowing is the end of May or the beginning of June. The season for picking usually extends through the whole of October; in backward seasons it is protracted into the first days of November. Under ordinary circumstances 3d. per lb. would be remunerative.

The common yield of an acre of land is about 250lb., or about 100 to 115 pieces of Japanese long cloth, 9½ yards long by 12 inches wide. The replies to the queries refer only to this district and the neighbourhood of Yedo. The farmers produce little more cotton than is required for the supply of their own wants. The high price of cotton has stimulated production this year to perhaps double the amount of last. The best cotton districts in Japan are in the southern part of Nipon, bordering on the inland sea. In this region cotton is sown in drills, about 16 inches apart, between the rows of wheat and rapeseed, while it is still standing, and just before it is harvested. It is manured with liquid manure twice, and the plant attended to, its extreme ends, and all supernumerary buds and sprouts, so as to maintain a vigorous plant and a large boll.—7th October, 1864.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE WAR IN BHOOTAN.

(April 7th.) Lord LYVEDEN desired to know what measures Government intended to take in consequence of the events lately reported to have taken place in Bhootan. He believed that the annexation of Bhootan to our Indian Empire would be most mischievous.—Lord DUFFERIN hoped that no discussion would take place on this subject until the papers were in the hands of the House. There was no intention whatever to annex Bhootan; but a sufficient number of troops had now been ordered up to hold and retain the frontier forts.—The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH would have preferred that the troops should have been withdrawn. He could not help feeling that the arrangements for our late expedition against Bootan had been most imperfect and inadequate.

EAST INDIA HIGH COURTS BILL.

(8th.) This Bill was read a third time and passed.

Their lordships then adjourned until Thursday, the 27th inst.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

EAST INDIA (GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S POWERS, &c.) BILL.

(March 31st.) Mr. VANSITTART said that this Bill proposed to enlarge the powers of the Governor-General for making laws and regulations in India, and to that he entertained no objection. He deeply regretted the result of recent operations in Bhootan, which reflected no lustre on our arms. He wished to know whether instructions had not been issued to Sir J. Lawrence not to make any new appointments of greater value than £400 a year. He could not reconcile this petty interference with the professed object of this Bill.—Sir C. WOOD said the operations in Bhootan had been undertaken at the recommendation of the Lieut.-Governor of Bengal, but the troops were not to occupy territory, but only to hold a line of forts to protect our own frontier. With regard to the second point, it had been from time immemorial the standing rule not to make any new appointment above a certain value without the sanction of the Home Government. The Bill then went through Committee.

CHINESE LAW WITH REGARD TO EUROPEANS.

(April 6th.) Colonel SYKES, who had on the votes a notice of his intention to ask a question, said it would hardly be intelligible without explanation. A boat sent up the river for silk was plundered by three Europeans. They were apprehended, one at Shanghai, two at Hong Kong, and thrown into prison. A partner in the firm which had been robbed, Mr. Hart, wrote, and said, "We have the culprits in custody, and they will be punished if we don't get back the dollars." But instead of the prisoners being punished, the judge at Hong Kong had released them, on the ground that there was no law in China to punish Europeans who committed robberies in China. His question was whether the law controlling the conduct of British subjects in China was so inoperative that Europeans could commit robberies in the interior upon Europeans and natives with impunity.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said the only answer he could give was this,—that any Europeans committing an act which would be a crime by the law of this country were amenable, if they could be caught and the fact proved, to the consular authorities in China, and also to the Criminal Court at Hong Kong. There might be difficulty in getting evidence; and he supposed that a case in China could never be the same as one in England.

COLONIAL BISHOPS.

(6th.) In answer to Mr. H. SEYMOUR, Mr. CARDWELL said the patents which had been issued by the Patent-office were now undergoing careful examination, with a view of submitting a case for the opinion of the law officers of the Crown. It was the intention of the Government most carefully to examine the late decision of the Privy Council before any further patents were issued.

THE BHOOTAN EXPEDITION.

(6th.) In answer to various questions from Lord DUNKELLIN, SIR C. WOOD said that the instructions given in India were to occupy the passes leading into Bhootan, and not to make any occupation in that country,

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and the right hon. gentleman said that he was very averse to any occupation of that territory, because he did not see how they could withdraw their troops if they once were allowed to occupy it. He had received information up to December last, from which it appeared that Her Majesty's forces had lost only five men. In January the Bhootians had taken up a position which led to Her Majesty's troops evacuating two of the passes. The result of the whole operations was that the Government of India had sent forward one regiment and a half of British troops into that country, but he could not say what arrangements had been made for the purpose of ensuring protection against the effect of the weather. The following was from a despatch which he had just received:—"We shall spare no pains to provide shelter for the troops and to secure their health."

THE WAR IN BHOOTAN.

(7th.) Mr. H. SEYMOUR wished to call attention to the great disaster which had occurred to our arms in India from the failure of the expedition to Bhootan. He wished to know what information on this subject could be afforded by the Secretary of State for India.—Sir C. WOOD assured the hon. gentleman that the reports from which they had obtained their information were without foundation, and devoid of truth. He denied that one-third of the force had been lost, or that any considerable proportion of the army had been sacrificed. The state of affairs at the present moment was that the Government were in possession of territory which they proposed to hold, and he submitted that it was not quite fair to condemn any officers until further information was afforded by the arrival of the mail.

INDIAN FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS.

(7th.) Mr. H. SEYMOUR asked whether it was true that a customs' duty had been placed on jute, coffee, and various other articles, and that the income-tax had been continued in India.—Sir C. WOOD said there was some inconvenience in the telegraph system, and no information could have arrived by post from Calcutta relating to the result of the propositions made at Calcutta on the subject of finance, because such financial statement could not be made earlier than March 31. Whatever had appeared in the papers could only be received by telegraph. He had received a telegram, dated the 3rd of April, stating that the income-tax had not been renewed, but that certain duties had been placed on certain articles of produce in India. He could hardly doubt the fact; but, at the same time, it was so totally the reverse of everything he had reason to suppose would be done by Her Majesty's Government in India, that he hardly knew whether to believe it or not.

BRITISH OUTRAGES IN CHINA.

(7th.) Colonel SYKES asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether Mr. Consul Swinhoe had made a report that the British merchant steamer *Elphin*, while loading sugar at Takao, was hired by the local Mandarin to go out of port and attack junks said to be piratical, on the agreement that captured junks should belong to the captain of the *Elphin* and crew; that the steamer went out and attacked a junk pointed out, which did not make any resistance, nevertheless she was fired into and one of the crew killed, and the remainder of the crew, twenty-one in number, taken prisoners and lodged in the hong of Messrs. Lesler and Co., and the junk carried into Takao; that Mr. Consul Swinhoe tried the captain, a Prussian subject, and condemned him to a penalty of 600 dollars, afterwards reduced to 400, as a sufficent penalty for the murder: and, in case Consul Swinhoe's report had not been received, whether it would be sent for; and whether the Hong Kong Ordinance, No. 1, of January 1855, which prohibits British subjects from giving military aid to the Chinese Government and the rebels would or would not be enforced, and commanders of British merchant vessels, or other offenders be suitably punished for sheding blood for profit.—Mr. LAYARD: In answer to my hon. and gallant friend, I have to state that no report of the circumstance mentioned by him has been received at the Foreign-office. I do not think it necessary to send to Consul Swinhoe for a particular report, because it is the duty of the consul to report all such cases as may require special notice. If it had been a case requiring special notice, I have no doubt we should have had a full report. As regards the second part of the question, I can add nothing to what has been stated twice by the Attorney-General. The law, of course, will be put in force if proper evidence is produced and proper proceedings are taken before the consular court in China.—At its rising the House adjourned to Monday, the 24th April.

Continental Intelligence.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

APRIL 6.

A Holstein newspaper, published at Altona, announces the return, on a visit to his father, who is a civil functionary in the town of Wilster, of Captain Alfred Tetens, who, after a series of romantic adventures, has become Viceroy of one of the Caroline Islands, a group but little known, lying in the Pacific to the north of New Guinea or Papua, and to the east of the Philippines. It appears that this gentleman, when quite young and fond of adventures, betook himself to a roving life, and served as sailor in several vessels navigating the China Seas, and in the course of his perigrinations visited one of the Caroline Islands to complete by barter with the natives a cargo of beche-de-mer for the China market. He subsequently returned to the same island, married the King's daughter, was tattooed right and left, commanded with success several hostile expeditions to the other islands of the group, returning in triumph with several chieftains as prisoners of war. For his courage and ability in conducting these expeditions he was raised to the dignity of Knight of the native "Order of the Bone." He then bought one of the islands, on which he built a comfortable house, now inhabited during his absence by his Royal father-in-law, who conferred on him the vice-royalty of the island, which produces abundantly indigo, tobacco, and excellent cotton. Having now undertaken the command of a vessel filled with a cargo of native produce, he arrived with it safely at Amsterdam, from which city he has travelled to his native place, and gladdened the hearts of his aged parents, who had long since given him up for lost. Captain Tetens has called the attention of the Prussian Government to the fact that the Caroline Islands are not occupied by any Europeans, and that possession of them might easily be acquired. It may therefore be expected that they will shortly be visited by one of the Prussian men-of-war on the China station.

From St. Petersburg we learn that the annual convivial meeting of the Oriental Siberians residing in that city was held last week, when upwards of eighty sat down to a sumptuous repast, which was honoured by the presence of Count Muravieff-Amoorsky, formerly Governor-General of Eastern Siberia, and several other notabilities. After the usual loyal toasts had been given and duly responded to, it was proposed to open a subscription for the purpose of founding a bursarship at the University of St. Petersburg, for a student native of East Siberia, to be called, in honour of the late Governor-General, "Bursarship of Count Nicholas Muravieff-Amoorsky." The proposal found general favour, and was immediately responded to in such a liberal manner, that the subscriptions on the spot amounted to 5,000 silver roubles.

On the 25th ult. the contract between the General Administration of the Russian Telegraph Department and Mr. Sibley, Chairman of the American "Western Union Telegraph Company," for the establishment of telegraphic communication between Europe and America via Siberia, was signed at St. Petersburg. The company binds itself to raise for the execution of the works the sum of ten millions of dollars, of which 8,434,600 dollars are already subscribed by American capitalists. The telegraph is to be finished the whole distance, and opened for the transmission of messages between New York and all the stations in Great Britain and Ireland within the space of five years from the date of signing the contract—consequently by the 25th of March, 1870, at the latest. It certainly seems extraordinary that our transatlantic cousins should be in such a desperate hurry to risk such a large stake as the above-mentioned sum already subscribed, with full knowledge of the fact that in the beginning of July next the *Great Eastern* will sail from the shores of Ireland to lay down the new direct Atlantic telegraph cable; and, if it succeeds, the messages will, of course, be transmitted by it not only quicker but much more cheaply. One would imagine common prudence would have dictated the desirability of waiting for at least three or four short months, under the circumstances of the case, as, if it succeeds, the Russian-American gigantic scheme will be of but little commercial or political importance, and, in fact, nearly superfluous.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The business in this market is beginning now to take larger dimensions as the navigation with the north of Europe re-opens. Prices of all descriptions are well kept up. Sales of the week, 12,000 bags. Fresh supplies arrive freely, so that the imports to the end of March are now nearly what they were last year (13,100,000 lbs. against 13,900,000 lbs. in 1864), whilst the stock is rather larger (8,060,000 lbs. against 7,000,000 lbs. last year).

SUGAR.—A fall of 4 to 8 Sch. Bco. in values induced purchasers to come forward pretty freely; amongst the dealings may be noticed 13,000 bags of clayed and unclayed Manila. Refined rather dull, and a shade lower, especially for inferior qualities.

RICE.—Market steady, with a sufficiency of business. Rough attracts more attention, and 3,000 bags of common Bengal changed hands.

SPICES.—There have been no sales by importers, and but few by the dealers. Prices without alteration, and firm.

TEA.—More animation is evident, as the assortment is perfected by considerable direct supplies. Among the sales of fresh parcels just arrived were 258 packages of Pecco per Carausius, 460 do. of Congou, and 966 do. of Imperial per Gustav and Ernst, and 1,794 do. of Congou, 559 do. of Souchong, and 277 do. of Pecco per Picciola. Besides the above sales by importers, there were considerable transactions done by the dealers, especially in Souchong, Congou, and various descriptions of green teas. On the whole, the market is in a very satisfactory state, and the prices are steady.

DRUGS.—Refined camphor commands an easy sale, and former prices continue to be realised. A further sale of 200 chests of candied ginger is reported.

SPELTER continues to rise. Since the departure of last mail several parcels have been taken at 13 Mks. 4 Sch., and now higher prices are demanded.

DISCOUNT—$2\frac{3}{4}$ to $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.

SHIPPING.—Arrived at Cuxhaven: Nornen, from Macao; Cecilie, from Batavia; Persia, from Foo-chow-Foo.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A REGISTER is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the FAR EAST and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, *and other parts of the* FAR EAST, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

Subscription 5*l*s. per annum, including Postage. Export Supplement 12s. extra.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1865.

THE BISHOPRIC OF VICTORIA (HONG KONG).

No appointment has yet been made to this vacant colonial see. The recent judgment of the Judicial Committee of Privy Council on the Colenso case has brought into prominent notice the legal error under which the Sovereign had been led by her advisers to issue Letters Patent constituting colonial dioceses, and conferring on the colonial bishops so appointed ecclesiastical jurisdiction, beyond the powers of the Royal prerogative. Although this excess of the Royal prerogative applies only to colonies possessing self-government and an independent local Legislature, the case of Crown colonies is on this account reserved, as but partially affected by the recent judgment—it is nevertheless understood that there is a reluctance on the part of the Colonial Office authorities to make any new nominations in the present uncertainty, and that the whole subject is under review by the Home Government.

In small colonial communities like Hong Kong it is obvious that the institution of an Episcopate was intended by its promoters for far wider and more general objects than merely the local pastoral superintendence of a limited European community in one of the smallest of Brittish settlements. Superintendence of the Anglican missionaries on the continent of China itself, and visitations of the Government chaplains stationed in the various consular ports, formed a part of the arrangements originally contemplated by the founders of the see, and expressly mentioned in Her Majesty's Letters Patent. The unwillingness of the Foreign Office to part with its own direct and exclusive authority over the consular chaplains; the anomalous ecclesiastical position of the various military and naval chaplains in China; and the omnipotence of Home Committees in all the details of Missionary Societies' acts and proceedings in reference to the missionary clergy abroad, have been among those various causes which were calculated to dwarf the influence and usefulness of a bishop within the dimensions of a colonial chaplain-in-chief at Hong Kong. The late Bishop in some measure counteracted this disadvantage by active itinerant labours and periodical visits along the Chinese coast. But the voluntary relations of the clergy towards a bishop, grounded on friendly intercourse and mutual respect, fell far short of that diocesan jurisdiction usually attached to the idea of an episcopate, and were insufficient to meet the exigencies of an effective oversight of the clergy. It was a state of things satisfactory in some respects, but also unsatisfactory in many others. Unity of missionary plans for the extension of Christianity in China could but partially be secured. Sustained by the fraternal sympathies of the clergy as a body of personal friends, a bishop in such circumstances was at the same time powerless in point of legal jurisdiction for checking and removing scandals on the part of exceptional and unworthy members of the clerical order. The colonial community at Hong Kong may reasonably regret the result which appears likely to take place in the termination of an Anglican episcopate in China. It could hardly be expected, however, that amid existing complications of ecclesiastical law and Royal prerogative, any body of Churchmen at home should be able to interpose to preserve a colonial see which labours under the peculiar disadvantages which have been enumerated, and to which the colony itself has contributed no portion of the endowment or stipend. An American bishop at Shanghai, of the sister Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States, will probably supply to the Protestant Episcopal missions in the neighbourhood of the northern ports of China a ready and available means of confirmation and ordination of native Christians. An English bishop of Labuan, who, on the transference of the Straits' Settlements from the Indian Government to the Colonial Office, is likely to be placed in charge of the English congregations at Singapore and its vicinity, may also, possibly under new arrangements, be requested to pay occasional visits to Hong Kong for the performance of any required episcopal functions in the colony. For the present, we believe that nothing has been finally decided upon. While we desire carefully to guard the preceding statements as only falling at present under the category of probabilities, we beg leave at the same time to convey to our readers the impression that we receive our information from credible authority, in saying that it is in the highest degree doubtful whether there will be any second appointment of a Bishop of Victoria.

SAN FRANCISCO, JAPAN, AND CHINA LINE.

AFTER ten years' discussion of the project for connecting California with Japan and China by a subsidised steam line—a discussion which we have closely followed in its varying phases—the American Congress has at last sanctioned the payment of $500,000 (£100,000) per annum for that purpose, the line to be a monthly one, San Francisco and Shanghai to be the respective termini, the intermediate points touched at being Honolulu and Yokohama, with such other points at the Bonin Islands or in Japan, as may from time to time be thought desirable. The length of the entire route is estimated at 5,373 miles, or twenty-one days' steaming, which would allow of a large gain as to time in the transit between New York and the Far East. California herself, in addition to becoming thus the media for the passenger and more valuable merchandise traffic between the Atlantic States and the Far East, will find her account in the export of silver, her production of which, added to that of neighbouring States and territories, is estimated for the present year at no less than £4,500,000. In the case of a gold-producing country, the precious metals, regarded in the light of so much merchandise, are certain to prove one of the most profitable remittances even in the way of trade. The idea has already been actively entertained both in San Francisco and New York, of securing increased profit in the trade with Japan by the manufacture at private mints of pieces of the purity, size and shape of the Japanese ichi-bou. It is well known that the dollars on which Japanese exchange is calculated, are coined not only in Mexico but in the South American States; and we would be curious to watch the result of this experiment. The Imperial Mint at Hong Kong must be awake to this future. As the Bill has passed almost unanimously both the Washington House of Representatives and the Senate, we may assume that it has by this time been signed by the President, and will, with the usual enterprise of our American cousins, be at work early in 1866.

THE NEW MINISTER FOR JAPAN.

WE have the pleasure to announce that the suggestion made in our last has been carried into effect, and the official announcement will shortly be made apppointing Sir Harry Parkes to succeed Sir R. Alcock as Minister at the Court of Japan. We may now feel some security that the policy pursued during 1864 will be at least persevered in, if not carried through successfully, until the Tycoon is thoroughly convinced that we will not succumb to any threats.

MORE VESSELS FOR THE CHINA TRADE.

Messrs. Denny and Co., of Dumbarton, have launched another steamer, named the *Yangtze*, which it is very probable will be despatched to China, in addition to the *Corea*, which we lately noticed. The *Yangtze* is a handsome iron twin screw-steamer, of 1,100 tons B.M. She will be fitted with two pairs of direct acting condensing steam engines of 300-horse power nominal, and is adapted for passenger and goods traffic on a light draught. The ceremony of naming her *Yangtze* was performed by Miss Annie Daniel, granddaughter of P. Daniel, Esq.

There was recently launched from the yard of the Birkenhead Graving Dock Company the composite ship *Chusan*. The naming ceremony was performed by Miss Hunter, of Mount Alyn, Gresford. The *Chusan* has been built for the China trade, her owners being the British and Eastern Shipping Company, of Liverpool. The *Chusan* is a vessel of 800 tons. Her dimensions are:—Length, 183 feet; beam, 31 feet 6 inches; depth, 20 feet. This ship has been constructed with vertical iron frames and planked with teak horizontally. No internal component part of the vessel is of wood, and the whole of the inner surface is at all

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times to be seen without the removal of any ceiling. She will be despatched first to an Indian port.

The other day there was launched from the building-yard of Messrs. Hart and Sinnot a very splendid ship for the East India trade called the *Oriflamme*. The vessel is 1,500 tons burthen, and has been built for the Bombay Shipping Company. Her length is 250 feet, breadth 36 feet, and depth of hold 23 feet. She is built of the best materials, and is classed A 1 at Lloyd's for 12 years, and at Liverpool for 20 years. She is intended for the Bombay trade, and will be commanded by Captain Broadfoot, of the R.N.R. The *Oriflamme* went off the stocks in beautiful style, and was christened by Mrs. Gilmore, the lady of one of the principal owners. The vessel will be ready for sea in about six weeks.

The launch of a vessel from the yard of Messrs. Hocking and Son, Stonehouse, took place on the 29th ult. She is metalled to the height of 18 feet, and is divided by lower and upper decks; her saloon (25 by 14) made of teak. Under the lower deck is a capacious hold. She is intended for the China Seas and Cape Mauritius, and was named *Sophie*. The following are herproportions:—Length between perpendiculars, 141 feet; breadth extreme, 29 feet; moulded, 28 feet 2 inches; burthen, for tonnage, 536 by the old, 475 by the new rule; depth of hold, 18 feet; draught of water when ready for sea, forward 8 feet, aft 10 feet.

Monetary and Commercial.

Much distrust exists in the East India and China trade. This feeling has been very much confirmed by the failure of Messrs. Kelson, Tritton, and Co., a house established in 1858, who entered largely into the East India trade, but, like many others, had ventures in the American trade. This house is of a similar calibre to Messrs. Halliday, Fox, and Co., and their difficulties about cotemporary, although they contrived to throw them over until the present. This is one of the cases to which we referred in January, when we cautioned our readers that heavy engagements had been thrown over from 1864 to 1865. With the existing prices in Mincing-lane other failures are imminent.

Many acceptances are current of bills drawn against India and China cotton at the rate of 1s. 2d. per lb., which is valued at 6d. to 9d. For the present there is little chance of any improvement in this staple, but if the Confederates can hold out another six months, we fully expect rates to advance to their former quotations. This opinion is based chiefly on supply and demand. We expect the supplies to fall off very considerably, and the consumption of the mills to be more active.

The liabilities of Messrs. Kelson, Tritton, and Co. are computed at nearly £1,000,000, and the assets will, it is believed, be satisfactory. This is without taking into account a Confederate speculation. A few months since these liabilities were very much larger, and there is little doubt but that acceptances and credit have been too freely granted, and the business extended over too large an area for a young house, while corresponding vigilance and labour has not been bestowed on the conduct of the business of the firm, judging from the fact of Mr. Kelson having engaged himself as a director on several of the schemes formed of late, while it is now known to the world that the affairs of the house he was at the head of required all his best talent and energy to conduct it through the enormous engagements to which it was committed. The penalty paid, we trust, will be for the benefit of others.

At a meeting of the Netherlands India Steam Company, on the 30th of March, the report was adopted. The report stated that the capital of the company, consisting of £300,000, divided into 15,000 shares of £20 each, was all subscribed for on the 1st of July last, with the exception of 3,000 shares reserved for Netherlands India. The company has now nine steamers in course of construction, and these, it is believed, will be sufficient for carrying on the steam service specified in the contract, and some extra service in addition. Interest at 6 per cent. per annum on the amount paid up has been paid to the shareholders to the 1st of January last.

The biddings for £300,000 in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were—to Calcutta £174,210, and to Madras £22,000. The minimum price was fixed at 1s. 11¼d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11½d. on Bombay. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at and above the minimum will receive in full. On Bombay all the tenders were below the minimum. These terms show a reduction of more than 1 per cent. from those obtained on the last occasion, and indicate a further rapid diminution in the demand for means of remittance from this country.

The following is from the report of the directors of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, to be submitted at the meeting on the 12th inst., and confirms the view we lately expressed, that the banks would be holders of shipping documents, representing, when realised, about half the amounts they had advanced;—

The general balance-sheet for the year ended the 31st of December last, now presented to the shareholders, exhibits a net profit of £104,827. 18s. 5d., to which has to be added the sum of £13,061. 14s. 4d., carried forward from the previous year. After deducting the half-yearly interim dividend declared on the 5th of October last, amounting to £54,540, there remains a disposable balance now of £63,349. 12s. 9d. The directors regret that they feel under the necessity of setting aside a sum of £22,000 to meet bad and doubtful debts, chiefly attributable to the recent depreciation of Eastern produce held as collateral security. Out of the sum of £41,349. 12s. 9d. remaining, they recommend the shareholders to declare a dividend for the half-year ended 31st December last, at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, and which with the previous half-year's *interim* dividend will amount to 12½ per cent. for the whole year. A balance of £1,349. 12s. 9d. will then remain to be carried over to the new account. At the last annual meeting the directors reported that the premium on the issue of 7,800 new shares had been received; and they have now to add that all the calls in furtherance of this increase of the bank's capital, raising it to £800,000, were duly paid up—the reserve fund now amounting to £105,000. The directors consider it extremely desirable for the interests of the bank to obtain for the shareholders the right, which most chartered banks, and all companies incorporated by Act of Parliament, appear to possess, of re-electing immediately all the directors duly qualified who may go out annually by rotation; the existing charter of this bank restricts the shareholders' choice to the re-election of only one of the out-going directors. The opportunity of this application to the Treasury would also be availed of to solicit that the directors may make provisional appointments in case of vacancy in their number during the year—such occasional appointments to be subject to confirmation by the shareholders at the next ensuing ordinary general meeting. They propose accordingly to apply to Her Majesty's Treasury for those privileges; and in terms of the deed of settlement, two extraordinary general meetings of the shareholders must sanction the application. After despatch, therefore, of the business of the ordinary meeting this day, it will be constituted an extraordinary one for the special objects indicated.

It will be seen from the following reply that it is very improbable, as we intimated at the time, that the change will be effected in the despatch of the mails.

"General Post-office, London, March 30.

"Sir,—With reference to the memorial which you transmitted to the Postmaster-General on the 20th of January last from merchants, bankers, and others suggesting that the East India mails should be despatched from London on the evening of every Friday instead of four times in each month, I am directed by his Lordship to inform you that this department has for a long time past been alive to the advantage which would be derived from an arrangement under which those mails would be despatched on a fixed day in each week, but that it has been deterred from the adoption of such an arrangement by the large additional expense which it would probably cause in a service already entailing a heavy loss.

"Any change in the days for the despatch of the Indian mails would, of course, affect the despatch also of the mails for Australia, which are carried as far as Point de Galle by the Indian mail packets, and in consequence of the receipt of the memorial referred to the form of tender which had been issued for the conveyance of the Australian mails has been altered with a view of ascertaining what would be the extent of the additional cost for this portion of the whole service, in the event of the mails being despatched every fourth week instead of once in a calendar month. The tenders are to be sent in on the 10th of next month, and when received they will, in addition to other information already obtained, afford the means of judging what would be the probable cost of the entire service beyond that which is now paid if the proposed arrangement were carried into effect. "I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

"Mr. R. W. Crawford, M.P." "F. Hill.

At the meeting of the Oriental Bank Corporation, to be held on the 20th of April, the directors propose to declare a dividend of £2 a share, making, with £2 already paid, a distribution of 16 per cent. for 1864.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Delhi* from Southampton on the 4th inst., was in gold, to Madras, £90. In silver, to Galle, £430; to Singapore, £21,000; to Hong Kong, £3,958; to Foo-chow-Foo, £2,000; to Shanghai, £5,230. Total in gold, £90; in silver, £32,618.

The results exhibited by the Board of Trade Returns for the month and two months ending the 28th February indicate a more cautious spirit than that prevailing last year. The decline of over a million and a quarter in the value of our exports during the past month is a strong sign of this feeling; but although the falling off extends to most of the leading articles of commerce, the chief decline is to be found in the articles of cotton yarn and cotton manufactures. The total declared value of exports for February last was £11,376,214, against £12,698,121 in the same month of 1864, and £9,298,576 in 1863, being a decline, as compared with 1864, of £1,321,907, but, as contrasted with 1863, an increase of £2,077,638. For the two months of the present year the total is £21,865,553, against £23,111,707 in 1864, and £17,343,731 in 1863, which is a decrease on the former period of £1,246,154, but an increase on the latter of £4,521,822. The brief changes as regards exports have been an increase in linen manufactures and machinery, with a decline in alkali, beer and ale, coals and culm, cotton yarn, cotton manufactures, haberdashery and millinery, hardware and cutlery, linen yarn, metals, seed oil, silk manufactures, wool, woollen

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and worsted yarn, and woollen manufactures. In imports the increase has been in raw cotton, guano, hemp, raw silk, tallow, wool, coffee and sugar; and the falling off, in flaxseed and linseed, woollen manufactures, cocoa, spirits, tea, timber, tobacco and wine. The course of trade with the Far East is presented in these returns by the following figures:—

EXPORTS TO CHINA AND HONG KONG.

For the Month of February.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Cotton yarn	12,410	383,130	98.050 lbs.
Cotton manufactures	509,672	2,788.445	5,885.356 yds.
Worsted stuffs	296.914	901.999	1,427.045 ,,
Woollen and worsted cloths	13.582	30.932	27,366 ,,
Lead	1,248	491	300 tons

Value for the Two Months ended 28th February.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Cotton yarn	£13,413	£44,996	£27,976
Cotton manufactures	49.063	146,791	275.083
Worsted stuffs	55.747	108,118	165.246
Woollen and worsted cloths	32,606	47,879	40,573
Lead	39,283	21,713	14,148

The quantity of Cotton Manufactures exported to other ports and countries of the Far East during the month of February, and the value for the two months of the present year are returned as follows:—

For the Month of February.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Ceylon	175.559	1,913,703	490.944 yds.
Singapore	185.080	6,600,262	4,289.066 ,,
Java	—	4.413,017	1,356,618 ,,
Philippine Islands	1,645,751	1,380,007	3,741,760

Value for the Two Months ended 28th February.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Ceylon	£15,925	£117,252	£33.791
Singapore	35.922	191,214	162,912
Java	19,757	125,466	70,895
Philippine Islands	37,400	99,118	178,958

Of Cotton Yarn 170.600 lbs. was forwarded to Singapore in the month of February, and 4.000 lbs. to Ceylon; the value of the export, for the two months ended 28th February being—to Singapore, £25,848; and to Ceylon, £850.

IMPORTS.

Of Raw Cotton, the quantity imported shows an increase with respect to China but a decrease from British India, as compared with last year. This important article figures in the returns thus—

Quantity for the month of February.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
British India	188,599	203,672	158.243 cwts.
China	7,316	21,137	28,256 ,,

Quantity for the Two Months ended 28th February.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
British India	265,025	233,645	186,104 ,,
China	7,316	28,988	45,652 ,,

Value for the month ended 31st January.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
British India	£589,479	£310,619	£211,431
China	—	76,024	111.624

Unrefined Sugar, from Java and the Philippine Islands, was imported in the month of February, to the extent following:—2nd quality (not equal to White, but equal to Brown clayed) 1,154 cwt.; 3rd quality (not equal to Brown Clayed, but equal to Brown Muscovado) 16,216 cwt.; 4th quality (not equal to Brown Muscovado) 32,360 cwt. The value of the import for the month ended 31st January in the present year was—3rd quality (not equal to Brown Clayed), £460; 4th quality, £21,533.

Of Hemp, the import from the Philippine Islands in the month of February was 21,795 cwt., and for the two months of the present year 29,576 cwt. The value of the import for the month of January was £11,282. There was no import of this article during the months of January and February last year.

Of Coffee the importation from Ceylon, both for the month and the two months, exhibits a decrease as compared with preceding years:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
For February	1,497,567	1,327,184	573,370 lbs.
For the two months	6,324,731	4,946,391	3,385,469 ,,

The present Returns give the value of the British and Irish Produce and Manufactures exported to different ports and countries during the month of January in this and the two preceding years; and also the Computed Real Value of the Merchandise Imported during the year ended the 31st December, 1864, and the same two years. We extract the figures relating to the Far East:—

Exports for the Month ended 31st January.

To	1863.	1864.	1865.
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)	£89.678	£173,536	£160,072
Hong Kong	80.263	58.936	110,779
Singapore and the Eastern Straits	72,125	35.143	109,819
Ceylon	38,483	88,416	37,615
Netherlands India	29,952	26.207	47,939
Philippine Islands	—	82.772	116,253
Japan	13,462	16,048	48,951

Imports for the Year ended 31st December.

From	1862.	1863.	1864.
China (exclu. of H. Kong)	£11,982,374	£12,897,403	£12.792,001
Hong Kong	154,721	1,288,907	2,881,929
Singapore and the Eastern Straits	2,375,813	1,830,522	2,056.817
Ceylon	2,488,262	3,699,425	3,173.820
Netherlands India	96.026	22,417	16,749
Philippine Islands	708,866	1,392.198	854.435
Borneo (native territories)	32.212	45,555	66,530
Siam	37,824	20,746	14,522
Cochin-China, Camboja Tonquin	—	—	4
Japan	591,885	1,283,631	1,423,819

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices March 27.
£100	Agra and Masterman's	50	119 to 121	120 to 125 xd.
50	Do. New	25	59 to 60	60 to 62 xd.
50	Do.	25	—	59 to 61
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	29 to 31	31 to 33
20	Do. New	All	—	—
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	53 to 55	51 to 53
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	35 to 37	36 to 39
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (10 pd.)	All	—	36 to 39
20	Eastern Exchange	5	1⅛ to ⅛ dis.	1⅛ to ⅛ dis.
50	London Joint Stock	15	47 to 49	46½ to 47½
100	London and Westminster	20	94 to 96	93 to 95
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	53 to 55	55 to 57
50	Union of London	15	53 to 55	51 to 53
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	2 dis. to par.	par to 2 pm.
100	Do. Issued at 2 pm.	25	4 to dis.	¼ dis. to ¼ pm.
100	Do. New	10	3 to 2 dis.	2 to 1 dis.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	¼ to 1 pm.	⅛ to 1¼ pm.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	30 to 32	30 to 32
100	Bank of London	50	143 to 146	148 to 152
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	⅛ to 1 pm.	⅜ to 1½ pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 4	3 to 4
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	82 to 84	81 to 83
50	Do. New	35	21 to 23 pm.	20 to 22 pm.
20	China Steamship & Labuan Coal Co	5	—	—
5	Bombay Gas	All	5¼ to 6½	5½ to 5⅝ xn.
10	Hong Kong Gas	All	—	2½ to 1½ dis.
20	S. I. Irrigation and Canal	10	3 to 2 dis.	3½ to 2½ dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	¼ dis. to ¼ pm	¼ dis. to ¼ pm.
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	20 to 21	18½ to 19½
1	Oriental Gas	All	1⅛ to 1⅛	1⅛ to 1⅛
1	Do. New	All	⅛ to ⅜ pm.	⅛ to ⅜ pm.
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2½ to 3	2½ to 2⅝
100	West India Steam Company	60	98 to 102	96 to 98
20	Ceylon Company	7	2½ to 3¼ pm	2½ to 2¾ pm.
20	International Finance Society	5	1⅛ to 1⅜ pm.	1⅛ to 1⅜ pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2½ to 2¾ pm.	2½ to 2¾ pm.
50	London Financial Association	15	7 to 7½ pm	5½ to 6½ pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	⅛ dis to ¼pm	⅛ to ⅜ pm.
20	Société Financière d'Egypte	10	2½ to 1½ dis.	2 to 1½ dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	15½ to 16	15½ to 15¾
10	Upper Assam Tea	3¼	2½ to 3¼ pm	2⅝ to 3¼ pm.
10	Do.	All	17 to 20	17 to 20

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—There has been a reaction in the market since the departure of the last mail, producing a larger business. There has been a speculative movement in Common to Fair kinds of Congou, and the Trade also have bought with more confidence. The low and dusty kinds of Congou have recovered the decline of ½d. per lb. lately current, owing to some demand for Export. Fair to good common have also sold rather higher. Common to fair flavory kinds show about ½d. per lb. advance on the late low rates. Good to fine Kaisows have been in moderate request at former prices. Finest have been rather more inquired for. Common to fair blackish-leaf kinds, owing to further speculative purchases, have advanced about ½d. per lb. Medium qualities have been sold to a fair extent at about former prices; the finer kinds have been fairly saleable at rather better prices; in finest sales continue very limited. Tayshans show no change, they being now only in moderate supply; new-make Canton kinds have been sold at rather improved prices. Common to good Oolongs show no change; fine continue in moderate demand at full prices. In Souchongs a small amount of business has been done at former prices. Flowery Pekoes remain without improvement. In Scented Teas, both Capers and Orange Pekoes, but little has been done: prices show no quotable alteration, though the market for them is without animation. A few sales of uncoloured Japans have been made at from 11d. to 1s. 4d. per lb., but the supplies on offer are still in excess of the requirements of exporters. There have been no further public sales of Indian Tea, but some are advertised for Tuesday next (the 11th). Green Teas show no improvement, they continue to be sold without reserve at public sale at still lower prices. There has been some demand for export for Young Hysons, but even this has not prevented a further decline in prices. Hysons remain exceptionally firm. Gunpowders have sold at a further decline of 1d. to 2d. per lb. Canton-made kinds are still in very limited demand, and prices rather lower. The series of sales, which commenced on the 21st ult., only closed on the 29th ult. Out of 39,318 packages brought forward, 37,407 packages were sold, 36,445 packages being without reserve. 18,174 packages were brought forward on the 4th inst., of which 12,169 packages were sold, 10,129 packages being printed without reserve. The deliveries for the month reach 10,480.000 lbs. The stock in the United Kingdom on the 31st ult. was estimated at 115,000,000 lbs., against 106.400,000 lbs., and the quantity afloat at 21,465,000 lbs., against 26,195.290 lbs. last year.

SILK.—The necessities of consumers acting upon an extremely limited stock, has restored prices to the highest point previously obtained for China Silk, and almost the highest point for Japan Silk. The deliveries too, show some improvement upon those of February, while the arrivals have been very small. Deliveries up to 7th April:—China, 564 bales; Japan, 201 bales; Canton, 14 bales. Arrivals in April to date:—China 800 bales.

CHINA.	Usual Imports. s. d.	s. d.
Tsatlee, No. 1 and 2	27 0 to	28 0
,, No. 3 and 4	24 6	26 0
,, No. 5	23 6	24 0
Ditto, Hang-Chow	23 6	24 6
Yu-un fa	16 6	23 6
Taysaam	19 0	23 0
Ditto, skeins	None.	
Ditto, long reel	21 0	22 0
Canton	14 6	20 6
Chinese Thrown	19 6	21 0

JAPAN.	Common and Ordinary. s. d.	s. d.
Maibash, dyepot	26 0	27 6
Ida, bricks	24 6	25

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Sodai ,,	24 0	26 0
Oshu, re-reeled	25 0	26 0
Koshu, Selé	24 6	25 6
Aechezan, slips	23 6	24 6
Mashtah ,,	23 6	24 6
Hatchojee, Tussah	14 0	17 6

STATE OF THE WAREHOUSES.

	Sold Stock. April 1, 1865.	Sold Stock. April 1, 1864.	Unsold Stock. April 1, 1865.	Unsold Stock. April 1, 1864.	Delivered. Jan. 1 to April 7, 1865.	Delivered. Jan. 1 to April 8, 1864.
Bengal	2,380	1,198	2,032	5,512	2,760	1,208
China	5,769	7,247	2,788	9,885	8,499	7,237
Japan	2,667	3,720	2,053	4,644	3,416	4,725
Canton	30	264	30	987	338	779
Chinese Thrown	40	264	28	612	68	319

COTTON.—The London Cotton Brokers' Association again report a dull and drooping market for most descriptions. China and Japan are ¼d. lower. The closing quotations are—China: mid. fair, 7d.; fair to good fair, 7½d. to 8d.; good to fine 9½d. Japan: mid. fair, 7¼d.; fair to good fair, 8d. to 9½d.; good to fine, 10d. to 11d. The stock of China and Japan in London on the 6th April was 18,360 bales, against 24,515 bales at same time last year. The total stock in London was 127,545 bales against 90,333 bales last year. The stock in Liverpool on the 7th April was 605,453 bales against 308,640 bales in 1864. Afloat to Europe on the 7th of this year were 36,885 bales of China and 65 bales Japan; against 103,276 bales China and 6,792 bales Japan last year; the Anna Maria, arrived in London from Yokohama during the week, brought 632 bales. In the Liverpool market, China and Japan declined ¼d. to ½d. per lb. during the week.

SUGAR.—There has been a gradually improving demand during the past week, and rather large transactions have been concluded, mostly at firmer prices. 3,286 bags Penang were all disposed of, but at relatively moderate prices, good to fine fine brown 27s. 6d. to 29s. 6d., low to good yellow 30s. to 32s., fine and superior grey 33s. to 34s. 6d. By private contract the transactions have been of considerable amount, comprising 8,200 bags Clayed Manila at 28s.; 220 baskets Java, sound at 36s. 9d., washed 35s. 6d.

COFFEE.—The recent heavy arrivals of Ceylon continue to be liberally brought forward, and prices have again mostly given way. Public sales of Plantation, amounting to 2,030 casks, 1,060 barrels and bags, have gone off irregularly, in some instances at rather lower prices, but nearly the whole quantity offered has been cleared off; fine fine ordinary to low middling 77s. 6d. to 81s., middling to good middling 81s. 6d. to 87s., fine colory 93s. to 94s. 6d. The native description has been only saleable at a further depreciation of 1s. to 1s. 6d. per cwt., at which, however, the bulk of 94 casks, 5,920 bags found buyers; small, 64s. to 65s.; good ordinary, 66s. to 67s.; superior, 68s. 6d. to 70s. At auction, 654 bags Singapore sold steadily; good Campar, 63s. 6d., one lot 64s.; 187 bags common Manila were bought in. The lighter amount of 420 casks, 160 barrels and bags Plantation in public sale on the 7th met with a better demand, and were taken at prices rather higher than those just quoted; 152 casks native were held firmly and withdrawn.

RICE.—Prices are well supported, and the following sales have been effected:—15,000 bags Rangoon, fair 9s. to 9s. 6d., fine 10s.; 9,500 bags good fair Nakrenzie 9s. 3d., and 6,000 bags middling to good white Bengal, 12s. 3d. to 14s. 3d.

CAMPHOR.—This market has been very animated: large business done, attended with an ultimate advance of 7s. 6d. to 10s. per cwt., and the market remains very firm.

CARDAMOMS.—Are again and very materially dearer. 8 barrels Ceylon sold at 3s. 4d. to 3s. 8d. for middling.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Steady; and 419 boxes at auction mostly sold at 78s. to 79s. per cwt. for good 2nd quality. Buds: Nothing of any consequence doing.

COCOA-NUT OIL.—This market has become much less buoyant. Former terms are not sustained, and at a slight reduction business has been very limited. 227 casks Cochin, 300 casks Ceylon, 29 casks Sydney, and 450 casks Manila at auction.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Flat, and very little doing: 10 bags at auction retired. Dragon's Blood: Good quality scarce, and wanted; other sorts neglected; of 5 cases at auction, two sold at £11. 10s. per cwt. for very good lump. Galangal Root: Nothing of any moment doing. Rhubarb: Very firm: of 88 cases at auction, half sold at 5s. 10d. per lb. for fair round, and 2s. 4d. to 2s. 8d. ordinary dark.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Of 84 cases Sumatra at auction, two-thirds sold at £13. 5s. to £13. 10s. per cwt. for good 2nd, and £5. 7s. 6d. to £5. 15s. middling drossy 3d., being dearer. Damar: Is quiet; and of 147 cases at auction, a few only sold at 44s. per cwt. for fair picked. Gamboge: Quiet; and of 24 cases at auction, only two or three sold at £9 to £9. 5s. per cwt. for middling pipe.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Of 18 tons at auction only one-fifth sold, but at steady prices, 1s. 1¾d. per lb. for fair genuine but mixed, and 9d. ordinary. India Rubber: Flat, and lower; 144 baskets Penang at auction retired; good Singapore has sold to a moderate extent at 1s. 2d. per lb.

HEMP (MANILA).—Not any auctions have been held; moderate business is reported privately at £29 per ton for good roping, and £27 for arrival, of fair current quality.

HORNS (BUFFALO).—Firm: 4 tons Siam at auction sold at 42s. 6d. per cwt. for 3¼ lb. average.

JAPAN WAX.—Steady; of 99 cases at auction half sold at 56s. to 57s. per cwt. for inferior saucers; good block firm.

OILS.—Anniseed: Firmer: 14 cases at auction retired; fair business done privately up to 6s. 3d. per lb., and there is still inquiry thereat. Cassia: Large sale are stated to have been made at advancing prices, and value has risen to 8s. 3d. per lb., at which a few cases have been placed, and the market remains firm. Cinnamon: Firm: of 3 cases at auction two sold at 2s. 9d. per oz. for good sweet.

SAGO.—Flat: only 110 boxes at auction, and those retired. Tapioca: 132 boxes common to middling stained Singapore found buyers at 1d. to 2d.; 200 cases Flour in tins went off at 2½d. per lb.

SHELLAC.—The adverse course of this article continues, and we have report a further fall of 10s. to 15s. per cwt. in the fortnight, of 1,787 packages at auction little more than half sold: Orange at £5 to £6. 2s. 6d. per cwt.; Livery Orange, £5. 2s. 6d. to £5. 7s. 5d.; Button, £3. 10s. to £5. 7s. 6d.; Native £4. 10s. to £4. 12s. 6d.; and Block and Blocky, £4. to £5. 17s. 6d.

SPICES.—Cinnamon: We quote 1st sort 1s. 8d. to 2s. 7d; 2nd 1s. 5d. to 2s. 3d.; 3rd 1s. 3d. to 1s. 10d.; 4th and Jungle 10d. to 1s. 5d. per lb. 108 bales at auction sold at the previous currency. Cloves: Steady generally; 16 cases Penang at auction sold at 1s. per lb. for middling. Of 18 casks Amboyna, half sold at 5d. and 5¼d. per lb. for fair; 36 bags Zanzibar sold at 3⅞d. to 3¼d. for good. Mace: Very firm: only 4 cases Penang at auction, two sold at 1s. 4d. to 1s. 8d. per lb. for fair to good reddish. Nutmegs: Are the turn lower generally; and of 309 cases Penang at auction three-fourths sold at 3s. 5d. per lb. for good bold, and 10d. to 2s. 1d. ordinary small to fine medium.

PEPPER.—Black: The speculative demand having for the present subsided, prices have slightly receded; and of 1,424 bags Singapore, and 6,660 bags Penang at auction, about one-third of each sold at 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb. for the former, and 3⅝d. to 3¼d. for the latter. White: Is ¼d. per lb. cheaper; and of 253 bags Penang at auction, two-thirds sold at 5⅞d. to 6⅜d. per lb. for ordinary to very good; and 30 bags good Singapore at 6¼d.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Continues very quiet; and of 7,053 bags at auction, a very small proportion sold at 23s. 6d. per cwt. for ordinary. Gambier: Very quiet, with retail trade only within our quotations; 435 bales at auction, all retired.

TOBACCO.—Manila Leaf: The effects of large importations, with more to follow, and very few sales, have combined now to make the aspect of the growth look very dangerous for both holders and speculators. Prices must be considered quite nominal. Manila Segars and Cheroots have sold at full rates; late imports are somewhat inferior. Java: Sales limited; really good lots are wanted at a price. Japan: Continues in fair request; shippers must blame themselves for the result as far as profit goes, if they will send on unsound tobacco. Prices at auction for damaged were lower. Quotations:—Manila Cheroots and Segars, 8s. to 9s. 3d.; Manila Leaf, 7d. to 8s.; Japan, 4d. to 7d.; Java, 6d. to 1s. 0½d.

MISCELLANEOUS—Galls: Turkey flat, and holders very desirous of relling; China and Japan are quiet; only 20 cases China at auction setired. Musk: Firm; only 3 caddies Tonquin Pod at auction sold at 23s. per oz. for ordinary, and 5 tins Grain sold at 53s. to 54s. per oz. for good. Rattans: Steady; and 3,227 bundles Penang at auction sold at 3s. 7d. to 4s. 5d. per 100. Sapanwood: Steady; 24 tons fine clean Batavia sold at auction at £12. 5s. to £13. 10s. per ton; 4 tons Manila retired. Very little doing privately. There is export inquiry for good wood. Soy: Remains firm, with inquiry. Star Anniseeds: Dearer, moderate business having been done privately up to £6. 15s. per cwt.; 16 cases at auction retired. Sticklac (Siam): Very quiet; 163 cases at auction, all retired. Turmeric: No China offering; 10 bags Java at auction sold at 16s. 6d. per cwt. Vermilion: Flat; 20 boxes at auction all retired; sellers at 2s. 6d. per lb.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 5s.; nail rod, £8. 15s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10; sheets, single, £10. 15s. to £11; Staffordshire bars, £8. 15s.; rails, £6. 10s. to £7.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £15.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £97 to £98 per ton; yellow metal, 8d. to 8¼d. per lb.

TIN.—95s. to 96s. for block; 90s. to 97s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 28s. to 29s.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £20 to £20. 5s.; W.B., £21. 15s.; shot, patent, £23; sheet, £21; spelter, £19. 10s.; zinc, English sheet, €24.; quicksilver, £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—There has been but little improvement in the Metal Market during the past month, with but unimportant alterations in prices. Iron: Scotch Pig improved 1s. 6d. to 2s. per ton during the month, and continues to advance; the present price is 62s. 9d. for g. m. b. In Wales the manufacturers are very full of orders. In Staffordshire there is no alteration in quotations, but the iron masters decline fixing a time for delivery while the dispute with the workmen remains unsettled. Copper: In this metal there was more activity, particularly in unmanufactured, and the price is a little higher both for English and Foreign. Tin: English remained flat throughout the past month. For Foreign there was more demand, but, notwithstanding this, the price ruling early in March was not maintained; the price has now recovered to 88s. cash for Straits. Tin Plates continue unaltered in price. The shipments, 105,000 boxes last month, show an increase of 30,000 boxes over the shipments in February. The shipments in March, last year, were 90,000 boxes. Lead continues inactive, and the quotations about 5s. to 10s. per ton lower than at the commencement of March. Spelter is quiet. The stock on the 31st ult. was 7,365 tons, against 11,898 tons the same period last year. Quicksilver without variation.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£62,296
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£4,500
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£117,149
Singapore	£3,007	£196,020
Penang	—	£3,500
Yokohama	—	£2,000

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£57,966
Penang	—	£2,908
Hong Kong	—	£45,000
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£11,620
Yokohama	—	£3,000

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PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£56 ...	—
To Saigon	— ...	£51,124
To Batavia	£2,132 ...	—
To Hong Kong	— ...	£11 880
To Shanghai	— ...	£9,620

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0	to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4	
Silver in Bars	0 5 0½	
Mexican Dollars	0 4 11½	

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Mar. 23	Cuxhaven	Manila	Mulvina Vidal	Kessal.
— 25	Liverpool	Do.	Ohmo	Longe.
— 26	Deal	Do.	Ocean Home	Brown.
— 26	Do.	Shanghai	J. Stanton, jun.	Johns.
— 26	Do.	Macao	Elizabeth Dawson	Leach.
— 26	Do.	Colombo	Vesta	Davey.
—	Off Torbay	Batavia	Wildeman	Driest.
— 25	Falmouth	Rangoon	Colonist	Compar.
— 25	Queenstown	Singapore	Kirkconnell	Hunter.
—	New York	Shanghai	Magenta	
—	Do.	Amoy	Falcon	
—	Do.	Batavia	Rangoon	
— 25	Brouwershaven	Do.	Gysb. K. G. v. Hoogendorp	Fabritius.
—	Off the Start	Ceylon	Clodian	Philips.
— 4	Havana	Macao	Emigrante	Creta.
— 28	London	Colombo, &c.	Mary Scott	Walso.
— 28	Deal	Colombo	Johan Daniel	Gualhering.
— 24	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Kon. Ned. Yacht Club	Zwart.
— 24	Off Plymouth	Pasaroeang	Louise	de Boer.
— 29	Falmouth	Foo-chow-Foo	Persia	Benecke.
— 29	Do	Banjoewangie	Oscar I.	Larsen.
— 29	Do.	Mau main	Annie Whitburn	Pearce.
— 27	Texel	Pajajan	Nova Zembla	Mammes.
— 30	Off Plymouth	Foo-chow-Foo	Langdale	Brown.
— 29	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Sypinde	Ysseubrugge.
Feb. 24	Callao	Macao	Aurora	Hull.
— 5	Valparaiso	Bankok	Pecho	Ohlsen.
Mar 27	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Jason	Rusman.
— 27	Do.	Padang	Frederick Hendrick	
— 30	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Wilhelmina and Clara	Abrahamz.
— 31	Liverpool	Singapore	Heros	
—	New York	Hong Kong	N. B. Palmer	
—	Do.	Do.	Cassiterides	
— 29	Altona	Macao	Catharina	Petersen.
— 30	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Jacoba Helena	Swart.
Apl. 2	London	Yokohama	Anna Maria	Hunter.
— 2	Liverpool	Manila	Theresa	Deuecke.
Mar 30	Off Plymouth	Padang	Juan	Cherpron.
— 31	Texel	Pasaroeang	Helena	Dd.
— 21	New York	Manila	White Swallow	Prince.
Apl. 1	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Comunbine	Kok.
— 5	Falmouth	Bankok	Luchow	Ulrich.
Mar. 12	Havana	Macao	Isabel	Decourt.
— 15	Do.	Do.	Josefita Alcoira	Remedios.
— 24	New York	Foo-chow-Foo	Bonnie Lassie	Depeelle.
Apl. 4	Brouwershaven	Tjidadjap	Mary and Hillegond	Walters.
— 4	Do.	Sonjoeangie	Nyversheid	Schaap.
—	Off Plymouth	Java	Philip v. Marnix	
— 5	Falmouth	Batavia	Maria	Scotto.
— 5	Texel	Banjoewangie	Senior	Bakker.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Mar 11	Rotterdam	Batavia	Marie	Bilsthorst.
— 25	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Yacutilda	Donough.
— 25	Do	Colombo	Jeddo	Gray.
— 26	Liverpool	Manila	Tigris	Miller.
— 25	Clyde	Singapore	Sparkler	
— 27	London	Sunderland and Galle	Juanita	Atkinson.
— 25	Sunderland	Yokohama	Harkaway	Cairns.
— 28	Plymouth	Colombo	Carausius	Baird.
— 27	Cardiff	Manila	Labrador	Williams.
— 27	Do.	Shanghai	Camilla	Jeffry.
— 27	Do.	Do.	Bessie Stanton	Coie.
— 28	Liverpool	Batavia and Sourabaya	Aligaon	
— 29	London	Shanghai	Glenclune	Turnbull.
— 29	Do.	Colombo	Sea Sprite	Hatfield.
— 30	Grimsby	Hong Kong	China (s.s.)	Muller.
Feb. 14	Callao	Macao	Da Maria Pia	Ferreira.
Mar 31	London	Nagasaki	Lammermuir	Bell.
— 26	Newcastle	Batavia	Walcheren	v.d. Borden.
— 30	Shields	Singapore	Ocean Hoose	
April 1	London	Cardiff and Shanghai	Lucy and Harriet	Uhrbock.
Mar 30	Liverpool	Shanghai	Patna	Jones.
— 30	Clyde	Hong Kong	Corea (s.s.)	
— 28	Amsterdam	Batavia	Gallilei	Meyer.
April 1	Cardiff	Shanghai	Horsa	Markwell.
— 1	Sunderland	Singapore	Teutonia	Christotterson.
— 5	London	Do.	Helen's Bank	Reid.
— 5	Do.	Shanghai	Lord Clyde	Withers.
— 5	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Veronica	Douglas.
— 1	Do.	Singapore	Smyrna	Delargy.
Feb. 2	Buenos Ayres	China	Garland	Behrens.
— 7	Rio Janeiro	Batavia	Prince Mauritz	d'Hamecourt.
— 24	Do.	Do.	Welding on	Mahy.
April 2	Liverpool	Penang & Singapore	Simoom	Chevalier.
— 5	Sunderland	Galle	Nonpareil	Bruce.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Gleam, Castleton, Maravi. For Shanghai: Queen of the Forth, Queen of the Ocean, Prince Alfred. For Hong Kong and Canton: Avondhu, Esperanza, Cambalu, Mountain Ash. For Bankok: Radama. For Singapore and Penang: Rifle. For Batavia: William Simpson. For Colombo: Skimmer of the Waves, Avon. For Colombo, Cannanore, and Cochin: Star of Ceylon. For Ascension and Trincomalee: Wellington.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Sea Snake. For Hong Kong and Canton: Golden Sunset. For Singapore: Bintang (s.), Therese. For Manila: Olana. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Cornelia.

At GLASGOW.—For Singapore and Penang: Roslin Castle. For Batavia and Singapore: Buston Vale. For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Three Bells. For Colombo: Ione.

At GREENOCK.—For Shanghai: Chinaman.

At NEW YORK.—For Hong Kong: Samuel Russell. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Amaranth. For Batavia and Hong Kong: Enoch Train. For Singapore: Panic.

SPOKEN.

DAYBREAK, Shields to Hong Kong, Dec. 20, 40 S., 58 E.
EDINBURGH CASTLE (ship), Clyde to Singapore, Dec. 26, 37 S., 77 E.
ALA (British ship), bound to Ceylon, Jan. 2, 40 S., 59 E.
LIBRA (Dutch barq.), for Japan, 25 S., 26 W.
ECHO, London to Colombo, Feb. 24, 3 N., 23 W.
MINERVA, Port Providence to Shanghai, Feb. 24, 3 N., 23 W.
OCEAN BRIDE, Singapore to St. Michael's (?), Jan. 27, 23 S., 55 E.
ELIZA LAING (barq.), Colombo to London, Feb. 17, 23 S., 2 E.
OCEANICA (ship), Batavia to Rotterdam, Feb. 18, 21 S.
FLOATING LIGHT (ship), Manila to Liverpool, Feb. 19, 20 S., 1 W.
DON QUIXOTE (barq.), Hong Kong to Bordeaux, Feb. 22, 14 S., 8 W.
HURRY PUDDEMSEY, for Singapore, Jan. 26, 28 S., 23 W.
KIRKLAND, Canton to London, March 4, 15 S., 5 W.
WILLEM (Dutch barq.), Rotterdam to Macassar, Jan. 26, 25 S., 25 W.
KOOPHANDEL (Dut. barq.), Rotterdam to Batavia, Jan. 29, 22 S., 28 W.
ÆOLUS, Rotterdam to Batavia, Jan 27, 29 S., 27 W.
MARIA MAGDALENA, Rotterdam to Batavia, March 1, 9 N., 25 W.
DIAMOND (barq.), Harwich to Hong Kong, March 1, 9 N., 25 W.
EVEREST, Liverpool to China, March 21, 38 N., 16 W.
MARY AND HILLEGONDA (Dt. b.), Bat. to Rotm., March 23, 43 N., 17 W.
WHITE EAGLE, Foo-chow-Foo to New York, Feb. 23, 2 S., 2 W.
ERNEST AND MARIA, Trieste to Hong Kong, March 3, 5 N., 26 W.
BERNARD AND AGNES, Batavia to Amsterdam, March 4, 6 N., 27 W.
CITY OF ABERDEEN, Dundee to Hong Kong, Feb. 2, 40 S., 10 E.
GLENCOE, Clyde to Shanghai, Feb. 25, 1 N., 25 W.
KONING WILLEM III., Rotterdam to Macassar, Jan. 26, 25 S., 25 W.
AFRIQUE (Fr. barq.), Dunkirk to China, Jan. 6, near Cape de Verds.
NICOLINA (Ham. ship), Batavia to Amsterdam, March 21, 32 N., 38 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

The increased ease in the money market, together with a fair prospect of a still further reduction in the rate of discount at no distant date, has imparted a firmer tone throughout the export market than has been evinced during the present year. Freights are now more freely offering, and rates show an upward tendency. Rates for coal to Galle are firm, and all available tonnage offering for that port is quickly taken up.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 20s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 40s. weight, 30s. measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £31 and £1. 10s. For Shanghai: £40 and £1. 15s. For Manila: £1. 12s. 6d. For Batavia: £22 10s. For Singapore: £25 and £1. 1s. 0d. For Galle: £26 and £1. 2s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty having invited tenders for the conveyance of 350 tons naval stores, and 82 small spars, from the river Thames to Hong Kong, have ordered the Cambalu to be surveyed for that purpose.

The P. and O. Company have contracted for the delivery of 6,600 tons of coal at Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Carausius (barq.), of Hartlepool, from Shields, for Colombo, got on shore on the north part of the Goodwin Sands, March 23, but was assisted off by a Trinity steam vessel, and proceeded. She afterwards put into Plymouth to examine her bottom, and has since sailed.

The Bravo, Nordstrom, from Batavia for Amsterdam, arrived off Dover March 27, with loss of mainyard, canvas, and other damage, and was towed in the next day.

The Charlotte, of Derby, Longmead, from Schiedam for the Amoor, put into Falmouth, March 27, leaky, and with cargo shifted. She has since been surveyed, and commenced landing her cargo.

The Kaap Hoorn, Dik, from Batavia, which arrived off Dungeness, March 16, and sailed for Holland, put back to Dungeness Roads, March 22, from the Noord Hinder Light ship, with loss of sails. On the 29th she went on shore near New Sluice, Rotterdam, but got off without apparent damage.

The Columbine, Kok, from Batavia for Rotterdam, had to put back to the Downs, from Brouwershaven, March 29, with loss of two anchors and chain, and was supplied with others.

The Jan Hendrik, Lelyvelt, from Banjoewangie for Amsterdam, which put into Simon's Bay 30th Jan., leaky, has been repaired there. On the 23rd Feb. she reloaded the discharged portion of her cargo, with the exception of 422 bales of coffee and 75 serons of sugar, which, being damaged, would be sold.

The following notice has been posted at Lloyds:—The Claramont, McIntosh, which sailed from Shanghai 5th Sept. for London, arrived at Ascension 6th Dec., and sailed thence on the 8th, has not since been heard of.

The Jacoba Helena, Swart, from Java, which arrived at Brouwershaven, March 30, had encountered bad weather in the North Sea on the 26th and 27th March, had grounded on the Flemish bank, and received some damage to her after-deck.

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BUENOS AYRES, Feb. 11.—The Geelong, Ferrier, hence to Batavia, which vessel was reported on the 11th Jan. as aground here, has been condemned, and was sold on the 30th Jan.

The Wildeman, Driest, which arrived at Texel 1st April, from Batavia, reports having encountered much bad weather, during which she sustained considerable damage to her sails, channels, and stanchions, and lost an anchor and chain.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At ST. HELENA.—Feb. 20, from Batavia, Jacob Roggeveen, Marken, and sailed 21 for Amsterdam; 21, from Banjoewangie, Azia, Molenaar, and sailed for Amsterdam; from Colombo, John Brewster, Lelean, and sailed 24 for London; 22, from Banjoewangie, Telanak, Popken, and sailed 23 for Amsterdam; from Amoy, Theodor and Julie, Lorenzen, and sailed for New York; from Hong Kong, Conrad Heinrich, Backmann, and sailed for Falmouth; from Batavia, Oceanus, Dirksen, and sailed 23 for Rotterdam; from Zebu, North, Brown, and sailed 23 for Liverpool; 26, from Macao, Guadalupe, Munos, and sailed 28 for Havana; 27, from Pasaroeang, Henrietta, Gertruida, Collin, and sailed March 1 for Amsterdam.

At TABLE BAY.—Feb. 12, from Colombo, Wynaud, Jones, and sailed 18 for London; 21, from Macao, David, Roberts, for Havana; 19, Ymuiden, Melenberg, sailed for Batavia.

At ALGOA BAY.—Feb. 10, Oleander, Taylor, sailed for Colombo.

At MAURITIUS.—Feb. 25, Alphonse Nicolas Cezard, Bouron, sailed for Singapore.

At PLYMOUTH.—April 7, The Corea (s.), Russell, from Dumbarton, for Hong Kong, has put in here, having in tow the Wigtonshire (barque), of North Shields, derelict: no news of crew.

LOADING.—At the Chinchas, for China, Cote d'Or, Captain Monnier

THE AGRA and MASTERMAN'S BANK

(Limited).
(Established in 1833.)

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up Capital, £1,500,000 (one million and a-half sterling).

Subscribed Capital, £3,000,000 (three millions sterling).

In 20,000 Shares of £100 each, and 20,000 Shares of £50 each.

Number of Shareholders, 908.

Reserved Fund, £500,000.

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Alderman THOMAS QUESTED FINNIS, Deputy-Chairman.

GENERAL MANAGER.
Mackintosh Balfour, Esq.

LONDON MANAGER.
William Shipman, Esq.

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INSPECTOR OF BRANCHES.
Richard Barnes, Esq.

AUDITORS
J. H. Williams, Esq., and William Farr, Esq., F.R.S.

SOLICITORS.
Messrs. Uptons, Johnson, and Upton, 20, Austinfriars.

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Daniel Ainslie, Esq., 48, Moray-place.
Benjamin Burt, Esq., M.D., 31, Charlotte-square.
George Moir, Esq., Advocate, Sheriff of Stirlingshire, 14, Charlotte-square.

MANAGER.
Robert Hunter, Esq

Branches in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee, Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Sydney, Melbourne.

Current accounts of firms and individuals are kept at the head office, on the terms customary with London bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received at seven days' notice of withdrawal, at rates fluctuating with those of the Bank of England; and for longer periods at fixed rates, particulars of which may be obtained upon application.

Sales and purchases effected in British and foreign securities, in East India stock and loans, and army, navy, and civil pay and pensions realised.

Every other description of banking business and money agency, at home and abroad, transacted.

Letters of credit and circular notes issued, payable at the chief cities of Europe and Asia, and also at Cairo and Alexandria.

Scinde Railway (Indus Steam Flotilla, Punjaub and Delhi Railways) Company.

AT the TENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the above COMPANY, held at the LONDON TAVERN, Bishopsgate-street, in the City of London, on WEDNESDAY, the 29th March, 1865,

W. P. ANDREW, Esq., Chairman of the Company, presiding,

The following resolutions were carried unanimously:—

1. That this meeting receive and adopt the report and accounts of the Directors.

2. That Sir T. Herbert Maddock be re-elected a Director of this Company.

3. That J. Edmund Anderdon, Esq., be re-elected a Director of this Company.

4. That Edward Thornton, Esq, C.B., be re-elected Auditor of this Company.

5. That William Mackinnon, Esq., be appointed an Auditor of the Company in place of George Gordon Macpherson, Esq., resigned.

6. That the cordial thanks of this meeting are tendered to W. P. Andrew, Esq., for his courteous conduct in the Chair this day.

W. P. ANDREW, Chairman.
S. H. R. PARRY, Acting-Secretary.

Gresham House, Old Broad-street, London,
March 29, 1865.

ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL, £2,000,000.
Paid-up Capital, £500,000.
HEAD OFFICE, No. 4 LOMBARD-STREET.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Francis Boykett, Esq., Chairman (Messrs. Timothy Wiggin and Co.).

John A. Russell, Esq., Deputy-Chairman (Messrs. Grey and Coles, and Grey and Co., Bombay).

Thomas Cardwell, Esq. (Messrs. Thomas Cardwell and Co., and Cardwell, Parsons, and Co., Bombay).

Charles A. Fearon, Esq. (Messrs. Fearon and Co., late of Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co., China).

William Maitland, Esq. (Messrs. M'Killop, Stewart, and Co., Calcutta).

COMMITTEE IN BOMBAY.

The Hon. Michael H. Scott (Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, and Co.).
Robert Hannay, Esq. (Messrs. Grey and Co.).
Cowasjee Jehanghier, Esq.

GENERAL MANAGER.
Anthony Morrison, Esq. (late Agent at Bombay).
ACTING-MANAGER—F. W. Lawrence, Esq.

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The Bank of England; The London Joint-Stock Bank.

AGENTS IN IRELAND.
The National Bank.

AGENTS IN SCOTLAND.
The British Linen Company.

BROKERS.
Messrs. Foster and Braithwaite.

SOLICITORS.
Messrs. Freshfields and Newman.

AUDITORS.
Messrs. Coleman, Turquand, Youngs, and Co.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

The Corporation grant Drafts and negotiate Bills of Exchange, payable at the above places, issue Letters of Credit, and conduct every description of Banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian Securities, the receipt of Dividends, &c., and undertake the safe custody of Securities. They also receive Deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of Interest and Exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England.

The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)

Branches and Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo, Kandy, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Point de Galle, Manila, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow, Nagasaki, and Kiu-kiang.

Deposits received at ten days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed period, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued and Bills negotiated payable in India China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government loan notes effected so that the interest may be paid in England. Every other description of Banking and Agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms. J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

DOCKS.
PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caissoon Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1864

ALBERT INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

FOR FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCES.

8, Finch-lane London, E.C.

LOSSES and CLAIMS upon POLICIES granted by this Company can be made PAYABLE at the following places in India and China through the Company's Agents, as under:—

Bombay—Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, and Co.
Calcutta—Messrs. Grant, Smith, and Co.
Madras—Messrs. Bainbridge, Byard, Gair, and Co.
Singapore—Messrs. Cumming, Beaver, and Co.
Hong Kong—Messrs. Johnson and Co.
Shanghai—Messrs. Johnson and Co.
Yokohama—Messrs. De Coningh and Co.

JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up capital, £750,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

Bombay. Colombo. Penang. Hong Kong. Yokohama
Calcutta. Kandy. Singapore. Shanghai. Mauritius
Madras. Galle. Hankow.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at the places above mentioned, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the Overland Route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

No. 52, Threadneedle-street, London, E.C.

THE BANK of HINDUSTAN, CHINA, and JAPAN (Limited).

NOTICE of CALL of £5 per Share on 20,000 New Shares Third issue.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Directors have This Day made a CALL of £5 per Share on the 20,000 New Shares in this Company, PAYABLE on the 12th day of April, 1865, at the Banking-house of the Company, 1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Interest at 10 per cent. per annum will be charged on all calls not paid on the above date.

By order of the Board,
R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

No. 1, Bank-buildings, March 13, 1865.

THE UNDERSIGNED LICENSED PILOTS FOR THE PORT OF SHANGHAI, CHINA,

BEG to inform SHIPMASTERS that their Schooners DANIEL WEBSTER and A. J. WESTERWELT will be found at the OUTSIDE PILOT STATION on the YANG-TZE-KIANG, with thoroughly qualified PILOTS on board. The schooners distinguishable by being painted white, and having the word Pilot on the mainsail.

To regular traders the undersigned are known to be among the oldest and best Pilots on the River:—

DANIEL MARTIN. JOSEPH SHERMAN.
ALEXANDER SMITH. JOSEPH CARGILL.
JOHN COATES. JOHN KURSH.
EDWARD BRAND.

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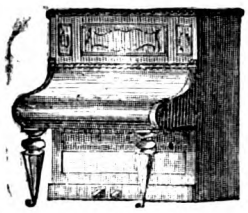
TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND INDIA.



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IMPROVED

ENAMELLED PUNKAH TABLE LAMPS.

THE celebrity which TUCKER AND SON'S LAMPS have acquired in the East for burning *steadily* under the Punkah or in side draughts, and *brilliantly* with any of the *coarse native oils*, renders eulogy unnecessary; but having been enabled, by increased facilities of manufacture, very considerably to *reduce the prices* of the above favourite (but hitherto expensive) description of their lamps, T. and Son beg to notify the fact to the Eastern public.

They are elegant and durable, are finished in exact imitation of many beautiful stones and marbles, such as Malachite, Lapis Lazuli, Serpentine, Sienna, Brocatella, Jasper, &c., and are not affected by heat, damp, friction, or insects; oil, spirits, or acids accidentally spilled. The enamel surface is so inseparable from the base (block slate, proverbial for its strength) that it cannot be removed except by an edged tool. It *requires* simply *dusting*, but if rubbed hard, it only adds a gloss to its appearance—at all times cool and agreeable.

After ten years' constant use and handling, these lamps are none the worse for wear.

Malachite (green), Serpentine (brown), or Lapis Lazuli (blue), are most recommended.

Table Lamp complete, with engraved glasses, as sketch, 72s.

A Plainer Lamp, without the Corinthian capital, 50s. complete.

Either pattern, with plain frosted glasses, 7s. 6d. each less.

*** *The above Lamps are supplied to burn Petroleum or Rock Oil also.*

Orders can be sent through any merchant or Agent, or, if accompanied by a remittance, direct to

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ARUNDEL LAMP WORKS, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

ESTABLISHED 1818.

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A LA CORBEILLE DE FLEURS.

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SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED.

EXTRACT OF VERBINA FOR THE TOILET.

EAU DE COLOGNE, EXTRA STRONG.

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HYGIENIC ELIXIR FOR THE MOUTH.

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SUPERFINE PERFUMERY & TOILET SOAPS.

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HIS Establishment is the only one of its kind in which the recent Discoveries in Chemistry and the Arts have been put into practice. The proof is that ED. PINAUD obtained the Medal at the last London Exhibition.

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CAUTION.

THE GROSS FRAUDS which continue to be practised by obscure manufacturers, more particularly in Germany, by imitating the Labels attached to JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s PERFUMERY, render it imperative upon the Proprietors to Caution the public against such nefarious proceedings, and to request their friends and patrons to purchase only of respectable dealers, who import direct from JOHN GOSNELL and Co., and invite special attention to the address, 12, THREE KING-COURT, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

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JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Toilet Vinegar, Inexhaustible Salts, Aromatic Vinegar, Aromatic Eau de Cologne.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Prince of Wales Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Princess Alexandra Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Pomade.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Soap.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Real Old Brown Windsor Soap.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Golden Oil—Moelline—Macassar Oil, Bear's Grease, &c., for the Hair.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Extra Highly Scented Toilet and Nursery Powder.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Stereodesmic or Dentists' Tooth Brushes and Trichosaron Hair Brushes, warranted to purchasers.

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NOTHING IMPOSSIBLE.—The Greatest and most Useful Invention of the day, AGUA AMARELLA.—Messrs. JOHN GOSNELL and CO., 12, Three King-court, Lombard-street, London, Perfumers to Her Majesty, respectfully offer to the public this truly marvellous fluid, which gradually restores the human hair to its pristine hue—no matter at what age. The Agua Amarella has none of the properties of dyes; it, on the contrary, is beneficial to the system, and when the hair is once restored one application per month will keep it in perfect colour. Price One Guinea per bottle; half bottles, 10s. 6d.

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HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Worn-out sufferers may hope for relief from these purifying and strengthening Pills after physic and physicians have failed to effect a cure. In all disorders of the stomach, irregularities of the bowels, derangement of the liver, and diseases of the kidneys, these Pills will be found especially useful in re-instituting order and restoring health. Holloway's Pills clear away obstructions, remove poisonous particles from the blood, secretions, and system generally, give purity and regularity to the circulation, tone and power to the stomach, energy and vividness to the brain. Holloway's Pills can be confidently recommended as restoratives of constitutions shattered and broken up by excessive mental labour, intemperance, inordinate indulgence, or other hardships which make the young man old.

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MESSRS. MILROY AND SONS beg to inform Officers and Residents in China, India, and the Colonies, that they manufacture, and have always on hand a large stock of every description of SADDLERY and HARNESS peculiarly adapted for use in China, India, and Australia.
MANUFACTORY, SUN COURT, CORNHILL, LONDON.

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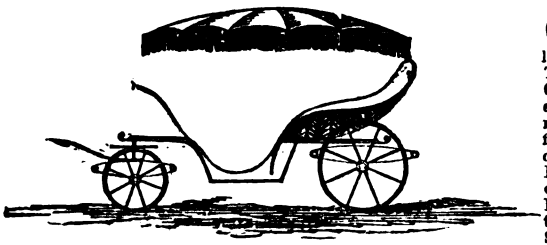
CROYDON, AND 9, PARK-LANE LONDON.
Under the Patronage of Her Most Gracious Majesty, the Kings of Sardinia and Portugal, the Royal Families of Russia, Prussia, and the Nobility of all Countries.



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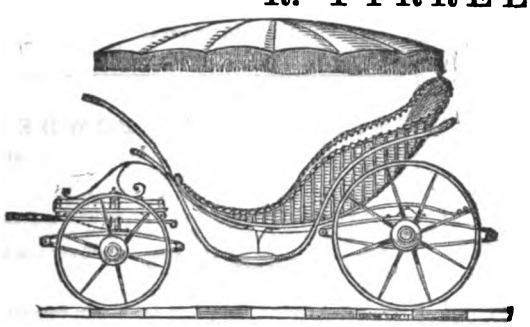
The Patent Removable Fin Canopy, an effective protection from heat, can be fitted to any carriage.

TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND JAPAN.
R. TYRRELL,



CARRIAGE and HARNESS MANUFACTURER, 56, GREAT QUEEN-STREET, LINCOLN'S-INN-FIELDS, begs to call attention to his Stock of Broughams, Waggonets, Park and Stanhope Phaetons; also Pony Carriages, &c., which being made under his personal superintendence, he can warrant of the best materials and workmanship, and guarantee to stand the climate, at the lowest possible prices.

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H. AND H. LEDGER,
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"SIR,—I have analysed the two samples handed me on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., and found the 'Mixed Pickles' of H. and H. LEDGER, of 14, Mineries, Aldgate, to be quite free from adulteration and made with Pure Malt Vinegar.
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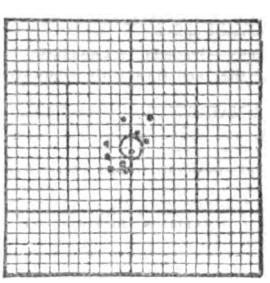

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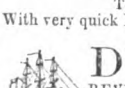

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Genuine Cayenne	1s. and 2s.
Nepaul Pepper	1s. and 2s.
Guava Jelly...	2s. 6d. and 5s.
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Do Jamaica Ginger	from 3s. 6d.
Do. Chinese Ginger	...jars 5s. and 10s.

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"

A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 170.] LONDON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Dec. 10	Feb. 17	Feb. 15
Nagasaki			
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			Jan. 25
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	Dec. 26	Feb. 14	Feb. 23
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 24
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 25
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Jan. 10	„ 23	March 1
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	Dec. 26	Feb. 13	Feb. 20
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			March 3
SIAM— Bangkok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			Feb. 20
JAVA—			
Batavia			March 2
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Jan. 26	March 4	„ 8
Penang	„ „	„ 2	„ 10

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, to Marseilles, per P. and O Company's steamer Ceylon, arrived April 10—From Yokohama: Mr. Graham. From Shanghai: Mr. Stewart and native male servant, Mr. Davison, and native male servant. From Hong Kong: Mr. Murray, Col. and Mrs. Tickell, Mr. Deacon, Mr. Barrnetta, Mr. Hartmann, Capt. Nolan, Rev. Fisher, and two second-class passengers. From Singapore: Mr. Phillips, Mr. Marten, Don and Donna Rodriguez, Don J. Navas, Don and Donna Alonso and servant, Donna Vellard, infant, and servant, Don Guturrez and three children, Don. M. G. Penha. From Penang: Mr. and Mrs. Sandelands, three children, and native male servant. For Southampton: Mr. and Mrs. Ormiston, Mr. and Mrs. Hawke, Messrs. H. Pitt, R.N., W. E. Price, M. Klinck, M'Petre, Morice, Morison, Thompson, R.N., E. Krigge, Brooks, Howgate.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Delhi, from Southampton, April 4.—To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Medhurst and two infants and European servant, and five second-class passengers. To Hong Kong: Mr. R. M. Reddie, Lieut.-Col. T. W Lovell, C.B., R.E. Mr. C G. Tatham, Dr. A. M'Kenna, R.N., Mr. W. C. Johnston, Dr. Freer, Mr. W. L. Nash, Capt. Burland, Mr. G. E. Wilkinson, and five second-class passengers. To Singapore: Mr. Odardo Beccari and one second-class passenger. To Penang: Mr. Lyster. To Ceylon: Lieut. and Mrs. J. J. C. Miller and child, Mr. and Mrs. Hill, Mr. H. V. Ellis, Mr. A. Featherstonhaugh, and one second-class passenger. To Calcutta: Capt. Watts, R.E., Mr. Balderson, Col. Bagot, Miss H. Taylor, Mr. Abbott, Mr. Morris, Mr. Banyard, Lieut. R. J. O'Brien, and four second-class passengers. To Madras: Mr. F. R. Twynam, Miss Vincent, and three second-class passengers. To Suez: One second-class passenger. To Alexandria: Three second-class passengers and one child.

From Marseilles, April 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. H. Pember, Mr. José Loureiro, Mr G. F. Vianna, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. de Zarate. To Shanghai: Mr. F. M. Satow, Mr. Theotoky. To Singapore: Baron R. de Tuyll. To Calcutta: Mr. G. Woodbridge, Mr. J. M. Clelland, Lieut. H. Collett, Ensign Cutbill, Mr. M. K. Angelo. To Madras: General Smythe, Lieut. G. S. Neile.

From Malta.—To Calcutta: Mr. and Miss Howard.

Per P. and O. Co.'s steamer Pera, from Southampton, April 20.—To Hong Kong: Dr. A. B. Messer, R.N., Mrs. Carey and two sons. To Singapore: Mr. Frohlich, Mr. F. H. Gottlieb. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Mackenzie, Mr. Cross, Miss Cumberland, Mr. J. L. Dewar, Mr. C. B. Culpepper.

From Marseilles, April 26.—To Hong Kong: Mr. G. Raynal. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Rose.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Dates are to the 15th February. The London mail of the 10th December arrived out on the 7th February.

All attempts at obtaining the introduction of a system of local self-government for the Settlement, appear at the moment to be fruitless. The community, in a public meeting specially convened by the Consuls for the consideration of the subject, having resolved upon the election of land-renters under a system of double election, embracing both national and property qualification, for the double purpose of deciding upon the best method of forming a Municipal Committee and of electing that Committee if they agreed upon the premises—and these elections having been carried out, so far as the English, French, Dutch, Swiss, and Portuguese were concerned, under the direct action of their respective Consuls—all appeared to be in a fair way of coming to a satisfactory conclusion when, at their first meeting, all such hopes were dashed away on finding that no American delegate had been appointed. In the stead thereof the United States Consul, Mr. G. S. Fisher, made an attempt to force upon the community a portion of a pet scheme of his own. This attempt was, in a dignified and positive manner, repudiated by the delegates assembled, who resolved that the following letter should be addressed and forwarded by the chairman to Colonel George S. Fisher; and which was then written and forwarded to him:—

"Yokohama, 6th February, 1865.

"SIR,—I am in receipt of your favour of to-day's date informing the delegates of the different nationalities assembled at this moment in the British Consulate Court-room, that J. S. Blydenburgh, Esq., has this day been elected as the committeeman on the part of the citizens of the United States. I have read your letter to the assembled delegates, and have been instructed by them to inform you that they have not assembled on the present occasion to elect committeemen for a municipality, inasmuch as the late resolution of consuls as to the formation of a Municipal Council cannot be accepted by the community. The delegates beg to call your attention to a resolution passed in the last meeting of land-renters, deciding that delegates should be nominated for the discussion of the proper method of forming a Municipal Council; and to inform you that, in consequence of no American delegates being present at the meeting, no discussion on the method of forming a Municipal Council has been entered into.—I have the honour, &c.,

"E. PIQUET."

Mr. Piquet was then authorised to act as convenor of the delegates in the event of any circumstances appearing to him to render further meeting useful or desirable, and the meeting broke up. There was some hope, however, that the United States Consul might at the eleventh hour withdraw his obstruction of a great public scheme universally concurred in by all his colleagues and the entire community,—in which obstruction he stands out alone and unsupported. In the meantime (remarks the *Japan Herald*) the Japanese, who have, on the condition of the foreigners repairing and keeping their Settlement in order, given up twenty per cent. of the ground rentals to have been and to be received by them, look on with wondering eyes whilst we wade *actually and literally* ankle deep in mud through our main street, or make a detour of perhaps a quarter of a mile from a direct course to get from one part of the Settlement to the other; and they are naturally puzzled as to what could be the purpose in releasing them from their understood obligation to keep our roads, &c., in proper order, whilst the money given up by them to our Consuls for the purpose remains unapplied in their chests.

A public meeting of British land-renters had been summoned for the 16th of February, at the British Consulate.

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A vast improvement in the local postage arrangements, so far as the French post-office is concerned, has been effected by the institution of a system of late postings. Letters, &c., are now received at that office (on the payment of a trifling fee) up to an hour and a-half of the actual departure of the mail boat. The British post-office, however, closes finally at half-past four on the previous day, or seventeen hours before the departure of the mail. Our local contemporary observes on this:—

There is no denying the fact that in all improvements which have been effected in the local postal arrangements, the French authorities are fairly entitled to the honour of having taken the lead. At the British post-office our letters were formerly pitched out of the window for a general and indiscriminate scramble amongst the assembled crowd. The French Packet Agent commenced the proper sorting of them in his office, and the delivery to the owners or their messengers. In a few weeks the British Packet Agent followed the example, Next, the French Packet Agent fitted up a series of boxes and racks for the benefit of those desiring the accommodation, and shortly afterwards (though we had only just been told that the Post-office business being only by the sufferance of H. B. M.'s Consul conducted in a room at the British Consulate, no alterations could be permitted) some forty letter-boxes were fitted up and disposed of at $10 per annum each. Four months ago we alluded to the fact that although the mails never left here before 9 o'clock in the morning, even those who were willing to pay for the accommodation of a late postage could not obtain it, but must post all their correspondence before 4 o'clock on the preceding afternoon, or 17 hours previous to departure. During this four months no inclination has been shown, so far as the public are aware, by the British Packet Agent to correct this anomalous state of affairs; but now once again the French Packet Agent shows the way, leads off with one of the greatest possible improvements, and receives letters, &c., up to within an hour and a-half of the departure of the mail. We can only hope that in this, as in the former instance, his lead will be followed.

The Yokohama Volunteer Corps is near actual dissolution. The general yearly meeting of the members was held on the 26th January, at the residence of the Commandant, S. J. Gower, Esq. The Treasurer, E. J. Spence, Esq., brought up the accounts, showing a considerable balance in favour of the corps. Commandant Gower then tendered his resignation of that office, which, after a very unanimous and flattering acknowledgment of his services, was accepted. Captain W. C. Clarke tendered the resignation of his Captaincy: a like flattering compliment upon his services to the corps having been voted by acclamation, the resignation was accepted. A discussion then ensued upon the question of the dissolution of the corps, resulting, however, only in the appointment of a committee to realize the assets, to confer with the authorities as to the terms upon which present members might be allowed to retain the arms now in their possession, and to report again to another meeting.

The case of the Comptoir d'Escompte (Shanghai) *v.* J. Rumebe, had been tried before the American Consul, with Messrs. Blydenburgh and Stearns sitting as assessors. This was an action to recover principal and interest of five promissory notes of $1,000 each, lying under protest. The plaintiffs put in the notes in dispute (service and protest of which were admitted by the defendant), which were duly endorsed by and the payees, Messrs. De Forest and Co., of Shanghai, to plaintiffs, and asked judgment for amount and costs. The defendant pleaded fraud in the original transaction for which the notes were given; to-wit, for merchandise sold to defendant by Messrs. De Forest and Co., and which was overcharged in the invoice. The defendant claimed that he was a partner of Messrs. De Forest and Co., doing business for them at Yokohama, and under his partnership agreement was entitled to receive from Messrs. De Forest and Co. all merchandise forwarded by them to him for sale at the cost price. For their failure to keep this agreement he refused payment of the notes without set-off was allowed. He further claimed that the five notes were still actually in the hands of the original payees, and not of the plaintiffs in this suit, and that he had given notice in the papers in June last of his refusal to meet the notes when due The Court decided, that as to the three notes due respectively July, August, and September, judgment must be given for the plaintiffs, as the evidence, especially that of Mr. Morel, manager of the Comptoir d'Escompte, clearly established that they were passed into third hands for consideration prior to Mr. Rumebe's notice, and no defence to their payment could be had. As to the remaining two notes it appeared that they had passed into the plaintiff's hands after notice of refusal to pay, and although the defendant had failed to establish a fraud as alleged, he had shown such indication of possible fraud in the agreement between Messrs. De Forest and Co. and the defendant, that the Court would allow him three months to offer additional evidence; failing which judgment would be given for plaintiffs on the October and November notes also.

A late visitor to Yedo relates that on his way to the Tycoon's palace there he passed the site Choshiu's *gasigi*, covering some seven or eight acres of ground. "Destruction could not be more complete, a few trees being alone left standing. Heaps of stone and mortar, and charred timbers proclaimed to all Yedo the disgrace of this unfortunate Prince. The long line of front wall had been entirely demolished and replaced by rough-made palings. On the inside of the rear wall, near the exit, broad streaks and dabs of blood marked the spot where the adherents of Choshiu had made a last vain appeal to their merciless executioners. Three hundred men, women, and children were slaughtered here. What the Japanese at Yedo thought of the matter it is difficult to ascertain; at all events our escort declined being pumped on the subject: they were civil and smiling, but silent. It is known, however, to all Japanese that Choshiu did contend with foreigners at Simonoseki, and that the severe punishment he got at Yedo had some connection with it. Is not the inference favourable to foreigners?"

The Yokohama public had been gratified by two theatrical representations—one given by the Royal Artillery amateurs, and the other by the Garrison amateurs; and the former were about to give another performance for the benefit of Madame Yeamans. The pieces played were "Robert Macaire," "Diamond Cut Diamond," "Furnished Apartments," and "The Spanking Legacy." The band of the 20th Foot acts as orchestra on these occasions; and a little drop-scene, painted by an officer of that regiment, is very highly spoken of. It represents the view on the creek from a short distance above Homura, with Fusiyama and the range of hills in the distance, as they appear at present with "their summits clad in snow."

The list of men-of-war in harbour was showing rapid diminution. The British Admiral's flagship *Euryalus*, the *Coquette*, and the *Coromandel*, and his Netherlands Majesty's ship *Djambi* had all left. The arrival of the *Barossa* and *Rattler* helped, however, somewhat to fill the void.

SHANGHAI.

The *North China Daily News* states that H. E. Tseng, Governor-General of the two Kiang, has been invited to Peking, and will leave Nanking during the first week in March. It is said that his Excellency has lately been fortunate enough to discover 1,000,000 taels of silver hidden in Nanking, but whether or not this has had anything to do with the invitation from the Court, we are not in a position to decide.

The Fychow giant has postponed his trip to England and the Continent for an indefinite period.

In our last number we noticed the accident by which Messrs. Nicholson and Smeaton lost their lives. The following is a detailed account of the affair from the *Friend of China*:—

"We have seldom seen a larger attendance in the British Cemetery here than there was on Sunday at the funeral of Mr. Nicholson, of the firm of Nicholson and Boyd, Engineers at Pootung. Mr. Nicholson, whose first voyage to China was as third engineer in Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.'s steamer *Fiery Cross*, ten or eleven years ago, was only thirty-three years of age when he came to an ultimately end by the blowing up of the small steamer *Spunkie* last week,—and, most correct, systematic and energetic in his dealings, was deservedly popular among men of his class. His loss to the firm which he managed must be irreparable.

"The contemptible craft in which Mr. Nicholson received his death-stroke is the property of Messrs. Jarvie, Thorburn and Co., of this port, and was intended, when first put up here by the defunct engineering firm of Russell and Co., for a cargo barge, worked by engines made in Scotland of nominally twenty-horse power. There was something the matter with the gear of the engines which it was thought Mr. Nicholson or his assistants might find out and rectify, and so enable the vessel to perform feats in travelling a trifle faster than those of a snail; and when they started on a trial trip last Thursday it was thought that success had been attained.

"They had been under weigh about eleven minutes only, the gauge showing a full complement of water, and were progressing quite spunkily for the *Spunkie*, under a pressure of 59 pounds (she could have been worked up to seventy) when, as is conjectured, some sediment in the cylinder forced the bottom out, killed Mr. Smeaton, formerly engineer of the *Fei-ma*, outright, and so severely scalded Mr. Nicholson that, after lingering in great pain till half-past two on Saturday morning, he expired, to the great regret of all who knew him.

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"At the time of the catastrophe he was looking over the stern at the rotation of the propeller, to which his attention had only a few seconds before been drawn by his assistant, Mr. Rolls; and lucky was it for Mr. Rolls that, by so calling Mr. Nicholson to him, he was partially shielded from the volume of stream driven from the fractured machins. Although severely scalded and forced overboard, Mr. Rolls has got so far well as to be able to attend at the British Consulate and give his evidence before the Court sitting to investigate the circumstances of the accident, the most mysterious perhaps that ever occurred on this somewhat renowned river of steamboat explosions, and entirely upsetting the dictum which we heard poor Nicholson lay down on board the *Donnington* the other day, that so long as the steam-gauge shows a sufficiency of water in the boiler there is little fear of a blow up without previous warning; the remark being drawn from him in connection with a reference to the then recent bursting of the *General Ward*."

The following extracts are from the *Friend of China*:—

We have been favoured by a gentleman well acquainted with the past history of the force first known as Ward's, then as Burgevine's, afterwards as Holland's, and, lastly, as Gordon's, with the following list of officers whose names stood on the Quinsan Garrison roll immediately after the Soochow massacre, the principal periods of service in that epoch, and their after career as far as known:—

Col. Kirkham ..	1 year	9 mon.	Went home, severely wounded.
Col. Murrant ..	1 „	8 „	Went home, disarmed.
Col. Smith ..	1 „	6 „	In business, Ningpo.
Col. Brooks ..	1 „		Went home.
O'Brown, Major.	½ „		In Customs establishment, Shanghai.
Col. Tapp ..	1 „	6 „	Killed at Changchowfoo.
Col. Doyle ..	1 „	6 „	At Soosaqui.
Col. Tumblety..	1 „	9 „	Died at Shanghai.
Col. Williams ..	1 „	3 „	Went to Amoy.
Col. Morton ..	½ „		Killed at Changchowfoo.
Major Tuite ..	½ „	7 „	Killed at Kintang.
Major Mansfield .		7 „	Resides in Shanghai.
Col. Howard ..	1 „	1 „	In Customs department, Shanghai.
Major Caute ..	½ „		Went home.
Col. Chapman..	½ „		Killed at Changchowfoo.
	CAPTAINS IN THE ARTILLERY.		
Murphy.. ..	1 „	6 „	At Soosaqui.
Waters	1 „	6 „	Do.
Escott	1 „		Went home.
Dunn			Do. wounded.
Lawless.. ..			Stonemason, Shanghai.
Woolley ..			At Soochow, storekeeper.
Manson.. ..			With Mandarins.
Bottle	½ „		At Soosaqui.
Baffey		7 „	Was at Amoy and skedaddled.
Searle		10 „	Victoria Hotel.
McGuinness ..		8 „	With Mandarins.
Holland ..		8 „	Went home.
Rhodes.. ..		2 „	Killed at Changchowfoo.
Malone.. ..			Died at Shanghai.
	CAPTAINS.		
Jeffrey.—1st Regt.		10 „	In Shanghai,
Campbell ..		9 „	Do.
Cramer.. ..	1 „	2 „	Went home, dis-armed.
A. Baffey ..		8 „	In Shanghai police.
Maorr		8 „	In Shanghai.
Fairbrass ..		3 „	In Shanghai police.
Ryan.—Capt. ..	2nd Regt.		Went home,
O. Brien ..		8 „	Do.
McCann ..		9 „	Do.
Adams	„	8 „	Died in Shanghai.
Murray	„	8 „	6 months in Hong Kong gaol, for trying to join rebels near Amoy.
J. Kemp	„	8 „	Gone home.
J. Hammond, 3rd Regt.		2 „	Died in Shanghai.
Waters	„	„	
E. Smith	„	8 „	Killed at Changchowfoo.
E. Ward	„	2 „	About Shanghai.
Hendrieksen ..	„	8 „	Gone to California.
J. Scarlett ..	„	2 „	In Bank Exchange, Shanghai.
Cutts	„	2 „	Invisible.
Allen.—Lieut.	„	2 „	Gentleman, at Ningpo.
Reynolds			One of Osborne's men went home.
Maschett			Invisible—3 fingers less.
A. Hammond, 4th Regt.			Sent home, in Sept., 31st Regiment.
Bremner	„		Went to Amoy.
Herzog	„		Killed at Yeshing.
Mink	„		In Shanghai.
Kegmulen ..	„		Gone to Japan.
Pogson	„		Killed near Woossee
Kain	„		6 months in Hong Kong, for trying to join rebels near Amoy.
McMahon.—Capt.—5th Regt.			Dead—was a 31st Corporal.
Wardle	„		In Shanghai.
Baily	„		Gone to California.
Parker	„		Invisible.
Gibbon, 1 year 3 mons.	„		Killed at Woosee.
Wilson	„		Went home, handless.
Zee.—Lieut.	Artillery.		Died.
Reardon	„		Amoy Customs.
Jno. Martin	„		Went home.
F. Collinson	„		Invisible.
Jno. Chawon	„		Killed at Changchowfoo.
M. Williams	„		12 months in Hong Kong Gaol for shooting at a man-of-war's man, at Ningpo.
Horn	„		Invisible.
Herbert	„		Ditto.
Ha.es	„		Ditto Osborn's man
P. Brown	„		Killed at Changchowfoo.
Jno. Skinner	„		Invisible.
Jno. Mowles	„		Died at Quinsan.
John Donnell, Lieut.	1st Regt.		Died
John Reeves	„		About Shanghai.
John Willman	„		do.
F. Nowlan	„		Invisible.
P. Connally	„		do.
Cocconnan	2nd Regt.		Went home.
Gutch catch	„		Invisible.
W. Benning	„		Killed at Kintang.
Jno. Malone	3rd Regt.		Invisible.
Pratt	„		Killed near Woosee.
G. R. Graves	„		do.
Graham (Jack)	4th Regt.		Went home.
Wyan	„		Invisible.
C. Murphy	„		Killed at Changchowfoo.
L. Everetts	„		Went home wounded.
A. Hughes	„		Killed near Woosee.
B. Cayot	„		Invisible.
Wilson, Lieut.,	5th Regt.		In Shanghai.
Roevan	„		Invisible.
Warrener	„		Gone home.
Curtis	„		Invisible.
A. Moffat, Dr.	„		Re-joined H.M.'s Regiment.
L. M. Ross	„		About Shanghai.
	MILITARY STORE MEN.		
Sam Smith	„		Gone home to Shields.
E. Taylor	„		El Dorad Taverno.
Snodgrass	„		Quart.-Master, Fire Dart.
Bossman, Armourer	„		Engineer in a Steamer.
	COMMISSARIAT.		
J. Gilby	„		Tavern Keeper.
Ohsen	„		Gone to Japan.
	PROVOST STAFF.		
Nissen	„		Invisible.
Reynolds	„		Dead.
	HONG KONG.		

Dates are down to the 1st March, or hree days later than per French Mail, full details of which were given in our issue of the 10th. We notice that, relying on the passing of th e Limited Liability Ordinance, the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Company will shortly commence business, also that a new scheme has been announced styled

THE CHINA AND JAPAN SHIPMENTS (FOREIGN AND COASTWISE) COMPANY (Limited). Capital, $5,000,000. In 20,00 0 shares of $250 each.

The list of directors, &c., is not yet announced. It is to be hoped that none of the first-class houses will give their countenance to this or any similar project. Limited liability may be useful at Hong Kong, but is not required for such schemes as this. The merchants are quite capable and have sufficient enterprise for all purposes of trade.

The vacancy in the Legislative Council caused by the return to England of C. W. Murray, Esq., has been filled up by the appointment of Thomas Sutherland, Esq., the Superintendent of the P. and O. Company.

H. W. Wood, Esq., has been appointed to fill the vacancy of Vice-Consul to Siam, vacant by the return to England of William Adamson, Esq.

COCHIN CHINA.

SAIGON.

The export of rice, from Saigon to China alone, for the year 1864, amounted to no less than 1,121,034 piculs. This is a very large amount, and (remarks the *Penang Gazette*) illustrates how rapidly the French settlement there is progressing. There is no doubt that this trade will yearly increase and be of immense importance, considering its vicinity to China. The year 1865 will, however, not prove nearly so prosperous, owing to the late commencement and short duration of the rainy season, and also to the fact of several storms having occurred during the earlier part of December, 1864, which are supposed to have somewhat affected the then standing crop. Supplies have, in consequence, been latelyshort, and dealers find some difficulty in fulfilling their engagements. Prices have risen, and no new contracts are being entered into. It is reported, however, that the crop, on the whole, promises to yield nearly an average quantity of rice.

The *Siam Times* also speaks well of the prospects of Saigon. It says:—"After many blunders it seems that the French have really taken hold in earnest to build up a city at Saigon, and

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are determined to make it rival Singapore and Hong Kong. They have an immense rich productive back country, intersected by a great river and some smaller streams, to support them in their undertaking. We hear that Saigon has been laid out by French engineers for a great commercial emporium, and has been drained to remove the malaria, and is growing into a large healthy town. A friend of ours who recently visited the place states that the right course has been hit upon at last, and they are now pursuing a course to conciliate the natives and draw them into their territory."

A correspondent of the *Straits Times* complains of the French contract system. He writes:—

SIR,—On the 3rd of April tenders will be received in Saigon for supplying 40,000 casks of flour during 1866 and 1867. There are about 18 to 20 articles in the "cahier des charges;" some of which are certainly rather extraordinary. Here is an example:—"Every disagreement relative to the execution or interpretation of the contract will be judged by the governor without appeal. The contractor must agree to submit to such terms." The Governor, judge and party, without appeal, in spite of regular tribunals who are acting in the colony and in France! That is stronger despotism than in the mother country, for any administration contract is there submitted to an appeal to the "Consul d'Etat." It shows the spirit of the present administration. Let M. de la Grandiere be admiral of France, but let us pray that he may never return to Cochin China.

SIAM.

BANKOK.

The oil discoveries in the United States having attracted the attention of his Majesty the Supreme King, he has invited explorers to traverse his country to see if oil cannot be found in Siam. His Majesty appears to be of opinion that for the present his dominions are more likely to benefit by developing their productiveness in any way whatever, more than from the introduction of railways or the telegraphic wire. It is known that his Majesty writes English, and as our readers may be curious to see how far an Oriental Prince has mastered the difficulties of the English idiom, we subjoin a portion of the letter he addressed on the subject to our new contemporary, the *Bangkok Recorder*, for it must not be forgotten that the capital of Siam now boasts of two English papers:—

"I shall be glad, however, to have any person who may examine our land, and point out where some mineral oil would be obtainable from, either in like manner of the American oil or of the usual Berman mineral oil. It will be good production of our land. I think such the consideration and endeavouring is suitable for us who are very far from use of telegraph or railway, which endeavour no doubt might be liable to be favour to thieves, or metallic wires and iron bars, and long stones, &c., before use of telegraph and railroad. Ah! oh! many foreigners who are endeavouring very often to let us be advised, and have great expense for what we think will be of no use for this country of poor and ignorant people. I would be glad to know as soon as possible who will assist us to point out the place for some mineral oil in Siam.—I beg to be your good friend,

"S. P. P. MUNGKUT, R.S., in 5,017th day of reign."

The *Siam Times* notes the birth of "a royal son to His Majesty the First King, being the seventieth offspring and thirty-sixth prince, and the fifth child of the thirteenth mother, who is the daughter of the late Governor of the province of Ligore."

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates hence are to the 8th March. As mentioned in our last, the London mail of the 26th January arrived out on the 4th March.

Cholera was still on the decrease: at all events, nothing like the same number of funerals were to be seen along the roads. Great complaints, and apparently with good reason, had been made in the newspapers that no system of registration is adopted by which an authentic account of the varying mortality could be obtained. Disease in any form might be making the most rapid strides and yet nothing known of it comparatively. It appears that by an Act of the Indian Council the Municipal Commissioners have some power to enforce a correct periodical statement of the number and particulars of the interments in each burying ground, but in absence of any special legislation on the subject they decline to act. Here again is an illustration of the inconvenience, if not positive detriment, which Singapore suffers by its inability to pass enactments for itself.

The Duke de Brabant stayed only a couple of nights at Singapore, and was suffering slightly from rheumatism. His Royal Highness had gone forward to China.

That the *Shenandoah*, confederate cruiser, was at Melbourne was known at Singapore at the date of these advices.

The Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. E. J. Westerhout to officiate as Deputy Sheriff at Malacca; and Mr. P. B. Maxwell, Senior Sworn Clerk to the Penang Division of the Court of Judicature, to officiate as Magistrate and Commissioner of the Court of Requests at Province Wellesley, *vice* Major Mitchell, deceased.

Joint-stock enterprise, which has slumbered in Singapore for a long time, seems now, with the example of Bombay before it, to be on the point of waking. Several companies are talked about; but that which is likely to be first realised is the Marine Insurance Company before mentioned. The Tanjong Paggar Company, the first joint-stock enterprise set on foot, is now in such confidence that its shares are said to command 15 per cent. premium. An accident which may slightly retard the operations of this company, occurred during the fortnight by the giving way of part of the embankment. It is stated that $3,000 to $4,000 will repair the injury.

On the 24th February a proclamation with beat of gong was made, that the copper doits which have been for some time in circulation as issued by the Sarawak Government, would not be received in payment at the farms, the Municipal office, or the Treasury. Taking their cue from this they are sedulously rejected even by the coolies, who call them *man* doits, in contradiction to *woman* doits; the former bearing the head of Sir James Brooke, and the latter the head of the Queen.

The British steamer *Pesso*, Capt. Cairns, from New York the 18th December last, arrived on the 2nd March.

PENANG.

The death of Captain William Somerville Mitchell, Officiating Assistant Resident Councillor, and Magistrate of Police at Penang, occurred on the 23rd February. Captain Mitchell belonged to H.M. 22nd Regiment of Madras Native Infantry, and commenced his career in the Straits service as Executive Engineer of Penang; thence he was removed to Malacca as Assistant Resident, and officiated as such till the present Resident Councillor resumed his duties, on his return from Europe. The deceased was we believe most useful in the Public Works Department, and was on that account retained in Province Wellesley, where he had been officiating as Assistant Resident during Mr. Earl's absence on sick leave. Captain Mitchell had been ailing for a few days and his death occurred unexpectedly; he is much lamented by a large circle of friends, and the public has lost a zealous servant.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

GUNTHER.—On the 5th Feb., at Shanghai, the wife of G. Gunther, Esq., of a son.
MACLEAN.—On the 24th Feb., at Hong Kong, the wife of G. F. Maclean, Esq., of a daughter.
MORRIS.—On the 2nd Feb., at Shanghai, the wife of Edward Morris, Esq., of a daughter.
PURVIS.—On the 1st March, at Glassmount, Singapore, the wife of John M. Purvis, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

COOPER—TICKELL.—On the 18th Feb., at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, D.D., William M. Cooper, Esq., of H.B.M.'s Consular Service in China, to Mary Louisa, daughter of Colonel S. R. Tickell, late Bengal Staff Corps.
JACKSON—WEDGWOOD.—On the 11th Feb., at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, D.D., Colonial Chaplain, Thomas Witter Jackson, Esq., of Ningpo, to Margaret, daughter of T. B. Wedgwood, of Rock Ferry, Cheshire.

DEATHS.

BOWRA.—On the 7th April, at Osborne-terrace, Clapham-road, Harriett Eliza Glover, eldest daughter of the late Robert Bowra, Esq., aged 45.
CUMMINGS.—On the 18th Feb., at the Seaman's Hospital, Hong Kong, Edward Cummings, apprentice belonging to the ship Sea Nymph.
MCCLELLAND.—On the 8th April, at Treanie House, Ayrshire, Annie Elizabeth Collins, wife of Charles Grey McClelland, Esq., of Singapore.
MAGUIRE.—On the 11th Feb., drowned at sea, from on board the British schooner Spray, John Maguire, ordinary seaman, a native of Ardrossan, N.B.
NOTT.—On the 15th Feb., at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, Samuel Nott, Corporal 99th Regt., aged 27 years, of consumption.
PRE.—On the 8th Feb., at Macao, Alexander Grand Pre, late of the Hong Kong Civil Service, aged 46 years.
ROBB.—On the 23rd of Feb., at Marine Villa, Singapore, Anne, the wife of Daniel Robb, Esq., of Singapore.
SCHOBOLT.—On the 25th Feb., at Tiang-Ho, Kowloong, Peter Schobolt, Munich, Bavaria, aged 23 years.
WILLIAMS.—On the 15th Feb., at Shanghai, George Bond Williams, a native of Boston Massachusetts, U.S.A., aged 29 years.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	6s. 4¼d. to 6s. 4¼d.	6s. 5d. to 6s. 6d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 6¼d.	4s. 7d. to 4s. 8d.
At Singapore	6 ditto	.....	.....
At Manila	6 ditto	.....	4s. 3d. to 4s. 4d.

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At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 298 to 300 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 215 to 216 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 10 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 72 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 0 to 0 discount.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1863-64.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to Jan. 31, 1865	1862705	54942102	44686756	453017	8478750	110423330	26313
Corresponding period last season	1814540	48907066	42879654	2257092	11731042	107579601	36428

SHIPMENTS IN FEBRUARY, 1865.

Ship	From			Bales.
Emeu (mail str.)	—		—	984
Bénévenue	Shanghai		531,870	
Lockett	Hong Kong		—	68

TO UNITED STATES.

	Piculs.
From June 1 to Jan. 31, 1865	9308671
Corresponding period last season	17183051

SHIPMENTS IN FEBRUARY, 1865.

Queen of the Seas	Foochow	53?,800
Europa	Hong Kong	59,000

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Bales.
From June 1 to Jan. 31, 1865	855224
Corresponding period last season	1289008

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Tea pkgs	Boxes.
From June 1 to Jan. 31, 1865	26051	56
Corresponding period last season	466175	—

TO AUSTRALIA.

From 1st June to 31st Jan., 1865	2,719,154 lbs
Corresponding period last year	8,801,327 „

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	51,092,600	—
„ 1845 to 1846	57,334,200	18 60
„ 1850 to 1851	63,972,000	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854	77,327,800	61,280
„ 1855 to 1856	92,240,300	50,480
„ 1857 to 1858	76,990,255	65,31
„ 1858 to 1859	65,789,792	83,13
„ 1859 to 1860	35,560,453	64,16
„ 1860 to 1861	90,066,160	70,644
„ 1861 to 1862	109,854,040	79,199
„ 1862 to 1863	121,273,580	72,848
„ 1863 to 1864	117,463,586	46,605

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1865	293686	184	1793	7802	—	189

SHIPMENTS IN FEBRUARY, 1865.

Ship.	From	Cotton, pcls.
Constance	Shanghai	4,200
Spirit of Trade	Do.	4,043
Lockett	Hong Kong	4,786

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1865	2982	—	—	420	—	1145

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1865	500	2500	—	—	—	—

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1865	541	19431	43367	2540	3050	139580

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1. to Jan. 31, 1865	7	1171	7287	1515	10240	—

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents., and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—MACAO.—The season may be fairly considered at an end, and no transactions of any kind have taken place during the fortnight; total amount of deliveries as last reported. The Lochnagar, partly laden at Whampoa, took in here some 379,000 lbs. of Black, and sailed for London; but few to go forward, deliveries of which have been reported. Of common Tyshans the stock may be estimated at about 4,000 half-chests, which will probably find buyers for the Colonies, India, and Straits. The new crop Tyshans may be looked for in a month or so, and some small transactions are already reported in the country for the new leaf at 15 taels, which would correspond to 25 taels prepared and packed for shipment from this. Much depends, however, on the weather as to the extent of supply from the first crop, and no musters can be produced until first arrivals take place.

CANTON.—Although no settlements of the 25 chops Country Congous which form the stock can be reported, still upon the whole the market has shown greater signs of activity during the past fortnight. Canton-made Teas: Both Scented Orange Pekoes and Capers have received a good deal of attention during the fortnight. The Scented Orange Pekoes are now very deficient in scent and are coarse, while many of the Capers show very fair value. Gunpowders: About 3,500 boxes have been taken for the Continent; other kinds neglected. Country Greens: 287 half-chests Hysons have been taken for India, which is the only transaction in these kinds reported.

FOOCHOW.—The transactions of the fortnight have been trifling, and exhibit a decline of one tael on Congous, and nearly as much on Oolongs. The supplies from the interior have entirely ceased, and may be pronounced exhausted. The settlements since last mail are reported as under. Congous: 755 chests, at 6½ taels for dust and broken leaf, 12 to 13 taels for ordinary common, 14 to 15½ taels for good common, 17 to 18½ taels for light flavory, and 20 taels for good flavory to medium Kaisows. Oolongs: 1,400 hf. ch. common to good cargo at 11½ to 15½ taels. The stock on the market is stated as follows. Congous, 5,000 ch.; Souchong, 1,920 do.; Oolongs, 1,000 hf. ch.; flowery Pekoe, 140 ch.; scented teas, 4,200 boxes.

SHANGHAI.—Black: The small stock of Congou left on the market being firmly held for rates considerably above home prices, little or no business has been done. One chop of fair black leaf has been settled at Tls. 16½, and one of fair Ninchow at Tls. 23½, the former showing a decline of one tael, whilst the latter is fully up to the previous prices. Re-shipments have only been 450 chests, and the stock amounts to 4,600 chests. Quotations: Nangchow and Oopacks, medium to good, none; Oonams, medium to good, Tls. 21 to 24; fair black leaf, Tls. 16½ to 20 per picul. Total settlements and shipments from 1st June to date, 378,500 chests, against 382,900 chests last year. Green: The continued unfavourable advices received by the mail have at last compelled teamen to reduce their demands, and settlements are reported of 7,800 half-chests at prices showing a decline of four taels on previous rates, say, fair to good Fychow at Tls. 27 to 32; fair to good Moyune at Tls. 33 to 36½. Re-shipments amount to 7,500 half-chests, and the stock is estimated at about 55,000 packages. Total settlements and shipments from 1st June to date, 187,600 half-chests, against 252,900 half-chests last year.

KIUKIANG.—Green Teas: 1,300 packages had been placed partly in barter, at rather lower prices, but the Teamen showed no anxiety yet to realise, and buyers were consequently unwilling to operate largely. About 3,500 packages had gone forward on native account, and one contract chop, leaving the stock on the market 134,200 half-chests. Quotation were:—Moyune, Fine to Finest tls. 30 to 34; Common to Medium, tls. 28 to 30 per picul. Fychow, Medium to fair, tls. 26 to 29; Common, tls. 24 to 25 per picul. Total Settlements and Shipments: 66,200 half-chests or 3,608,300 lbs., against 172,400 half-chests, or 10,168,600 lbs. last year. Black Teas: In these there was again no business to report, and no change in quotations, which remained. Ningchow, Common, tls. 16 to 17. Hohow, Common, tls. 12 per picul. Total Settlements and Shipments: 110,800 chests, or 9,170,600 lbs. against 207,900 chests or 9,505,000 lbs. last year.

HANKOW.—No transactions have been reported during the fortnigh One chop has arrived from the interior, making stock on the market chops. The total shipments from this port for the season amount to 371,700 chests or 37,235,000 lbs., against 362,1000 chests, or 35,308,400 lbs. corresponding period last season.

YOKOHAMA.—Since last report, dated 30th ult., there are but few transactions to note in this article. The market remains much in the same state; one or two parcels have been settled at slightly easier rates, but dealers decline selling further at these prices and are asking about previous quotations. Settlements for the fortnight may be estimated at 820 picul. Stocks here continue light, and there is about 8,000 piculs up country, consisting principally of medium kinds.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—At the close of last mail an active deman commenced, which continued during the fortnight; the settlements ar estimated at 1,000 bales. The purchases have comprised medium and inferior Yuenfas, Hainings, Taysaams, and Szechuens, and have been influenced by the decline in the rate of exchange, the certainty of a short suppl for the season, and improved advices from Europe to hand by 26th Dec. mail. Prices have been very firm, and an advance of Tls. 10 to 20 per picul, has been established. The supply from the interior has been very limited,

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and it is the general belief that there is little more silk up country to be brought down. The arrivals from Japan have been 342 bales per Corea, arrived yesterday. Prices at Yokohama had declined $15 to 20 per picul. Stock was estimated at about 900 piculs. Their export shows a deficiency of 3,580 bales as compared with last season. The settlements of the fortnight are reported at 1,000 bales, against 460 bales corresponding fortnight 1863-64, 400 bales 1862-63, and 1,900 bales 1861-62. The total settlements of the season to date amount to 24,000 bales, against 22,200 bales 1863-64, 46,480 bales 1862-63, and 51,600 bales 1861-62. The present unsold stock is only 500 bales, against 5,000 same period last season, 3,000 the season before, and 8,000 season 1861-62. The following are latest quotations:—Taysaam, No. 2, chops, Tls. 430 to 440; No. 3, Tls. 414 to 425; No. 4, 5, and inferior, Tls. 390 to 410 per picul.

YOKOHAMA.—Upon the resumption of business after the native holidays, transactions were at first somewhat difficult, the foreign buyers trying to get concessions on previous prices, which the Japanese dealers were little disposed to yield; subsequently, however, the latter having slightly given way, about 850 bales were settled at a reduction of about $20 to $30 on medium and inferior descriptions; the best and finest kinds being very scarce and more firmly supported. The unsold stock on the market may be estimated at 700 piculs. Total settlements to date, 10,350 bales against 13,500 at same time last year. Ida medium, 670 to 680; Mybash and Sinchu best parcels offering at 680 to 700; medium, 650 to 670; inferior, 600 to 640.

CAMPHOR.—HONG KONG.—The only transaction reported during the fortnight is a sale of 100 piculs at $19.20 per picul packed; and while no further supplies have arrived, nor can be expected shortly, prices are expected to advance a little. Stocks on hand about 700 piculs, and present market value $19.50 dollars per picul packed.

RAW COTTON.

HONG KONG.—The settlements of the fortnight have been confined to purchases for local consumption. The unsettled state of the Liverpool market, as advised by the 10th January mail, has had the effect of stopping the export demand. Supplies have been moderate—hardly equal to the local demand—and, consequently, the market does not suffer from the cessation of the export demand.

SHANGHAI.—A moderate business has been transacted in best dry Kampek at 17.7 to 18 tls., and in Shanghai descriptions, which are all more or less wet, at 16.5 to 17.2.5 tls. The shipments at the highest quotation and current rates of Exchange, and freights, cost F. O. B. with freight and insurance, 1s. 9¼d. to 1s. 0¾d. The quality of the dry cotton, as previously stated, is very good indeed, and will probably realise the extreme quotation for China staple. Attention is called to the deficiency in the export compared with that at this period last year, and to the fact that the estimated yield of this crop is 25 per cent. less than that of the last. Export from 1st June to date, 14,049,891 lbs., against 36,415,097 lbs. 1863-64.

YOKOHAMA.—There have been no receipts of this staple, and the transactions of the fortnight are confined to the settlement of a small parcel at $29. The value at Yedo is said to be $28, in which case lower rates can hardly be expected to prevail for some little time. The exports for the present season amount 22,910 bales, against 40,891 do. same period last season, and 6,227 do. the season before.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—Continues to meet with but little demand, and the value of the lower grades again shows a slight decline upon the quotations given under date of 14th inst. The sales of the past fortnight have been confined to the settlement of 165 bales of Nos. 16-24, and the article is in comparatively large stock. Grey Shirtings: These goods do not show any decline in value, but the dealers continue to exercise great caution in making purchases, the settlements of the fortnight are put at 8,800 pieces, and sales from Foochow of 2,850 pieces at $4.70 to $5.75 for 7 lbs. to 8½ lbs. goods are reported. White Shirtings: Remain as quoted under date of last circular, but the business transacted during the fortnight has been upon a small scale, and does not exceed 3,500 pieces. T-Cloths: Have been in less request than during the early part of the month, but holders are very firm in demanding full prices for their goods. The transactions of the fortnight amount to 4,650 pieces, in addition to which some 2,000 pieces of mildewed cloths have been moved off at public sale. Settlements of 2,850 pieces 7 lbs., at $3.60 to $3.72 are reported from Foochow. American Drills: There are not any transactions to notice, and our quotations are quite nominal. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: There has been no inquiry for these fabrics in the Hong Kong market, and quotations are nominally as before. Some 500 pieces White have however found purchasers in Foochow at $5 per piece. Damasks: There have not been any sales of these goods reported Chintzes: Have found buyers in this Colony to the extent of 1,000 pieces. Handkerchiefs: Have remained without any inquiry, and there are not any sales to report. In the Canton market the quotations for all the foregoing descriptions of goods must be considered as entirely nominal: there has not been a single transaction reported, and there is at present no business doing in Foreign manufactures at that port.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: These goods have met with a moderate amount of inquiry during the past fortnight, and the sales of Spanish Stripes at this port amount to about 860 pieces. In Canton the sales are put at 120 pieces, and in Foochow 160 pieces assorted have found buyers at 90 per cents per yard. Long Ells: Have again improved slightly in value, and have met with a fair amount of inquiry during the past fortnight; the settlements amount to 1,900 pieces at the annexed quotations. Camlets: Have been in fair request, and the purchases reported since the date of last circular amount to 900 pieces. Lastings: Have been in small demand, and sales are restricted to 150 pieces. Blankets: There are not any transactions to notice.

METALS.—Iron, Flat &c.: There is not much change to notice in the value of the various descriptions of Iron enumerated, and the amount of business transacted during the past fortnight has been of moderate extent, amounting to 840 piculs of Nail Rod, 400 piculs of Hoop, and 260 piculs of Wire. The sales in Canton amount to 900 piculs of Nail Rod, which have been taken at a slight decline in value. Lead: the inquiry for Lead in the Hong Kong market has been extremely trifling, and the sales of the fortnight amount to 200 piculs. In Canton, where prices have also declined slightly, settlements of 1,600 piculs are reported. Tin has been largely dealt in, and has changed hands to the extent of 2,800 slabs. Tin Plates: 260 boxes have changed hands.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From London: Feb. 8, Sea Witch.
At SHANGHAI.—From Sunderland: Feb. 21, Chalmers.
At HONG KONG.—None.
At MANILA.—From Cardiff: Feb. 14, Tewkesbury. From Newcastle; Peiho.
At SINGAPORE.—From Liverpool: Feb. 22, W. Dixon; March 6, Oleander. From Sunderland: Feb. 23, Fontenage.
At PENANG.—From London: March 2, Devonvale.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—None.
From SHANGHAI.—For London: Feb. 21, Stanley.
From FOOCHOW.—None.
From HONG KONG.—None.
From MANILA.—For Falmouth: Feb. 15, Madura; 16, Kestrel; 18, Oliver Cromwell. For New York: 11, Alhambra.
From SINGAPORE.—None.
From PENANG.—For London: March 2, Alice.

VESSELS LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Gabulva, Mirage.
At SHANGHAI.—For London: Beatrice and Grenadier. For Liverpool: Durban, Queensbury, Corrizal, John Nicholson, Stuart, Blackwood, and Agamemnon. For New York: Finsila and Resolute.
At FOOCHOW.—For London: Maiden Queen.
At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Philippine, Ocean, Silome. For Liverpool: Prince Arthur.
At MANILA.—For London (via Cebu): Sir W. F. Williams.
At SINGAPORE.—For London: Alexandra, British Crown, and Early Dawn. For Liverpool: Springwood and Velox.
At PENANG.—For London: Britannia and Dunmore. For Boston: Rocket.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

YOKOHAMA.—To London: Cotton and tea, £3 to £3. 10s. per ton; silk, £4. 10s. of 50 cubic feet.

SHANGHAI.—Unemployed tonnage in the harbour is large, with little freight offering either for coast or home. To London and Liverpool the rates remains at £3 to £3. 10s. tea and cotton and £4.

FOOCHOW.—To London: £2.

HONG KONG AND CANTON.—The following is from the circular of George Holmes:—Tamana (629), Manila to St. Thomas or Pernambuco, for orders; if to New York or Boston, £3. 5s. per ton for sugar; £4. 5s. for hemp; and 5s. per ton extra if on to Great Britain. Ceserza (344), Manila to Falmouth, for orders, at £3 per ton for sugar and £4 for hemp. Osprey (597), Manila or Zebu to London or Liverpool, at £3 to £4. 5s. for hemp. The rates to Saul and back are 25 cents per picul; if on to Ningpo, 45 cents; and to Shanghai, 50 cents. To Newchwang and back 40 cents per picul; and to Cheefoo and back 40 cents.

MANILA.—Although no vessel has been taken up during the fortnight, tonnage is in better supply, and some settlements may soon be expected.

SINGAPORE.—To England: Little inquiry exists; vessels on the berth are loading at £2. 10s. dead weight, and £2. 17s. 6d. light freight.

PENANG.—To London: The Britannia and Devonvale are on the berth at £3. 5s. for dead weight, £3. 10s. light freight, and £4 measurement.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—Feb. 10, La Plata Newcastle to Singapore; 13, Edinburgh Castle, Glasgow to Singapore; Solide, Newcastle to Sourabaya; 14, Jan Van Galen, Rotterdam to Singapore; 15, West, London to Singapore; 16, Hasty, Swansea to Singapore; Singapore, Rotterdam to Singapore; Cornelia Hendrika, Newcastle to Tegal; Celebes, Amsterdam to Sourabaya; 17, Cornelia Agnes, Sunderland (orders); Johanna Oluffa, Newcastle to Singapore; and 21, Nordstern, Hamburg to Singapore.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—Feb. 13, Hawthorn, Singapore to London; 17, H.I.M. Albreck and Colarvala, Singapore to Cronstadt; 23, Lamal, Japan to London; Naomi, Shanghai to London; 23, Empress of India, Lebu to Liverpool; 24, Joanne Dare, Hong Kong to Bordeaux; 25, Hindostan, Hong Kong to Plymouth; Blohm, Singapore to Falmouth; Constance, Shanghai to Liverpool.

From CHINA, &c., to MONTREAL.—12, Princess of Wales, from Shanghai.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—April 9, off Dungeness, from Java, Bezoekie; 8, off Plymouth, from Batavia, Nicoline; 7, off Scilly, from Batavia, Ridderkirk; March 19, at Havana, from Macoa, Encarnacion; April 11, at Falmouth, from Maulmain, Devonshire.

DEPARTURE.—March 14, from Sunderland, for Galle, Alphington.

SPOKEN.—Harkaway, Sunderland to Japan, April 1, 46 N., 8 W.

CASUALTIES.—The Labrador, Williams, from Cardiff, for Manila, put back to Cardiff, April 1, after having been in collision: she had her port mizen rigging carried away, chain plates torn out, and her stanchions, &c., broken.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Laid on at Liverpool: For Valpar and Hong Kong, Crusader, Gentoo.

ARRIVALS AT NEW YORK.—March 21, N. B. Palmer, from Hong Kong, December 19, spoke in lat. 38 N., lon. 28·15, ship Glencoe from Glasgow for Shanghai.

SAILED FROM NEW YORK.—March 24, ship Samuel Russell, for Hong Kong.

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SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH CABLES.

Mr. Francis Gisborne has compiled, and Messrs. Edward Stanford, of Charing-cross, published, a very useful table of the statistics of submarine telegraphcables up to April, 1865. By it we are told when and where the cable in question was and is laid, its length, its weight, the material with which it is covered, how it has answered, and how long it has been in operation. After stating these statistics, certain truths of great weight are deduced from them, which must of necessity be granted, as they are grounded on facts, not on any uncertain hypothesis.

Naval and Military.

Lieut. Col. J. W. Lovell, C.B., the head of the field fortifications department of the Royal Engineer Establishment, Chatham, having been appointed Commanding Royal Engineer in China, is succeeded at Chatham by Major F. H. de Vere, who has commenced his duties.

Mr. A. Boyton, Assist. Paymaster, R.N., recently in charge of Her Majesty's ship Psyche, has absconded from Malton. He has taken with him about £420 from the Government cash chest. It appears that Mr. Boyton asked from the commander, Lieut. R. Sterne, leave to pass Saturday and Sunday with some friends in the country, and to return to his ship on Monday morning. Hence his absence excited no suspicion. It has been discovered that he was taken on board the Messina packet. Messrs. Bone and Autey, Paymasters of Her Majesty's ship Hibernia and Magicienne, have been ordered to hold a survey on the Psyche's stores, and to examine her accounts. They reported the extent of the defalcation to amount to about £590, and it is stated that, in addition to this, the mess-funds have suffered to the extent of about £100. Had Mr. Boyton remained a little longer he would have received a very considerable sum, his share of salvage, effected by Her Majesty's ship Psyche off Alexandria, during the course of last year. The impression is that he has made for China, where he served for some time.

Notice is given of the distribution of the tonnage bounties awarded for slave dhows, names unknown, captured by the boats of the Penguin, tender to Her Majesty's ship Narcissus.

For the dhow captured on the 7th of July, 1862, the following are the shares due to an individual in the several classes:—Flag, £13. 16s.; captain, £21. 17s.; commander, £10. 18s. 6d.; second class, £2. 14s. 1d.; third class, £2. 3s. 4d.; fourth class, £1. 8s.; fifth class, 15s. 6d.; sixth class, 14s. 1d.; seventh class, 9s. 5d.; eighth class, 4s. 7d.; ninth class, 3s. 1d.; tenth class, 1s. 6d.

For the dhow captured on the 16th of July, 1862, the following are the shares due to an individual in the several classes:—Flag, £27. 18s.; captain, £44. 3s. 7d.; commander, £22. 1s. 10d.; second class, £5. 9s. 6d.; third class, £4. 7s. 7d.; fourth class, £2. 16s. 4d.; fifth class, £1. 11s. 5d.; sixth class, £1. 8s. 2d.; seventh class, 18s. 10d.; eighth class, 9s. 4d.; ninth class, 6s. 3 t.; tenth class 3s. 1d

For the dhow captured on the 6th of October, 1862, the following are the shares due to an individual in the several classes:—Flag, £20. 5s. 9d.; captain, £32. 2s. 8d.; commander, £16. 1s.5d.; second class, £4. 1s. 9d.; third class, £3. 5s. 3d.; fourth class, £2. 2s. 1d.; fifth class, £1. 3s. 5d.; sixth class, £1. 1s. 1d.; seventh class, 14s. 9d.; eighth class, 7s.; ninth class, 4s. 7d.; tenth class, 2s. 3d.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following appointments to the Most Honourable Order of the Bath :—

To be Ordinary Members of the Military Division of the First Class, or Knights Grand Cross of the said Most Honourable Order, viz.:—

Admiral Sir Edward Harvey, K.C.B.
Admiral Sir Fairfax Moresby, K.C.B.
General Sir William Rowan, K.C.B.
Admiral Sir Houston Stewart, K.C.B.
General Sir William John Codrington, K.C.B.
General Sir George Augustus Wetherall, K.C.B.
Admiral Sir Henry Ducie Chads, K.C.B.
General Sir James Frederick Love, K.C.B.
General Sir James Jackson, K.C.B.
Lieut. General Sir John Cheape, K.C.B., Royal (late Bengal) Engineers.
Lieut. General Henry, Viscount Melville, K.C.B.
Vice-Admiral the Hon. Sir Frederick William Grey, K.C.B., and
Vice-Admiral Sir James Hope, K.C.B.

To be Ordinary Members of the Military Division of the Second Class, or Knights Commanders of the said Most Honourable Order, viz.:—

General William Wood, C.B.
General Thomas Kenah, C.B.
Admiral Sir George Rose Sartorius, Knt.
General Abraham Roberts, C.B.
Lieut. General Thomas Monteith Douglas, C.B., Bengal Army.
Lieut. General William Cator, C.B.
Lieut. General Patrick Montgomerie, C.B., Royal (late Madras) Artillery.
Lieut. General Thomas Reed, C.B.
Lieut. General John Scott, C.B.
Lieut. General William Wyllie, C.B.
Lieut. General Charles Ash Windham, C.B.
Vice-Admiral Thomas, Earl of Lauderdale, C.B.
Vice-Admiral Robert Smart.
Vice-Admiral John Kingcome.
Vice-Admiral Horatio Thomas Austin, C.B.
Lieut. General John Edward Dupuis, C.B.
Lieut. General Fortescue Graham, C.B., Royal Marines.
Rear Admiral Sydney Colpoys Dacres, C.B.
Major General Lord William Paulet, C.B.
Major General the Hon. Augustus Almeric Spencer, C.B.
Major General Robert William Honner, C.B., Bombay Army.
Colonel John William Gordon, C.B.
Colonel Edward Harris Greathed, C.B.
Colonel Charles William Dunbar Staveley, C.B.
William James Tyrone Power, Esq., C.B., Commissary General in Chief.

It will be seen, from the subjoined list, that there are still nineteen veteran officers who live to celebrate the sixty-fourth anniversary of Lord Nelson's memorable battle of Copenhagen. The following are the names of the survivors, together with the rank they then held, the rank they now hold, the ship in which they served, and the date at which they entered the Royal Naval Service:—

Admiral Lewis Hole, on the Retired List, was lieutenant in command of a division of boats attached to Lord Nelson's squadron, previous to the attack made upon the Danish line of defence before Copenhagen, and, on the 2nd of April, served on board the Polyphemus, 64, as a volunteer. He entered the Navy as an able seaman in 1793.

Admiral Bateman Dashwood, on the Retired List, entered the Navy in 1799, as a first-class volunteer, and, as such, served in the Defiance, 74.

Vice-Admiral Thomas Wren Carter, C.B., on the Active List, entered the Navy as a first-class volunteer in 1800, and was midshipman of the Warrior, 74.

Vice-Admiral John Wyatt Watling, on the Retired List, who had been in the merchant service, entered the Navy as ordinary, March 4, 1801, and rendezvoused in the launch on board the Elephant, 74, bearing Lord Nelson's flag.

Vice-Admiral Philip Westphal, on the Retired List, entered the Navy as first-class volunteer in 1794, and at the above action was master's mate of the Blanche, 36.

Vice-Admiral Charles Crowdy, on the Retired List, entered the Navy in 1799, as ordinary, and was aide-de-camp to Capt. T. F. Fremantle, in the Ganges, 74.

Vice-Admiral Thomas Mansel on the Retired List, was midshipman of the Elephant. He entered the Navy as first-class volunteer in 1798.

Vice-Admiral Alfred Luckraft, on the Retired List, entered the Navy in 1799, as first-class volunteer, and in that capacity served in the Monarch, 74.

Vice-Admiral John Hackett, on the Reserved List, was midshipman of the Raisonnable, 64. He entered the Navy as an able seaman in 1799.

The Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China v. Gladstone.—This was an ex parte application by the Chartered Bank of India, which carries on an extensive banking business in the Eastern possessions of Great Britain, and related to the rival claims of the defendants to certain shares in the bank. Previously to October, 1864, John Gladstone, a merchant in the City of London, was the registered holder of fifty such shares, of the value of upwards of £1,500. In the course of that month he executed an irregular and informal instrument, purporting to transfer the shares to his son, the defendant, John Hall Gladstone, for the nominal consideration of five shillings. The bank, however, refused to register the transfer, partly because of the informality, and partly because the company had a lien on the shares for a debt due from John Gladstone the father. The debt was, however, satisfied in November, but on the very day on which it was paid John Gladstone was adjudicated bankrupt. His assignees in bankruptcy thereupon set up a claim to the shares; and the bank, being thus subject to two conflicting demands, sought to relieve itself from them by an interpleader suit, in which the assignees on the one hand and the transferee on the other were called upon to settle and adjust their claims between themselves. John Hall Gladstone having commenced an action for a mandamus against the bank to compel a transfer of the shares, the present application was made to stay his proceedings at law. The Vice-Chancellor granted an interim order accordingly, upon the usual undertaking by the manager of the company to be answerable for any damages which might be occasioned by such order.

The Taipings and the Bible.—A letter, written by an "Anglo-Taiping," has appeared in some of the English papers, strongly advising the recognition of the Taipings by England, and condemning those who prefer "the Buddhism, tyranny, and hatred of the Manchoo." He declares that the Taipings would Christianise China, and writes:—"I have often seen great bales of the newly-printed Bibles packed up in the late Taiping capital, Nanking, and sent off to the country for distribution. The Tienwang (Taiping King) employed upwards of 400 men printing the Bible, and more than 1,000 copies were regularly turned out every week. Nanking, through British interference, has been captured by the Imperialists, and the printing and circulation (or even possession of the Bible by a Chinaman) has been annihilated; therefore, I maintain, if any sincerity or Christian feeling induces the people of England to send so many missionaries to China, a very little of the same motive might cause them to at least endeavour to make the poor Chinese some recompense for what the wicked policy of our Government has destroyed. An opportunity now offers itself, and if the people do not take advantage of it, their silence may be taken for approval of the conduct of their Government towards the Taipings."

Admiral Meynell.—Admiral Henry Meynell died at Paris on the 1st inst. after a short illness. The deceased entered the Navy in June, 1803. He was actively employed during the first seven years he was in the service in the Mediterranean and home stations, and he afterwards sailed as lieutenant of the Theban with a convoy for the East Indies and China. He was appointed Acting Commander of the Arrogant, at Bombay, in 1813; and in August the same year promoted to be Commander of the Cornwallis. He subsequently in 1815 became acting Captain of the Newcastle, bearing the flag of Sir Pulteney Malcolm at St. Helena. Admiral Meynell was in the Spring of 1820 appointed Gentleman Usher to George IV., which office he held until the King's death. He also held the same post for a short time in the household of William IV.; and for some years, up to April, 1845, he was one of the Grooms in Waiting to Her Majesty the Queen. He represented the borough of Lisburn in the House of Commons from 1826 until 1847. His commissions bore date as follows:—Lieut., 8th of November, 1809; Commander, 24th of August, 1813; Capt., 10th of April, 1816; Rear-Admiral (reserved), 29th of April, 1851; Vice-Admiral, 9th of July, 1857; and Admiral, 4th of October, 1862.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

Subscription 54s. per annum. including Postage. Export Supplement 12s. extra.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 1865.

THE PRINCE NAGATO.

IT will be observed that the present mail gives no confirmation of the report that a fleet of steamers under the TYCOON'S flag had formed a *rendezvous* in the Samuda Sea, with the purpose of attacking Nagato. Had such an intention been entertained, it must have led to such representations on the part of the Foreign Ministers as would cause its abandonment; at the same time it would serve as an affective and harmless demonstration. It savours of barbarism not to be satisfied with any triumph not accompanied with the gratification of a bloodthirsty revenge. If we cannot educate the Japanese into an appreciation of the amenities of civilization, we have attained a position and an influence that will henceforward, it is to be hoped, allow of our controlling any such wayward and despotic acts. Unquestionably it is a high gratification for the TYCOON'S Government to find the maritime Daimios, who were wavering in their allegiance, so decidedly ready to take its part now that its fortunes are in the ascendant; but as this is solely owing to the foreign aid on which it counts, it is ours to watch that the influence thus given and acquired shall not be perverted to any barbaric purpose. Triumph enough has been secured, so far as the consolidation of the power of the TYCOON'S Government is concerned, in our having sought its permission to open, trade relations with Simonoseki and other ports; though indeed, with the threat of seeking them out for ourselves, were such permission not granted. The hostilities of Nagato and Choshiu have thrown a serviceable light on the causes that were at work to bring about that disastrous political disintegration which, without undue intervention, we have happily averted. The question of the ascendency of the rebel Princes was manifestly to be determined by the relative value of their territorial position-commanding, as they did, the key to "the valley of deep waters," so long as they could effectively bar its entrance—opening and no man shutting, shutting and no man opening; for otherwise Osacca, backed by the range of Niphon hills, and embayed in a region watered by deep rivers, could not fail to continue to assert its supremacy. Yedo has ruled Japan by the force of the same great natural law by which Rome once ruled Italy; Osacca becoming, like the Queen of the Adriatic, the radiating centre of trade by land and sea. It is less the political constitution of the Empire than actual territorial advantages which have secured to the TYCOON'S Government the homage of Daimios near and far, just as the Alban, Etruscan, and other States yielded successively to the rule of Rome. In having dashed to pieces the fortresses that would have dominated over the most important outlet of the Samuda Sea, we have not only strengthened most materially the power of the TYCOON, but enforced on the Japanese mind the lessons taught by their traditions, which refer to Yedo as the seat of the Empire, and to Osacca as the great natural emporium of trade.

IN our notice of the appointment of Sir HARRY PARKES to the post of Minister in Japan, we omitted to state that CHARLES ALEXANDER WINCHESTER, Esq., now H.M.'s Consul at Yokohama, would succeed Sir HARRY PARKES at Shanghai.

DEMAND FOR ORIENTAL WORKS OF ART IN FRANCE.

TEN years since the Parisians generally knew nothing of China and Japan beyond the fact that silk, tea, and indian-ink, porcelain, fans, carved ivory, and a few other pretty things came from there. At the present moment shops for the sale of Chinese and other Oriental productions are to be found in all quarters of the capital of the Continent—or, as some less bashful please to call Paris, of the world, and one or two of these establishments exhibit collections which will bear comparison with the first in London, as regards taste, at any rate, if not quantity. It is the fashion in Paris, whose stone-built houses are not dry enough for first-class dealers to place their goods in until they have been erected one or two years, to let the unfinished shops to hucksters, who fill the bare space which will one day shine in all the honours of painting and gilding, looking-glass and gas, with toys, tools, purses, braces, and all the sweepings of the greater establishments. Of late, china, screens, lanterns, fans, and all kinds of Chinese and Japanese wares have taken the place of Parisian trumpery in these temporary shops at the West-end of the town. A notable instance may be quoted at the present moment at the corner of the boulevard opposite the new Opera, the Grand Hotel, and the Rue de la Paix. A Chinese theatre or singing-hall has just been built in one of the new boulevards in the vicinity of the Northern Railway Station, and there are numberless other proofs of the rage for things Chinese and Japanese in artistic Paris.

One of the strongest of these proofs is the price that such objects fetch at the public sales, where they are to be found largely and constantly. The POURTALES' collection of pictures, sculpture, and other works of art, one of the finest private collections in the world, has just been dispersed, and has yielded between four and five millions of francs to the family purse, which is said to be already lined with about eight times that amount. Some few of the gems of this famous collection have been purchased for the National Gallery and the British Museum. Amongst others a glorious head, of no matter who—Apollo, some people call it in the highest style of Greek art, and two large portraits by REMBRANDT, which will almost throw into shade those already in our gallery. Amongst the treasures of the POURTALES family were some choice Oriental works, most of which fetched high prices. A small Mandarin's sceptre in rock crystal fetched, converting francs into pounds sterling and omitting odd shillings, £16. An agate tazza, about five inches in diameter, and less than two inches high, the outline being divided into eight curves, fetched nearly £77. Another Oriental cup and cover, but mounted in gilt work of the time of Louis XVI., £92. A green jade cup or tazza, about six inches in diameter, the exterior worked in forty-four curves, and decorated with bands of foliage, £62; a cup and cover in light-green jade, about the same height and diameter as the preceding, worked in twelve panels, and having fine cone handles and decorations worked out of the solid, £80; a smaller cup in dark jade but without cover, oval in form and divided into four lobes, with dragon handle, the exterior and handle ornamented with arabesques encrusted with gold, and the interior with eight arabesques painted in gold, of ancient workmanship, £84; a travelling or dressing case, in fine lacquer, containing a box in four compartments, a tray and a water-bottle, the corner-pieces and the bottle being in the form of the bamboo, richly ornamented on a gold ground, £56; lacquer box in three stages, one of the divisions containing two smaller ones, £8; another in lozenge form, containing a plateau and four small boxes, £14; two large lacquer bowls with covers and stands, festooned with black and gold, and decorated with birds and flowers, £130; lacquer vase with two handles, black and gold, £20; tea caddy, in the form of a double peach, old Japanese lacquer, black, with gold figures in relief and mother-o'-pearl, inside two small China jars with covers mounted in gilt bronze, £17; square box on feet, containing plateau and five small boxes, £10; quatrefoil shaped box in fine lacquer, the cover decorated with a group of six persons playing at a game like blindman's-buff, £20; small Chinese bronze vase, in form of two bottles, £8; small Chinese idol, in fine bronze, £6; perfume burner, of square form, on four feet, the cover decorated with a dragon, Chinese bronze, £9; vase of Tonquin bronze, in form of fountain, with three taps, two handles, and three feet, decorated with medallions in relief and gilt, £29; two porcelain vases, form of bamboos, decorated with animals and marine plants in relief on yellow Nanking ground, mounted in gilt bronze, £50; large China dish, jasper red ground, decorated with a cock and

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enamelled flowers, £17 ; two cups with handles and a salver, mounted in silver, £14 ; two China bowls, with the Imperial dragon on a violet ground, very old, £5 ; four cups and saucers in the form of flowers, £7 ; China bowl, with flowers outside and bats inside on a yellow ground, £5 ; two apes seated, holding fruit, in Chinese enamelled earthenware, £6 ; tea-pot in red Boccaro ware, with silver gilt handle and spout, £5 ; painting on glass, representing a Chinese woman with her neck uncovered, and another of a female holding a rose, together, £6 ; volume in folio, containing thirteen Chinese drawings in colours, £9 ; large folio volume in red morocco, containing thirty-three pictures Persian and Indian, £48 ; large bowl *cloisonné* enamel, decorated with flowers and animals, on a turquoise ground, £18 ; pair of spectacle frames in gold filagree, in a richly carved ivory case and outer carved wood box, £16 ; four carved ivory plates, from a casket, £14.

The Chinese fever is in fact very high at the present moment. The EMPRESS has re-arranged a collection at Fontainbleau, where a special pavilion has been erected for the purpose, and another at the Tuileries. More than one Minister and official living in the splendid official apartments in the new Louvre has his Chinese museum, one of these being of a very *récherché* description. The ornamentalists of Paris have produced a number of articles based more or less on Chinese art ; an immense number of pieces of Sevres and other porcelain are now mounted on carved wooden stands *a la mode Chinoise ;* and there is scarcely a fancy dress ball given in Paris, and these occur almost every evening at the present season, without one lady at the least being present in Chinese costume, with a real Chinese dress, Chinese shoes—not golden lilies, however—Chinese ornaments, Chinese fan, and as nearly as possible Chinese coiffure. Some wicked wag once called the French the Chinese of Europe : is there really any peculiar sympathy between Jacques Bonhomme and John Chinaman, or is the fickle goddess Fashion patroness of all these *Chinoiseries ?*

CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES.

The Civil Service Estimates for the year ending March 31, 1866, have been laid on the table of the House of Commons. The following refer to China and the Far East :—

CHINA.

The total amount is £71,532. 15s., against £76,081. 10s. 2d. for the previous year. The items are—

PEKING.—Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, and Chief Superintendent of Trade, £8,000 ; Secretary of Legation and Chinese Secretary, £1,200 ; Second Secretary, £500 ; Assistant and Accountant, £500 ; Surgeon, £200 ; Assistant Chinese Secretary, £600 ; ten Student Interpreters. £2,200 ; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £250 ; Special Allowances to Colonial Officers at Hong Kong for services rendered to Superintendency, viz. :—The Attorney-General, £250 ; the Surveyor-General, £200 ; the Colonial Auditor, £500 ; Assistant, £300.

CANTON.—Consul, £1,600 ; Vice-Consul at Whampoa, £750 ; Interpreter, £700 ; First Class Assistant, £400 ; Second Class Assistant, £350 ; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £180.

MACAO.—Consular Agent, £150.

SWATOW.—Consul, £800 ; Interpreter, £500 ; First Class Assistant, £400 ; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

AMOY.—Consul, £900 ; Interpreter, £500 ; First Class Assistant, £400 ; Second Class Assistant, £300 ; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £125.

FOOCHOW.—Consul, £1.000 (last year, £900) ; Interpreter, £500 ; First Class Assistant, £400 ; Second Class Assistant, £300 ; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

NINGPO.—Consul, £800 ; Interpreter, £400 ; Second Class Assistant, £350 ; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

SHANGHAI.—Consul, £1,500 ; Vice-Consul, £750 ; Second Vice-Consul, £750 ; Interpreter, £700 ; Second Interpreter, £500 ; First Class Assistant, £400 ; Second Class Assistant, £350 ; Third Class Assistant, £300 ; First Linguist, £300 ; Second Linguist, £300 ; Third Linguist, £200 ; Writers, £120.

TAIWAN.—Consul, £750 (last year, £800 ; Interpreter, £400 ; Third Class Assistant, £300 ; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

CHIN-KIANG.—Consul, £900 ; Interpreter, £400 ; Third Class Assistant, £300 ; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

KIU-KIANG.—Consul, £900 ; Interpreter, £400 ; Third Class Assistant, £300 ; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

HANKOW.—Consul, £1,300 ; Interpreter, £500 ; Second Class Assistant, £350 ; Third Class Assistant £300 ; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

TANG-CHOW.—Vice-Consul, £750 (last year, £900) ; Third Class Assistant, £300 ; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

TIEN-TSIN.—Consul, £900 ; Vice-Consul at Ta-ku, £500 ; Interpreter, £400 ; Third Class Assistant, £300 ; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

NEWCHWANG.—Consul, £1,300 ; First Class Assistant, £400 ; Chinese Writers or Linguists, £100.

For Mission and Superintendency, £15,100 ; Consulate, Canton, £3,980 ; Consular Agent, Macao, £150 ; Consulate, Swatow, £1,800 ; Amoy, £1,925 ; Foo-chow, £2,300 (last year, £2,200) ; Ningpo, £1,650 ; Shanghai, £6,170 (last year, £5,670) ; Vice-Consulate, Taiwan, £1,600 (last year, £1,550) ; Consulate, Chin-kiang, £1,700 ; Vice-Consulate, Kiu-kiang, £1,700 (last year, £1,550) ; Consulate, Hankow, £2,550 (last year, £2,450) ; Tang-chow, £1,150 (last year, £1,300) ; Tien-tsin, £2,200 ; Newchwang. £1,800 (last year, £1,700) ; total for salaries, £45,775 (last year, £44,925).

Contingent expenses, £1,500. Allowances for passages for consular officers and student interpreters, £1,600 (last year, £471). To complete Consular buildings at Hankow, £3,000 (last year, £4,000). Repairs to Consular buildings at Foo-chow-Foo, £1,600.

Erection of gaol and constables' quarters at Swatow, £900. Raising the river facing ground at the Consular Residence at Newchwang, £1,500. Excess of expenditure beyond the sum voted in 1862-3 for Consular residence, offices at Amoy, £250. Temporary allowances at Shanghai, £1,350. Pay of Legation guard and escort at Peking. £857. 15s. Outfit for ditto, £300. Total, £7,532. 15s. (last year, £76,081. 10s. 2d.)

JAPAN.

YEDO.—Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, and Consul-General, £3,000 ; Secretary of Legation, £800 ; Interpreter and Japanese Secretary, £700 ; Assistant and Accountant, £472. 10s. ; Assistant and Medical Officer, £500 ; two Interpreters for Japanese language, £400 each, £800 ; Second Class Assistant, £350 ; three Student Interpreters, at £200 a-year each. £600 (last year, £800).

KANAGAWA.—Consul, £1,000 ; Vice-Consul, £500 ; Dutch Interpreter, £400 ; Second Class Assistant, £350 ; Third Class Assistant, £300.

NAGASAKI.—Consul, £1,000 ; Dutch Interpreter, £400 ; Second Class Assistant, £350 ; Third Class Assistant, £300.

HAKODADI.—Consul, £800 ; Interpreter, £500 ; Third Class Assistant, £300. Total for salaries, £13,422. 10s. (last year, £12,772. 10s.)

SUPERNUMERARY.—On account of extra pay and expenses of Legation Guard, £1,000 ; Contingencies, £3,500 ; Attorney-General at Hong Kong, £100 ; Allowances for Passages for Consular Officers and Student Interpreters, £500 (last year £314). Total, £18,522. 10s. (last year, £18,311. 5s.)

SIAM.

Consul, £1,200 ; Interpreter, £500 ; First Assistant, £400 (last year £405) ; two Student Interpreters, £400 ; Medical Attendant, £400. Total for Salaries, £2.900 (last year, £3,229) ; Contingent Expenses, £1,200 ; Allowance for Consul's Outfit, £400. Total, £4,500 (last year, £4,829).

LABUAN.

Governor, £800 ; Government Secretary, £300 ; Treasurer and Police Magistrate, £500 ; Surgeon, £500 ; Chaplain, £350 ; Surveyor General, £300 ; Harbour Master, £300 ; Gaoler, £175 ; Establishments of foregoing Officers, £985 ; Contingent Expenses of Justice, Police, and Gaols, £1,751 ; Roads, Works, and Buildings, £1,950 ; Miscellaneous, £335 ; Loss by Exchange on the Bills drawn by the Governor upon the Paymaster-General, between December, 1863, and July, 1864, £691. Total, £8,937. Deduct Estimated Local Revenue, £3,167. Balance in hand, £1,129. Total, £4,926. Estimate of Amount Required, £4,641.

Among the expenses for special missions, outfits, &c., we find the following :—

Expenses of Sir H. Robinson on an inquiry into the Financial Position of the Straits Settlements, £597 17s. 8d. ; a Russian Botanist on board H.M.S. *Centaur*, from Yokohama to Nagasaki, £6 ; Mr. Cavanagh, Governor of Singapore and Aide-de-Camp on board H.M.S. *Search*, in October. 1862, £28 7s.

JUDICIAL ESTABLISHMENT FOR CHINA AND JAPAN.

Judge, £3,500 ; Deputy Judge (increasing by £50 per annum to £1,200), £1,000 ; Law Clerk (increasing by £25 per annum to £750), £600 ; allowances for house-rent until houses are provided, £1,600. Outfits : Judge, £777. 15s. 6d. ; Deputy Judge, £333. 6s. 8d. ; Law Clerk, £200 ; passages for these £405. Total, £8,416. 2s. 2d.

OFFENCES BY EUROPEANS IN CHINA.

(THE TIMES.)

The name of Colonel Sykes is not a good omen for an attempt to draw attention to a substantial evil. That gentleman is in the habit of promulgating such eccentric notions as to the virtues of the Taiping robbers, and he has sometimes shown himself so careless or credulous as to the authenticity of the stories which are from time to time told him, that we should not have much hope of getting a hearing for a grievance which comes only from the sources whence Colonel Sykes derives his information. Yet the question which he put to the Attorney-General on Thursday night is one which must, sooner or later, receive very serious consideration. It is necessary that it should be thoroughly understood whether crimes committed by Europeans in the interior of China are or are not punishable, and adequately punishable, by the European authorities in that Empire. We have insisted upon the Chinese recognising the sacredness of European life. We will not allow a Chinese magistrate, however far from any consular establishment, to take cognizance of a crime committed by a European. Whatever may be his malpractices, if a European brigand be a thousand miles up the country, plundering, burning, and slaying, still the magistrate and people of the distant province can do no more than overpower him by a gentle resistance, bind him firmly, and send him down to Shanghai. It is true that popular feeling has sometimes proved too strong for treaty rights, and that European robbers in the inner waters have been put to death summarily. It is also true that in extreme cases, where the offences have been very heinous, the mandarins have tied their captives so tightly with sharp strips of bamboo, and have sent them down so slowly and in such narrow cages, that their revenge lost little by their observance of European rights. In these instances of breach of treaty, however, reclamations were always made, and the too excitable populace or the too careful mandarins were always punished. It is looked upon as the most important birthright of every European in China that he shall not be accountable for any offence he may commit to a Chinese magistrate. His character as a foreigner is an immunity from Chinese law. The question put by Colonel Sykes is, whether he thereby becomes absolved from all law and all punishment.

The answer of the Attorney-General is correct so far as it goes, but is far from satisfactory. His explanation was that " Europeans who com-

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it in China what would be crimes in this country, if they could be caught and the facts proved against them, are amenable to the Consular authorities in China and also to the Colonial Court at Hong Kong." No doubt this is so, but probably no one in the House of Commons knew what the powers and procedure of these Consular authorities are, or what is the uniform issue of a prosecution in the Court at Hong Kong. We know nothing of the case quoted by Colonel Sykes; but we do know of a case, and a very much stronger case, which was recounted in our columns a few days ago, and which is in many respects more instructive than the robbery mentioned in the House of Commons. It will be remembered that a European, well known, as it would appear, at Shanghai, was proceeding in his boat up the river. This river, which is not very wide, was crowded with market boats, and, no doubt, the passage was also impeded by the floating residences which the Chinese moor upon their waters. The European was in haste, as Europeans usually are; he would brook no delay, he fired off his fire-arms, loaded with ball, to give warning of his approach and to signal the market people to get out of the way. One woman's boat was more embarrassing to him than the others. Very likely the woman, with the stolid obstinacy of her race, would not give way till the last moment. The European went on firing his signals. Here the evidence is a little doubtful. It is affirmed that the European lost his temper and fired directly into the boat which had angered him. Certain it is that he wounded the woman, and that the woman died of her wound. We will not believe that the man committed a ruthless murder. Enough that he fired recklessly close over the heads of a crowd of market people with intention to terrify and not to kill them. But he does kill one of them. In the eyes of every one of those Chinamen he has committed a wanton murder; in the judgment of the calmest European he has certainly committed a very aggravated manslaughter. In England he would probably have been punished with five years' penal servitude. What happens to him in China, where it is all-important that the people should have confidence that we act with justice? This man is, as the Attorney-General says, "caught" and the facts "proved against him." He is summoned before the Consular Court at Shanghai. The Consuls, upon occasions of the nature, take to themselves, we believe, two assessors, who are always merchants of the place, and the jurisdiction is limited to imprisonment for twelve months. We are not informed what the proceedings were upon this occasion, but the result was that the man was fined $100, and sentenced to be deported from Shanghai. This was the Justice which the Chinese population got at the hands of the Europeans in Shanghai—a fine of 25*l.* and an injunction to go away for a time from the neighbourhood where he had made himself so obnoxious! Really it would seem as though there were something more than a lawyer's periphrase in the Attorney-General's expression, "Europeans who committed in China *what would be* crimes in this country." There are Consuls —and we are glad to say that some of them are British Consuls—who have acted with promptitude and severity in cases of this kind, and have put forth all their power, such as it is; but the case we have now quoted is a specimen case of the class; this is how such offences are generally heard and decided by European Consular authorities and their assessors.

The Attorney-General, however, rightly tells us that this man might have been sent down to the Court of Hong Kong, where he might have been tried either for manslaughter or murder, and, if convicted, adequately punished. This is a remedy, no doubt. A Chinese market-woman is shot, either in wantonness or in recklessness, by a European. Her own magistrates are not allowed to punish the criminal, but her relatives may carry him before a Consul,—we have seen with what result,—or they may gather together the witnesses of the transaction and go with the offender down to Shanghai, and thence may take the next mail steamboat, if there should happen to be room, and steam, at costly charges, seven hundred miles down to Hong Kong, where they may institute a prosecution against the offender in the Queen's Court! The Attorney-General states the law as it is, and this is what the law is. But even if we were to suppose this a case in which not a market-woman, whose wealth is all contained in a string of copper cash, but some rich Chinaman had been murdered, and that his relatives were determined to follow up the matter. Let us suppose the case to be proved at last before a Hong Kong jury. We believe there is no instance, and could be no expectation, of a full conviction. Some years ago the Chinese Custom-house officers attempted to stop a sailing vessel in the Shanghai harbour which was leaving contrary to the Customs' regulations. The master fired his revolver into the boat and killed one of the Chinese Customs men. This case was carried to Hong Kong; the master was tried, the facts clearly proved, and the prisoner was immediately acquitted. The jury, no doubt, thought they were quite right. They were members of a mercantile body resident in China, and it was very natural that nothing should suffice to convince them that any Chinaman, no matter under what pretence, should be allowed to interfere with a square-rigged vessel. It was, no doubt, their honest conviction that the master was acting in his right in shooting the man who would have boarded him. So they would probably think to-morrow; but whether we blame them or not, it will not alter the facts or the practice, past or future; and, although we do not care to blame them, we cast much blame on the system which makes them the judges in such cases. We cannot believe, with Colonel Sykes, that the Chief Justice of Hong Kong has ever decided that he has no jurisdiction over crimes committed upon Chinese territory, but we think we have shown that, practically, his jurisdiction can have very little terror to prevent the commission of crimes there.

Is it not time, then, that our Law Officers should be able to tell us, not what a mocking burlesque of justice we have established in Hong Kong and Shanghai to cheat the Chinese with a semblance of punishment for crimes committed upon them, but rather that some plan really has been adopted for protecting these poor people and for vindicating our own good faith? There has been a general expectation for some time past that something was about to be done. We were told of a travelling Consular Judge, who was to be armed with large powers—a scheme which seems rife with difficulties. It would be perhaps more feasible to get the Chinese Government to establish by its own authority a European Court for the trial of Europeans according to fixed and civilised laws. Or, perhaps, the marauders who commit these offences outside the limits of the Treaty Ports might be made subject to martial law, and subject to court-martial on board the ship of war on the station. We have no special plan to push, or favour, and, indeed, we see great difficulties in forming any scheme which shall be effective and free from great objections; but we owe it to ourselves to make some attempt to remedy the utter powerlessness to do justice which the Attorney-General so naively admitted to the House of Commons on Thursday last. One of these homicides will rankle in the memory of a Chinese province for scores of years; and if we had no higher motive to induce us to suppress them, we ought to think how expensive they are for they have been in all times the raw material of China wars.

PROHIBITION AGAINST THE IMPORTATION OF CHINESE COOLIES INTO THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—Her Majesty's Consul at Hawaii might be instructed to urge on the attention of the King the rescinding of the existing prohibition against the importation into the Sandwich Islands of Chinese coolies. The especial use of these men would be their employment in sugar cultivation, for which they are fitted by their industrious and orderly habits which strongly contrast with the qualities of the Hawaiian natives. The advantage derivable from the influx of Chinese coolies would extend beyond the aid thus afforded to present cultivators of sugar, leading to a larger investment of English capital in the business, to extensive and rapidly increasing orders for suitable sugar machinery in London, and to the supply of the article at a cheaper rate to the colonists of Oregon and British Columbia. The ostensible motive to the enactment was the discouragement of certain evils connected with the coolie traffic, but, in reality, to shield the Hawaiian race from a competition that would accelerate their natural decay. It will be remembered that the introduction of coolies into our own colonies was forbidden shortly after slave emancipation, with what results need not be detailed. How did the Mauritius languish under our scruples - an island of the same size as Hawaii, and which produces annually 300,000 tons of sugar against its 12,000? The route from Shanghai to the Sandwich islands, 5,500 miles, lies through temperate latitudes, and the cost need not exceed £4 per head, the price of conveyance to California. It might be stipulated that the coolies should bring their wives and families, and be permitted to work according to their favourite contract system, each gang or congsee cultivating 100 acres of land to be paid for according to the weight of the cane they deliver at the mills. The rights of labour no less than the rights of capital are arrayed against the pretensions of the Hawaiian King, who appears to have been far more busied in strengthening his power at the expense of the constitution than in promoting the interests of his subjects.—Yours, &c.,

City, April 8, 1865. HONOLULU.

PROPOSAL FOR A LONDON, CHINA, AND JAPAN CLUB.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—I see that a London Indian Society has been formed for the purpose of discussing political, social, and literary subjects, relating to India and Ceylon, and circulating their opinions; an association highly suggestive of the desirability of forming a London, China, and Japan Club, which, besides constituting a place for *reunion* among former residents and merchants connected with those countries, might as an organization bring to bear upon the policy of the Government a certain amount of influence which, as proceeding from practical knowledge, could not prove otherwise than beneficial. I am, yours respectfully,

Athenæum Club, April 11, 1865. SAMUDA.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices March 27.
£100	Agra and Masterman's	50	119 to 121	120 to 125 xd.
50	Do. New	25	59 to 61	60 to 62 xd.
50	Do.	25	—	59 to 61
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	29 to 31	31 to 33
20	Do. New	All	—	—
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	54 to 56	51 to 53
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	35 to 37	36 to 39
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (10 pd.)	All	—	36 to 39
20	Eastern Exchange	5	1½ to ½ dis.	1¼ to ¼ dis.
50	London Joint Stock	15	47 to 49	46½ to 47½
100	London and Westminster	20	94 to 96	93 to 95
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	53 to 55	55 to 57
50	Union of London	15	53 to 55	51 to 53
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	3 to 1 dis.	par to 2 pm.
100	Do. Issued at 2 pm.	25	4 to 2 dis.	¼ dis. to ¼ pm.
100	Do. New	10	3 to 2 dis.	2 to 1 dis.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	¼ to ¾ pm.	¼ to 1¼ pm.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	30 to 32	30 to 32
100	Bank of London	50	140 to 145	148 to 152
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	¼ to ¼ pm.	¼ to 1¼pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 4	3 to 4
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	83 to 85	81 to 83
50	Do. New	35	21 to 23 pm.	20 to 22 pm.
20	China Steamship & Labuan Coal Co.	5	—	—
5	Bombay Gas	All	5¾ to 6¼	5¼ to 5¾ xn.
10	Hong Kong Gas	All	—	2¼ to 1¼ dis.
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	10	3 to 2 dis.	3¼ to 2¼ dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	¼ dis. to par.	¼ dis. to ¼pm.
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	20 to 21	18½ to 19½
1	Oriental Gas	All	1¼ to 1¾	1¼ to 1¾
1	Do. New	All	¼ to ¾ pm.	¼ to ¾ pm.
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2½ to 3	2¼ to 2¾
100	West India Steam Company	60	99 to 101	96 to 98
20	Ceylon Company	7	2¼ to 3¼ pm.	2½ to 2¾ pm.
20	International Finance Society	5	1½ to 1¾ pm.	1¼ to 1¾ pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2½ to 2¾ pm.	2½ to 2¾ pm.
50	London Financial Association	15	7½ to 7¾ pm.	5¾ to 6¼ pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	¾ to ⅞ dis	¾ to ⅞ pm.
20	Société Financière d'Egypte	10	2¼ to 2 dis.	2 to 1¼ dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	15½ to 16	15½ to 15¾
10	Upper Assam Tea	3¾	2¼ to 3¼ pm.	2¾ to 3¼ pm.
10	Do.	All	17 to 20	17 to 20

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Subscribed Capital, £3,000,000 (three millions sterling).
In 20,000 Shares of £100 each, and 20,000 Shares of £50 each.
Number of Shareholders, 906.
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LONDON MANAGER.
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AT the TENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the above COMPANY, held at the LONDON TAVERN, Bishopsgate-street, in the City of London, on WEDNESDAY, the 29th March, 1865,

W. P. ANDREW, Esq., Chairman of the Company, presiding,

The following resolutions were carried unanimously :—

1. That this meeting receive and adopt the report and accounts of the Directors.

2. That Sir T. Herbert Maddock be re-elected a Director of this Company.

3. That J. Edmund Anderdon, Esq., be re-elected a Director of this Company.

4. That Edward Thornton, Esq., C.B., be re-elected Auditor of this Company.

5. That William Mackinnon, Esq., be appointed an Auditor of the Company in place of George Gordon Macpherson, Esq., resigned.

6. That the cordial thanks of this meeting are tendered to W. P. Andrew, Esq., for his courteous conduct in the Chair this day.

W. P. ANDREW, Chairman,
S. H. R. PARRY, Acting-Secretary.

Gresham House, Old Broad-street, London,
March 29, 1865.

ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.

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Paid-up Capital, £500,000.
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Thomas Cardwell, Esq. (Messrs. Thomas Cardwell and Co., and Cardwell, Parsons, and Co., Bombay).
Charles A. Fearon, Esq. (Messrs. Fearon and Co., late of Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co., China).
William Maitland, Esq. (Messrs. M'Killop, Stewart, and Co.), Calcutta).

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The Hon. Michael H. Scott (Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, and Co.).
Robert Hannay, Esq. (Messrs. Grey and Co.).
Cowasjee Jehanghier, Esq.

GENERAL MANAGER.
Anthony Morrison, Esq. (late Agent at Bombay).
ACTING-MANAGER—F. W. Lawrence, Esq.

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The Corporation grant Drafts and negotiate Bills of Exchange, payable at the above places, issue Letters of Credit, and conduct every description of Banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian Securities, the receipt of Dividends, &c., and undertake the safe custody of Securities. They also receive Deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of Interest and Exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

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JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

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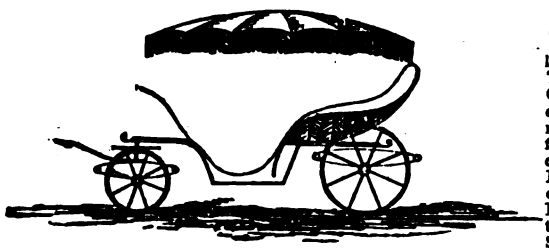

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"7, BURY COURT, ST. MARY AXE, LONDON, E.C., June 4, 1863.

"SIR,—I have analysed the two samples handed me on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., and found the 'Mixed Pickles' of H. and H. LEDGER, of 14, Minories, Aldgate, to be quite free from adulteration and made with Pure Malt Vinegar.

"I also found H. and H. LEDGER'S 'Britannia Sauce' to be free from any injurious substances.

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"For F. VERMANN F.C.S. Analytical Chemist.—ED. SCHREINER."

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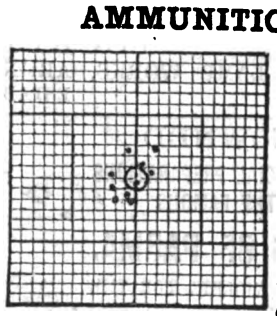

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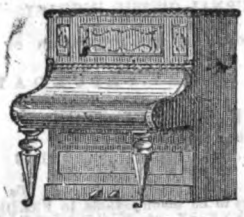

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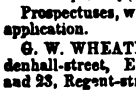

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FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the celebrated clipper ESPERANZA, A 1, ten years; 650 tons burthen; FREDERICK MURRELL, Commander; lying in the St. Katharine Docks. This beautiful vessel has just arrived from Foo-chow-Foo in 102 days.

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FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, with quick despatch, being under engagement with Government, the well-known British-built ship CAMBALU, A 1 thirteen years, 499 tons register, JOSEPH WOOD, Commander; loading in the London Docks. This fine vessel has just been continued A 1 for four years.

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With Despatch.

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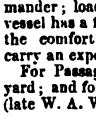
Loading in Queen's Dock, and will be despatched in a few days,



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Guava Jelly	2s. 6d. and 5s.
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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE SEVENTH Volume of this JOURNAL commenced on the 3rd of January, 1865. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 171.] LONDON, THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Dec. 26	Feb. —	Feb. 28
Nagasaki			March 5
Hakodadi			Feb. 5
CHINA—Peking			„ 10
Tien-tsin			March 3
Chefoo			
New-chwang			„ 3
Hankow			
Kiu-kiang			
Chiu-kiang			
Shanghai	Jan. 17	March 7	„ 9
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 9
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 10
Swatow			
Hong Kong	„ 26	„ 11	„ 15
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	„ 10	Feb. 20	„ 7
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			„ 8
SIAM— Bangkok			„ 6
BORNEO—			
Labuan			„ 7
Sarawak			„ 16
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 16
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Feb. 17	March 22	„ 23
Penang	„ „	„ 14	„ 25

Telegrams from Hong Kong up to 1st April were received on the 22nd, but announce nothing of importance. The French mail, with dates to the 26th March, is due on the 4th May.

List of Passengers.

—o—

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles per P. and O. Company's steamer Euxine, arrived April 25.—From Shanghai: Mr. Hayes. From Hong Kong: Mr. Hauschild, Mr. J. Russell, Mr. S. Watson, Mr. Broband, and one 2nd-class passenger. From Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Adamson, three children, and two servants, and three 2nd-class passengers. From Batavia: Mr. Pels, Mr. and Mrs. Houghton, Mr. Brocklin.

To Southampton, per "Delhi," expected to arrive April 30.—From Yokohama: Mrs. Edelmann, Commander Holder, R.N., and one 2nd-class passenger. From Hong Kong: Dr. and Mrs. Carnegie, three children and native servant, Assistant-Commissary General Eichbaun, and five 2nd-class passengers. From Singapore: Mr. J. E. Smale, and one 2nd-class passenger.

To Gibraltar.—From Hong Kong: Mr. Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Crespo, and three native servants, Mr. Pontes and native servant, Mr. S. Tait, four 2nd-class passengers, and one child. From Singapore: One 2nd-class passenger.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. Co.'s steamer Pera, from Southampton, April 20.—To Shanghai: Miss Brass, Mr Wyllie. To Hong Kong: Dr. A. B. Messer, R.N., Mrs. Carey and two sons. To Singapore: Mr. Frohlich, Mrs. F. H. Gottlieb, and infant. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Mackenzie, Mr. Cross, Mr. Geo. Hawkins, Miss L. A. Slater, Mr. J. S. Dewar, Mr. C. B. Culpepper, Mr. Barker, Mr. W. O. Pickford. To Calcutta: Capt. Hill, Ensign C. Tuck, Mrs. W. Ashworth and two children, Mr. P. Maxwell, Surg. Thompson, Asst. Surgeons A. Hale and D. Canny, Mrs. Thompson, Mr. G. Kemp, Mr. E. Craddock, Mr. Griffin, and five second-class passengers. To Madras: Capt. Campbell, Mr G. Rogers, Surgeon Lewis, Rev. A. Walker, Ensign C. L. Allan and two second-class passengers. To Suez: Two second-class passengers. To Alexandria: Mr. G. G. Ward and one second-class passenger.

From Marseilles, April 26.—To Hong Kong: Mr. G. Raynal, Mr. A. M. Moore, Commandante Torrida. To Singapore: Mr. S. Higginson and one second-class passenger. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Rose. To Calcutta: Mr. and Mrs. Newburn and native servant, Lieuts. Norris and J. R. Pearson, Mr. T. Hill, Miss Hill, Capt. and Mrs. N. Robinson. To Madras: Lieut.-Gen. Sir G. Le Marchant, Sir Wilford Brett, Major and Mrs. Benson and infant, Capt. C. E. Bates. To Alexandria: Capt. Chitty. From Suez.—To Calcutta: Mr. M. Beaufort.

Per P. and O. steamer Nyanza, May 4, from Southampton.—To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Tate. To Hong Kong: Mr. W. B. Miller. To Ceylon: Mrs. Howie and two children, Mr. F. M. Mackwood. From Marseilles, May 12.—To Singapore: Mr. E. Hagerom.

(Per Prince Alfred, to Shanghai, April 25.)

Rev. J. Mars, Mrs. Mars, Mr. Picot, Miss Skinner.

Summary of News from the Far East.

—o—

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Dates are to the 28th February.

We have received no newspapers, and we find, on inquiry, that very many of the large mercantile houses are in the same case.

The *North China Herald* states the news from Japan to be of no importance, the only point of any interest being a rumour of the projected opening of the port of Hiogo. The prospect, however, appears very doubtful, and excites no great enthusiasm at Yokohama. The settlements of silk during the fortnight are estimated at 550 bales; prices fully as high as at the date of last advices. In cotton a very small business only has been done.

The *China Mail* also corroborates the statement that the feeling among the merchants in Japan is opposed to new ports, observing—"It has long been admitted that the multiplication of ports of trade, in China or Japan, is not necessarily an advantage, for it happens that large houses do not find business sufficiently paying or sufficiently promising to encourage the maintenance of branches in many of the newly opened ports."

NAGASAKI.

The first Roman Catholic church ever opened in this port was consecrated on the 19th February. The men-of-war in harbour furnished a guard of honour on the occasion, and the Russian band was also in attendance. The Russians have started a new band, which is described as far superior to that they formerly possessed. The bund is once a week enlivened by the strains of martial music proceeding from the new instruments, and the foreign community evidently appreciate very highly the gratification thus afforded them.

HAKODADI.

An extensive fire occurred at this port on the 15th February, which burned down several ranges of native store houses, at the time containing an enormous quantity of produce accumulated in view of the approaching new year. Amongst other merchandise it is estimated that fifteen thousand piculs of seaweed were destroyed, out of which seven thousand piculs were the property of Messrs. Lindsay and Co. The fire also attacked the Government coal-godown, and the contents remained unextinguished for a week afterwards. The conflagration extended over a space of about ten thousand square yards, with a water frontage on the harbour and a canal at the back, and raged between the Japanese Government ship-yard and the saw-mills of the West Pacific Company. The latter establishment had a very narrow escape, and, but for the fire-engines kept on the spot, would undoubtedly have shared the fate of the surrounding buildings. The foreign residents turned out *en masse* and manned the fire-engines of the Russian Consulate and of Messrs. Dent and Co.'s hong, both of which proved eminently useful. Another fire broke out on the 16th February at H.B.M.'s Consulate, completely destroying the entire building, and rapidly spreading to the Russian Consulate, the residence of the Russian doctor, and several other buildings in the vicinity. A very large amount of property has been destroyed, but the origin of the fire is not known. It is, however, supposed to have commenced in one of the rooms occupied by the Japanese servants.

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CHINA.

PEKING.

The following notices are from the *Peking Gazette* :—

Nov. 29th—Tseng Kue-fan begs that the Chao-chung hall of memorials, which was destroyed by the rebels, be rebuilt. The Futai of Honan, Chang Chi-wan, reports that the soldiers despatched to different places will not be satisfied unless their wages are regularly and properly paid.

Nov. 30th—Tso Tsung-tang, Governor-General of Fukien, reports that the Loochoo tribute-bearers have arrived in Che-kiang.

Dec. 1st—Lao Tsung-kuan, Governor-General of Yunan, in conjunction with the Futai of Kuei-chow, Chang Liang-chi, reports a victory over the combined forces of the Miao-tzu and Mahometan rebels.

Dec. 2nd—Seng Wang (San-ko-lin sin) and others beg that several mandarins who have shown themselves incapable be punished.

Dec. 3rd—Mao Hung-ping, Governor-General of the two Knang, and Kuei Sungtiao, report that Ping-yuan-hsien and Chenping-hsien, which had been seized by the rebels, have been recovered. They further request that the officials whose negligence caused the loss of these cities may be subjected to examination, and that those who gallantly lost their lives may be rewarded.

Dec. 4th—The Futai of Kuei-chow requests that the people be induced by offered rank to give money for necessary expenditure, and that the mandarins who have lately displayed energy be rewarded.

Dec. 5th—The Futai of Kuei-chow reports a victory over an army of rebels which was proceeding from Hsu-chow-fu in the province of Szu-chuan to Kuang-tung. He begs that the officials and soldiers concerned be rewarded.

Dec. 6th—The Futai of Fukien requests rewards for the officials and soldiers who fell in battle at Chan-Chow.

Dec. 7th—The Futai of Shantung, Yen Chin-ming, reports that a Chi-chow has captured a celebrated robber, and the Futai requests that the captor may be rewarded.

Dec. 8th—The Futai of Shan-si, Liu Yung, requests that stringent measures be adopted to remedy the avarice, incompetence, and cowardice of the civil and military mandarins.

Dec. 9th—A Censor, Mei Chi-chao by name, abuses one Teng Fu-lun, an expectant Taotai in the province of Che-kiang, who has been convicted of dishonesty.

Dec. 10th—A Manchow general in Shan-si, named Wên-chi, reports that the Mahometan rebels at Ha-mi, in the province of Kansu, had made an incursion into Shan-si, but were driven back with considerable loss. He begs that the officials and soldiers concerned, as well as the Mahometans who did not join in the movement, be rewarded.

Dec. 11th—A decree is issued announcing that in consequence of the misery induced by the rebel occupation of Nanking, the people of the country round will for three years be relieved from the Imperial tribute. Tseng Kuo-fan and Li Hung-chang are appointed to see after the matter.

Dec. 12th—Chiao Sung-nien, Futai of Anhuei, reports the services of several Taotais and Chi-fus in his province, and begs that they may be promoted as rapidly as possible. Chang Shang, a Manchow, requests that the inland transit duties on produce be devoted to the purchase of rice for the soldiers at Peking.

Dec. 13th—Li Hung-chang reports that he has examined into the arrears of tribute due since the period previous to the 10th year of Hsien Feng, and he begs the Emperor, in view of the poverty of the people, to remit what now remains due. The request is accordingly granted.

Dec. 14th—Shen Pao-chen, Futai of Kiang-si, reports that Hung Fu-tien, the son of the *soi disant* T'ien Wang has been cut to pieces in accordance with the Imperial mandate. He likewise reports that the three chiefs Hung Jen-kan, Hung Jen-chen and Huang Wen-ying have been executed.

Dec. 15th—Yang Yo-ping, Hsio-tai, of Kiang-si, in conjunction with Shen Pao-chen, abuses Wang Mu, a Taotai, who having been ordered to lead an army against the rebels, refused to do so. A military mandarin named Wang An-chen had taken the soldiers and committed various outrages amongst the people. The Emperor directs that Wang Mu be degraded and banished, while Shen Pao chen will arrest Wang An-chen, and impose a suitable punishment upon him.

Dec. 16th—Tso Tsung-tang represents that, as the people of Si-yang-hsien and Yung-chia-hsien have undergone so many privations during the rebel occupation, they are unable to pay the arrears of taxes. He therefore begs that the amount now due be remitted.

Wu Tang, Grand Superintendent of the Huang-ho, reports that the Ching-chiang-pu is the very neck of the northern and southern provinces, and that accordingly a city has been built and a garrison placed in it. He begs the Emperor's approval.

Dec. 17th—Shen Kuei-feng, Futai of Shan-si, reports that he has carefully examined into the salt question, and that the Wei yuan appointed to act as Salt Commissioner has fulfilled his term of office. This officer has proved himself most energetic, and he is therefore recommended for promotion. Shen Pao-chen requests that as a reward for the great exertions of the Mandarins and the generosity of the merchants of Ching-an-hsien, the number of civil and military sewtzai-ships appropriated to Ching-an be increased.

Dec. 18th—An edict complying with the request of Liu Yung (Dec. 8th) for the punishment of certain offenders.

Dec. 19th—Tseng Yuan-fu (an official in Formosa) reports that the last military commander-in-chief, by name Ling Hsiang-yung, while on a trip to Tou-hu, lost his official seal. The office is in consequence now vacant, and the memorial begs that the Boards be directed to furnish another seal.

Dec. 20th—The Futai of Honan reports that a number of people having some time since departed for Peking to lay certain complaints of the conduct of the local officials before his Imperial Majesty, and his Majesty having referred the complainants back to him, he has accordingly examined the affairs and dealt with each side in accordance with the code.

Dec. 21st—Yu Ling-chen, a Chinese official at Chi-ling (in Manchuria), reports that there are so many riotous and disorderly people at that place that it will be found necessary to send a high Manchow official as Criminal Commissioner to pacify the district. Tsung How, Commissioner at Tien-tsin, recommends for promotion the men who were engaged in negociating the late treaties. A Soochow man named Puan Wei is recommended by Tsung How for promotion. Puan Wei is at present Taotai of Teng-chow, near Chefoo.

Dec. 22nd—A Censor enlarges on the disturbed state of Chi-ling. (See *Gazette* of 21st.) Tso Tsung-tang, in conjunction with Chü Tsung-kan, reports that a Wei-yuan who had been directed to carry the tribute of the province of Fukien to the capital, has disappeared with the money. All attempts to discover his whereabouts have hitherto failed.

TIEN-TSIN.

A correspondent writes, under date 27th January:—A custom exists in China that, on every New Year's-day, one thousand of the descendants of Ginghis Khan should pay their respects to the Emperor, and by our last advices we understand that many Mongols were in Peking for that purpose. As, however, the Europeans are forbidden to enter Peking for trading purposes, this circumstance is of little service to the mercantile community. And even if this restriction were removed, the benefit derivable is very dubious; for so poor are the Mongol chiefs, that they cannot trade without an advance being previously made, and their security is of an exceedingly doubtful description. An uncle of the Emperor has recently paid the debt of nature, and Prince Kung was despatched to perform the necessary rites; but his mother demanding the Emperor's presence in *propria persona*, a mandarin was sent to prepare the way before him. Now, in the proposed route was a French Roman Catholic chapel, surmounted by a cross. This cross was objected to by the mandarin, who asked the priest to have it removed before the arrival of the Emperor. But on application for advice being made to the French Minister he ordered it to be left alone, adding that the Chinese might remove it if they thought fit. On the arrival, therefore, of the Emperor the obnoxious cross was in full glory, and, what is more, the priest, with his unsanctified eyes, obtained a glimpse of the Celestial Monarch, whom he described as a "nice-looking little fellow." Dr. Martin has held at his house a most interesting meeting on the unity of the human race as deduced from language. A great many Chinese were present, some of whom read papers on the subject.

At Tien-tsin business is remarkably dull, in fact, there is no business at all, not even sufficient to merit the charge of being dull. The Customs returns, however, for 1864 show an increase in the principal articles of import since 1863. This, however, may be accounted for by the fact that foreigners have had a large stock remaining over from 1862. The Chinese have of late gone in large numbers to Shanghai to make their purchases, which they bring up in steamers and pass through the foreign Customs, whereas they formerly brought them in junks. A report is current at Tien-tsin that a foreigner (name and country unknown) has killed two Chinese; but it is, of course, impossible to speak with any degree of certainty on a subject so likely to be coined merely to produce excitement.

In a later letter, dated the 10th of February, the name of the perpetrator of this deed is stated to be Mr. Blackwood. The Chinese broke into his room by night, and were immediately shot by him. Mr. Blackwood was to be tried before the Consul at Newchwang.

A budget of Customs returns, sent to us too late for publication in this number, will be given in our next.

Mr. Sandrie, a French merchant of this place, has gone overland to Chinkiang, in Yangtze, and will report on that route; even if a little longer by land than to Chefoo, it will have the advantage from that to Shanghai, as a steamer is obtainable every two or three days, when from Chefoo, in winter, there is no dependence to be placed on the communication between the places.

SHANGHAI.

The P. and O. Company's mail of the 10th Jan. arrived out on the 28th Feb., and the French mail, with dates to the 17th Jan., on the 7th March. Dates are now down to the morning of the 9th.

The 2nd Regiment Beloochees were about to leave for Bombay, in the *Caroline Coventry* and *Shakespeare*. The authorities have been much blamed for selecting vessels said to be too small for the purpose; the said authorities, as usual, have not "explained."

The palisading raised on the French Settlement to mark the boundary line had come down, owing to its insufficient construction.

Rumours of wars still prevail amongst native circles. The local authorities are now greatly disturbed by the repeated

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presence in Shanghai of an old Taiping chief named T'ang, formerly known as the Five-thousand year-King. The precise danger to be apprehended from his presence does not clearly appear. The most definite statement that can be extracted is, that he is going round the opium shops and houses of entertainment, seeking to excite discontent which on a convenient opportunity may be fanned into a flame. If a little of the energy which is being exhausted in his pursuit were directed towards preventing the shipment of arms and foreign recruits to the Foh-kien rebels, the result would probably be more useful.

Business has been next to nothing, owing to the discouraging accounts from home and the constant rains. The roads in many places about the British Settlement have been covered ankle deep with mud; while great strides have been made in grading and draining the streets, much remains to be done to make them convenient thoroughfares for pedestrians. The bund in the American settlement, along the Hwangpu river, needs to be raised in some places, covered with broken brick and shingle, and then it will become passable. The steamer *Feima*, originally built for the Canton river trade at Whampoa, has been sold for 9,400 taels.

It is stated that the Church-building Committee intend to refer the plans and estimates again to England before building.

A census of the Foreign Settlement is about to be taken.

Piratical craft again swarm. Captain Pike, of the Chinese steamer *Pluto*, sighted five piratical junks on the 23rd Feb., near Little Chusan Island, and drove them on shore there. The steamer sent boat's crews in pursuit of the pirates who landed. Twenty-three prisoners were taken, twelve or fifteen were killed, as they showed fight. Two men from the steamer were slightly wounded. Three of the junks driven on shore were saved, and the others burnt. They were well armed—the sulphureous vessels for suffocating, being among their weapons.

Murder and piracy have also been perpetrated on board a boat from Hankow bound to Ningpo, called the *Fox*, owned and commanded by an American named Beaver. The affair has only recently come to light, although it occurred two months ago; and the head boatman has confessed at the American Consulate at Ningpo that the foreigner was murdered, and the goods, valued at 1,800 taels, landed at Chinhai.

On the new Court at Shanghai we find the following in the *Recorder*:—

"The gentleman, whom report says has been nominated to this post, is Sir Edward Hornby, one who from his experience as Chief Justice in the Supreme Consular Court in the Levant, is in every way qualified to be the pioneer of a similar system in China. We understand that Shanghai will be his headquarters, and that he will hear appeals from all the Consular Courts in China and Japan; we feel convinced that he will gain far more experience in judicial work during his residence in China than he can have hitherto met with at Constantinople. Indeed, the business there must have been of a very trifling nature for the Government to have decided on the step of withdrawing the chief judicial authority. All British subjects will now be anxiously looking for the new 'order in council,' which this change will render necessary, and it is to be hoped that more competent legal advice may be taken in its framing than was apparently made use of when that famous budget of bungles and inconsistencies, yclept the Queen's order in council of 13th of June, 1853, was cast adrift by the chief superintendent of British trade at Hong Kong, to be the bugbear of British subjects and a standing cause of irritation and annoyance to British Consuls in China.

"What arrangement will be made to provide the judge with court-house and quarters we have not yet heard, but as it is not improbable that before another couple of months are passed he will be with us, we presume that steps will soon be taken for the accommodation of himself and staff—and now will begin to be felt the paltry policy of selling a few acres of the consular ground, because, forsooth, it was considered to be too large for Government purposes at Shanghai."

The *Cotton Tables* compiled by Mr. Birt, of the *Wo Kee* Hong, exhibit at one glance the price of the staple laid down in England, under every possible variation of price. The hypothetical prices range from Tls. 10 to Tls. 25 per picul, and the rate of exchange allowed for varies from 6.0 per tael to 7.6. A table is also added showing the freight upon 1 lb. compressed cotton from China to the United Kingdom, allowing a variation in freight quotations from £1. 10s. to £7. per ton of cubic feet. Finally there is a *pro forma* invoice of 100 bales of cotton shipped from China to England, which invoice comprises all the charges incidental to China cotton, and exhibits as a result that, exclusive of interest, freight, and loss of weight, cotton can be laid down in England (without loss) at the minimum advance of 14.96 per cent. on the cost in Shanghai.

From the *North China Herald* we take the following items concerning the rebellion:—

A rumour gained ground at Hangchow a few days ago, amongst the Chinese, that this city had been taken by the rebels, and that the Imperialist garrison had joined them. The officials, however, have received no confirmatory intelligence, and disbelieve the report. It is acknowledged, however, that there have been disturbances amongst the soldiery, and that the gates of the city are kept shut, except for a short period in the morning and evening, to permit the ingress and egress of the country people.

We learn that a visit has been paid by H.M. Consul and a few naval officers to the rebel chief at Chang-chow. They were received very courteously, and assured that neither Amoy nor any of the treaty ports would be assailed. There is, however, a fixed determination to conquer the interior of the Fukien province, and in attaining this object the rebels will not, we should imagine, have to dread any foreign interference. Rumours were afloat in Amoy to the effect that Cheohbey, a place of considerable importance on the river, about twenty miles from the sea, had fallen, but there is no doubt that the rebels are at least investing it closely, and will obtain possession of it. By capturing this place they hope to establish a trade with foreigners, but for some months even the small business now done at Amoy will be rendered still less satisfactory by the presence of an invading body in the neighbourhood of the port. Tong-san, a fine seaport about sixty miles south of Amoy, will be attacked in a few weeks, and the chief announces that if he be successful in his attempt, he will immediately throw it open to foreign trade. When the Consul was leaving, an official was sent with him to call on the senior naval officer at Amoy, and confer with him as to the likelihood of securing foreign assistance or foreign neutrality. Trade is, of course, excessively dull. The natives are unwilling to enter the interior so long as there appears to be a chance of danger, and market quotations are consequently unchanged from last advices.

H.M. ships *Swallow* and *Dove* have lately executed a much needed survey of the harbour at Swatow. Masters of vessels have hitherto complained greatly of the want of a proper chart of that port, and will learn with satisfaction that, in the course of a few months, that prepared under the superintendence of Commander Wilds will probably have been lithographed and sent out from England.

HONG KONG.

The P. and O. Mail of 26th January arrived out on the 11th March; the French Mail of 17th having arrived on the 1st. The dates are now down to the 15th.

Sir Hercules Robinson resigned the position of Governor into the hands of the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Mercer, pending a settlement of the permanent appointment, and proceeded to Ceylon by the present mail.

The following account of entertainments is from the *Evening Mail* of 14th March:—

The departure of Sir Hercules Robinson for Ceylon, where he proceeds to administer the government, has been marked by two complimentary entertainments—one, a dinner, given by the members of the Civil Service, the other, a ball, given in the Theatre Royal by the community.

The Civil Service Dinner was held in the Club on Saturday (March 11th). It was given by the heads of departments in the Colonial Government. Many distinguished guests were present—naval, military, and mercantile. Want of time on the eve of the departure of the mail prevents our publishing a detailed report of the proceedings.

The ball came off last evening (March 13th), and was attended by between two and three hundred persons. It was acknowledged to be the best entertainment of its kind that had ever been given in Hong Kong. The arrangements were most tasteful, and reflect the highest credit upon the Committee. The refreshment rooms and supper-room were most commodious, and the whole affair gave general satisfaction. H.R.H. the Prince Royal of Belgium (Duc de Brabant), who is at present travelling in the East, was among the guests at the ball. His Royal Highness is the eldest son of Leopold I., King of the Belgians, who married (in 1832) the eldest daughter of Louis Philippe, King of the French. He is

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the Prince Leopold who married (in 1816) the Princess Charlotte of Wales. The late Duchess of Kent having been sister to Leopold, the Duke of Brabant is first cousin to Queen Victoria. He bears a striking resemblance to his ancestor Louis Philippe.

After supper the usual loyal toasts were given by the Chairman, Mr. Pollard, who also gave the toast of the evening, "Sir Hercules and Lady Robinson." His Excellency replied very cordially on behalf of himself and Lady Robinson, thanking the large assemblage present for the compliment that had been paid to him. The toast was received with loud applause. Dancing was resumed after supper, and kept up with enthusiasm until a late hour.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 4th; present: His Excellency the Governor, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, Judge Ball, the Auditor General, and the Honourables Messrs. Chomley and Sutherland.

The minutes of last meeting having been read and confirmed, his Excellency said that he had to lay before the Council supplementary estimates for expenditure in excess of the amount already voted. Those estimates would be printed and in the hands of members in a day or two; but his Excellency said the total revenue for the year had been $637,848, of which $620,391 had been voted by the estimates. The actual expenditure was $763,307, and the excess had been caused chiefly by the outlay on the mint, and the sums paid in compensation to Chinese proprietors at British Kowloong being over what had been estimated and voted. The position of the colony for the year was better than had been expected, the excess of revenue over that of the previous year having been estimated at $185,000, while it really proved to be $298,190, while the expenditure proved to be under what was estimated. The sum wanted at present was $250,000, but of that only $140,000 belonged to this year's charges.

The Council then went into committee on the Limited Liability Ordinance, which was, after a last revision, about to be read a third time when a note from Mr. Whittall was received by the Governor. Mr. Whittall had called upon his Excellency to deliver the protest against the third reading of the Ordinance. He was unaware of there being a meeting of Council.

Mr. Whittall gave in his protest, which was read to the Council. Mr. Forth, who also came in late, supported the protest. The Attorney-General quoted some opinions of the best commercial writers at home, to show that in the views he had first expressed he was not alone. He would vote for the measure, as there was a strong feeling in its favour here. When he first gave his Excellency an opinion, he was not aware that the community wished limited liability.

The protest was then examined in some points. The first reason of protest was "that the re-enactment of the measure after its once being rejected was precluded by the rules of Council."

The second was "that its course was unnecessarily hurried through the Council."

The third was to the effect that at the last meeting of Council, Mr. Chomley, the Chief Justice, and the Attorney-General had reversed the votes of the previous meeting, the two latter, while voting for the ordinance, having expressed themselves as being opposed to its principles, and of opinion that they would lead to ruin and disaster.

Mr. Sutherland supported the measure.

Mr. Whittall complained that there was no necessity for its enactment. There were no undertakings delayed for want of it.

The Colonial Secretary said that the community were waiting for it.

His Excellency the Governor then moved that the Ordinance as amended do now pass, its operation to commence on the 1st of May next, and to be numbered Ordinance 1 of 1865.

The motion was carried.

With regard to the reception of Mr. Whittall's protest, certain passsages in it were proposed to be expunged as "offensive."

Mr. Mercer moved that the protest be not received at all, as it was uncalled for, and certain parts of it were offensive to the Council.

Mr. Forth insisted upon it, that the rejection of the protest was unconstitutional. The rules allowed of expunging certain clauses, but not of rejecting the protest.

The motion against the protest being received was lost by a minority of 2 to 6.

Mr. Sutherland moved that the protest be gone over clause by clause, which was carried. On the clauses being read separately, the fact of the protest being against the re-enactment of the measure (when there was no re-enactment but only a re-introduction) seemed to be fatal to the protest; which was, after some conversation, withdrawn by Mr. Whittall, who intimated that he would hand in another protest within seven days. The Council then adjourned *sine die*.

A sad accident happened on the 8th March, causing the death of three men of the 9th Regiment, and the injury of a fourth. The soldiers had been engaged excavating the hill-side at Scandal Point, near the Cathedral, when, the earth giving way, they were buried alive. Two were suffocated before they could be reached, a third died in hospital, and the fourth is rather seriously hurt. Every endeavour was used for their recovery, but unfortunately with not the least success.

On the transport of the 2nd Regiment Beloochees to Bombay alluded to in our Shanghai summary, the *China Mail* has the following:—

In military matters, two cases which have lately occurred in China demand more than a passing notice. The first is that of a Beloochee regiment being sent from Shanghai to Bombay. There were 800 men, and the lowest allowance of space at two-and-a-half tons per man required a vessel of 2,000 tons, or vessels aggregating that amount. Notwithstanding this, the men were sent home from Shanghai in two vessels, the *Caroline Coventry*, 888 tons register, and the *Shakespeare*, 656 tons register. The men had served well in China; they had never engaged to leave India; and very many of them are likely to die on the passage, even should it be a short one, which it cannot well be in this season when the monsoon has abated. The other case is that of the *Oasis*, of 1,116 tons register, chartered here to convey 600 men of the 22nd Bengal Native Light Infantry. A medical board examined the vessel and reported that she could take no more than 500 men, being rather more than the number of Chinese Coolies allowed by the emigration rules, and a little below what an African slaver of such tonnage might carry. Yet the general commanding in China has ignored the medical report and sent on the men to Bombay as stated. Should fatalities occur, the medical board will be exonerated; but what position has General Guy placed himself in? The general is understood to be a strict red-tape officer, which renders the affair more surprising. A spirit of mutiny in India would seem to demand encouragement rather than repression, if such acts are to be sanctioned and approved. We record the case for the future guidance of the authorities at the Horse Guards. The facts are only too true, and it would be useless to supplement them with any comment of ours. Such an irregularity could never have occurred in India, and it is disgraceful to all concerned. General Guy is of course the man to blame, and that all the more so if it be true that he has been guided by one of his quartermasters. Our Chinese interests are in bad custody while such officers assume at will responsibilities that a Macao coolie-broker would shrink from.

In order to put an end to the trade carried on with the rebels at Fohkien in ammunition, the Governor of Hong Kong has issued a proclamation prohibiting the export of arms from that colony. But it is to Shanghai that the Tzewang is indebted chiefly for the aid with which he has been enabled to gain his various successes, and it is extremely unlikely that the Hong Kong authorities will be gratified by any very large seizures. It is difficult, if not impossible, for the foreign authorities to stop these proceedings, or even to ascertain that they are in progress; and the Chinese have not sufficient force at their disposal to seize the contraband men and material after they are clear of the Yang-tsze. The only preventive power lies in the Custom House, the officials of which, by increased vigilance, may do much to check the present thriving trade. It is, moreover, becoming apparent that the local troops have by their bad behaviour to a great measure alienated the goodwill of the peasantry, who are daily becoming more reconciled to the rebels; and it is evident that if the Tzewang carries out the promises of protection made in the proclamation which he has lately issued, inviting the country people to return, while the local officials, on the other hand, fail to restrain their troops from the commission of excesses, the latter will certainly find themselves in the midst of a hostile population, disposed rather to be governed by the rebels than oppressed by the agents of their own authorities. It is rumoured that the General commanding the Chekeang forces is not acting with

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sufficient energy to satisfy the Futai, who has ordered up the Fantai to supersede him.

The Bank robbery case was resumed on the 12th of March, and once more remanded. The compradore and the two shroffs were admitted to bail; as also were the witnesses previously charged with giving false evidence against the former. The Chinese female, who has been sent down by the authorities at Canton as a witness in this case, was found in possession of part of the stolen property, in notes and gold, from the information of a Chinese spy who had evidently followed her from this place. She is a concubine of the principal head of the gang; and on being brought down as a witness here, has identified (1) the boy who was found possessed of several thousand dollars, and who said he was in the drain, as she had seen him frequently in her paramour's house in Canton; and (2) the house-coolie of the Bank, whom she had occasionally seen in the same house. They were both recognised by her while in the dock, which is a step in the right direction. It is feared, however, that the leader of the gang will not be secured.

The passing of the "Limited" Act had caused an improvement in the shares of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Company. The following is an extract of a letter on the matter:—"It has eked out privately that the self-constituted directors have quietly appropriated to themselves, managers and friends, some 30 to 40 shares each at par. These it would appear they obtained out of a number reserved at the time of allotment (for what purpose I know not, seeing that all the shares were applied for), while some could have been sold on the market for the benefit of the Bank at a premium of from 25 to 30 per cent., or say a profit of from $30,000 to $40,000. Each individual thus favoured, if the report is true, has gained $2,500."

JAVA.

BATAVIA.

Dates are to the 16th March.

A drought, unusual at this time of the year, had prevailed in Java since the middle of January, and in some residencies, especially Tagal and Samarang, had injured the rice crops. The price of rice has risen considerably, and it is feared there will be a scarcity of this chief and indispensable article of food of the population. It is said the Government is taking precautionary measures to provide against this scarcity and the distress it must occasion.

The merchants of Batavia are considering the question of the constructing a dry dock for the repair of ships at that port. A committee was appointed to consider plans and to report on the subject, and a subscription had been opened to defray preliminary experiments and expenses, which are estimated at f. 10,000.

During the month of December the income from the import and export duties in Java and Madura amounted to f 790,378.68. The receipt for the whole year 1864 amounted to f9,422,009·86.

Among these are comprised factitious duties on Government produce (exported)	f2,864,413.31	
Drawbacks	98,513.87	
		f2,962,927.18
Net receipts		f6,459,082.68

During the whole year 1864 less was received than in the same period in 1862-63. The difference is as follows:—1862 fl,724,619.12; 1863 fl,038,472.18.

The account of the works on the Java Railway, during the month of January, states:—The works are continued so far as the monsoon permits it to be advisable. The dwelling of the station chief at Samarang is in readiness, except the hanging of the doors and frames. The making of the castings, &c., for the workshops is continued. The key wall for the magazine is ready. The casting of an iron crane for 15 tons is made. The rails are laid on the station ground. One house for the officials is ready. The earth road of the first section is closed up on the various places from Tangoeng to Kedoeng Djatti. The station ground at Kedoeng Djatti is made level; plenty of ballast is found everywhere There is an experiment being made in the burning of lime at Tanjoeng. Natural stones, wherever they are at hand, are brought to the place where a workshop must be built. The earthworks, as well as on the station ground, as on the earthroad, have suffered almost nothing during the extraordinary great floods of the former month; the whole damage consists in the washing away of some cubic yards of ground on the way from Samarang to Goebuck. It is now shown that the railroad bears up against the strong floods. The riveting of the ways is also small. The direction of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th sections not being yet approved, the preparatory business of the execution is alone as yet done. Three ships bringing from Europe railroad-iron, sleepers, iron-ties, and other implements, have been lost.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are to the 23rd of March. The *Benares*, with the London mail of the 10th February, arrived out on the 16th of March, and the French mail of the 17th February reached on the 22nd March.

There had been more animation in trade since the departure of the preceding mail. Previous to the arrival of the mails purchasers were active in buying goods to meet the demand for Siam, Saigon, and other markets, and good prices were obtained for most articles, particularly in cotton goods; but the news by the telegrams of the decline in cotton at home, and the continued success of the Federals in America, naturally created some uneasiness among holders of manufactured goods. Until details should be received confirming the telegraphic accounts, purchasers were not likely to add to their stocks, and business would be dull. The small supplies of produce suitable for Europe had crippled operations, and prevented ships on the berth from obtaining cargoes. The unprecedented number of seeking vessels that had arrived during the last few months caused considerable anxiety to find employment for them; but the demand for the rice ports had enabled many to obtain favourable charters. This demand had subsided, and lower rates of freight were being accepted.

Three Portuguese young men have been committed for trial at the next Criminal Sessions for having attempted to obtain payment at the Chartered Mercantile Bank of a second bill of exchange, the first having been paid. One is committed for forgery, and the others as accessory to the fraud.

Within the last few days, preceding the departure of the mail, a steamer, three masted and schooner rigged, had been seen hovering about at a safe distance to the eastward. After a distant view of the roads she turned off and disappeared

The United States war-steamer *Iroquois*, which arrived on on the evening of the 8th of March, left for Batavia on the 11th.

On the 15th of March, a meeting was held in the Exchange-room, to consult as to the establishment of a local Marine Insurance Company in Singapore; Mr. J. G. Davidson in the chair. It was proposed and carried "that a Marine Insurance Company should be formed in the place, and that it should be called the Singapore Insurance Company (Limited)." It was proposed, also, that the capital should be $1,000,000, in a thousand shares of $1,000 each. An amendment was made that the arrangement should be 2,000 shares of $500 each, but the former proposal was carried. A provisional committee was composed of Messrs. G. Cramer, S. Gilfillan, J. Davidson, H. H. Wilsone, C. H. Harrison, and Leah Teek See.

On the 14th, the chief officer of the schooner *Rusulka* reported at the Court of the Marine Magistrate that Captain Carnuchan, of the said vessel, left the ship in a boat on the 11th, and that nothing had been heard of him since by any one on board. He expressed much uneasiness at the circumstance, and wished for advice in the dilemma.

On Sunday the 12th, a pistol was discharged at a Chinese Catechist, in St. Andrew's Church, to the great alarm of those present. On investigation it appeared that the pistol (a common one) had been loaded with powder and grains of rice only. The party who fired the pistol was a Hylam Chinese, a countryman of the catechist, and he declared that he had fired it thus to mark and injure the catechist, but not to kill him, as he had transgressed the laws of their common country by bringing away a female child thence, in the face of a mandarin prohibition. There must have been other covert reasons for such an act, as the offender was professedly a Christian Chinese. He has been committed for trial.

The Marine Magistrate had the mate of the British barque *Sea Nymph* brought before him for refusing to obey the lawful commands of his captain. The mate pleaded inebriation, and

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was sentenced to four weeks' imprisonment in the House of Correction.

The Rajah of Tringanu arrived on the 10th with a retinue of about a hundred in number, on his way to Mecca.

H.M.S. *Tamar*, Captain Stirling, arrived from Hong Kong on the 8th with troops.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

ANNESLEY—On the 15th April, at Horseheath Rectory, Cambridgeshire, the wife of the Rev. Francis H. Annesley, of a son.

BROWN—On the 6th March, at Whampoa, the wife of W. G. O. Brown, of a son.

DE RODAS—On the 25th Feb., at Singapore, the wife of Don M. M. Caballero de Rodas, Spanish Consul, of a daughter.

D'ALMEIDA—On the 4th March, at Everton, Singapore, the wife of Joaquim D'Almeida Esq., of a daughter.

FRIEDERICHS—On the 7th April, at Penang, the wife of F. H. Friederichs, Esq., of Penang and Hamburg, of a son. (By telegraph.)

HAPPER—On the 27th Feb., at Canton, the wife of the Rev. A. P. Happer, D.D., of a son.

TOWNSEND—On the 16th April, at 3, Upper Harley-street, the wife of Meredith Townsend, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BELL—MURRAY.—On the 17th April, at 13, Grosvenor-terrace, Glasgow, by the Very Rev. Principal Candlish, D.D., Joseph Bell, Esq., M.D., F.R.C.S., Lecturer on Surgery, Edinburgh, to Edith Katherine, only surviving daughter of the late Hon. James Erskine Murray.

BLACKENBURY—RUSSELL.—On the 25th April, at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, by the Rev. John Kitcat, M.A., incumbent of Swallowfield, George Brackenbury, Esq., Her Majesty's Consul for the Philippine Islands, to Priscilla, youngest daughter of the late Sir Henry Russell, Bart., of Swallowfield, Berks.

EDWARDS—MANSELL.—On the 27th April, at St. Barnabas Church, Kensington, by the Rev. W. W. Edwards, B.A., Herbert Montague Wright, Esq., Addison-gardens South, and of Nagasaki, to Elizabeth Mary, eldest daughter of Joseph Mansell, Esq., of Addison-road and Red Lion-square. No cards.

GRANT—PETONHOFF.—On the 15th Feb., at the Cathedral of Troitskasafst, Kiachta, Siberia, by the Right Rev. the Arch-Priest Alexandroff, C. Mitchell Grant, F.R.G.S., F.I.G.S.R., late of Bangkok and of Tientsin, eldest son of the late Alexander Grant, Esq., of Capoln House, Rotherham, Yorkshire, to Barbara, second surviving daughter of His Excellency the late Pietre Andraevitch Petonhoff, K.St.A., K.St.V., Counsellor of State and Governor of Kiachta.

LONGLEY—DAWSON.—On the 19th April, by special licence, at Lambeth Palace Chapel, by his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, father of the bridegroom, George Longley, Major Royal Engineers, to Catherine Alice, widow of the late Rev. J. Dawson, of Rollesby Hall, Great Yarmouth.

MACKENZIE—SEYMOUR.—On the 20th April, at St. Thomas's Church, Portsmouth, by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Winchester, assisted by the Rev. Richard Seymour, canon of Worcester, uncle of the bride, Donald MacLeod Mackenzie, Esq., Captain R.N., fourth son of the late Sir George Stewart Mackenzie, Bart., of Cowl, Ross-shire, to Dorothea, eldest daughter of Admiral Sir Michael Seymour, G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth.

MURRAY—MADDEN.—On the 28th Feb., at Christ Church, Canton, by the Rev. J. H. Gray, A.M., James W. Murray, Esq., Assistant Commissary General, eldest son of the Rev. J. G. Murray, D.D., to Elizabeth Emma, second daughter of Major-General J. M. Madden, retired list Bombay Army.

VIDAL—BROWNE.—On the 15th April, at St. Barnabas, Kensington, by the Rev. Dr. Hessey, Carl, second son of Adolph Eduard Vidal, Esq., merchant, Hamburg, to Annette Augusta, eldest daughter of the late Hutchinson H. Brown, Esq., of London. No cards.

VICENTE—SUT.—On the 28th Feb., at H.B.M. Consulate, Bangkok, by the Rev. S. J. Smith, Mr. Simon Vicente, printer, to Amdeng Sut. No cards.

DEATHS.

DONNELLY—On the 2nd March, at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, Samuel Donnelly, private 2nd batt. 9th Regt.

ENDICOTT—On the 28th March, at New York, after two days' illness, William, youngest child of James Bridges Endicott, Esq., aged four years and four months.

HOWLEY—M'DONALD—WHITE.—On the 8th March, at Hong Kong Thomas Howley and Jeremiah M'Donald, both privates of H.M.'s 9th Regt., from suffocation by a land slip; also, on the 9th, John White, Lance-corporal of the same regt., from the effects of the same accident.

JOHNSON—On the 5th March, at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, John Johnson, gunner, R.A.

KNEVITT—On the 14th April, at Margate, Ada Grace, the beloved child of Mr. R. K. Knevitt, of 19, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, aged seven months.

LAWFORD—On the 11th March, at Murray Barracks, Hong Kong, Amabel Mary, the infant daughter of Sergeant Lawford, Commissariat Staff Corps, aged 1 year and 9 months.

LEWIS—On the 27th Feb., at Bangkok, of apoplexy, Oliver Lewis, a native of Berwick-on-Tweed, but for many years a resident of Cape Colony.

MACTAGGART—On the 17th April, at Blackheath-park, after a few hours' illness, Susan Maud, infant daughter of William Mactaggart, Esq.

MUIO—On the 3rd March, at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, Hugh Muio, sapper, 22nd company R.E.

PEREIRA—On the 14th April, at 11, Park-crescent, Emilia, the third daughter of Antonio Pereira, Esq.

ROBERTS—On the 5th March, at Hong Kong, Augustus Henry Roberts, of Messrs. Gilman and Co.'s, aged 29 years.

SPARKES—On the 13th April, at his residence, Pelham Villa, Portswood, Southampton, George Crabbe Sparkes, Esq., aged 34, Commander P. and O. Steam Navigation Company.

STIRLING—On the 22nd April, at Woodbridge, Guildford, Admiral Sir James Stirling, Kt. (formerly in China), in his 75th year.

SCHOEDTL—On the 25th Feb., at Tiang-Ho, Kowloong, Peter Schoedtl, Munich, Bavaria, aged 23 years.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At SHANGHAI.—From Liverpool: Feb. 26, Thomas Seddon; 27, Water Witch. From Cardiff: 24, Coromandel. From Shields: Adelina.

At FOOCHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From London: March 9, Kensington. From Cardiff: 7, Desdemona. From Hamburg: 10, Ino. From New York: 7, Douglas; and 12, Yesso (str.).

At MANILA.—None.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: March 19, West. From Cardiff: 10, Virginia; 18, Finke Seniore; 19, Zephyr; and 21, Pioneer. From Newcastle: 11, Tycoon and Frey. From Glasgow: 16, Douglas Castle and Edinburgh Castle. From Swansea: 10, Flosty. From Rotterdam: 10, Singapore; and 11, Jan Van Galen.

At PENANG.—None.

At BATAVIA.—From Liverpool: Hercules.

DEPARTURES

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Feb. 24, Beatrice. For Liverpool, 28, Blackwood, and, March 2, Carrisal. For New York, 2, Finella.

From FOOCHOW.—None.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: March 13, Silome.

From MANILA.—For London: Feb. 22, Sir W. F. Williams.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: March 17, Orinico; 19, Betty Perlbach; 21, Alexandra. For Falmouth, 11, George Heinrich; 15, Arab.

From PENANG.—None.

LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Gabalvu and Mirage.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Grenadier, Antipodes, and Vanguard. For Liverpool: Queensbury, John Nicholson, Stuart, Lalla Rookh, William Methuish, Woosung, Her Majesty, and Agamemnon. For New York: Resolute. For Montreal: Shelburne.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Maiden Queen.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—Sovereign of India, Phillipine, and Ocean.

At MANILA.—For New York: Malay and Marmion. For Boston: California.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: British Crown, Early Dawn, and Silver Cloud. For Liverpool: Velos. For Channel for orders: Carl Julius and Falco.

At PENANG.—For London: Dunmore, Britannia, and Devonvale. For Boston: Rocket.

At BATAVIA.—For Channel: Bremen, Antelope, and Lord Raglan. For Rotterdam: Dordrecht, Maria Anna, and Jacob. For Holland: Helen Baird. For Boston: Hamboldt.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

YOKOHAMA.—To London: Cotton and tea, £3 to £3. 10d.; and silk, £4. to £4. 10d. per ton nominal.

SHANGHAI.—The only transaction to report is the Woodville (361), to load at Nagasaki for London, £1,700 in full. A few small vessels have been taken up for the rice ports at unremunerative rates. The Caroline, Coventry, and Shakespere have been engaged for troops to Bombay at £8. 10s. per man, and £65 for officers.

FOOCHOW.—To London: £2 per ton.

HONG KONG AND CANTON.—The circular of George Holmes gives the following settlements: Sovereign of India (778), to the Cape and London, with invalids, at £23 per head, and £90 for each officer; Aline (600), Manila to Falmouth, for orders to London or Liverpool, with hemp, at £4 per ton. To Saul and back the rates are 20 to 25 cts. per picul, and if on to Shanghai, 45 to 55 cts.

SINGAPORE.—Tonnage in harbour is large, and only small vessels are inquired after; the rates to Great Britain are £2. 10s. dead weight, and £3 for measurement goods.

BATAVIA.—To London, £2. 17s. 6d. per ton, and to Continent, £3. 2s. 6d.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT, to CHINA, &c.—Feb. 16, Hasty, Swansea to Singapore; Admiral Piet Hein, Cardiff to Batavia; Maria Luisa, Bordeaux to Batavia; 12, Edinburgh, Glasgow to Singapore; 16, Celebes, Amsterdam to Sourabaya; 17, Cornelia Agnes, Sunderland (order); Johanna Oluffa, Newcastle to Singapore; 21, Nordstern, Hamburg to Singapore.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—Feb. 16, Alexander, Boston to Batavia.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—Feb. 17, Albreck and Calavalu, Singapore to Russia; 20, Quarrel, Batavia to Amsterdam; 25, Laurel, Japan to London; 24, Naomi, Shanghai to London; 23, Empress of India, Zebu to Liverpool; 24, Jeanne d'Aer, Hong Kong to Bordeaux; 25, Blohn, Singapore to Falmouth; Constance, Shanghai to Liverpool; Lotus, Singapore to Gibraltar; 28, Sailors Home, Shanghai to Liverpool; Djan, Japan to London; Countess Russell, Shanghai to London; March 1, Benvenue, Shanghai to London; 3, Norval, Singapore to London; 10, Lochnagar, Macao to London.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—Feb. 28, Europa, Hong Kong to New York; Alhambra, Manila to New York; March 3, Queen of the Seas, Japan to New York; 8, Benefactress, Japan to New York; Feb. 28, Baron Melbourne, Foochow to Montreal.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	6s. 3¼d. to 6s. 4d.	6s. 4d. to 6s. 5d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 6¼d.	4s. 7d. to 4s. 8d.
At Singapore	6 ditto	4s. 6¼d.	
At Manila	6 ditto	.....	

Telegrams, from Hong Kong to 1st April, report Exchange at 4s.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 297 to 298 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 215 to 216 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 10 premium. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 72 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 28 discount.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—The season for Black is nearly over, what little business has been done displays an upward tendency. Nothing remains to speak of, except the stock at Canton, which contains some fine chops. The alarming state of political matters will doubtless cause the market to be swept of these ere the departure of the next mail. As for Green teas, shippers have displayed so much firmness that holders have had to yield a little because their stocks became pretty large.

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CANTON.—A moderate business has been transacted during the fortnight. Two chops of country Congou have been taken for India at absurdly high rates, in fact, two taels above the prices at which these same chops were offered. The teamen have, as might be expected, become a little elated, and the market is firmer in consequence. Scented Teas remain unchanged, there being but few desirable chops remaining on the market. The business done in Country Greens has been confined to transactions in Hyson for India, and that done in Canton Greens to purchases of Hyson and Young Hyson for the Continent of Europe.

AMOY.—There has been rather more inquiry during the past month, but settlements have been checked by the firmness of the teamen, who assert that the coming crop will be seriously interfered with, should the rebels remain in the present position, and that the cost will be much enhanced by the difficulties of transit. Oolongs: Settlements are 5,165½ chests, at $14 to 16 for mixed Ankoi and common cargo grades; $17 to 19½ for fair to good cargo. Congou: 60½ chests common have been settled at $16½.

SHANGHAI.—Black: Two transactions only to advise for the fortnight, 600 chests low Oonams at 21 taels, and 143 boxes at 20 taels per picul. Reshipments 324 chests and 62 half-chests. Stock 13 chops, 7 chops (1,050 chests and 3,600 half-chests) in Chinese hands, and 6 chops (1,010 chests and 1,286 half-chests) belonging to foreigners. The market is firm, ond one tael higher rates are demanded. Green: Immediately after the departure of the last mail prices became further depressed; large quantities were placed upon the market, and a reduction of one to two taels had to be submitted to. This, combined with the easy rate of exchange, induced business, and a good amount has changed hands at 22½ to 37 taels per picul for Fychow and Moyune. The market closes a little stronger, but the supply is likely to continue heavy for some time to come; the stock here is large, and whether prices will advance or remain stationary becomes a matter of speculation. The settlements for the fortnight are 18 chops, comprising 9,253 half-chests and 500 boxes, one chop only Shanghai-packed, the Fychow and Moyune. Reshipments 6 chops, 3,236 half-chests, Fychow and Moyune. The total stock is 78 chops—58 chops Fychow and Moyune, 21,966 half-chests in the hands of Chinese and 14,255 half chests belonging to foreigners; 19 chops Shanghai-packed in Chinese hands, consisting of 5,472 half-chests and 3,378 boxes; and a chop, 1,900 half-chests, Japan in foreign hands.

FOOCHOW.—The business transacted has been trifling, the purchases of Congou displaying an advance of one tael on last quotations. The Oolongs reported were of very common quality. The transactions in Scented Orange Pekoe have been at full rates.

HANKOW.—No settlements have taken place during the past fortnight. Present stock consists of only 5 chops of common kinds, but which the teamen do not press on the market. Total settlements to date 27 chops. Quotations are quite nominal.

KEWKIANG.—Green Teas: Nearly 6,000 packages were reported settled at Tls. 26 to 32, prices which show a decline of about one tael on medium Moyunes and Fychows, though the fine teas of which the supply is very small were firmly held. Teamen were beginning to transfer their stocks to Shanghai, and one steamer alone brings down 12 chops on native account. The stock on the market had increased to 143,600 hf.-chests. Moyune: Fine to finest. Tls. 30 to 33; Common to medium, Tls. 27 to 29 per picul. Fychow: Medium to fair, Tls. 26 to 29; Common Tls. 23 to 25 per picul.

YOKOHAMA.—Since the departure of last mail our tea market has relapsed into a state of great inactivity, caused chiefly by the repeated bad reports of the state of the London market and the high prices demanded by the teamen, who do not at present seem inclined to part with their produce on anything like reasonable terms. During the past few days a small parcel has been settled for the American market at rather over our last quotations, and prices generally are very firm. Settlements for the fortnight amount to about 550 piculs, leaving a stock of about 3,000 piculs.

RAW SILK—SHANGHAI.—The transactions have been very trifling, barely amounting to 50 bales. The local trade has taken off a large proportion of the supply for native consumption at extreme prices, and the remaining stock is chiefly composed of inferior, and very foul parcels of Hainings and Taysaams, the refuse of the season. The arrivals from the interior have again been very small, but it is reported that some 500 bales may be expected down in the course of the month. With such trifling settlements and the absence of stock, we cannot give any quotations, but may remark that as there are many anxious buyers, the dealers remain very firm, and it is not likely we shall see lower prices, as the season's supply must prove considerably short of previous years. The arrivals of Japan Silk have been 332 bales and the unsold stock by latest advices from Yokohama was about 1,000 bales. Prices had declined $10 per picul, and from the best native sources it was ascertained that the supply would be short as compared with last year. It is not expected to yield over 15,000 to 17,000 bales.

YOKOHAMA.—After the departure of the last mail steamer from here, the prices of some descriptions of Silk (especially of inferior quality), the stock of which had accumulated, gave way to the extent of about $20, which had the effect of inducing buyers to operate rather more freely. But upon the arrival of the 26th December mail the demand became more active, and prices sprung up again, thus fully recovering the ground they had lost within the last month. Settlements of the fortnight may be estimated at 550 bales, making the total settlements of this season 10,900 bales against 13,575 bales same time last year. Our unsold stock may be estimated at 480 piculs: Ida medium, 670 to 680; Mybash and Sinchu best parcels offering, 690 to 700; medium, 660 to 680; inferior, 630 to 650.

DRUGS AND OTHER EXPORTS.—MACAO.—Cassia Lignea: Mere nominal price, $15.75. Cassia Buds: No sales; 60 piculs offering at $50. Cassia Oil: No sales; stock 20 piculs held at $190. Anniseed Oil: Sales 2 piculs at the advanced rate of $172, leaving 20 piculs on the market. Star Anniseed: Sales 50 piculs at $25, stock 50 piculs. Galangal Root: Continues quite neglected, nominal quotation $1.75 to 2; stock 3,000 piculs. Gall Nuts: None offering. Vermilion: Small sales for India at $34.

CAMPHOR.—HONG KONG.—A lot of about 500 piculs has arrived quite unexpectedly, and which have been sold at $18.50 per picul. The holder of the remainder in this market has sold his whole stock at $18.10 per picul packed (some 900 piculs) and the market is quite bare at present.

RAW COTTON.

HONG KONG.—A good local demand has been experienced during the fortnight, and notwithstanding the unfavourable nature of the advices from Liverpool, the market has not only been maintained but in some instances an advance of 50 cents has been established. The exhaustion of the stock of piece goods has at last told on the native looms, which at present rates for Manchester goods, can turn out domestic goods at a relatively cheaper rate than the imported article. The local demand, thus stimulated, is fully equal to the supply. The sales of the fortnight are reported at 4,000 bags, the closing quotations being: Shanghai, $25 to 25.75; Ningpo, $26 to 27; Tientsin, $24 to 25.

AMOY.—There have been no sales from foreign hands, but Chinese have been willing sellers at $25½ to $26. Our present quotation is $26½ to 27½, and $25 to 26 for Chefoo. Stocks 900 bales, which with the quantity held by natives is sufficient for about two months' consumption on the present reduced scale.

YOKOHAMA.—A very small amount of business has been done in this staple during the past fortnight. It is believed that the high prices ruling in the interior prevent supplies from reaching this market. Our quotations of $26.50 to 27.50 are quite nominal.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

NEW YORK MARKETS—COFFEE.—Demand more active, but with fall in gold lower prices realised. Sales, 78,695 bags and mats Java on private terms, 6,872 bags Ceylon ditto.

SUGAR.—Owing to fall in gold, no demand outside of the urgent requirements of the trade. Holders firm in pretensions and generally demanding previous rates. Sales effected on terms not allowed to transpire. Quotation for refined 18¼ to 18½ cents for powdered, crusted, and granulated.

TEA.—Fair demand for all descriptions; the market closing firm with fair inquiry. Sales include, 10,000 half-chests Oolong; 1,000 do. Souchong; and 200 do. green, on terms not ascertained.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—April 22, off Folkestone, from Sourabaya, Maria; 21, off Dungeness, from Sourabaya, Aristides; 22, from Java, Thos. Mitchell, Marie (Spanish barq.), and Jacob, Roggeveen; at Queenstown, from Manila, Lady Love: off Queenstown, from Shanghai, Roodee; 8, at Fayal, from Java, Telanak; 25, at Liverpool, from Manila, Alicia Annie; 24, at Texel, from Batavia, Bernard and Agnes.

DEPARTURES.—April 23, from Shields for Shanghai, Clothilda; 20, from Hamburg for Hong Kong, Jupiter; 20, from Shields for Sourabaya, Twee Gerzusters; 19, from Rotterdam for Batavia, Princess Amalia; 21, from Shields for Shanghai, Mathilde; 24, for Batavia, Pauline and Rascindens (?); 21, from Sunderland for Hong Kong, Oxus; from Copenhagen, for the River Amoor, Alerte; 17, from Rotterdam, for Batavia, Min. Fransen v. d. Putte.

LAID-ON.—At London: For Galle, St. Paril. At Glasgow: For Cape of Good Hope, Singapore; and Hong Kong, Japan (P.S.). For Singapore and Penang: Cosmos.

SPOKEN.—Emma (Portuguese), Macao to Havana, March 17; Queen of Avon, Colombo to London, March 3, 29 S., 10 E.; Violet, Foo-chow-Foo to London, March 31, 20 N., 35 W.; Nordstern, Sourabaya to Amsterdam, March 4, 1 N., 21 W.; Australia (Dut. barq.), Amsterdam to Batavia, April 13, 49 N., 9 W.; Hugo Grotius, Java to Rotterdam, March 15, 8 N., 28 W.; Kirkland, China to London, April 19, 44 N., 20 W.; Thusnelde (Brem. barq.), Sunderland to Singapore, March 26, 2 N., 25 W.

Off ASCENSION.—March 6, from Cochin China, for London, Eaglet; 12, from Padang, for Amsterdam, Tjielingsie; 26, from Colombo, Frances; 27, from Foo-chow-Foo, Dilkhoosh, both for London.

At SIMON'S BAY.—March 11, Cornelia Geertruida, Wiedema, sailed for Batavia.

At ALGOA BAY.—Feb. 28, Emma, Tesselsen, sailed for Singapore.

At TABLE BAY.—Feb. 28, from Hong Kong, Welf, Bahns, and sailed, March 9, for Hamburg; March 3, from Macao, Emma, Spinn, and sailed 8, for Havana; 4, Auguste and Gustave, Benassit, and sailed 6, for Havana; 5, Lombard, Brousmiche, and sailed 7, for Havana; 6, from Yokohama, Pembrokeshire, Hemsworth, and sailed for London; 10, from Macao, Port Durand, Dubois, and sailed 11, for Havana; Feb. 24, Ocean Belle, Jarvis, sailed for Singapore; March 7, Elizabeth Maria, Flens, sailed for Batavia.

MISCELLANEOUS.—The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 42 tons naval stores and 800 hhds. porter, from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

COMMERCIAL BANK CORPORATION OF INDIA AND THE EAST.

The first half-yearly general meeting of this corporation was held yesterday afternoon at the London Tavern; J. J. LOWNDES, Esq., in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report, which will be found in another column, observed that the corporation only began their direction of the bank at a very late period. They were in hopes that arrangements might have been made which would have enabled them to have obtained the transfer of the business of the Commercial Bank early in July, but delays which were unavoidable in their character arose, in consequence of which the corporation were prevented from taking the direction of the affairs of the bank until the close of December last. In declaring a dividend of 10 per cent. on the whole paid-up capital of the Corporate Bank on the 31st of last December, the board did not take credit for any wisdom in managing the concern, so as to give the shareholders who had taken shares at a premium a dividend of 7 per cent. on the amount which they had paid for them, that credit being due to those who managed the affairs of the old Commercial Bank of India up to the present year; but the directors hoped they

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would be able to present a prosperous working of the concern for the future. The detailed reports and accounts of the bank had only been received by the mail which arrived on Saturday last, in consequence of some delay which had arisen in transmitting the accounts of the Calcutta branch to Bombay, so that the directors had only been able to sign them as presented by the head office at Bombay. He explained that the mode which had been adopted by the Commercial Bank of India in reference to the accounts was to have those of all the branches sent to the head office at Bombay and there made up, and the dividend declared upon the general balance then shown. The Bombay agency had accordingly sent them the statement, balance-sheet, and profit and loss account, in the same manner has they had hitherto been in the habit of preparing them, for the purpose of enabling the board to declare a dividend upon them. Hitherto, also, the accounts had been audited in Bombay, but upon this occasion they had been audited in this country by Messrs. Strong and Ball, so far as an audit was practicable. He informed the shareholders that Mr. Cartwright, one of the directors, having occasion to go to India on his own business, and the Bombay agency, which had always hitherto been assisted by a local board, being now without such assistance, the directors, unwilling to lose Mr. Cartwright's valuable services, had requested him give his assistance to the Bombay agent, and he therefore remained upon the board for the purpose of enabling him to give his advice and assistance in conducting the affairs of the corporation at Bombay. The business at the present meeting was the re-election of the directors and auditors, and the fixing of the remuneration of the latter. This was the first meeting of the corporation, and he hoped they would have many meetings and a long and successful career. The success of a bank no doubt consisted in the amount of other people's money which they had to deal with, and they could not but entertain sanguine expectations that, from the soundness of the security and the favourable rate of interest they would be able to offer, they would attract a very considerable number of depositors for fixed periods, and in return for which they were enabled to give a higher rate of interest, combined with great security, than could perhaps be given by any other similar institution in the country. He begged to move the adoption of the report.

Mr. THORNTON seconded the motion.

In reply to a Shareholder,

The CHAIRMAN said that, in future, the accounts would be made up in London.

Mr. CROUCH complained that shareholders who had paid £10 premium for their shares received only, in reality, 7 per cent., while the holders of old shares received 10 per cent., which was an inequality, and he suggested that the dividend should be made up to 10 per cent., contending that the balance proposed to be carried over was amply sufficient for that purpose.

Mr. LEGGAT was of opinion that it would be extremely impolitic in the present embarrassed state of commercial affairs in India to adopt such a course. He did not think that the sum of £69,500 proposed to be carried to the reserve at all too much. If there was anything that was doubtful in the policy of the bank, he thought it was the payment of a dividend and bonus in Bombay for the first half of the year, amounting to no less than 18 per cent. per annum, because there were at that time premonitory symptoms which should have induced hesitation in declaring so large a dividend. He inquired whether the directors were able to separate the item of £3,942,554 in the credit account put down as bills receivable and loans. He wished to know the amount of the loans, and thought that if the item was separated they would have a better prospect of knowing whether the reserve of £69,500 would cover the losses which in the present state of commercial affairs in India they all knew must have occurred.

The CHAIRMAN said he could not give the exact figures, but the bills receivable were about £3,000,000, the remainder being loans. He also stated in reply to another question, that the item of unpaid capital appearing in the balance-sheet, which was made up to the 31st December, had all been since paid, with the exception of a very trifling amount.

A SHAREHOLDER inquired whether there was any definite account of losses sustained to be covered by the reserve of £69,500.

The CHAIRMAN said that the directors, who for the most part had paid the premium, were most anxious to give as large a dividend as possible, but they must always be restrained by prudence in recommending a dividend, and in the present case they had not thought it prudent to declare more than they had proposed. With respect to the observation of inequality, he was unable to see its justice, because many persons had bought the old shares at Bombay at a high premium. No one ever reckoned that he was to get interest on premium. (Hear, hear.) Although, therefore, the honourable proprietor might at first sight think himself badly treated, he would, on reflection, agree that a new bank which paid £7 per cent. upon money almost practically useless, on account of the short time in which the operations of the corporation had been carried on, was not doing very badly. It by no means followed that because they considered it prudent to hold over the £69,500, that sum would all be required to cover losses. They hoped and trusted that it would not (hear, hear), but in the present very unsettled state of affairs they considered it a prudent course to adopt, instead of dividing 12 or 14 per cent. (Cheers.) Since the accounts had been made up there had been one or two heavy failures, and there might be more. All that he could say was that all the known losses up to 31st December last had been provided for out of the profits, and such portion of the £69,500 as was not required to meet losses in the present year would eventually go into the pockets of the shareholders. (Cheers.)

The report was adopted unanimously, and the directors and auditors were re-elected, one hundred guineas per annum being awarded to each of the auditors for their remuneration.

On the question of the election of auditors,

Mr. CROUCH took the opportunity of calling the attention of the meeting to the importance of ascertaining whether or not there was a regular and constant attendance of directors at board meetings, pointing out that it was owing to laxity in attendance, and consequent ignorance of the real state of the affairs of banks, that the great disasters which occasionally came before the public in connection with joint-stock banking arose; and the reports of public proceedings of late had shown plainly enough that directors had not attended board meetings and taken an active part in carrying on the affairs of banks.

The CHAIRMAN replied that if the hon. proprietor called at the office he might satisfy himself as to the attendance of directors in this case by inspecting the attendance book.

A cordial vote of thanks was then given to the chairman and directors, and the proceedings terminated.

MARRIAGE OF THE DAUGHTER OF ADMIRAL SEYMOUR.—The marriage of Captain Donald M'Leod Mackenzie, R.N., with Miss Seymour, eldest daughter of Admiral Sir Michael Seymour, G.C.B., the gallant and respected Naval Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth, took place at Portsmouth, in the parish church of St. Thomas, on the 20th inst., accompanied by unusual demonstrations of rejoicing and good wishes for the happy pair. The ceremony was performed by the Right Rev. the Bishop of Winchester, assisted by the Rev. Richard Seymour, Canon of Worcester. A large party of relatives and friends were entertained to breakfast at the Admiralty-house, Portsmouth dockyard, which was supplemented by a ball in the evening. Captain and Mrs. Mackenzie left Portsmouth on Thursday afternoon for Norwood to spend the honeymoon.

OPIUM FRAUD ON THE ORIENTAL BANK.—A Melbourne paper describes a fraud by Chinese:—A neat fraud has been perpetrated by Chinamen at Hong Kong, who shipped a number of cases said to contain opium per mail steamer, consigned to Chinamen, said to be merchants of Little Bourke-street. They took the bills of lading to the Oriental Bank, and got an advance of £1,700. The Chinamen here could not be found. When the cases were opened they were discovered to contain arrowroot.

SUBMARINE CABLE.—In our last issue we briefly mentioned Mr. Gisborne's pamphlet on submarine Telegraph Cables, we may add, that his conclusions are decidedly in favour of heavy cables laid in a moderate depth over all others, a moderate depth being equivalent to from 20 to 100 fathoms, and a heavy cable weighing 2 tons per mile.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, April 14.

The topic of the day is the international flower show in the Crystal Palace at Amsterdam. A beautiful collection is gathered there, and many thousands of strangers are visiting our capital. There is no question that this first international flower exhibition will give an impulse for others.

Political news is very scarce, now that Parliament is prorogued till the end of this month. Several are the rumours about the Bill of Cultures in India. The general opinion is that it is not yet presented to the Council of State, but that the Government is still consulting authorities. On the other hand, it is quite certain that the Council has already examined the Bill by which capital punishment will be abolished and changed to thirty years' imprisonment.

In my former letter I told you that Mr. Graen van Prinsterer had resigned as member of the Second Chamber of the States-General. This example is followed by Mr. Van der Keins van Duyvendyke, member of the First Chamber. Mr. J. P. J. A. Earl van Zuylen van Nyeveldt, Ambassador at Berlin, certainly will fill the place of Mr. Graen, because this gentleman is warmly recommended by the eminent ex-leader of the anti-revolutionary party, Mr. Graz.

The international convention about the sugar duties still meets with much opposition. The hope that Parliament will reject this convention augments, because it is positively said that your Government makes important objections. Mr. Uytenhoven, the Secretary-General of the department of Foreign Affairs, started for London in order to explain those objections.

The King has been pleased to confer the Knighthood of the Order of the Netherlands Lion on O. van Rees, Member of the Council of State in India; R. Scherius, late resident of Samarang; F. H. A. van de Poel, Resident of Cheribon; Dr. A. J. D Steenstra Toussaint, First Civil Doctor at Batavia; and A. C. K. Th. de Ruyter, First Civil Doctor at Samarang; and the Knighthood, Fourth Class, of the Military William Order on P. Graef, sergeant-major of the R.A.; and on the Amboinese First Lieutenant of Infantry of the R.A., J. Rakarias. This last appointment—the lieutenant being the first coloured person on whom the Military William Order has been conferred—meets with the general sympathy of all the officers.

His Majesty has given his authorisation to the medical officer, Dr. A. F. Bauduin, to remain again two years in the Japanese military service.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

APRIL 15.

The *Russian Invalide* publishes a letter from Kopal containing the following further particulars of the insurrection of the Dunganes. The principal armed body of the insurgents is now at

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Urum-tsi, under the command of Sachan-Dschan, Kodschi-Tidu, and Mona, who were all formerly officers in the Chinese Imperial Army—the two former as ambanes, or generals, the latter as goldai or colonel. The communication is interrupted by the Dunganes not only with Peking, but also with Kashgar and Tchugutschak, so that the Mandchurians living in the province of Kultscha are hitherto in perfect ignorance of what has taken place and the further progress of events. The town of Kultscha itself has been destroyed and the inhabitants obliged to fly for safety to the mountains. Those only who have remained faithful to the Imperial Government and a few Mandchurians have shut themselves up in the citadel, which is armed with falconets and iron pieces of artillery. All the adherents of the insurgents have removed to Old-Kultscha. A Dunganese corps of twelve thousand men, which left Kashgar and was advancing by way of Musert, had not arrived at Kultscha when the courier left. According to the universal belief of the Chinese, the arrival of this corps will decide the fate of Western China.

Herr Kupfer, the Director of the Central Physical Observatory at St. Petersburg, calls attention in the Russian newspapers to the decimal metric system and the abuses of the present clumsy weights and measures now in use in Russia, insisting urgently on the necessity of a speedy alteration. The appeal has been well received, and in several parts of the Empire committees have been formed to further the agitation and draw up petitions to the Government in favour of the immediate introduction of the decimal system and abolition of the present one.

An agitation is going on in Hamburg with the view of abolishing the well-known banco currency, which formerly was of great service in mercantile transactions, but is now felt as an embarrassment in the transactions of Hamburg with the rest of Germany. It is now proposed to substitute the ordinary currency of Germany for the artificial banco system.

Seven Hamburg consulates in various parts of the world are now vacant, including those of Singapore and Akyab. Last week a public meeting of the merchants of this city was held at the Exchange Rooms for the purpose of making a *wahl-aufsatz*, or list of three candidates for each vacancy, by virtue of the powers vested in them by the constitution, from which list the Senate has to make a selection.

The *Leipzig Illustrirte Zeitung* contains a well-executed woodcut of the late Sir Robert Schomburgk from a photogram by Hermann Gunther in Berlin, together with a biography of the distinguished traveller, who was the son of a Protestant clergyman in the Black Forest (Kingdom of Wurtemberg), and a short memoir of his indefatigable exertions in the cause of science.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—An increased demand has sprung up for finer descriptions which fetch full prices, whilst inferior and middling qualities are rather neglected. Sales of the week, 9,000 bags.

SUGAR.—A further decline of 4 Sch. Bco. has to be recorded, but this produced an animated business. Among the sales were 11,000 bags of Manila. For the finer qualities of Refined there is an improvement both in the demand and the value, whilst inferior is dull of sale and can with difficulty realise previous quotations.

RICE.—A very lively business has been done in cleaned grain, in most cases at higher prices. On the other hand, Rough is neglected.

SPICES.—There have been some large dealings in Cardamoms at rising prices, and the article is still in great demand. In Cassia Lignea no alteration, market steady. Pepper commands more attention, and is firm, with a tendency to rise.

DRUGS.—Of Oil of Cassia 70 chests have been disposed of by private contract, and a similar quantity of Oil of Star Anniseed. Refined Camphor continues in request, and better prices are paid.

TEA.—A moderate amount of business has been done both for export and consumption. The fresh arrivals facilitate sales, and the market is in a satisfactory state.

SPELTER.—A few sales have been made, but there is not much disposition to buy. No alteration in values.

DISCOUNT.—2¾ to 3¼ per cent. Money plentiful.

SHIPPING.—Sailed, from Cuxhaven, Fagel, to Batavia.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, April 23.

Parliament still enjoys the Easter recess in the delight of the finest summer weather possible (the thermometer has for ten days been at 75 to 79 degrees of Fahrenheit). Several members of the Chambers and the Cabinet are making a trip to France and Germany. Some are labouring under illness at their country seats, without their maladies, however, exciting any serious fears. The political world is very quiet, and the papers are obliged to reargue what they have already said about the several Bills that have been put forward by the Cabinet, the discussions on which will be resumed on the 2nd of May, when Parliament will be reopened.

In a former letter I told you that Mr. J. A. Baron van der Heym van Duyvendyke had sent in his resignation as member of the First Chamber of the States-General. Mr. J. W. Hein was elected in his place; and thus a Liberal and democrat will fill the seat of a *pur sang* conservative and aristocrat.

Two pensioned Indian functionaries died on the same day (14th inst.) at the Hague—Pieter van Rees Moorrees, Resident at Sourabaya and Batavia, and his colleague, Thomas Josephus Willes, formerly Resident at Western Borneo and Riouw. He was the official who restored peace to Borneo when the Chinese disturbed it.

Although the law by which Swiss citizens are authorised to take military service abroad has been abolished, a large number of these men have been enlisted on speculation for the Northern States of America. For some reason or the other they declined to fulfil their engagement. Our Government accepted their offer to serve in their East Indian possessions, they each receiving 120 florins as bounty. Further reinforcements will speedily be despatched to the East Indies.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The American news influenced this article considerably, and in consequence thereof the valuation was paid in full at the Company's sales on the 19th inst., and consisted of 88,301 bales. The inferior qualities were paid, however, 1½ ct. under valuation, but since the auction an advance of 1 ct. was paid; for the pure tasting sorts there was also a lively demand. The 982 b. Java and triage, and 733 b. 2nd quality Padang, which were offered in public sale, were sold from 28 to 40 cts. The bulk was in general unclean. There were sold 1,000 b. Java, ex Sylphide, at 45 to 45½ cts.; 1,161 b. do., ex Robertus Hendrikus, at different prices; 2,005 b. Padang, ex Joan, at 43¾ to 45 cts.; 500 b. Padang, ex Bulgersteyn, at 43¾ to 47, and 350 b. do., ex ditto, at 40½ cts.

TEA.—The market continues active, and an advance is still paid for the lots of the auction "Freya." The Company will offer at public sale on the 26th, 1,510½, 4-8, and 1,458 half-chests Java tea.

SUGAR.—The market is in a very firm condition, holders declining to operate at the actual prices; the sales have been extremely light. Only 1,500 kr. Java, and 1,206 kr. and 213 bags Java, ex Sylphide, were sold, at prices that did not transpire. For refined there is a lively demand, but the stock is insignificant. An advance of ½ f. is willingly paid on the former rates.

RICE.—With more demand; 2,040 b. Java, ex Haamstede, were sold at 8¼ f., and 1,184 b. do., ex den Elshout, at secret prices. The prices will certainly make an advance, our market being the lowest of the Continent.

TOBACCO (JAVA LEAVES).—The market was inactive before the auctions, consisting in 2,883 p., several marks of which were sold at 13 to 76½ c.; 1,456 p. C. H. D. B. which were paid in average with 18½ c.; 303 p. W. Malang at 21 3-10ths; 300 p. Java V. at 48¾. In the whole, 6,230 p. were offered, and nothing was retired.

SEGARS.—In auction 50,000 p. Malang were offered, and sold at 1½f. to 2½f. Only a small part of the 500,000 Manila segars, 2a. Cortados, was sold at auction at 40f. to 42f., 400,000 p. being retired; of the 150,000 Cavite, 1864, 110,000 were taken at 39¾f. to 44f.; of the 120,000 2a. Habanas, 1864, 60,000 were sold at 36f. 38f., the other part was retired at 40f.; 30,000 2a. Habanas, 1861, were sold at 34½f., 50,000 of the same quality retired at 35f.; 36,000 2a. Habanas, 1863, were retired at 36f. These Manila segars arrived by the Sea Belle and the Staffordshire.

BANCA TIN.—The market is steady, but a very limited business was done at 57½f. to 58¾f. Holders now decline to sell under 60f.

SPICES.—Without any transactions. Only for Mace there was some demand, but the large arrivals stopped all speculative inquiry. Pepper: 500 b. ex Joan only were sold.

COTTON.—Notwithstanding this article was highly influenced by the news from America, there was a lively speculative demand at the lower prices. Our market being badly provided of current qualities, the greater part of the transactions consisted in East Indian sorts.

INDIGO.—The trade is occupied inspecting the parcels which will be offered on the 2nd and 4th of May, and which consists in 4,447 ¼-chests Java Indigo, and 80 chests Java Cochineal. In the meanwhile a fair business was done, and the greater part of the parcels which were to be offered in the private auctions on the 26th were sold at high prices.

DRUGS.—The business is confined to the execution of a few small orders for consumption.

JAPAN WAX.—303 chests offered at the company's sales were sold at 28½ f., likewise 80 chests Japan Soya at 41 f. to 42½ f.

MONEY.—The attention is now only fixed upon American stock. 5 per cents., 1874, are quoted 62¾; 6 per cents., 1881, 68¾; 6 per cents., 1882, 69½; Confederates, 2 15-16ths to 3 1-16th; Dutch stock unaltered; 2½ per cents., 61⅝; 3 per cents., 72¼; 4 per cents., 95⅝; Amortis Syndicaat, 89¾; Handelmaatschappy, 143½; Expl. State Railways, 92½. Bank Discount: For bills, 3½ per cent.; acceptances, 4 per cent.; open market, 4 per cent. Change: London, 3 mo., 11.73 f.; 2 mo., 11.76½ f.; short, 11.82 f. Paris, 3 mo., 46.52 f.; 2 mo., 45.66 f.; short, 47 f. Hambro', 3 mo., 34.95 f.; 2 mo., 34 f.; short, 35.25 f.

SHIPPING.—ARRIVALS.—April 14, At Texel from Banjoewangie, Sophie; 18, at Brouwershaven from Batavia, Ridderkerk; 20, at Texel from Samarang, Nicoline.

READY TO SAIL.—To Sourabaya, Huydecoper; for Batavia, Mentor, Twee Cornelissen; for Samarang, Ida Elizabeth.

DEPARTURES.—April 17, from Brouwershaven to Batavia, Minister Fransen van de Putte; 16, from Texel to Sourabaya, Tweelingen; from Flushing to Batavia, Middelburg; 19, from Brouwershaven to Melbourne,

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Hendrik, Ido, Ambacht; from Texel to Batavia, Isis; 20, from Brouwershaven to Batavia, Prinses Amalia; 22, from Texel to Bavia, Zephir.

LOADING AT AMSTERDAM.—For Kanagawa and Decima, Julie, Bantam, Batavia; for Padang, Pauline, Constance, Eleonor, Brouwershaven; for Macassar, Elizabeth Jacoba; for Batavia, Indian Packet, Krimpenerwaard; for Batavia and Samarang, Koning Willem II., Koophandel, Anthony van Hoboken, Kandanghauer; for Batavia and Sourabaya, Loevesteyn, Amesterdam, Nicolaas Witsen, Louise; for Samarang, Estafette, Maria Regina, Maria Veronica, Mathilde; for Samarang, Maria Veronica, Mathilde, den Elshout, Petronella, Quintet, Staatsraad van der Houven; for Sourabaya, Petronella, Nederland en Oranje.

FREIGHTS.—Quotations of Messrs. Fouchey and de Vletter, ship brokers, Rotterdam:—For Batavia, Kortenaer, 973 tons; Copernicus, 742 tons; van Grootmeester Nationaal, 755 tons; Kosmopoliet, 753 tons; G. K. Graaf Hogendorp, 754 tons; Dageraad, 724 tons; Noach, 892 tons; Mary and Hillegonda, 754 tons; Nieuwland, 754 tons; Onrust, 808 tons—18f. to 20f.: for Batavia and Sourabaya, Twee Cornelissen, 742 tons; Lichtstraal, 1,500 tons; Ottolina, 714 tons—18f. to 20f. for B., 25f. for S.: for Macassar, Macassar, 328 tons; Samarang, Hendrika, 667 tons; Ida Elizabeth, 724 tons; Landbouw, 725 tons; Henriette Geerardina Susanne, 575 tons; —25f. to 30f.; for Sourabaya, Antonia Petronella, 711 tons—25f. to 30f.; all per last of 2,000 ks. or 120 cubic feet Amsterdam, and 15 per cent.: for Melbourne (H.B.), Kanagawa, 1,216 tons—40f. to 45f. and 5 per cent.: for Singapore and Hong Kong, Albrecht Beiling, 507 tons; Sophia Amalia, 319 tons—30f. for S., 40f. for H., and 15 per cent.: for Singapore, Neerlands Vlag,—30f. to 35f. and 15 per cent.; all per ton or 1,000 ks., or 40 cubic feet English.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From Java, per Bezoekie, Capt. Reckers, Mr. Roon Swaan and family; per Ridderkerk, Capt. Molenaar, Mr. S. Bonsema; per Nicoline, Capt. Winter, Mr. C. Ammedieck and family.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

To Java, per Minister Fransen van de Putte, Capt. Forbes Browning, Messrs. C. Th. O. Gunther, A. Huidekoper, L. Berner, P. Herklots, W. L. Dykman, D. Harting, V. Schmidt, L. Savoye, H. de Jager, G. J. Hut, Granpré and family, Mrs. Keulemans and child; Misses Koenen, Krieger and Lawson.

PARTIAL EXPORTS.

Per Australie, Capt. J. G. Lucas, from Amsterdam to Batavia, cleared April 3:—Vinegar, 6 barrels; geneva, 687 litres; vegetables (preserved), 330 lbs.; linseed oil, 220 litres; coals, 9,000 lbs.; colours, 320 lbs.; meat (all sorts), 2,692 lbs.; wine, 127 litres.

Per Baron van Pallandt van Rozendaal, Capt. A. Hoogenstraten, from Rotterdam to Batavia, cleared April 3:—Geneva, 888 litres; flour, 400 lbs.; confectionery, 765 lbs.; meat, 1,800 lbs.

Per Kosmopoliet II., Capt. J. Bouten, from Dordrecht to Batavia, cleared April 3:—Vinegar, 240 litres; animal charcoal, 60,000 lbs.; beer, 6,900 litres; butter, 2,504 lbs.; bread, 1,400 lbs.; geneva, 1,595 litres; tiles of glass, 1,000 f.; vegetables (preserved), 800 f.; cheese, 240 lbs.; copper nails, 600 lbs.; flour, 540 lbs.; furniture, 1,000 f.; linseed oil, 3,000 lbs.; passementry, 200 f.; cement, 9,650 lbs.; coals, 70,000 lbs.; turpentine, 300 litres; rope, 2,796 lbs.; arrack casks, 1,450 f.; meat, 11,019 lbs.; wine, 2,472 litres; gas retorts, 28,000 lbs.; railway bars, 229,952 lbs.; soap, 11,579 lbs.

Per Hendrika, Capt. A. J. Bus, from Rotterdam to Batavia, cleared April 3:—Earthenware, 364 lbs.; vinegar, 360 litres; confectionery, 470 lbs.; beer, 1,200 litres; butter, 780 lbs.; books, 762 lbs.; bread and buscuit, 4,440 lbs.; opium, 4,090 lbs.; brandy, 631 litres; geneva, 800 litres; looking-glass, 200 lbs.; furniture, 12,000 f.; musical instruments, 1,500 f.; cheese, 715 lbs.; confectionery, 167 lbs.; mercery, 1,238 lbs.; cotton (manufactured), 22,918 yards and 4,192½ lbs.; flour, 1,000 lbs.; paper, 9,900 lbs. and 170 reams; bazalt stone, 500.000 lbs.; whitelead, 5,300 lbs.; meat, 5,500 lbs.; fruits (preserved), 1,369 lbs.; wine, 4,221 litres; perfumery, 375 lbs.

Per Maria and Elizabeth, Capt. E. F. Boujer, from Rotterdam to Batavia, cleared April 4:—Vinegar, 120 litres; butter, 797 lbs.; geneva, 1,156 litres; cheese, 350 lbs.; arrack casks, 11,100 f.; meat and pork, 5,839 lbs.; wine, 253 litres.

Per Triton, Captain W. C. Schey, from Rotterdam to Batavia, cleared April 9:—Vinegar, 540 litres; confectionery, 489 lb.; beer, 4.793 litres; biscuit, 3,915 lb.; brandy, 2,040 litres; Geneva, 46,042 litres; cotton (manuf.), 54,582 yards, 384 lb.; woollen (manuf.), 13,043 yards; linseed oil, 1,675 lb.; writing paper, 110 ream; perfumery, 2,000f. and 801 litres; coals, 19.900 lb.; meat and pork, 5,579 lb.; wine, 15,032 litres; iron nails, 6,300 lb.

Per Maria Elise, Captain T. D. van Deursen, from Amsterdam to Java, cleared April 10:—Vinegar, 320 litres; Geneva, 628 litres; wine, 202 litres; meat, 2,790 lb.

Per Vyf Vrienden, Captain C. Johan, from Rotterdam to Samarang, cleared 11th April:—Earthenware, 7,318 lb., and 1,730 dozen; vinegar, 200 litres; confectionery, 678 lb.; beer, 5,918 litres; butter, 2,480 lb.; mineral water, 5,000 cruches; machinery, 10,500 lb., geneva, 12,675 litres; vegetables, preserved, 160 lb.; ink, 500 f.; cheese, 1,400 lb.; copper plates, 2,920 lb.; mercery, 423 lb.; cotton manufacture, 288,660 yds., 1,625 lb., 5,000 f.; silk manufactures, 5,300 lb.; gorges, 3.000 p.; cotton ribbon, 38,400 yds.; flour, 5,300 lb.; linseed oil, 9,000 litres; paper, 590 reams; perfumery, 300 f.; passementry, 1,300; mustard, 300 lb.; Bazalt stone, 100,000 lb.; coals, 8,000 lbs.; cigars, 180 lb.; colours, 5,469 lb.; meat, 6,282 lb.; wine, 1,702 litres; iron bars, 12,817 lb.

Per Madura, Captain B. A. T. van Bruggen, from Amsterdam to Batavia, cleared April 11:—Earthenware, 760 f.; vinegar, 550 litres; beer, 23,827 litres; butter, 2,615 lb.; chemicals, 480 f.; Geneva, 5,480 litres; rum, 103 litres; brandy, 456 litres; window glass, 300 f.; plate glass, 120 f.; vegetables (preserved), 530 f.; stearine lights, 1,075 f.; playing cards, 960 f.; cheese, 578 f.; confectionery, 4,835 lb.; copper plates, 2,358 lb.; mercery, 4,765; linen, 3,480 yards; jute (manufactured), 48,000 yards; cotton 139,372 yards; wollens, 50,025 yards; silk, 1,420 yards; flannel, 1,133 yards; furniture, 1,337 f.; millinery, 962 yards; carriages, 1,600 f.; perfumery, 194 litres; shoes, 670 f.; tar, 4,590 lb.; meat, 3,000 lb.; wine, 434 litres.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

APRIL 23.

From Irkutzk we learn that the tribe of the Tunghuses commenced their hunting campaign remarkably early this season, as game is exceedingly plentiful, and their sport so abundant that they have already used up their ammunition and come in to get further supplies of powder and shot. The number of squirrels in the forests of Kirensk is something quite extraordinary, but though large quantities have been killed, the profits are small, as many of the hunters spent the proceeds of their chase in spirituous liquors, and returned almost as poor as they set out. Notwithstanding the extreme abundance, grey squirrel skins were well paid, the price varying between eight and nine copeks per skin. A good many foxes have also been shot, and a fair quantity of lynxes were obtained on the banks of the Kirenga, where they are not uncommon. On the upper part of that river even lions are occasionally seen. The most useful description of game for the natives themselves are hares, which furnish them with wholesome food, and the skins provide them with clothing.

The annual fair, which is held in the most remote north-east corner of the Russian dominions on the banks of the Anjui, far beyond the Arctic circle, though of no great importance as regards the value of the sales, is described by an eye witness, M. Anatowsky, Judge of the Peace in the circle of Kolymsk, as one of the most curious and interesting sights that it is possible to imagine. Having just returned from that inhospitable region he has written a lively description of it to the Statistical Society at Jakutzk. All the nomadic and stationary tribes of the Far North East congregate to this fair to barter the produce of their chase for supplies of ammunition and other articles they require, the principal of which are tin kettles, knives, scissors, axes, needles, fish-hooks, and other items of ironmongery and cutlery; plates and dishes of tin, copper, and wood; ribbons, printed shawls, and thimbles, for all which they offer in exchange furs, skins, and walrus teeth. The former include red foxes, white foxes, beavers, reindeers, and bears. The most interesting and untutored tribe seen at these fairs are the Tchucktchees, who inhabit the regions close to Behring's Straits, and are in regular communication with the natives of the north-western coast of (Russian) America. Between three and four hundred of this tribe annually make their appearance, travelling with their wives and children, arms and habitations, which latter consist of tents made of reindeer skins. They trade with the Esquimeaux and Indians of North America, and their journey lasts between five and six months. They travel in sledges drawn by reindeer, whilst the Russians come in sledges drawn by dogs, though the goods the latter bring for sale and barter are carried on pack-horses. The fair lasts for only two days, which, however, are busily employed, and then they disperse again in all directions. One of the articles most in request brought by the Russians to the fair of Anjui is tobacco grown in the Caucasus. For a pood (40 lbs.) of this the Tchucktchees readily give ten red fox skins, or five of the river beaver. Walrus teeth are only given in exchange for ironmongery.

The Senate of this city has appointed Her Johann Heinrich Dauelsberg to be Consul for Hamburg at Singapore.

Amongst the latest arrivals here from the Far East are Mr. Alfred Hasche, from Penang; Mr. C. Arnemann, from Hong Kong; Mr. Ad. Koch, from Batavia; and Mr. G. W. Schwemmann, from Hong Kong.

COMMERCIAL.

Owing to the Easter holidays the markets generally are calm, and the dealings have been on a limited scale. A better feeling prevails for coffee, in consequence of favourable accounts from the Brazils, as also from the result of the Dutch coffee sale, and though the Easter week, the sales amounted to more than 17,000 bags. The market for raw sugar is inactive, and former prices can with difficulty be supported; but a fair amount of business has been done in refined, 10,000 loaves having changed hands at full values. A lively demand has again set in for cleaned descriptions of rice, and a further advance is established. About spices there is very little to report; pepper is the only article in any demand, and market improving. Cassia lignea, steady. The inquiry for cardamoms has abated, and ginger is quite neglected. Spelter has assumed a more lively attitude, the feeling for the article is favourable, and the dealings are more extensive. Among the sales of the week were 5,000 centners at 13 mks. 5 sch. Banco for delivery; 3,000 centners ex warehouse, at 13.8; 2,000 centners afloat, at 13.7; 500 centners for arrival, at 13.8; and 500 centners for delivery in May and June, at 13.9. Discount 2¼ to 2¾ per cent.

SHIPPING.

SAILED.—Ceres, for Singapore and China; Herrman and Emma, for Calcutta; Jupiter, for Hong Kong.

ARRIVED.—Luchow, from Bangkok.

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TRANSACTIONS OF THE ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.—The third volume of the transactions of this society has just been published, and, in interest, equals in every way the preceding ones. One of the most remarkable papers is that by Mr. A. R. Wallace, "On the Varieties of Man in the Malay Archipelago." It contains not only a graphic description of the principal races visited by him during an eight years' cruise in the Malay Archipelago, such as the Malays, the Negritos, the Papuans, and Alfurus, but it starts an ingenious theory on the submergence of an oceanic continent, the remnants of which are to be found in the eastern islands, now inhabited by the black Papuan and the brown Polynesian races. The evidence of the subsidence is of two kinds. One is supplied by Mr. Darwin in his essay on "Coral Reefs," where he proves that the great mass of the coral islands of the Pacific have been produced by subsidence, and that every mountain summit, as it successively sank beneath the waters, left an atoll to mark its former existence. The second proof is taken from the distribution of animals among these Islands, which shows at the same time that the breaking up and the subsidence was a comparatively recent operation. "There is a very general similarity," Mr. Wallace writes, "in their productions over a vast range of latitude and longitude. Even islands so remote as the Sandwich and Society groups have land birds common to the two, as have also the Society and the Fiji Islands. The majority of birds, however, have closely allied representative species in the several islands; but there is reason to believe that the forms and species of birds change more rapidly than those of large mammalia, for while the birds of Java, Sumatra, and Borneo are mostly distinct species from those of the south-eastern parts of Asia, many of the great quadrupeds are identical. There seems every reason, therefore, to believe that man, who existed in Europe along with quadrupeds now extinct, may have also existed at the time when a great continent occupied the tropical portions of the Pacific Ocean." And in another passage of the same essay we read:—"The islands of Baly and Lombock are only fifteen miles apart, yet they really belong to two distinct divisions of the globe. The naturalist, who is accustomed to distinguish characteristic forms of animal life, is at once struck with the remarkable difference between them. In Baly he is still in the Indian region of the Archipelago; the common birds which he sees are barbets, black and white thrushes, crested starlings, fruit thrushes, and woodpeckers—all of which are common forms in India, Sumatra, Borneo, and Java. He may see all these in the morning, and in the afternoon cross over to Lombock, where a totally different set of birds will present themselves. He will now see white cockatoos, long-necked honeysuckers, and the mound making megapodiur—all common forms in the islands farther east and in Australia, but not one of which ever passes across this narrow strait to the islands further west. If larger and more distant islands are compared, the difference is more complete in every department of nature, so that between Borneo and New Guinea, though almost exactly agreeing in climate and physical features, there is a total diversity of animal productions—a diversity as complete and striking as that which exists between the Old and New Worlds.

A SHANGHAI CHARTER DISPUTE.—REYNOLDS V. JEX.—This case related to the right to freight on a cargo of cotton shipped at Shanghai for Liverpool. On the 11th of September, 1863, Jex (the defendant), at New York, chartered a vessel of about 400 tons burden, from New York to Hong Kong or Whampoa, and thence to Shanghai, and thence to an Atlantic port in the United States (not south of the Chesapeake), or to a port in Great Britain (not beyond London) on the east coast, or to a port on the continent of Europe between Havre and Hamburg (inclusive), on the terms of paying "for charter or freight" £3,000, to be paid—£1,500 on the correct discharge of cargoes at Hong Kong and Shanghai (less an advance provided for), and £1,500 on correct discharge of return cargo in the United States; £1,000 to be advanced in New York on signing the bills of lading, to be signed without prejudice to the charter-party; the vessel to be consigned at the port of discharge to the charterer's agents. Such was the charter at New York, in which it is to be noted there was no clause expressly creating a specific lien in favour of the shipowner for the chartered freight on goods shipped. On the day of charter the owner, Jex, received £1,000 on account of charter—as an advance—to be deducted from the chartered freight on correct discharge of cargo at Shanghai and Hong Kong, and the master received £959, *i.e.*, 2,952 taels at 6s. 6d. The ship went to Shanghai in May, 1864, consigned to a firm of Fraser and Co. there, and was thence despatched to Liverpool, as the final port of discharge, with a cargo chiefly of cotton. The main part of the cargo was 690 bales of cotton, of which the bills of lading ran thus—"Shipped by Fraser and Co., to be delivered at Liverpool, unto their order, or to their assigns; he or they paying freight for same to Reynolds and Co., at Liverpool, as per margin;" and then in the margin of the freight was stated thus:—"691 bales at £3. 15s. a ton, at 50 cubic feet a ton." The ship arrived at Liverpool in November 1864, and at that time (as will appear from the above statement) about £1,040 of the chartered freight remained due to the shipowner,—that is the defendant,—and he accordingly stopped the delivery of the cargo at the docks at Liverpool in order to enforce payment thereof. Thereupon the plaintiffs, Messrs. Reynolds and Co., the merchants there to whom the 950 bales of cotton had been consigned, and who held the bills of lading, deposited with the Dock Company £1,495 in order to liberate the cargo. Of this sum about £1,140 was for the 691 bales of cotton, and the rest for freight on other goods shipped on other bills of lading. An interpleader order had been obtained, under which the money was paid into court, and an issue was directed to try whether the defendant was entitled as shipowner to have the money in dispute. The issue came on for trial at the last Assizes at Liverpool before Mr. Justice Shee, who said the question in substance came to this,—whether the plaintiffs, consignees of the cotton, were entitled to have it delivered to them without payment of the freight due by charter. The facts were not in dispute, and were taken formally, with a view to reserve the question of law for this Court. It was proved that the plaintiffs, Reynolds and Co., of Liverpool, were agents of Fraser and Co., who consigned the cotton to them, and also sent both charter and bills of lading.—A verdict was taken formally for the plaintiffs, Reynolds and Co., subject to the question of law, and Mr. Temple, Q.C., now moved, on the part of the defendant, the shipowner, for a rule to enter the verdict for him. The question, he said, was whether the plaintiffs, the holders of the bills of lading, were to be taken as having notice of the charter and the freight due thereunder; and, as he put it, they had received the copy of the charter as agent for the charterers, as well as the bill of lading, as agents for Fraser and Co., the consignors.—The Court granted a rule *nisi*.

THE COCHIN CHINESE AND THE TOREDO.—An officer of the Imperial Navy of France, Lieut. Mariot, being in Cochin China, learned that the natives possess a secret for protecting wooden vessels against the depredations of the toredo, an insect which does immense damage to ships and timber on the shores of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean, the Asiatic, and other waters. The Cochin Chinese refused to tell the secret; but Lieut. Mariot, by diligent inquiry, ascertained that it consists in the employment of a mixture of resin and oil obtained from trees in the country. He further ascertained that it is so effective as a preservative, that junks—so old that the precise year of their construction is forgotten—are, though constantly plying in waters in which the insect abounds, still sound and strong. He has communicated his discovery to the French Emperor, who has manifested great interest in it; and, at his Majesty's request, Lieut. Mariot is to return to Cochin China to make further inquiries, and bring back the wood steeped in the mixture.

CHINESE SHIPBUILDING IN ADVANCE.—Captain G. F. Goble has during the past week submitted an elaborate series of working drawings connected with wood and iron shipbuilding, copied from original diagrams found in the Summer Palace of the Emperor of China, and supposed to be many thousands of years old. The construction of the vessel is in every way remarkable, especially considering the great antiquity claimed for it; the hull, masts, sails, screws, &c., being either of a character equal to the most approved arrangement of the present time, or considerably in advance of them. Captain Goble is seeking the co-operation of a few antiquarians, or others interested in the subject, in order that a working model of the vessel may be built, and there appears to be no doubt that many very material advantages will be gained as compared with any ship at present afloat. Not only are the several portions of the ship itself of the highly efficient character described, but even the chain cables are apparently superior to those now in use, though totally different in construction; they are said to be capable of bearing a strain of 10,000 tons.

ADMIRAL SIR JAMES STIRLING.—Admiral Sir James Stirling, Knight, died on the 22nd inst., at his residence, Anningsley, in Surrey. The deceased admiral, who was born in 1791, entered the navy at an early age, and continued in active service throughout the last French war. He was midshipman of the *Glory*, in Calder's action, and of the *Diadem*, at the siege of Monte Video. He also commanded the *Brazen*, in the last American war. For ten years he was Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Western Australia, and his name will ever be identified with the establishment of that colony. He was highly popular with the settlers, who expressed before his departure their gratitude for the zeal and ability he had invariably shown for their general welfare. On his return home, in 1833, he was made a Knight Batchelor. He was appointed to the *Indus*, 78, in October, 1840, in which he served four years, and in the spring of 1847 was appointed to the *Howe*, 120, in which ship he conveyed Queen Adelaide and her sister, the Duchess Ida of Saxe Weimar, to Lisbon, and afterwards to Madeira, on Her Majesty's last visit to that island. For a few months in 1852 he was one of the Junior Lords of the Admiralty. The deceased officer was appointed to the command of the East India and China station in January, 1854, which he resigned in 1856. His commissions bore date as follows:—lieutenant, August 2, 1809; commander, June 19, 1812; captain, December 7, 1818; rear-admiral, July 8, 1851; vice-admiral, August 27, 1857; and admiral, November 22, 1862. The deceased officer was a Knight Commander of the Redeemer of Greece.

SUEZ CANAL SETTLEMENTS.—Among the frequent endeavours to entice English shareholders, we notice the following in the *Daily News*:—"Sir,—It may not be generally known to your readers that the territory formerly belonging to the Suez Canal Company, situated on the eastern side of the basin of Port Said, is included amongst the lands which, in accordance with the Emperor Napoleon's decision, have been retroceded to his Highness the Viceroy of Egypt. This is not unimportant as far as this country is concerned, seeing that there is nothing now to prevent an English town for commercial purposes being constructed on the opposite bank of the canal, forming, as it were, one of the keys to its entrance. Nor is there any feeling of rivalry on the part of the French to be apprehended to frustrate such a plan; for I can undertake to say that every facility will be afforded to accredited Englishmen visiting Port Said with this object in view.—I am, &c., DANIEL A. LANGE, Director and English Representative of the Suez Canal Company."

THE P. AND O. STEAMER "TANJORE."—This new iron steam-ship, 2,129 tons, built for the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, was hauled into the Victoria Dock to be fitted out. She was built by the Thames Iron Shipbuilding Company at Blackwall, and was launched on the 13th. Her dimensions are—300 feet in length, 28 feet beam, and 29 feet depth of hold, and is to be fitted with engines of 400-horse power.

Le Moniteur of the 21st inst. contains a letter from Yokohama, dated Feb. 15, in which the writer says:—"The situation continues to be good in Japan. The Tycoon will leave in a few days for Miako to assist at a great religious fete celebrated every fifty years. It is presided over by the Mikado, assisted by 60,000 priests from all parts of the empire. In quitting the capital the Tycoon will leave the direction of affairs to the members of the Gorogio."

La Presse of the 23rd inst. states that the more intimate relations established between the French possessions in Lower Cochin China and the kingdom of Cambodia, having led the Vice-Admiral Grandiere to direct researches into the manners and literature of the Cambodians and the religion of Buddha, the mission sent to London to this end has discovered divers manuscripts in Cambodian characters treating of the war with China, of marriage and espousals, precepts of Buddhism and offences and punishments, also some tragedies and comedies. These documents have been placed in the hands of M. le Marquis de Chasseloup Laubat, who has engaged to transmit to the Institute portions of the inscriptions and *belles lettres* in translated forms.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

Subscription 54s. per annum. including Postage. Export Supplement 12s. extra.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 1865.

SUGAR AND COFFEE TRADE OF THE UNITED STATES WITH THE FAR EAST.

THE trade of the Northern Atlantic ports of the United States with the Far East, stimulated to increased activity by a tariff favouring direct importations of raw produce, exhibits this improvement, after the article of tea, particularly in that of sugar. The effect of the withdrawal of the yield of the southern sugar crop of Louisiana, Texas, and Florida, the amount of which formerly determined the extent of the demand in the northern markets, and the necessity in common with ourselves of obtaining in Eastern trade the greatest possible value in produce for manufactures or other merchandise carried out, must continue to ensure a greater proportionate increase in importations of sugar from Penang, Sumatra, Manila and Java as compared with augmenting supplies from Brazil, the West Indies and Cuba. Still, the quantity received from the Far East constitutes but a fraction as yet of the 350,000 tons annually required to meet the cousumption of the North-eastern, Western, and South-western States, not even covering the exports to foreign ports, shipments to San Francisco and inland to Canada. San Francisco receives in addition direct supplies from Manila and the Sandwich Islands. As to coffee, there is every certainty that Java, Sumatra, Singapore, Manila, and Ceylon, will furnish the United States with increased supplies. The total of the next season's importations from these quarters may be set down at 11,000,000 lbs., of which Ceylon will probably furnish one-fourth. Should commercial confidence continue in the United States, the coffee taken from Ceylon will probably be doubled in quantity the next few years. Indeed, we anticipate seeing its exports of this staple to Europe rapidly augmented. With the extension of the area of cultivation, and the additional capital and skill about to be invested, it cannot be otherwise than that Ceylon must gain more rapidly than ever on the coffee yield of Java and Sumatra, for in these the culture appears to have been already stimulated to nearly if not its utmost extent. It is certain that in various parts of the comparatively narrow belt in which coffee can profitably be raised, its cultivation has been latterly abandoned for that of the sugar cane.

AFFAIRS IN COCHIN CHINA.

THE news brought from Cochin China is well fitted to delight our Gallican friends, containing, as it does, every element of the picturesque and sentimental in arms, in the triumph of negotiations, in the exchange of international courtesies, in the display of religious rites, and in the pomp of a Governor's visit of inspection, added to the fact that high-flown proclamations have been sent by the King TU-DUC into all the provinces, commanding that agitation at the presence of the French shall henceforth cease, whilst an indemnity in silver, placed on board a war vessel in the harbour ready for despatch by the next mail, confirms the renewed promise of the Annamite SOVEREIGN to abide by the treaty of 1862. The Imperial Government has spoken, and there is a great calm. We have in the foreground the Chief Mandarin of Justice presenting presents and felicitations for the new year; in the middle ground an Annamite priest performing mass at the inland village of Baria (the Christians numerous and assisting in great numbers); children displaying wonderful precocity in writing and learning French, the group surrounded by an "active and industrious population;" whilst in the background is a military reconnaissance in force, insurgent bands becoming invisible before the flying horsemen who reach the frontier of Bienhoa without encountering an enemy. But this is not all. A finishing touch is needed, and we find it in the re-embarkation of Admiral GRANDIERE with the confidence and sympathy of the natives. The scene closes with a contest for the designs of a palace at Saigon for the Government, and the change of the numbers that have hitherto designated the streets of the city for the names of French generals. Seriously, civilisation and evangelisation was never undertaken on a more magnificent scale. A palace for the seat of the missions, an Admiral for an apostolic supervisor, the sword for an argument, and gunboats as a reserve of moral force, presents a strange contrast to the crozier of St. FRANCIS XAVIER. Still, the assiduous efforts to extend religious and secular teaching merit every praise, and the results will not be marred by the mixed motives of benevolence and the love of ideal glory that have led to them. All we think of is the cost. No doubt, however, the augmented trade that will be carried on between Saigon and China, under concessions lately granted, will in time contribute largely to the revenue. At present the Imperial Government in Cochin China is very much in the position of a large landed proprietor who has sunk large funds in the investment, looking to future years for the return. As long as there exists the thing called progress, why should not the French Government hope on and hope ever?

THE TAIPING PROPOSAL OF COMMERCIAL ALLIANCE.

ALTHOUGH the Taiping proposal to enter into liberal commercial arrangements with foreign nations cannot be entertained by us, we cannot question its sincerity. It may be taken as a recognition on their part that foreign trade is an element of conservation and of strength—a truth which the Imperial Government has hitherto affected ostentatiously to ignore. China, by the increase of its own junk trade with neighbouring islands and countries, especially Japan, has proved the necessity of a vent for its productions. The spirit of commerce is necessarily opposed to all violent anarchical changes, and the Imperial Government has yet to learn that just to the extent to which trade is carried, and points of exchange multiplied, will the progress of the country be promoted. The influence to stimulate development must come from without. We anticipate the time when we shall possess numerous inland stations that will enable us to dispose of a larger proportion of our manufactures as compared with our purchases of tea and silk. These stations will, no doubt, come to be regarded by the Chinese Government as so many *points d'appui*, so many protective strongholds against revolutionary risings. The influence of this motive is well calculated to act beneficially in our favour. Henceforth the assistance of British officers cannot be counted on for the suppression of rebellion in China: but as the existence of that very rebellion may be traced to the difficulties which the industry of millions of the people encountered in securing remuneration, so its best corrective will be found in the extension of foreign trade, in giving us free access to the population, and thus enabling the gains accruing from the disposal of Chinese products to reach more directly the producers.

THE INDIAN TARIFF AND CEYLON.

THE most direct effect of the duty of 3 per cent. imposed by Sir CHARLES TREVELYAN on coffee will be to stimulate the production in Ceylon of that article; not that she particularly needs this artificial encouragement in the cultivation of her chief staple, but that it must ensure to her a certain amount of capital that would have been elsewhere applied, and direct generally the attention of investors to the advantages she can offer. The duty now placed on Indian tea—an industry yet in its infancy—is, if possible, still more impolitic, for against the high prices realised at home in consequence of the preference given to the article, must be set the higher price of labour in India as compared with China, and the greater risks attending the manipulation. Besides, few of the plantations have yet covered the original outlay for land and machinery. Ceylon is in a position to profit also by this impost, which must direct attention to the facilities she offers for tea cultivation. So with the articles of indigo and hemp, the Ceylonese production of which might be largely increased. Even silkworms

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and mulberry plantations have been tried with success in Ceylon, and, with or without the duty to be imposed on silk exported from India, no reason can be adduced why Ceylon should not make this a staple commodity of trade. If the present Indian financial policy is persisted in, it will be found to have been the fortune of Ceylon not to have been incorporated with that country. It is probably from Ceylon that the first practical lesson as to the impolicy of taxing exports will be received by Indian statesmen.

THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS

It is rumoured that after the passing of the Bill—which will be introduced next month—for the transfer of the Straits Settlements to the Colonial Office, a Governor will be appointed for the new *regime* by the Secretary of State forthe Colonies. A Commission is now sitting to report as to the best mode of defence for Singapore. It is very probable that a Queen's regiment will in future garrison the place.

STEAMERS FOR THE FAR EAST.

The Netherlands India Steam Navigation Company have launched their second screw steamer from the yard of Messrs. Randolph, Elder, and Company, Glasgow. She has been named the *Koningin Sophia*. Her tonnage is 1,055 tons, and the engines of 200-horse power nominal. The two vessels building in Holland for this company will be launched about July.

Another screw steamer for the China coast line of Messrs. Douglas Lapraik, Lane, and others, has been laid down at the yard of Messrs. Hall, Russell, and Co., Aberdeen. She is about 800 tons, with engines of 150-horse power nominal. She will be commanded by Capt. Baker, well known in the service, who is now in this country. It is expected that the vessel will be ready within six months.

Sir EDMUND HORNBY, the new Judge for Shanghai, has not yet engaged his passage, and we may infer that he has been advised to delay it in order that his arrival may be nearer to the cool season. This course will be found the most desirable in every respect, seeing that a great deal of work will await his coming, which will require more vigour than the months of June and July fairly admit. We hear that Mr. C. W. Goodwin, the Deputy-Judge, is a man of considerable literary ability, and known as one of the writers in the celebrated "Essays and Reviews." He has been in some measure induced to accept the appointment, as China will afford food for his head and pen in a new direction. A secretary has also been appointed. The salaries of these officials were given in our last issue.

THE RUSSO-CHINESE TELEGRAPHIC LINE.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—In a few years the Russian telegraphic line, proceeding at the rate of 1,000 miles per annum, will reach Peking. It is important that we should get there, telegraphically speaking, before her, or, at least, that the honours should be divided. Our way thither now lies by land, not by water. Science is manifestly at fault in our deep sea cables, as I could well show had you space. What concerns me is that Russia, having carried her line to Peking, may be in a position to obtain important concessions of Chinese lines to the exclusion of our own enterprise, and thus literally as well as figuratively hold China by a thread. The construction of lines east, west, and south might even be aided from the Chinese Treasury, so important would be the advantages of communication with all the provinces of the empire, in a political and military point of view. What is the British or Indian Government doing in the matter? A moderate guarantee, with such assistance as both Governments could furnish, is all that is required for individual enterprise to effect a connection of our treaty ports with the Indian wires. Not to speak of the benefits that would thus be conferred on India, the advantage to English trade with China in the possession of a competing and independent line would be incalculable.—I am, &c., ANGLO-INDIAN.

April 24, 1865.

A NEW ARTICLE OF TRADE.—MEDICATED CHINA TEAS.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—Allow me to suggest to our enterprising traders in China, the obtaining of medicated teas for sale in England. I am satisfied from the known, not to say reputed qualities of these teas, that if once introduced they would presently find a place in our pharmacoœpia. I am not aware whether the Chinese have discovered the secret of extracting the essential oils of plants, but whether this be the case or not, their medicated teas have a singular virtue in various complaints. The costliness of these teas is a recommendation rather than otherwise. Mandarins are accustomed to offer them as the choicest gifts at their disposal, and it will be remembered that when Commissioner Yeh was tendered every luxury by his captors, he preferred a request for prepared native tobacco and a medicated tea, which he said was necessary for his health's sake.—Yours, &c.,

London University College, April 10. M.D.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

At the meeting held on the 12th inst., the report, given in our last, was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving its adoption, observed that he needed not to say that the result of the half-year ending 31st December had not answered the expectations which had been held out at the last meeting. The crisis in England had then only commenced, and it had resulted in enormous failure in the East, and in what affected this bank still more, in the depreciation of East Indian produce—tea, sugar, cotton, and jute—on which the bank held security, it being its business to take bills hypothecated on such produce: and it had suffered accordingly, by the failure of houses by whom bills were drawn, and by the fall in the value of the produce. The loss of £22,000 mentioned in the report had been estimated after careful examination by three of the directors most conversant with the trade of the East, not down to the 31st Dec., but to the 15th of March—(hear, hear)—and he believed that it was a complete estimate of the loss down to that time. What further losses might be incurred he could not say, for the crisis was not over; houses connected with the East were still falling, but he could say positively what the loss would be up to the 15th March. He would not specially and by name allude to any house by which there had been a loss; but he desired to mention that in the case of Mr. John Gladstone, who had been one of the directors of the bank, there had not been the loss of a shilling by him. (Hear, hear.) In the case of a house from which the bank had bills to the amount of £70,000 secured on produce, the debt had been reduced to £10,000, and though there was some loss on the produce realised, that had been met by the drawers of the bills, who had paid the difference, and eventually no loss at all would be sustained. Another serious drawback to the prosperity of the bank in the last six months was the high value of money, which resulted in a difference to the bank of £20,000, which must be decucted from profits, and thus had tended to reduce the dividend. Nevertheless, looking to the state of the times, when the bank was enabled to pay on the whole year 12½ per cent., it was not so very bad. The Government Securities held by the bank, amounting to £280,000, had been taken over as usual at their actual market value, but other securities on land, buildings, &c., had been taken over at their cost, although they could be realised at double the amount. There was property which had been acquired at Kurrachee, Bombay, and Rangoon, which could be realised at a handsome profit. With regard to the future, the directors had inculcated caution on their agents in making advances, especially on cotton. Speaking his personal opinion, he should say that any week might bring a statement of the close of the American war, which would be followed by a reduction in the price of cotton; but judging from his personal experience in the case of linseed and other Russian productions during the Crimean war, he believed that a trade like that of cotton which had now been established in India would continue to keep up the supply. As regarded the position of the branches of the bank, they had not suffered. There was an increase in their deposits, and they were in good credit; so that, looking to the affairs of the bank, he anticipated for it nothing but prosperity. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. BELL, a director, seconded the motion.

In reply to questions from shareholders, the CHAIRMAN said that, unsolicited, the shareholders had last year raised the remuneration of the directors from £2,500 to £4,000, and they had certainly received it. The only reason why the names of the directors were not published in the advertisements of the bank was a consideration of expense, but there was no objection on the part of any of them to have their names published, and as it seemed to be the wish of the meeting, it should be done in future. There was no intention of increasing the capital of the bank by the issue of new shares, there being no want of capital.

The report was then agreed to, as were resolutions declaring the dividend, re-electing one retiring director and electing two others, and re-electing the directors.

The meeting was then made special for the purpose of authorising the court of directors to apply to Her Majesty's Treasury for a removal of the restriction in clause 84 of the deed of settlement, by which the shareholders are limited to the re-election of only one of the outgoing directors annually; also, for authority to the court of directors to fill up temporarily any occasional vacancies in their number, subject to confirmation by the shareholders at the next half-yearly general meeting; and for the purpose of effecting the proposed alterations by authorising the court to apply for and accept a supplemental charter, or to adopt a supplemental deed of settlement, or, with the approval of Her Majesty's Treasury, to take such other steps as may be necessary.

Some objection was taken to the second clause, authorising the temporary appointment of a director, and an amendment against was proposed; but the original resolution was put to the meeting and carried by 35 to 11. With the usual vote of thanks the business concluded.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

The annual general meeting of proprietors was held on the 20th inst., at the bank's offices, Threadneedle-street; H. G. GORDON, Esq., in the chair.

The report stated that—"The general statement of affairs and balance-sheet for the year 1864, now submitted by the directors for the information of their co-proprietors, show the net profit of the corporation for that period to be £206,089. 18s. 4d., after defraying current expenses, and providing for all bad and doubtful debts. The dividend of 8 per for the half year ending 30th June, already paid, has absorbed £100,800 of the profits, leaving £105,289. 18s. 4d. available for present distribution; out of which it is now proposed to pay an additional dividend of 5 per cent., and a bonus of 3 per cent., making, with the previous payment, a distribution of profit for the year 1864 equal to 16 per cent. on the capital of the corporation. The present dividend and bonus, amounting to £2 per share, will be paid, free of income-tax, on and after the 1st proximo, at the office of the corporation; and after these payments have been provided for, there will remain a balance of £4,489. 18s. 4d. to be carried to the credit of the next account."

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The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report, said that the first thing he had to do was to declare a dividend for the half-year of 5 per cent., and a bonus of 3 per cent., making, with the previous payment, a distribution of profit for the year equal to 16 per cent. When they met in October last the country was passing through the first stage of one of the most severe and disastrous periods which had been known for many years. He was very much afraid the crisis was not over yet, unless it was counteracted by the improvement of business which was likely to follow the termination of the unfortunate civil war in America, of which there was now a prospect. However that might be, the directors saw that mischief was coming, and they took early precautionary measures to guard against it, by restricting the credit and limiting the business of the corporation at home and abroad. They sustained, nevertheless, some loss; but he was happy to say that it was not so heavy as others had experienced. In order to prove that these were not mere words, he might mention that some 18 months ago they held a large amount of the paper of four firms which failed for £4,500,000; but owing to the precautionary measures to which he referred, it was not likely they would lose £1,000 by those immense failures. (Hear, hear.) And whilst the losses where amply provided for, they were able to declare a dividend of 16 per cent. per annum. (Hear, hear.) In addition to direct losses, their profits were indirectly affected by the competition they experienced in the most important seats of their business. They would readily believe this when he told them that a few years ago there was only one bank in the presidency of Bombay, with four or five branches, whilst there were now 22 banks and bank agencies, besides 10 or 12 financial establishments. It was quite true that business had increased, but with such an amount of competition, the margin of profit was curtailed to some extent. There was nothing in this, however, to dishearten them, for with their long established connection, their great means, and extensive commercial credit, they would be able to maintain their ground against any new comers. (Hear, hear.) Allusion was made in the report to the issue of new shares last year, and in consequence the capital and reserve fund now stood respectively at £1,500,000 and £444,000. The distribution of the new shares was made in the proportion of one to six. This absorbed 8,400 shares, leaving a balance of 1,200 shares to be appropriated at the discretion of the court. These shares had been appropriated, and he trusted the mode of appropriation would receive the support of the shareholders. Some two or three years ago he spoke of a fidelity or guarantee fund, which was created and upheld by the contributions of the officers of the corporation. The primary object of that fund was to dispense with the usual mode of guarantee by making the establishment their own guarantors. The second object was to combine, if possible, with this guarantee fund an allowance or pension fund. Many of the members of their staff served in all climates, and sickness and death were frequently their lot. The time must come when they would have to consider the claims arising out of such contingencies as these. They hoped to be able to confine these two funds so as to make a provision which was deservedly due to their officers without greatly taxing the shareholders. The guarantee fund now amounted to a considerable sum, but it was still inadequate for the double purpose of a guarantee and an allowance fund. In order to advance this object, the court presented to the trustees of the guarantee fund the 1,200 shares at the same price at which they were allotted to the shareholders, namely, £45. The guarantee fund was now £54,000 and upwards. Apart from the policy of this measure in a pecuniary point of view, he was certain it would produce a good moral effect, for it associated the staff indirectly with the shareholders, and would induce them to increased exertions to promote the welfare of the corporation. With regard to the cash deposits bearing interest, notwithstanding the great dearness of money for the last twelve months, they never altered the rate of interest, and these deposits showed a slight increase. But on the other side there was a falling off of upwards of £2,000,000 in the amount of notes and bills discounted, arising from the precautionary measures which had been taken to avoid increasing their risk. (Hear, hear.) He could not omit mentioning in terms of merited eulogy the conduct of their chief manager, Mr. C. J. F. Stuart. (Hear, hear.) They were aware of the extraordinary changes which were going on in India and China, and Mr. Stuart had very properly requested permission to see for himself what changes had taken place, with a view to introduce such modifications and arrangements as might be necessary to meet those changes. He left on the 20th of November last; visited Bombay, Ceylon, Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai, taking an opportunity of conferring on his return with other establishments which he could not visit on his journey out. He brought back a good report, and he had no doubt the corporation would benefit by the valuable information he had acquired. (Hear.)

A SHAREHOLDER referred the chairman to a statement which appeared in the *Money Market Review* of the 15th inst., to the effect that the company had sustained losses by frauds committed by clerks, and inquired how far the statement was true.

The CHAIRMAN said the only loss of the kind was a loss of £1,500, which they sustained through the misconduct of a ledger-copier in Ceylon.

In answer to another SHAREHOLDER,

The CHAIRMAN said that the premium profit on the new shares went to the credit of the reserve fund. As to the transacting of London business, they were precluded from doing anything of the kind by the charter. And as to the third question, whether they made any advances to banks with which the name of the gentleman mentioned (Mr. Cargill) was connected, they had nothing to do with them in any way, directly or indirectly. (Hear, hear.) The chairman further stated that it had been mentioned in the report of last year that a loss had been sustained through the defalcation of a Chinese comprador, but that there was reason to believe they had ample security to meet that loss. They had got judgment in that matter, but it was not yet completed. The report was then adopted.

The Chairman, Mr. Mackenzie, and Mr. Cargill were re-elected directors, some slight display of opposition being manifested to the re-election of the last named gentleman. The auditors were re-elected, and a vote o thanks passed on them. A vote of thanks to the chairman, directors secretary, and manager terminated the proceedings.

ALBERT INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

The first general meeting of the shareholders in this company was held at the London Tavern on the 20th inst.; P. W. SPENCE, Esq., in the chair.

Mr. G. G. KIRBY (the Managing Director) read the report, which will be found in our advertising columns.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report, said that as the report and accounts, which had been presented, and of which a copy had been sent to every shareholder, detailed fully the position of the company, it would not be necessary for him to enter into any minute particulars; but he should be happy to give any explanations or answer any inquiries the shareholders might wish to make. On the formation of the company, the directors, feeling it desirable to commence operations as quickly as possible, entered into negotiations with, and finally secured the business of the Oriental and General Marine Insurance Company. They secured that business on terms very advantageous to the Albert, and thereby acquired a most valuable and influential connection, with whom they had been and were still doing a large business. (Hear, hear.) They had entered into spacious and commodious offices in Finch-lane, which were well adapted for conducting an extensive business, much larger than they were at present transacting, but such as they hoped soon to obtain. They had been fortunate in securing the services of a secretary and officials who were familiar with all the details necessary for carrying on an office of this description. They had also secured the services of an underwriter who had had very long experience in a marine insurance company, and whose integrity of character was second to that of none in the City of London. (Cheers.) He referred to Mr. Philip Secretan. Since their formation they had had to pass through a period of great anxiety and pressure in the commercial world; but, notwithstanding this, they had every reason to be satisfied with the amount of business they had transacted, which held out encouragement for the future. (Hear, hear.) In the fire department they had secured the services of a gentleman who, by his personal exertions and energies, combined with the agents, had obtained an amount of premium which had fully—nay, more than fully—justified what was anticipated by the board at the onset; and the more so when they remembered that the fire account only extended over a period of six months. In the first three months of the present year the fire business had gone on steadily increasing, the premiums for January, February and March being £2,700, which on the year would give an average of over £10,000—a result which he thought they would agree with him in saying was most satisfactory. (Hear, hear.)

Dr. STEVENSON had much pleasure in seconding the resolution, and could endorse everything the chairman had said. The directors could congratulate the shareholders on the acquisition of the business of the Oriental and General Marine Company. After a few questions and answers from the Chairman, the report was adopted and a vote of thanks passed to the chairman, &c.

CHINA COTTON CONTRACTS.

(Liverpool Journal of Commerce.)

WILLIAMS V. REYNOLDS AND ANOTHER.

The plaintiff is Mr. Owen Hugh Williams, a cotton broker at Liverpool, and the defendants are Francis and William Reynolds and James Gibson, of the same town. The action was brought by Mr. Williams, on behalf of his principals, Messrs. Rylands, Seddon, and Co., to recover damages for a breach of cotton contract whereby the defendants agreed to sell the plaintiff 500 piculs of China cotton at 16¼d. per lb., to be delivered in the month of August last. The plaintiff stated that although 181 piculs had been delivered, the residue were not delivered as per agreement, and the plaintiff was unable to perform a sub-contract for the sale of the cotton at a higher price than he was to give for it; and that the plaintiff lost the benefits of the profits which he would have received had sub-contract been carried out. The plaintiff therefore claimed £515. 19s. damages. The defendants pleaded, first, that it was not agreed as in the declaration alleged; secondly, that the plaintiff was not ready and willing to accept the residue of the cotton, nor to pay the price for the same according to the terms of the contract; thirdly, that they did deliver the residue to the plaintiff in the month of August; and, fourthly, that they were prevented from delivering the said cotton in the month of August by the acts and conduct of the plaintiff. Mr. Mellish, in stating the case to the jury, said that a picul of cotton was 133⅓ lbs. weight, gross, and that a bale of cotton varied in weight from a half picul to three piculs. The contract in this case was what was termed a forward delivery contract—that is, the cotton was not to be delivered at once, but at some future date, and in this case the month of August had been fixed upon as the time for delivery. According to the custom of the Liverpool cotton trade, it was the duty of the sellers of the cotton some time prior to the last day of the month of August to have delivered the cotton in discharge of a contract they had made; or, in other words, the seller had to inform purchasers when the cotton was lying ready for delivery. In accordance with custom, the defendants on the 29th of August sent a notice to the plaintiffs that 250 piculs, ex the ship *General Putman*, were then ready for delivery to their warehouse. On the 30th August defendants gave plaintiff a further notice. The plaintiff, having received this notice, was bound to apply to defendants for a sampling order for the cotton, which he did and obtained two orders, With regard to the cotton by the *General Putman*, delivered on the 27th of August, there was no dispute as to the facts. Defendants admitted that the cotton declared on the occasion when weighed did not amount to 250 piculs, but only weighed 181 piculs. Mr. Mellish contended that the plaintiff was entitled to recover the difference in price at which he purchased the cotton (16¾d.), and the price at which he had re-sold (19¼d.), or 3d. per lb. For the defence, Mr. Quain submitted that the defendants had no notice of any sub-contract, and even if they had they were not liable for any damages more than the difference in price between the market quotations on the 31st August and the price at which they had sold. The plaintiffs were bound, on the defendants explaining their difficulty, to have gone into the market immediately and bought other cotton. That would have enabled them to have performed the sub-contract. China cotton on the 26th August, 1864, was worth

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18½d. per lb., and the 2nd of September 18¼d., so that there would only have been 1¼d. With respect to the other 250 piculs all the facts were disputed. The plaintiff based his case upon the fact that the defendants were not prepared to deliver to him any portion of the cotton in the month of August; that as the defendants said there were 119 bales ready for delivery; that the plaintiffs had refused to receive any portion of these 119 bales; and that there was a cross action then pending to compel payment. It was proved in evidence that the sampling order was not ready until one o'clock on the 1st of September, and the question, therefore, was, whether under these circumstances the plaintiffs could refuse to receive and pay for these 119 bales. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff for the full amount claimed. Leave was granted to move to reduce the amount of damages to £257. 19s. 6d. The record in the cross-action was withdrawn.

Naval and Military.

Captain Durnford, Royal Engineers, having returned to England in consequence of illness during the voyage out, Captain Barry has been appointed to leave for China in his stead.

It is rumoured that Colonel Laffan, Royal Engineers, will proceed to Ceylon and report on the military expenditure of the island.

The following flag promotions, dated the 11th inst., have been made in consequence of the death of Rear-Admiral Thomas Henderson on the 10th inst. :—

Captain George William Douglas O'Callaghan to be Rear-Admiral.

Retired Captains William Knighton Stephens, George Henry Parlby White, and William Windham Hornby, to be retired Rear-Admirals, under the provisions of the Orders in Council of the 1st August, 1860, and 9th of July, 1861.

The following flag promotions, dated the 13th inst., have been made in consequence of the death of Vice-Admiral Sir John M'Dougall, K.C.B., on the 12th inst. :—

Rear-Admiral the Hon. Edward Howard, on the reserved list, to be Vice-Admiral on the same list.

Rear-Admiral Sir Alexander Milne, K.C.B., to be Vice-Admiral.

Capt. Charles Wise to be Rear-Admiral.

Retired Rear-Admiral John Monday, to be a Retired Vice-Admiral.

Retired Capt. David Peat, to be Retired Rear-Admiral, under the provisions of the Orders in Council of the 1st August, 1860, and 9th of July, 1864.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to signify her intention to confer the the decoration of the Victoria Cross on the undermentioned midshipman and seamen of the Royal Navy, whose claims to the same have been submitted for Her Majesty's approval, on account of the gallantry displayed by them during the operations in the Straits of Simonoseki, Japan, as recorded against their names, viz :—

Mr. Duncan Gordon Boyes, midshipman, of Her Majesty's ship Euryalus, for the conspicuous gallantry which, acording to the testimony of Captain Alexander, C. B., at that time Flag-Captain to Vice-Admiral Sir Agustus Kuper, K.C.B., Mr. Boyes displayed on the occasion of the capture of the enemy's stockade. He carried a colour with the leading company, kept it in advance of all, in the face of the thickest fire, his colour-sergeants having fallen, one mortally, the other dangerously, wounded; and he was only detained from proceeding yet further by the orders of his superior officer. The colour he carried was six times pierced by musket balls. Thomas Pride, captain of the after-guard of Her Majesty's ship Euryalus, the survivor of the two colour-sergeants who supported Mr. Boyes in the gallant rush which he made in advance of the attack, is also recommended for the Victoria Cross for his conduct on this occasion. Dates of acts of bravery, September 6, 1864.

Willian Seeley, ordinary seaman of Her Majesty's ship Euryalus, for the intelligence and daring which, according to the testimony of Lieutenant Edwards, commanding the 3rd company, he exhibited in ascertaining the enemy's position, and for continuing to retain his position in front during the advance, after he had been wounded in the arm.—Date of act of bravery, September 6, 1864.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment of General Charles Menzies, of the Royal Marine Artillery, and Major-General Charles Warren, C.B., to be Ordinary Members of the Military Division of the Second Class, or Knights Commanders of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath.

Literature.

Araki the Daimio; a Japanese Story of the Olden Time; by Mona B. Bickerstaffe. London: Jackson, Walford, and Hodder.—On reading the title-page and the first few chapters of this work, we were under the impression that it was the production of an authoress in England bearing the name inscribed on the volume, and clothing in the garb of a lively narrative facts and incidents supplied by some person conversant with Japanese scenes on the spot. As we continued our perusal, however, the suspicion flashed across our mind, and was more fully confirmed as we advanced further into its contents, that Mona B. Bickerstaffe is no other than a *nom de plume;* and that the little volume now under our review is the literary offspring of a lady lately returned from that quarter. If the little tale unfolded in these pages fail, in these days of sensation novels, in exciting a deep and thrilling interest in the mind of the general reader, the fault will consist not so much in the unskilful treatment of the author as in the defective materials out of which the story is woven. It is not an easy work to deck the common ordinary incidents of Oriental life in the gaudy colours and showy dress of Western romance. The author, or authoress, of these pages may fairly lay claim, however, to the merit of having developed a Japanese story of ancient times in a commendable tone of Christian sentiment and in a style of refined taste. If the work be one of somewhat unequal merit, and if, in some of the earlier portions, it occasionally verges on a careless and unduly-familiar mode of phraseology, these slight drawbacks are amply compensated for by the intellectual vigour and philanthropic sentiment which everywhere pervade the narrative, and which will (as we venture to predict) render the book highly popular among all persons who have resided in the Far East, and also among those who wish to obtain an insight into the real character of the Japanese Government and people. The past history of Japan, the divided powers of its double system of Government, its religions, the relations between the territorial nobles and the Central Government, and the natural beauties and fertility of the country, are described in a graphic and masterly style of narrative. We cannot recommend any work of its size containing a more interesting and accurate delineation of the every-day scenes and manners of this remarkable race recently brought into more familiar contact with Western Christendom. The general plot or framework of the story is simple and brief. During the exciting period of Jesuit missions in the sixteenth century, a zealous padre, Don José de Sebina, arrives in the neighbourhood of Abama, and reaps the results of his missionary zeal in the conversion of a Japanese gentleman of territorial wealth and influence, Sako Miyako, and his fair daughter, named Ama. Araki, the Daimio, or territorial Prince of Hakoni, in his annual visit to Yedo, arrives with his cavalcade of retainers at the village, and rests for some days in the hospitable mansion of Sako Miyako for the cure of a wound. Becoming enamoured of the only daughter of his host, and repulsed in his advances, he broods in secret vexation of soul over plans of revenge, and avails himself of the recent penal laws against Christianity to work the ruin of the family, and thus to bring the Christian maiden under his power. Their narrow escape on ship board, their departure to a foreign land, the martyrdom of the padre, who remains behind, Araki's suicide, according to the prescribed rules of the national "Hara-kiru," the subsequent retrieval of the family fortunes of Sako Miyako's sons, and the marriage of the Christian heroine Ama to the Portuguese poet Camoëns at Macao, in China, are among the successive steps of interesting events, which, if in some of the final stages somewhat improbable in themselves, serve nevertheless to conduct the reader to the *denouement* of this interesting and profitable tale. We had intended to mark a few passages for quotation, but our space permits us only to insert the following extract, which, beautiful in itself, is peculiarly touching as revealing the depth of feeling and exquisite tenderness of affection, in which, if we mistake not, we recognize the heart-bleedings of one who has, in times past, drunk to its bitterest dregs the cup of domestic sorrow :—

The last time! How like a tolling bell is the sound of those few words! A bell that stirs up painful recollections in almost every heart; for who is the favoured mortal who cannot recall some agonising memory of—a last time? Be it the mourner whose heart has wept over a bereavement that has left him desolate; his sorrow may have long since passed away, time may have healed his wounds; still, do they not sometimes bleed afresh when accident, or circumstance, recalls the memory of that silent hour when he gazed for the *last time* on the beloved features, "so fair, so calm, so softly sealed" in death? Yet death is not the only source of sorrow; his is not the only hand that turns our hour-glass for the *last time.* Nay, some have met, and have parted, in full hopes of another, and perhaps a happier meeting, and so they closed that last interview, and being ignorant of the future, they were thus spared the indescribable heart-ache; but has it not since been felt with ten-fold bitterness? for now, when all is past, words and looks, circumstances of little import in themselves, become replete with harrowing interest, when associated with the memory of *that last time.*

The *Dublin University Magazine* for April contains an article under the heading, "China Two Hundred Years Ago," made up of extracts from a ponderous folio, entitled "*An Embassy from the East India Company to the Grand Tartar Cham, Emperor of China,*" with comments by the reviewer on the text. These comments are chiefly noticeable for ignoring the fact of the late destruction wrought on Nanking, the reviewer (p. 455) describing the streets at the present moment as "handsome, well paved and clean, and lined by nice-looking shops and private houses." In the concluding remarks the reviewer says: "Let the Emperor be as well disposed as he may (is the writer aware of his youth?), while the great body of the Mandarins continue corrupt in conscience and in practice, little improvement can be effected." This is telling us very little.

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However, the reviewer, to use his own language, "reckons upon a change for the better," though not by anything he can see, for he considers that "the influx of sea-faring people and their intercourse with the inhabitants of large cities, cannot tend to the improvement of either party."

The Victoria Cross, an official chronicle of the deeds of personal valour achieved in presence of the enemy during the Crimean and Baltic campaigns, the Indian mutinies, and the Persia, China, and New Zealand wars, is a book (published by Messrs. O'Byrne) which fully carries out the professions it makes in its title. At the end of the work are the names of all the officers and men (alphabetically arranged) on whom the honour has been conferred, with a reference to the page in which the individual act of bravery is detailed. The book has been carefully compiled, and is beautifully printed on toned paper.

The Times has at last noticed Mr. MICHIE'S *Overland Route from Peking to Petersburg*, and that too in a manner highly creditable to the author. We extract the following passage from the two columns which are occupied by the review:—

An overland journey from Peking to St. Petersburg is such a very uncommon performance on the part of an Englishman that it is entitled to the special attention of his countrymen. It is not only that the way is long, and the hardships, if not the perils, of the way are numerous, but such elaborate preparations have to be made in the way of passports and introductions, of passports from the Celestial authorities at Peking, and of introductions to Lamas and other Mongol dignitaries, that a considerable time may be expected to elapse before this, which is the real "overland route" from China, becomes sufficiently popular with other Englishmen to induce many of them to imitate Mr. Michie's example. There was a certain John Bell, of Antermony, who, in the reign of Peter the Great, travelled this route in the suite of a Russian Ambassador, and who has left a charming narrative of its incidents; and it was this narrative which inspired Mr. Michie with a longing desire to visit Siberia and other little known regions on the way, and to give us such a continuous account of the whole journey between the capitals of China and Russia as has not appeared in the English language for a century and a half. Huc and others have certainly imitated John Bell, but it is welcome, nevertheless, on such a little worn track, where so much has changed and is continually changing, to have the recent impressions of a sensible Englishman on a route which a very few years ago would have been about as feasible as a journey from China to England by way of the moon.

THE JAPANESE TROOPS.—A French paper states:—"The Japanese troops are composed of two distinct elements. 1. Those maintained by the feudal lords, called Daimios, and destined for the defence of their domains. 2. The troops kept by the Taicoun, and constituting the Imperial army, properly so-called. The number of Daimios who have troops in their service amounts to 200, keeping up an effective force of 370,000 infantry and 40,000 cavalry, which form the Federal army, and are placed at the orders of the Taicoun when the independence of the country is threatened. The Imperial army, kept up by the Taicoun himself, reaches the nominal figure of 100,000 infantry and 20,000 cavalry; but its actual force does not exceed half of that amount. The present Taicoun has just re-organised this force. Henceforth it will comprise 80,000 men, infantry, cavalry, artillery, and engineers. The infantry will be formed into regiments, manœuvring like the French soldiers and armed as they are. A certain number of Japanese officers and sub-officers have been instructed by the French at Yokohama, and are to train their fellow-countrymen."

THE QUININE PLANT IN CEYLON.—Dr. J. E. de Vrij, in his work "On the Cultivation of Quinine in Java and British India," remarks: "The plantation at Hakgalle, near Newera Ellia, in Ceylon, is 5,200 feet above the level of the sea, and is managed by Mr. McNicoll, under the superintendence of Mr. G. H. R. Thwaites, director of the Botanic Garden, at Peradenia. At the end of 1863 this plantation contained 22,050 plants. As the quinine trees of Java, according to the present mode of cultivation in that island, must be at least thirty years old before they are fully capable of yielding a good quality of bark, I very much doubt whether any capitalists would be found willing to employ their capital in that way for so long a period. The English system, on the other hand (as carried on in Ceylon), which admits of good interest on capital within four years at the most, and continues regularly progressing in that respect, is certainly one which prepares the way for the transfer, in the course of time, of the cultivation to private industry."

THE GREAT FYCHOW GIANT'S BEREAVEMENT.—The following is from the advertising columns of the *Daily Telegraph*:—(Free translation). Great Princes, Good People in High Stations, and Peaceful People of the lands beyond the Eastern Seas.—My greatest teacher, Confucius, tells me that the people of the West have sages, good and true men, knowing in all knowledge of the world and of the human heart, men that fawn and cringe not for high favours, but stand erect at all times before their fellow men, and awaiting the will of Heaven. To such I now appeal for sympathy in my great sorrow that, by the hard hand of fate, my visit to your lands is rendered now impossible for several moons to come. Just now, when on the eve of my departure, tidings of a family calamity have reached me, and filial duty, which is the root of virtue, demands of me to hasten to the tombs of my ancestors to fast and pray. May your exalted race ever continue at peace with mine, and may the sun, and the moon, and the tranquil stars shed their united pity on all who know such grief as I, that I cannot for a season visit your heaven conferred country.—CHANG. Shanghai, 2nd moon, 1st day, year 1865.

THE *Illustrated London News* of the 22nd inst. has an engraving of the attack on some Chinese pirates near Amoy, by the crews of H.M.S. *Pelorus*, *Flamer*, and *Janus*.

Monetary and Commercial.

The demand for money at the Bank continues on a moderate scale, at the minimum rate of 4 per cent. for first-class paper but houses known to have been engaged with heavy liabilities on tea and cotton have had their paper refused for the first time. This feeling was much confirmed by the announcement on the 20th of the failure of Buchanan, Hamilton, and Co., Glasgow, who are connected with Messrs. Hamilton, Gray, and Co., Singapore, and Messrs. Jarvie, Thorburn, and Co., Shanghai. Their London agents, Messrs. Harvey, Brand, and Co. could, we hear, have seen them through had it been deemed desirable, but in the present condition of the market for East India and China produce it was next to impossible to fix the amount of loss or the time necessary to complete the affairs. We understand that Messrs. Ashton and Co. will protect the drafts of Messrs. Gilman and Co. The liabilities are stated to be about £700,000 or £800,000, and the assets about £600,000. It is, however, quite uncertain what dividend the estate will ultimately yield. In consequence of some comments on this failure, *The Times* had the following on the 24th inst.:—

"A Glasgow paper, while characteristically attributing the failure of Messrs. Buchanan, Hamilton, and Co. to 'the sudden and erratic movements of the issue department of the Bank of England,' adds that 'the Mathesons of London, in the same trade, are said to acknowledge having lost a million sterling from the same causes.' So far as the London public are concerned there can be little necessity to notice these statements, but for the rectification of Glasgow opinions it may be mentioned that the peculiar feature of the issue department of the Bank of England, under the Act of 1844, is that it is regulated in a manner so inexorably exact as to render any sudden or erratic movements impossible, while as regards the alleged loss of a million sterling by Messrs. Matheson the report is utterly untrue. Messrs. Matheson never purchase or deal in produce on their own account. Their business, as far as the China trade is concerned, is strictly that of agents, and as such it is well known they represent Jardine, Matheson, and Co., of China, a firm composed of men whose wealth places their position beyond question. The Bank of England uniformly deals with money as traders deal with all other commodities, by demanding the market rate, and this can involve no peril to any one; but an idle report that 'it is said' by some unnamed parties that a leading house has lost a million sterling might work extensive ruin. The classes who invent these announcements consist mostly of small speculators in shares, who from their position are so ignorant of the comparative standing of the mercantile establishments of the country that they only know even by hearsay a few of the most eminent names, and use these for their purposes accordingly. Last autumn rumours of failures were daily circulated in the vicinity of the various Stock Exchanges with unexampled recklessness, but fortunately the firms selected were in nearly every instance of such stability that no person with respectable means of information was for a single instant in danger of being disquieted."

At a meeting in London on the 26th of the creditors, a statement was presented, showing uncovered liabilities for £752,588, and assets for £632,068. An adjournment till the 3rd of July was agreed to, in order to receive further accounts from Singapore and China. Meanwhile the business is to be carried on under the inspection of Mr. George May, of Messrs. May, Mathewson, and Co., of London, Mr. M. Connal, of the firm of W. Connal and Co., produce brokers, of Glasgow, and Mr. Anderson, the accountant, of Glasgow; and it was understood that the banks and other creditors in the United Kingdom will not send their bills abroad or take proceedings against the estate. Several creditors mentioned that if at the next meeting an offer of a composition be made, it would meet with favourable consideration.

MESSRS. BUCHANAN, HAMILTON, AND CO., OF GLASGOW; JARVIE, THORBURN, AND CO., OF SHANGHAI; AND HAMILTON, GRAY, AND CO., SINGAPORE.

DR. ABSTRACT STATEMENT OF AFFAIRS, APRIL 14, 1865.

To creditors on bills payable, unsecured		£667,714	8 7
Do., secured	£19,758 14 7		
To creditors on open account, unsecured		9,583	8 7
Do., partially secured	£11,300 0 0		
Less estimated value of securities	11,112 10 0		
		187	10 0
To creditors for advances on produce and against other securities	£633,510 12 6		
Less estimated value of produce .. £508,407 12 6			
Mortgage of Mr. Hamilton's separate estate .. 50,000 0 0			
	558,407 12 6		
		75,103	0 0
To creditors for advances on produce, fully secured, ...	£27,619 10 7		
Estimated value of produce ..	34,939 5 8		
Estimated surplus per contra ..	£7,319 15 1		
Royal Bank of Scotland, fully secured by mortgage on Mr. Hamilton's separate estate	£50,000 0 0		
		£752,588	7 2

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Cr.				
By cash in hand			£2,146	10 9
By bills receivable on hand			47,979	5 9
By goods in process of shipment			4,343	13 10
By sundries			8,477	15 9
By surplus from produce per contra			7,319	15 1
By amount at debit of Jarvie, Thorburn, and Co., after crediting produce received	£397,070 18 9			
Deduct estimated loss on product unsold	117,841 5 5			
			281,229	13 4
By amount at debit of Hamilton, Gray, and Co., Singapore, after crediting produce received	£266,431 15 2			
Deduct stimated loss on produce unsold	2,860 5 2			
			263,571	10 0
By estimated surplus from separate estates of partners			17,000	0 0
			£632,068	4 6

The Bank of Hindustan will issue their report shortly, and hold their general meeting on the 15th May. It is expected that many of the absurd rumours which have been circulated lately as to the losses of this bank, and which have caused the fall in the price of the shares, will be dispelled, and that their profits will at least be found sufficient to cover the losses which have fallen to the lot of this bank, in common with all banks in the East India and China trade.

The report of the Commercial Bank Corporation of India and the East, presented yesterday, states that the net profits of the year 1864, after writing off all known bad debts, were £154,426, out of which a dividend and bonus for the first half of the year were paid to the shareholders of the bank in Bombay, amounting to £45,000, and a dividend has since been paid in London, at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum on the whole paid-up capital, as it stood on the 31st December, for the second half of the year, amounting to £39,925, leaving a balance of £69,501. A notice of the meeting will be found in another column.

The Asiatic Banking Corporation have issued their report to be presented on the 4th May. The net profits, after deducting all charges upon the current business, and providing for all bad and doubtful debts, amount to £70 439. This sum, it is proposed, shall be distributed in the following manner:—A dividend at the rate of 15 per. cent. per annum; a bonus of 10s. per share; £8,484 in liquidation of the whole of the preliminary expenses; £5,500 to be added to the reserve; and £6,454 to be carried to the credit of profit and loss account for the current year.

The meeting of the Oriental Bank Corporation was held on the 20th, and a report will be found in another column.

The biddings for £300,000 in bills on India were only £27,000 on Calcutta, and £3,500 on Madras. The minimum price was fixed at 1s. 11d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11¼d. on Bombay. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at the minimum will receive in full. On Bombay all the tenders were below the minimum. These terms show another reduction of more than 1 per cent., and indicate a rapid subsidence of the demand for means of remittance to India in return for produce.

Mr. T. W. Bradley, partly engaged in the China trade, who failed some months since, has passed his final examination. The dividend will be very small.

There are a few malcontents at the amalgamation of the Imperial Bank of China with the Bank of Hindustan, who "talk" of proceedings, but considering the state of trade during the past six months, we think the amalgamation was a benefit to the China Bank shareholders.

Now that the shareholders in India and China banks are expecting a bad time of it, by losses in advances against produce, &c., they are looking after the smaller things. The following has been published; and it will be well for bank officers to reply to it through our columns:—

Being a bank shareholder myself, and therefore interested in their sound management, it has been a source of much regret to me to hear of abuses existing in some of the largest and most influential banking establishments connected with the East, which nothing but a direct appeal from the fountain head (I mean the proprietary) will ever eradicate. I allude to those malpractices, winked at, if not openly permitted by the directors, by which bank officers are benefited at the expense of shareholders. To give a few instances. It is well known that all over India and China the officers of chartered and other banks are in the habit of pocketing upon their purchases of *sight* drafts on London the rate of exchange granted to the public on *six months'* sight paper; in other words, they put the establishments they serve to the loss of six months' London discount on such transactions, amounting at present to about 2½ per cent., but to nearly 5 per cent. when the Bank of England rate reaches 9 per cent. per annum, as it did last year. I cannot see the justice of thus mulcting the proprietors, particularly as European Bank officers in the East are very handsomely paid (in most cases ridiculously higher than their services are worth), besides participating every few years in liberal bonuses allowed in no other profession. I understand the pretence is, that this privilege is permitted on *family remittances* only, but you must allow that such a licence is dangerous and easily overstepped. Every day's experience of mankind proves that we are naturally liable to err, and that, where self-interest is concerned, people are inclined to benefit themselves at the expense of others if they are made their own arbiters.

Then, again, I have learnt that it is a commom practice in some banks to allow their officers the six months' deposit rate of interest on their *current* accounts—a difference of about 4 per cent. per annum against the bank! Why such a rule should exist is just as unaccountable as the preceding one, and betrays great weakness, if not something more. Instead of bank officers drawing a higher rate of interest than that allowed to the public, I submit that they should not be permitted to keep accounts at all with the establishments they serve. Both the Oriental and Chartered Mercantile Banks, it is well known, have lost large sums recently through frauds committed upon them by their ledger-keepers and clerks, by means of false entries made in their individual current deposit accounts. No greater door to fraud can be imagined than the permission to bank employés to keep such accounts; and the banks, therefore, that would prohibit their officers of every grade from doing so will put themselves in a secure position and avoid a dangerous and ill-guarded source of loss.

The meeting of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China took place on the 12th. The net profit for the year amounts to £104,827, which is increased to £117,888 by the addition of £13,061 brought forward from the previous twelve months. A report of the meeting will be found in another column.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Pera*, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was:—In gold, to Madras, £373. In silver, to Hong Kong, £15,154; to Shanghai, £500. Total, in gold, £373; in silver, £15,654.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices April 17.
£100	Agra and Masterman's	50	113 to 116	118 to 120
50	Do. New	25	56 to 58	58 to 60
50	Do. "	25	—	—
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	26 to 28	28 to 30 xd.
20	Do. New	All	—	—
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	51 to 53	54 to 56
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	35 to 37	35 to 37
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (10 pd.)	All	—	—
20	Eastern Exchange	5	1⅛ to ¼ dis.	1⅛ to ¼ dis.
50	London Joint Stock	15	49 to 50	48 to 50
100	London and Westminster	20	94 to 96	94 to 96
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	52 to 54	53 to 55
50	Union of London	15	53 to 55	55 to 56
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	6 to 4 dis.	4 to 2 dis.
100	Do. Issued at 2 pm.	25	6 to 4 dis.	5 to 3 dis.
100	Do. New	15	6 to 4 dis.	3½ to 2½ dis.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	1½ to ¼ dis.	par to ¼ pm.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	30 to 32	30 to 32
100	Bank of London	50	130 to 135	140 to 145
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	⅛ to 1 pm.	¼ to 1 pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3 to 4	3 to 4
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	83 to 85	84 to 86
50	Do. New	35	23 to 25 pm.	22 to 24 pm.
20	China Steamship & Labuan Coal Co.	5	—	—
5	Bombay Gas	All	5¾ to 6¼	5¼ to 5¾ xn.
10	Hong Kong Gas	All	—	2½ to 1½ dis.
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	10	3 to 2 dis.	3 to 2 dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	¼ dis. to par.	¼ dis. to par
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	20 to 20¼	20 to 21
1	Oriental Gas	All	1⅛ to 1⅛	1⅛ to 1⅛
1	Do. New	All	¼ to ⅜ pm.	¼ to ⅜ pm.
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2½ to 3	2½ to 3
100	West India Steam Company	60	102 to 104	101 to 103
20	Ceylon Company	7	2½ to 3½ pm.	2½ to 3½ pm.
20	International Finance Society	5	¼ to 1½ pm.	1½ to 1¾ pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	1½ to 2½ pm.	2 to 2½ pm.
50	London Financial Association	15	6¾ to 7½ pm.	7¼ to 7¾ pm
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	1½ to ¼ dis.	¼ to ½ dis.
20	Société Financière d'Egypte	10	3½ to 2½ dis.	2½ to 2 dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	15½ to 15¾	15½ to 16
10	Upper Assam Tea	3½	2½ to 3½ pm.	2½ to 3½ pm.
10	Do.	All	17 to 20	17 to 20

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—The Tea market has strengthened during the past fortnight, and there is a general inquiry for all good to fine Teas, prices for which show an upward tendency. For export there has been more doing in Green, of China growth, and Japan Uncoloured for shipment to Canada, and advices from New York of the cessation of hostilities between the Federal and Confederate States has led to some inquiry to-day, but no actual business has resulted. In red leaf there is nothing fresh in the grades up to common, but a good demand exists for inferior to good flavory up to 1s. 1d. per lb., and the supply on offer is considerably reduced. Kaisow kinds from 1s. 2d. to 1s. 6d. per lb. have been more inquired for, but the sales have not been large; medium to fine Kaisow as well as finest have been little dealt in. In black leaf all grades show ¼d. per lb. advance, but transactions are limited, as most importers hold for a further rise. In Souchong the demand is for the better qualities. In Oolong there is nothing new to advise. Scented Teas have been in but little request; the supply to arrive is very small, whilst the stock is also considerably under that of late years. Green: The quantity offering is much smaller than for some time past, and there has been more doing for export and home purposes; an advance of 1d. per lb has been paid for good to medium Young Hyson and Gunpowder. Some extensive sales have transpired in Uncoloured Japan kinds, prices for which are a shade higher.

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SILK.—The prospects of the European silk crop are, at present, not of the most encouraging nature; still, any decisive opinion would be premature. The backwardness of the past season, followed by sudden and great heat, whilst stimulating the hatching process, must act unfavourably on the grubs. In the south of France, we have complaints of the re-appearance of the *maladie des vers de soie*. An unusually large quantity of ova has been imported, but a considerable per centage is, as usual, worthless. The mulberry trees in France as well as Italy show signs of being, to some extent affected; this however, is not the case in Greece, where the chief anxiety is directed to the possible vitiation of the ova. Spain is the most forward country, but growers there are not free from doubt as to whether a more than average yield will be obtained. But whatever the amount of the European silk crop, the virtual cessation of the United States war must create such a demand for our silk fabrics as will, probably carry prices for raw silk higher than the present quotations, which are acted on by an extremely limited stock. The quotations will be found in our "Latest."

COTTON.—There was an improved demand in the London market during the business week ending the 21st inst, and though the news of the evacuation of Richmond caused the market to open at a reduction of ½d. per lb., the decline was soon recovered, and in some instances an advance of ⅛d. was obtained. As compared with the preceding week, Bengal, China, Japan, Smyrna, and Greek closed about ⅛d. per lb. higher. The sales during the week were 180 bales China, at 6d. to 8d. for mid. fair to fully fair; and 450 bales Japan 7⅞d. to 8¼d., fully fair to good fair. The stock in London of China and Japan on the 20th April was 16,549 bales, against 26,823 bales same date last year. Total stock in London 120 258 bales, against 96,011 bales in 1864. Cotton afl at to Europe on the 21st April—China, 36,885 bales, against 74 981 last year; of Japan, 64 bales, against 6,476 last year. On Saturday, the 22nd, there was a good business done at extreme prices, with, in some instances, a slight advance on the quotations of the day before. 180 bales of Japan sold at 8¾d. to 9d. fully fair to good fair. The news of General Lee's surrender to the Federals produced no material alteration in price on the 24th. Business was transacted at full, and in some instances rather higher rates. 210 bales Japan went off at 9d., fully fair to good fair. At Liverpool, at the close of the week ending the 21st, China and Japan were ¼d. to ½d. cheaper in the better qualities, but finished without change from the preceding in "fair" and under. Prices advanced on Saturday, the 22nd, ¼d. to ½d., and on Monday, the 24th, the business opened with a good inquiry at prices fully up to Saturday's quotations, and for some description ¼d. advance was paid. The total stock in Liverpool on the 21st was 574,494 bales, against 414.460 last year.

SUGAR.—Former rates have been realised. This present week the demand has sensibly increased, and some large sales of Manila have been concluded at 25s. to 29s. Last week, by private contract, a sale was reported of 2,500 bags Siam, fine yellow and white, at 32s. 6d. to 36s.

COFFEE.—The market is very firm, with a better inquiry. Colonial descriptions continue in request, and 400 casks, 255 barrels and bags Plantation Ceylon in public sale have been taken off with readiness at an advance of fully 6d. per cwt., fine ordinary to low middling, 78s. to 82s., middling to good middling, 83s. to 87s.; and 130 casks, 2,114 bags Native were principally sold, also at fully previous rates, good ordinary, 66s. 6d. to 67s. 6d., common and small, 65s. to 65s. 6d., the remainder being bought in at higher prices; privately, business to the extent of about 300 casks has been done at 66s. to 67s. Mocha: 788 packages at auction were chiefly bought in, the small part sold being fair long berry at 94s. 6d. to 95s., good short berry, 101s. to 102s. 150 bags Malabar (pickings) were withdrawn.

RICE.—Held for enhanced rates on the 24th, and business restricted in consequence. Last week there was an increasing demand for soft grain descriptions, the better qualities, which are rather scarce, being more particularly sought after, and for these an advance of 3d. to 6d. per cwt. was paid, but the total transactions on the spot did not exceed 30,000 bags, as follows:—Middling to fine Nakrenzie, 9s. 3d. to 10s.; common, 8s. 7½d.; fine Rangoon, 10s. 3d.; Bassein, 9s.; and white Bengal, 12s. 7½d. to 15s.

CAMPHOR.—China has been very active, with daily sales, attended with an ultimate advance of 10s. per cwt., and the market remains very firm: Japan very scarce. Only 66 chests China sea damaged at auction, sold at £5. 12s. 6d. Quotations for China, £6 to £6. 5s.; Japan, £6. 5s. to £6. 10s.

CARDAMOMS—Are again, and sensibly dearer; 10 cases Malabar at auction sold at 5s. 5d. to 5s. 6d. per lb. for middling, and up to 7s. per lb. realised privately for fine in limited quantities; 33 bags Ceylon sold at 3s. 5d. to 3s. 10d. for middling to good.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Quiet, with very moderate business, on former terms; no auctions. Buds: Limited business done privately, at £10. 15s. per cwt. for good.

CINNAMON.—The quarterly sales on the 24th did not go off favourably; 1st sorts were very flat at a decline of 2d. to 4d. per lb.; 2nd declined 2d. to 3d.; and 3rd and 4th went at par to 2d. per lb. lower. 2,410 bales offered, and about two-thirds sold, viz.: 533 bales 1st, at 1s. 4d. to 2s. 4d., with superior at 2s. 8d. per lb.; 1,095 bales 2nd at 1s. 3d. to 2s. 2d.; 543 bales 3rd, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 9d.; and 239 bales 4th and Jungle, 10d. to 1s. 4d. Of 140 bales Tellicherry, only 2 bales 3rd sold at 1s. 2d.

COCOA NUT OIL.—This market has been very firm, but not very active; in the moderate amount of business accomplished an advance of 10s. per ton has been realised. 114 casks Cochin, 17 casks Ceylon, and 103 casks Sydney at auction.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Flat, and little doing; 90 bags at auction retired. Dragon's Blood: Good quality scarce, and wanted; other sorts still neglected; only one case at auction, and that retired. Galangal Root: Nothing of any moment doing. Rhubarb: Active and dearer, and considering the smallness of the stock, a large business done; the average advance is about 1s. per lb. Quotation of Dutch trimmed, 8s. to 10s.; common flat, 3s. 6d. to 8s. 6d.; round, 3s. 3d. to 8s. 3d.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Very firm; 99 cases Siam at auction sold at £45 to £51 per cwt. for 1st quality; £33 to £40 per cwt. for 2nd quality; £27 to £31 per cwt. for 3rd quality; £20 to £23 dark in block; and £17 to £18. 10s. dust in block: and of 39 cases Sumatra, half sold at £12 to £13. 10s. per cwt. fair to good 2nd quality, more or less false packed. Damar: Continues quiet; and 35 cases at auction, were all retired. Gamboge: Steady, only 5 cases at auction, sold at £10 per cwt. for fair pipe. and £6. 15s. to £6. 17s. 6d. ordinary broken.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Very quiet, with little if any trade. India Rubber: Auctions confined to 150 bags Assam, sold at 8¾d. to 9½d. per lb. for good lump, being very cheap; privately there is inquiry, but at low prices. About 10 tons very good Penang sold at 1s. 1¾d.

HEMP (MANILA).—Of 748 bales at auction, only a few bales damaged sold. A little more inquiry for the article has sprung up as we write.

HORNS.—Firm: Auctions confined to 3 tons Penang Buffalo, sold at 42s. to 42s. 6d. per cwt. or 4 lbs. average.

JAPAN WAX.—Steady, with moderate business.

OILS.—Anniseed: As much as 1s. per lb. dearer, very large business accompanying the advance, and the market remains buoyant. Cajaputa: Firm; 6 cases sold at auction at 2½d. per oz. Cassia: Very quiet; 20 cases at auction retired, and little, if any, sold privately. Cinnamon: Firm; 3 cases at auction sold at 3s. 1d. per oz. for fine.

SAGO.—Remains flat; 270 boxes at auction all retired.

SHELLAC.—Has not experienced any further general decline: of 455 packages at auction rather more than half sold: Orange and Livery Orange at £5 to £5. 10s. per cwt.; Garnet £5. 2s. 6d.; Button £5. 10s. to £6 good to fine; Native £4. 5s. to £4. 15s.; and Block and Blocky £4. 15s. to £5. There is very fair inquiry privately for export at corresponding rates.

SPICES.—Cloves: Steady; 399 bags Zanzibar at auction sold at 3½d. to 3¼d. per lb. for middling to good. Mace: Remains scarce; 17 cases Penang at auction sold at 11d. to 1s. 4d. per lb., for ordinary red to fair reddish. Nutmegs: Steady; 21 cases Penang at auction sold at 11d. to 1s. 8d. per lb. for ordinary small to good medium.

PEPPER.—Black: Had been very dull, but quite recently has shown symptoms of renewed activity. 399 bags Singapore at auction sold at 3¾d. per lb.; but of 854 bags Penang, a few only sold at 3¼d. Hitherto but little has been done privately. White: Very quiet, 150 bags Penang at auction retired.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Continues very quiet; and 362 bags at auction, all retired; private transactions very small. Gambier: Had been very quiet, and was rather lower, but quite recently has improved; demand more general and active, and prices firmer. Of 1,432 bales at auction, about half sold at 21s. 6d. to 21s. 9d. per cwt. for middling.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Galls: Turkey still offering freely, but without success; Japan steady; of 157 boxes Japan at auction, one-third sold at 56s. to 60s. per cwt. for fair to good. Musk: Scarce, firm, and wanted; only 3 caddies at auction, and those retired. Rattans: Nothing of any consequence doing. Sapanwood: Siam rather dearer, and 39 tons fine at auction sold at £13. 10s. to £13. 15s. per ton; Manila flat; 39 tons all retired; good quality inquired for. Mother-o'-Pearl Shells: Not any business of importance doing. Soy: Remains firm, with inquiry; 12 casks at auction retired at 4s. per gallon. Star Anniseeds: Only 4 cases at auction, sold at £6. 10s. per cwt. Sticklac, Siam: Nothing of consequence doing.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 5s.; nail rod, £8. 15s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10; sheets, single, £10. 15s. to £11; Staffordshire bars, £8. 15s.; rails, £6. 10s. to £7.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £15.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £94 to £96 per ton; yellow metal, 8d. to 8¼d. per lb.

TIN.—95s. to 96s. for block; 96s. to 97s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 28s. to 29s.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £19. 15s. to £20; W.B., £21. 10s.; shot patent, £23; sheet, £20. 15s.; spelter, £20. 10s. to £20. 15s.; zinc, English sheet, £24 to £24. 10s.; quicksilver, £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—There is more activity in Scotch Pig Iron, also in Tin and Spelter. In other metals there is nothing to notice.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£61,796
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£4,500
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£132,303
Singapore	£3,007	£196,020
Penang	—	£3,500
Yokohama	—	£2,000

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£57,960
Penang	—	£2,205
Hong Kong	—	£15,000
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£15,535
Yokohama	—	£3,000

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£56	—
To Saigon	—	£51,124
To Batavia	£2,132	—
To Hong Kong	—	£14,880
To Shanghai	—	£9,620

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4
Silver in Bars	0 5 0½
Mexican Dollars	0 4 11½

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Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Apl. 8	Deal	Shanghai	Diligentia	Porter.
— 6	Bordeaux	Singapore	Birman	Boudeau.
— 6	Off Plymouth	Batavia	Sophie	Cullberg.
— 8	Clyde	Singapore	Obey	Negros.
— 9	Off Dungeness	Java	Bezoekie	Rickers.
— 8	Off Plymouth	Batavia	Nicoline	Winter.
— 6	Off the Land's En	Colombo	Argali	Winn.
— 7	Off Scilly	Batavia	Ridderkirk	Molenaar.
Mar.19	Havana	Macao	Encarnacion	Vara.
Apl. 11	Falmouth	Maulmain	Devonshire	Watson.
— 11	Off Plymouth	Batavia	Duke of Newcastle	
— 9	Altona	Maulmain	Selwa	Buck.
— 15	Queenstown	Do.	Pladda	Hutchinson.
— 1	New York	Foo chow-Foo	White Eagle	Williams.
Mch28	Havana	Macao	Charlotte	Moreau.
Apr.13	Texel	Samarang, &c.	Bravo	
— 15	Marseilles	Singapore	Ocean	Hugues.
— 19	Falmouth	Maulmain	John Watts	Winchell.
— 5	New York	Amoy	Falcon	Parker.
— 7	Do	Shanghai	Clara Babuyan	Harrington.
— 7	Do.	Amoy	Theodore and Julie	Lorenz.
—	Channel	Samarang	Thomas Mitchell	
— 19	Bordeaux	Singapore	Marie	Thin.
— 20	Do.	Hong Kong	Marie	Vicendean.
— 23	London	Manila	Ottilie	Schramme.
— 19	Off Dungeness	Java	Bernard and Agnes	Odeman.
—	New York	Manila	Game Cock	
— 8	Boston	Penang	Borneo	Herd.
— 20	Barcelona	Manila	Nuevo Lantero	Estival.

DEPARTURES.

ate.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
April 7	Shields	Shanghai	Hotspur	
— 8	London	Newcastle & Batavia	Solo	Ereken.
Mar 14	Sunderland	Galle	Alphington	
April 1	Lisbon	Penang	Priam	Irvine.
— 4	Do.	Singapore	Qua Lee	Collins.
Mar2	New York	Hong Kong	Samuel Russell	
Apr.11	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Triton	
— 11	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Albertine	Waderson.
— 13	London	Hong Kong & Canto	Avondhu	Monro.
— 13	Do.	Yokohama	Gleam	ameron.
— 13	Newport	Shanghai	Napoleon III.	Mouat.
— 17	London	Sunderland & Singap	Naples	Pike.
— 13	Plymouth	Hong Kong	Corea (s.s.)	
— 15	Liverpool	Bahia and Singapore	Monitor	
— 13	Amsterdam	Java	Anna Sophia	Hockstra.
— 13	Do.	Do.	Standsraad	v. Ewyck-Ham.
— 18	Shields	Ceylon	Carisbrook	Cooper.
— 17	Sunderland	Japan	Passe Partout	Porret.
Mch13	Rio Janeiro	Batavia	Friesland	Sipkes.
— 14	Do	Singapore	Jane Anne	Scoresby.
Apr.19	London	Shanghai	Queen of the Ocean	Ellison.
— 20	Do.	Do.	Queen of the Forth	Crombie.
— 20	Liverpool	Singapore	Bintang (s.)	
— 11	Hamburg	Do.	Ceres	Lorenzen.
Mch2	Rio Janeiro	Do.	Fernan e	Gilles.
Apr.22	London	Bankok	Radama	Mackenrie.
— 2	Do.	Ascension & Trinalee	Wellington	Ditcham.
— 8	New York	Hg. Kong & Shanghai	Amaranth	Hardorn.
— 2	Liverpool	Shanghai	Sea Snake	Popham.
— 19	Gothenburg	River Amoor	Thetis	Prytz.
— 24	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Esperanza	Murrel.
— 21	Do.	Singapore & Penang	Rifle	Elliott.
— 21	Do.	Shanghai	Prince Alfred	Ellison.

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Castleton, Maravi. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Lord Raglan. For Shanghai: Assyrian. For Hong Kong and Canton: Cambalu, Mountain Ash. For Batavia: William Simpson. For Colombo: Skimmer of the Waves, Avon. For Colombo, Cannanore, and Cochin: Star of Ceylon.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Hong Kong and Canton: Corea. For Singapore: Therese. For Manila: Olano. For Manila, Iloilo, and Zebu: Feliz. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Cornelia. For Valparaiso and Hong Kong: Crusader, Gentoo. For Galle: Indian Chief, Forest Queen.

At GLASGOW.—For Singapore and Penang: Roslin Castle. For Batavia and Singapore: Buston Vale. For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Three Bells.

At GREENOCK.—For Shanghai: Chinaman.

SPOKEN.

H.M.S. FALCON, bound to Singapore, off Cape Rachado.
HARKAWAY, Sunderland to Japan, April 1, 46 N., 8 W.
ALEXANDRE (barq.), for Batavia, Dec. 25, 39 S., 8 E.
FREDE, Amsterdam to Batavia, Jan. 10, 33 S., 97 W.
MARIA, Hong Kong to Bordeaux, 60 days out.
BENGAL, for Hong Kong, Jan. 1.
No. 8,479 (Fr. barq.), beating up China Sea, Mar. 4, 11 N., 110 E.
KATE CARNIE (?), beating up China Sea, Mar. 4, 11 N., 110 E.
CREOLE, Newcastle to Ceylon, Dec. 7, 23 S., 29 W.
LYDIA HILTON, Dartmouth to Hong Kong, Jan. 2, 39 S., 30 E.
PATNA, Liverpool to Shanghai, April 7, 51 N., 9 W.
KIRKLAND, Canton to London, Feb. 12, 33 S., lon. 31.
JAN DANIEL, Padang to Rotterdam, Feb. 17, 35 S., lon. 19.
WHITE ADDER, London to Hong Kong, Mar. 4, 20 S., 29 W.
DISRAELI, Liverpool to Galle, Mar. 7, 12 S., 31 W.
QUEEN OF ENGLAND, Macao to Havana, Feb. 26, in the Straits of Sunda.
MIDDLESEX, Liverpool to Singapore, Feb. 27, 40 S., 50 E.
AGENORIA, Liverpool to Singapore, Feb. 19, 40 S., 23 E.
ARIADNE (barq.), Shanghai to Liverpool, in the Straits of Sunda.
ADELINE (Dut. ship), Dordt to Shanghai, Feb. 28, 5 N., 24 W.
CAPELLA (Dut. ship), Amsterdam to Sourabaya, March 1, 6 N., 24 W.
ERNST and MARIA, Trieste to Hong Kong, March 3, 4 N., 26 W.
FOOLK ROHOMAN (?), Cardiff to Shanghai, 47 N., 8 W.
DUNKELD, Liverpool to Shanghai, Nov. 17.
ANNIE SISE (ship), Liverpool to Galle, March 3, 1 S., 24 W.
JACOB ROGGEVEEN, Batavia to Holland, March 12, 5 N., 25 W.
HUGO GROTIUS (Dut. ship), Java to Rotterdam, Jan. 24, 29 S., 50 E.
CONRAD HEINRICH (Dan. brig), Hg. Kg. to Falmth, Mar. 5, 1 S., 23 W.
RIFLEMAN, London to Nagasaki, March 9, 5 N., 25 W.
ZWAAN (Dut. barq.), Bali to Amsterdam, March 29, 28 N., 39 W.
NORDSTERN, from Sourabaya, March 4, 1 N., 21 W.
ROYAL THISTLE, from Shanghai, Feb 6, 19 S., 83 E.
CLIVE, Colombo to London, Feb. 20, 35 S., 28 E.
TANONI, Bali to Amsterdam, April 1, 31 N., 38 W.
STORM KING, Clyde to Galle, March 3, 5 N., 23 W.
ROBERT CORK (?), Cardiff to Galle, Feb. 19, 35 S., 20 E.
RODLE, Shanghai to Liverpool, Feb. 19.
JAMES VINNICOMBE (ship), Hong Kong to Liverpool, Feb. 22.
COUNTESS OF CAWDOR, Milford to Singapore, 1 N., 25 W.
NIKO (barq.), Amsterdam to Batavia, 36 S., 14 W.
SCOTLAND (ship), Falmouth to Batavia, Feb. 10, 38 S., 20 W.
REDAN (ship), Shanghai to London, Feb. 9, 24 S., 61 E.
LOUIS KHORI, Java to Amsterdam, March 2, 32 S., 13 E.
HAMPTON COURT, Manila to London, March 8, 24 S., 3 E.
DEVONDALE, London to Penang, Feb. 5.
COMET (Eng. barque), from Colombo, March 5.
SNARESBROOK, from Japan, March 6.
VELOCIDADE, Japan to New York, March 7, 32 S., 14 E.
CARL, Manila to Falmouth, Feb. 13, 25 S., 77 E.
VICTORIA, Ceylon to London, March 3, 35 S., 22 E.
REAL SALMISTA, Ceylon to London, March 3, 24 S., 4 E.
JAN VAN BRAKEL, Batavia to Amsterdam, Feb. 21, 35 S., 28 E.
W. W. SMITH, Manila to London, Feb. 23, 35 S., 24 E.
CANADIAN, Shanghai to London, Feb. 14, 30 S., 44 E.
STAR OF THE NORTH, Foochow to London, Feb. 22, 34 S., 25 E.
MARIE AUGUSTE, from Singapore, Feb. 23, 35 S., 23 E.
DEMETRIO FARIO, Singapore to Liverpool, March 6, 18 S., 3 W.
JAMES RUSSELL, Shanghai to London, March 3, 22 S., 21 W.
WOODFIELD (ship), Liverpool to Singapore, 47 days out, 35 S., 7 W.
COLOMBO, London to Ceylon, Feb. 24, 24 S., 83 E. (dismasted).

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Very little business has been done in outward freights during the past week, rates, however, keep firm. In homeward charters business is still restricted, and with the exception of a few vessels having been placed from Java, nothing of importance has been done.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 20s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 30s. weight or measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £31 and £1. 10s. For Shanghai: £40 and £1. 16s. For Manila: £1. 12s. 6d. For Batavia: £23. For Singapore: £25 and £1. 3s. 0d. For Galle: £26 and £1. 3s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have engaged freight in the Cambalu for the conveyance of 70 tons naval provisions, &c., from the river Thames to Hong Hong

CASUALTIES.

The Labrador, Williams, from Cardiff, for Manila, put back to Cardiff, April 1, after having been in collision: she had her port mizen rigging carried away, chain plates torn out, and her stanchions, &c., broken.

The Disraeli, from Liverpool for Galle, which was spoken 7th March in lat. 12 S., lon. 31 W., reported having three hands laid up with small-pox.

The Christian Matthias, Lord, from New York for Shanghai, put into Rio Janeiro, March 19, leaky.

The Marie, Thin, from Singapore, which arrived at Bordeaux April 19, had experienced heavy weather, during which she strained and made water, but the pumps were able to keep her free. She also lost one of her foresails.

The Marie, Vincendean, from Hong Kong, which arrived at Bordeaux, April 20, had also experienced heavy weather and made water, but the pumps were always able to keep her free.

The Colombo, from London for Ceylon, was spoken, Feb. 24, in lat. 24 S., long. 83 E., dismasted.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At ST. HELENA.—March 6, from Manila, San Luis, Carranza, and sailed 7th for Cadiz; 7, from Shanghai, Coringa, Hubbard; from Amoy, Ariadne, Barnes, and both said for Liverpool; 9, from Sourabaya, Doelwyk, Hoefman, and sailed for Rotterdam; 10, from Shanghai, Bosworth, Nichols, and sailed for London; 13, from Ceylon, Clive, Fenwick, and sailed 14th for London; 14, Queen of the Avon, Jones, and sailed for London; 15, from Foo-chow-Foo, Birchgrove, Byron, and sailed for London; 17, from Shanghai, Spirit of the Deep, Hewitt; 18, from Hong Kong, Taffarette, Dereix, and sailed from Havre; from Shanghai, Anna Helen, Morris, and sailed for Liverpool; 20, from Shanghai, Bedfordshire, and sailed for London; 21, from Manila, Elisa, Ribero, and sailed for Cadiz; from Colombo, Victoria, Forss, and sailed 22nd for London; 22, from Manila, Vectis, Coskell; 24, from Java, Fata Morgana, Stjernberg.

Off ST. HELENA.—March 20, from Macao, for Havana, Auguste and Gustave; 21, from Ceylon, Francis (English barque).

At ASCENSION.—March 15, from Colombo, Scoresby, and sailed, 16, for London; from China, H.M.S. Tartar, and left, 17, for Spithead; 23, from Penang, Mangerton, Metcalfe, and sailed, 25, for London.

At NATAL.—Feb. 19, Oriental, James, sailed for Colombo.

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ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL, £2,000,000.

Paid-up Capital, £500,000.

HEAD OFFICE, No. 4 LOMBARD-STREET.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Francis Boykett, Esq., Chairman (Messrs. Timothy Wiggin and Co.).

John A. Russell, Esq., Deputy-Chairman (Messrs. Grey and Coles, and Grey and Co., Bombay).

Thomas Cardwell, Esq. (Messrs. Thomas Cardwell and Co., and Cardwell, Parsons, and Co., Bombay).

Charles A. Fearon, Esq. (Messrs. Fearon and Co., late of Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co., China).

William Maitland, Esq. (Messrs. M'Killop, Stewart, and Co., Calcutta).

COMMITTEE IN BOMBAY.

The Hon. Michael H. Scott (Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, and Co.).

Robert Hannay, Esq. (Messrs. Grey and Co.).

Cowasjee Jehanghier, Esq.

GENERAL MANAGER.

Anthony Morrison, Esq. (late Agent at Bombay).

ACTING-MANAGER—F. W. Lawrence, Esq.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England; The London Joint-Stock Bank.

AGENTS IN IRELAND.

The National Bank.

AGENTS IN SCOTLAND.

The British Linen Company.

BROKERS.

Messrs. Foster and Braithwaite.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Freshfields and Newman.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. Coleman, Turquand, Youngs, and Co.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

The Corporation grant Drafts and negotiate Bills of Exchange, payable at the above places, issue Letters of Credit, and conduct every description of Banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian Securities, the receipt of Dividends, &c., and undertake the safe custody of Securities. They also receive Deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of Interest and Exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England.

The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)

Branches and Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo, Kandy, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Point de Galle, Manila, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow, Nagasaki, and Kiu-kiang.

Deposits received at ten days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed period, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued and Bills negotiated payable in India China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government loan notes effected so that the interest may be paid in England. Every other description of Banking and Agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms. J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

DOCKS.

PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caissoon Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1865.

THE AGRA and MASTERMAN'S BANK (Limited).

(Established in 1833.)

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up Capital, £1,500,000 (one million and a-half sterling).

Subscribed Capital, £3,000,000 (three millions sterling).

In 20,000 Shares of £100 each, and 20,000 Shares of £50 each.

Number of Shareholders, 908.

Reserved Fund, £500,000.

HEAD OFFICE.

Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

GEORGE GORDON MACPHERSON, Esq., Chairman.

Alderman THOMAS QUESTED FINNIS, Deputy-Chairman.

GENERAL MANAGER.

Mackintosh Balfour, Esq.

LONDON MANAGER.

William Shipman, Esq.

ASSISTANT MANAGER.

T. F. Robinson, Esq.

INSPECTOR OF BRANCHES.

Richard Barnes, Esq.

AUDITORS.

J. H. Williams, Esq., and William Farr, Esq., F.R.S.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Uptons, Johnson, and Upton, 20, Austinfriars.

EDINBURGH BRANCH.

17, St. Andrew-square.

DIRECTORS.

THOMAS RANKIN, Esq., 68, Queen-street, Chairman.

Daniel Ainslie, Esq., 48, Moray-place.

Benjamin Burt, Esq., M.D., 31, Charlotte-square.

George Moir, Esq., Advocate, Sheriff of Stirlingshire, 14, Charlotte-square.

MANAGER.

Robert Hunter, Esq

Branches in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee' Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Sydney, Melbourne.

Current accounts of firms and individuals are kept at the head office, on the terms customary with London bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received at seven days' notice of withdrawal, at rates fluctuating with those of the Bank of England; and for longer periods at fixed rates, particulars of which may be obtained upon application.

Sales and purchases effected in British and foreign securities, in East India stock and loans, and army, navy, and civil pay and pensions realised.

Every other description of banking business and money agency, at home and abroad, transacted.

Letters of credit and circular notes issued, payable at the chief cities of Europe and Asia, and also at Cairo and Alexandria.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up capital, £750,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

Bombay. Colombo. Penang. Hong Kong. Yokohama
Calcutta. Kandy. Singapore. Shanghai. Mauritius
Madras. Galle. Hankow.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at the places above mentioned, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the Overland Route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

No. 52, Threadneedle-street, London, E.C.

THE UNDERSIGNED LICENSED PILOTS FOR THE PORT OF SHANGHAI, CHINA,

BEG to inform SHIPMASTERS that their Schooners DANIEL WEBSTER and A. J. WESTEWELT will be found at the OUTSIDE PILOT STATION on the YANG-TZE-KEANG, with thoroughly qualified PILOTS on board. The schooners distinguishable by being painted white, and having the word Pilot on the mainsail.

To regular traders the undersigned are known to be among the oldest and best Pilots on the River:—

DANIEL MARTIN. JOSEPH SHERMAN.
ALEXANDER SMITH. JOSEPH CARGILL.
JOHN COATES. JOHN KURSH.
EDWARD BRAND.

WESLEYAN MISSION TO CHINA.

The ANNUAL BREAKFAST MEETING on behalf of the Mission to China will be held in the London Tavern on SATURDAY MORNING, April 29, at 9 o'clock.

The Right Hon. the LORD MAYOR in the Chair.

Tickets, 2s. 6d. each, may be had at the Mission House, Bishopsgate-street Within.

COMMERCIAL BANK CORPORATION of INDIA and the EAST.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Capital, £1,000,000 (One Million) Sterling.

Reserved Fund, £169,301.

Head Office—64, Moorgate-street, ondon, E.C.

Branches and Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Foochow, Hankow, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Singapore, and Yokohama.

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

JOHN JAMES LOWNDES, Esq., Chairman.

John Campbell, Esq. | Alfred Middleton, Esq.
Henry Durance Cartwright, Esq. | Robert Ryrie, Esq.
John James Cator, Esq. | Edward Thornton, Esq., C.B.
Frederick Chapman, Esq. | Robert Angus, Esq. (ex officio).

CHIEF MANAGER—Robert Angus, Esq.

LONDON MANAGER AND SECRETARY.

David Allardice, Esq.

BANKERS.

London Joint Stock Bank.

COMMERCIAL BANK CORPORATION of INDIA and the EAST.

At the FIRST ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of this Bank, held at the London Tavern on WEDNESDAY, the 26th of April,

JOHN JAMES LOWNDES, Esq., in the Chair,

The following resolutions were carried unanimously:—

It was moved by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Thornton,—

"That the Report as read be received and adopted."

It was moved by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Diggles,—

"That J. Campbell, Henry Durance Cartwright, J. J. Cater, F. Chapman, J. J. Lowndes, Alfred Middleton, Robert Ryrie, and Edward Thornton, Esquires, who go out of office in pursuance of the terms of the deed of settlement, be re-elected Directors for the current year."

It was moved by the Chairman, and seconded by Mr. Leggatt,—

"That John Ball and Robert Strong, Esquires, be re-elected Auditors for the ensuing year, and that their remuneration be fixed at 100 guineas each."

A vote of thanks to the Chairman and Directors was unanimously adopted.

Extracted from the Minutes,

D. ALLARDICE, Secretary.

64, Moorgate-street, London,

April 26, 1865.

ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

The Directors HEREBY GIVE NOTICE, that the FIRST ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Registered Shareholders in this Corporation will be held at this office, on THURSDAY, the 4th of May next, at 1 o'clock P.M. precisely, to receive the Directors' Report and Statement of Accounts to December 31, to declare a Dividend, to elect Directors and Auditors for the current year, and for the transaction of other business.

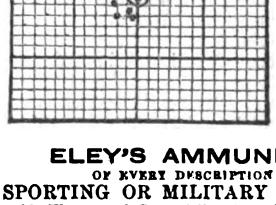
By order of the Directors,

F. W. LAWRENCE, Acting General Manager.

4, Lombard-street, E.C., April 22, 1865.

N.B. The Transfer Books will be closed from the 27th of April to the 11th of May inclusive, and dividend warrants will be issued as early as possible after the general meeting.

AMMUNITION.



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ELEY'S AMMUNITION

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION FOR

SPORTING OR MILITARY PURPOSES.

Double Waterproof Central Fire Caps, Felt Waddings, to prevent the leading of Guns, Wire Cartridges, for Killing Game, &c., at long distances, Breech-Loading Cartridge Cases of superior quality, for Shot Guns and Rifles.

Jacob's Rifle Shell Tubes, Cartridges and Caps for Colt's, Adams', Deane's, Tranter's, and other Revolvers.

BALL CARTRIDGES

For Enfield, Whitworth, and Henry Rifles; also for Westley Richards', Terry's, Wilson's, Prince's, Deane's, and other Breech Loaders.

"Black Buck Shells," for 10, 12, and 16 Bore Breech Loaders.

The "Metford" Shel Bullet, for Enfield and Whitworth Bore Rifles.

Bullets of unifor eight made by compression from Soft Refined Lead.

ELEY BROTHERS, GRAY'S-INN-ROAD, LONDON, WC. or of Messrs. SMITH, ELDER, and CO., and their Agents.

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COMMERCIAL BANK CORPORATION OF INDIA AND THE EAST.

At the FIRST ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of this Bank, held at the LONDON TAVERN, on WEDNESDAY, the 26th of April,

JOHN JAMES LOWNDES, Esq., in the Chair,

THE FOLLOWING REPORT AND BALANCE-SHEET WERE READ BY THE SECRETARY:—

The Royal Charter incorporating the Bank having passed the Great Seal on 19th February, 1864, the Directors took immediate steps to carry out the arrangements made with the Commercial Bank of India.

The allotment of Shares was made on the 22nd April, 1864, in accordance with the terms of the prospectus previously issued; and the Calls on these Shares have, with some trifling exceptions, been since paid.

The amount received up to the 31st December last in respect of the New Capital was £355,590, and of the Premiums on Shares allotted in England, £91,282. 10s.

It was not until the 11th November that all the requirements of the Lords of the Treasury could be complied with; but on that day the requisite certificate was obtained, and business was commenced at the Head Office, under the Charter, on 21st of the same month.

On the 1st January, 1865, the business of the Commercial Bank of India was transferred, at all the branches, to the Commercial Bank Corporation; and the former bank now exists only for the purpose of liquidation.

The assets and liabilities of the Commercial Bank of India have been taken over exactly as they stood on 31st December last.

The Capital of that Bank was	£500,000	0 0
The New Capital, when fully paid up, will be ...	500,000	0 0
Making the total Capital of the Corporation ...	£1,000,000	0 0
The net Profits of the year 1864, after writing off all known bad debts up to 31st December, were ...	£154,426 11	4
A Dividend and Bonus for the first half of the year were paid to the Shareholders of the Commercial Bank of India in Bombay, amounting to £45,000 0 0		
And a Dividend has since been paid in London at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum on the whole Paid-up Capital as it stood on the 31st December, for the second half of the year, amounting to... ... 39,925 0 0		
	84,925	0 0
Leaving balance	£69,501 11	4

The Directors regret to report that several failures have taken place since the commencement of the present year, involving losses which, in the unsettled state of the Produce Markets, it is not easy to estimate accurately; but they have deemed it prudent to carry forward the entire balance, after paying the above Dividends as a provision for them, in the hope that such a course will, under the circumstances, meet the approval of the Shareholders.

The Reserve Fund of the Commercial Bank of India, transferred on the 1st of January, amounted to ...	£73,301	0 0
And the Premiums on Shares allotted in London already stated £91,282 10 0		
Amount outstanding on the 31st Dec. ... 4,717 10 0		
	96,000	0 0
Making the Reserve Fund of the Corporation	£169,301	0 0

In addition to which a sum of £16,703. 17s. 7d. has been transferred to the Corporation by the Commercial Bank of India, being the balance standing to the credit of the Insurance Account.

An Agency in Singapore had been decided upon by the Commercial Bank of India in the beginning of last year, and this Agency was established in November last.

The Directors have had under their consideration the acquisition of suitable premises for the Bank. In the meantime they have, at a moderate expense, so far improved the present accommodation as to be enabled to await, without inconvenience, a favourable opportunity of securing more commodious premises.

In pursuance of the terms of the Deed of Settlement, the Directors, viz.:—John Campbell, Henry Durance Cartwright, J. J. Cater, F. Chapman, J. J. Lowndes, Alfred Middleton, Robert Ryrie, and Edward Thornton, Esqs., go out of office; but, being qualified, offer themselves for re-election.

The Auditors, Robert Strong and John Ball, Esqs., also offer themselves for re-appointment; and their remuneration will be fixed by the meeting.

The Directors regret that, owing to the delay which has occurred in getting the Balance-sheet and Accounts from abroad (which has been purely of an exceptional character and will not recur), they have been unable to lay this Report before the Shareholders at an earlier period.

By order of the Court,
D. ALLARDICE, Secretary.

COMMERCIAL BANK CORPORATION OF INDIA AND THE EAST.

Balance-Sheet for the Year ended 31st December, 1864.

LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.		
To Capital subscribed for	£1,000,000	0 0	By Capital unpaid	£144,410	0 0
To Reserved Fund—			By Premiums unpaid	4,717	10 0
To amount brought forward from Commercial Bank of India £73,301 0 0			By Bills receivable and Loans	3,942,554	16 9
To Premiums in respect of Shares allotted in England 96,000 0 0			By Government Securities	55,309	4 0
	169,301	0 0	By Balances due by Branches in their accounts current with Head Office	976,112	13 1
To Current and Fixed Deposit Accounts, &c.	2,731,429	7 11	By Bank Furniture at Head Office and Branches	14,589	1 6
To Bills payable	2,293,577	19 6	By Stamps on hand	1,972	1 3
To Sundry Accounts, including Insurance Account	37,186	19 11	By Bullion on hand and in transmission	338,067	12 11
To Profit and Loss Account £156,946 11 4			By Cash in hand and at Bankers	865,708	19 2
Less half-year's Dividend, Commercial Bank of India, to 30th June, 1864 ... ... 45,000 0 0					
	111,946	11 4			
	£6,343,441	18 8		£6,343,441	18 8

Profit and Loss Account.

To Payment of Dividend and Bonus to the Shareholders of the Commercial Bank of India, for first half-year ending 30th June, 1864, equal to 18 per cent. per annum £45,000 0 0			By Net Profit at Head Office and Branches to 31st December, 1864, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts, and after deducting current charges and extraordinary expenses connected with obtaining Royal Charter and the transfer of business to London	£156,946	11 4
To Payment of Dividend on the whole paid-up capital of the Corporate Bank at 31st December, 1864, at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, free of Income-tax... ... 39,925 0 0			Less Income-tax	2,520	0 0
	£84,925	0 0			
To Balance carried forward to Profit and Loss New Account	69,501	11 4			
	£154,426	11 4		£154,426	11 4

Reserve Fund.

To Balance at Credit of Reserve Fund	£169,301	0 0	By Amount at Credit 31st December, 1863, of Commercial Bank of India	£73,301	0 0
			By Premiums on New Shares issued by the Corporate Bank	96,000	0 0
	£169,301	0 0		£169,301	0 0

ROBERT ANGUS, Chief Manager.
W. J. YOUELL, Accountant.

JOHN JAS. LOWNDES, Chairman.
EDWARD THORNTON, } Directors.
JOHN CAMPBELL, }

We find the above Balance-Sheet and Profit and Loss Account to be correctly set forth and in due accordance with the statements of details transmitted by the officers of the Corporation at Bombay.

London, 24th April, 1865.

R. STRONG, } Auditors.
JOHN BALL, }

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ALBERT INSURANCE COMPANY.

(LIMITED.)

FIRE AND MARINE.

Directors.

WILLIAM BEATTIE, Esq.
OSWALD H. COLVEN, Esq.
E. T. GOURLEY, Esq.
WILLIAM KING, Esq.
G. GOLDSMITH KIRBY, Esq., Managing Director.
ANGUS M'KENZIE, Esq.
JOSEPH M'MASTER, Esq.
JAMES NICHOLS, Esq.
WM. PAGE T. PHILLIPS, Esq.
P. W. SPENCE, Esq.
T. STEVENSON, Esq., F.S.A.
CHARLES RUDD TATHAM, Esq.
C. P. VARSAMI, Esq.
ROBERT WHITWORTH, Esq.

Underwriter (Marine Department).
PHILIP SECRETAN, Esq.

Manager (Fire Department).
MORELL THEOBALD, Esq.

REPORT,

Presented to the First General Meeting of Shareholders, held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Thursday, the 20th day of April, 1865.

The Directors, in presenting the Statement of the Accounts to the 31st December, 1864, embracing the transactions of the Company from its commencement to that date (a period of eight months only), have much pleasure in congratulating the Shareholders on the satisfactory progress of the business of the Company.

The Accounts, which have been examined and certified by the Auditors, show that, after having paid office charges and other expenses, losses in the Fire Department, and all adjusted claims for losses, averages, and returns in the Marine Department, there is a balance on income account of £59,719. 16s. 6d. This sum, less 10 per cent. deducted as stated in the Balance-Sheet, will be carried forward to the account for 1865.

The Directors report with much satisfaction the acquisition of the business of the Oriental and General Marine Insurance Company, a Company which had attained a position of considerable importance in the City.

The Auditors, Messrs. Johnstone, Cooper, Wintle, and Co., and E. H. Galsworthy, Esq., retire from office in conformity with the Articles of Association, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The Shareholders will be called upon to determine the remuneration of the Auditors.

The Shareholders will also be called upon to alter the 5th and 14th Sections of the 96th Clause of the Company's Articles of Association, in order to prohibit the loan, advance, or investment of any part of the Company's funds, upon or in the Shares of the Company, and to alter the Articles of Association for the purpose of empowering the Directors, with the sanction of general meetings, to declare interim dividends from time to time.

In conclusion, the Directors would remind the Shareholders that they may, by their individual exertions, materially extend the operations of the Company, and trust that no opportunity for doing so will be lost by them.

The following is now the complete list of the Company's agents abroad:—

CALCUTTA	GRANT, SMITH, & Co.
BOMBAY	RITCHIE, STEUART, & Co.
MADRAS	BAINBRIDGE, BYARD, GAIR, & Co.
SINGAPORE	CUMMING, BEAVER, & Co.
HONG KONG	JOHNSON & Co.
SHANGHAI	JOHNSON & Co.
YOKOHAMA	DE CONINGH & Co.

By order,
JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

ALBERT INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

Balance-Sheet, 31st December, 1864.

Dr.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
To Capital, 10,000 Shares of £50 each, £500,000.		
Subscribed 6,976 Shares £348,800		
Deduct not called up 313,920		
Call of £5 per Share on 6,976 Shares £34,880	34 880 0 0	
To Income and Expenditure Account, as per statement annexed ...	53,747 16 10	
To Sundry Creditors	1,741 8 7	
	£90,369 5 5	

Cr.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
By Investments		5 220 0 0
By Cash at Bankers' on Deposit and Drawing Accounts		18,322 11 2
By Debtors (including £8,090 arrears on Shares, nearly all of which has been paid since 31st December)		15,577 7 2
By Agents' Balances and Current Premium and Interest		17,781 12 2
By Finch-lane Premises, Lease, and Furniture		13,000 0 0
By Oriental and General Marine Insurance Company, Acquirement of Business (including extra losses on Risks transferred, &c.) Balance of Account £19,941 17 7		
Preliminary Expenses 6,095 5 0		
	£26,037 2 7	
Less written off as per Income and Expenditure Account 5,971 19 8		20,065 2 11
By Cash and Stamps in hand		442 12 0
		£90,369 5 5

Income and Expenditure Account, from 1st May, 1864, to 31st December, 1864.

Dr.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
To Nett Premiums—Marine 90 552 16 4		
Fire... ... ... 4,014 2 6		
	94,566 18 10	
To Interest	739 19 6	
To Duty	769 9 4	
	£96,076 7 8	

Cr.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
By Losses, Averages, Returns, and Re-insurances—		
Marine ... 22,664 8 1		
Fire ... 2,902 2 2		25,566 10 3
By Salaries ... ... Marine ... 3,552 5 3		
Fire ... 662 13 7		4,214 17 10
By Directors' Fees		1,500 0 0
By Law Charges		124 9 8
By Office Expenses, Advertising, Printing, Stationery, Travelling Expenses, Agents' Allowances, Postages, Parcels, and all Expenses of Establishing Agencies ... ... Marine. 2,860 9 0; Fire ... 1,304 6 9; General. 16 8 4		4,181 4 1
By Duty		769 9 4
By Balance	59,719 16 6	59,719 16 6
Less amount written off cost of purchase of Oriental business and preliminary expenses, being 10 per cent. of above balance	5,971 19 8	
	£53,747 16 10	
		£96,076 7 8

We have examined the above Statements with the Company's books, vouchers, and securities, and have found the same correct,

London, 13th April, 1865.

JOHNSTONE, COOPER, WINTLE, AND EVANS,
EDWIN H. GALSWORTHY, } Auditors.

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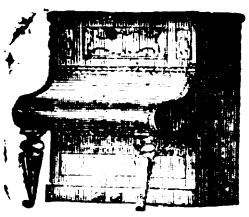
TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND INDIA.



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(FOURTEEN YEARS WITH COLLARD AND COLLARD)

PATENT PIANOFORTE MAKERS,

PIANOFORTES, WITH ALL THE LATEST IMPROVEMENTS EXPRESSLY FOR EXPORTATION.

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FACTORY, LITTLE STORE-STREET.

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MPORTANT TO RESIDENTS, MILITARY MESSES, &c., IN INDIA, CHINA, &c.

TUCKER AND SON'S

IMPROVED

ENAMELLED PUNKAH TABLE LAMPS.

THE celebrity which TUCKER AND SON'S LAMPS have acquired in the East for burning *steadily* under the Punkah or in side draughts, and *brilliantly* with any of the *coarse native oils*, renders eulogy unnecessary; but having been enabled, by increased facilities of manufacture, very considerably to *reduce the prices* of the above favourite (but hitherto expensive) description of their lamps, T. and Son beg to notify the fact to the Eastern public.

They are elegant and durable, are finished in exact imitation of many beautiful stones and marbles, such as Malachite, Lapis Lazuli, Serpentine, Sienna, Brocatella, Jasper, &c., and are not affected by heat, damp, friction, or insects; oil, spirits, or acids accidentally spilled. The enamel surface is so inseparable from the base (block slate, proverbial for its strength) that it cannot be removed except by an edged tool. It *requires* simply *dusting*, but if rubbed hard, it only adds a gloss to its appearance—at all times cool and agreeable.

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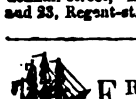

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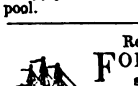

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At a MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS of this Company, held on THURSDAY, April 20, 1865, at One o'clock P.M., the Right Honourable JAMES STUART WORTLEY, Governor, in the Chair,

It was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously—

"That the Balance-sheet and Report be and are hereby approved, confirmed, and adopted."

It was also proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously,—

"That the best thanks of this meeting are due, and are hereby given, to the Governor, Deputy-Governors, and Directors, for the care and attention they have given to the interests of the shareholders, and for the extremely satisfactory results which have arisen therefrom."

It was also proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously,—

"That the cordial thanks of this Meeting are due and are hereby offered to Albert Grant, Esq., the Managing Director, for the talent and untiring energy displayed by him in the administration of the affairs of the company."

It was farther proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously,—

"That the thanks of this Meeting be given to Alfred Lowe, Esq., Secretary, for his unvarying courtesy and attention, and to him and the other Officers of the Company, for their industry and zeal during the past half-year." By order of the Court of Directors,

J. STUART WORTLEY, Governor.
ALFRED LOWE, Secretary.

17 and 18, Cornhill, London,
April 20, 1865.

Copies of the Balance-sheet and Report may be had on application at the Offic s.

THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE SEVENTH Volume of this JOURNAL commenced on the 3rd of January, 1865. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 172.] LONDON, THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Dec. 26	Feb. 22	March 11
Nagasaki			„ 5
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			Feb. 5
Tien-tsin			„ 10
Chefoo			March 3
New-chwang			
Hankow			„ 3
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	Jan. 26	March 16	„ 20
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Feb. 10	„ 25	„ 26
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	Jan. 10	Feb. 20	„ 7
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			„ 8
SIAM— Bangkok			„ 6
BORNEO—			
Labuan			„ 22
Sarawak			„ 19
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 16
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Feb. 27	April 3	April 4
Penang			

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Nyanza, May 4, from Southampton.—To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Tate. To Hong Kong: Mr. W. B. Miller. To Ceylon: Mrs. Howie and two children, Mr. F. M. Mackwood. From Marseilles, May 12.—To Singapore: Mr. E. Hagerom. To Hong Kong: Mr. A. Rodger, Mr. Lemann. To Shanghai: Mr. John Ashton. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Morris.

Per P. and O. steamer Syria, from Southampton May 20.—To Ceylon: Miss Green, Miss Church.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

The British schooner *Wild Wave*, arrived at Hong Kong, reports having left Yokohama on the 11th March. She made the passage in nine days, during which time she experienced principally strong north-east winds. Everything was quiet in Yokohama up to the time of her departure. The British barque *Maggie M'Lean* left for Hong Kong two days prior to the departure of the *Wild Wave*. She saw the American barque *Benefactress*, from New York, at anchor in the Ly-ee-moon Passage.

An official notification from Mr. Marcus Flowers, then Acting Consul, dated Feb. 22, announces that Mr. L. Fletcher has been nominated Her Majesty's Acting Vice-Consul at Kanagawa.

A meeting was convened on the 23rd February by the Sanitary Committee for the purpose of placing their accounts before the public. These accounts showed a balance in hand of $158, no levy having been made for the month of January. The committee felt that it would be impossible long to continue to collect more voluntary assessments, now that the 20 per cent. was agreed to be deducted by the Japanese Government, and they naturally desired the opinion of the community as to what they thought best to be done. It appeared that the total amount of assessments actually paid was $2,634.38—about 10 per cent. on the ground-rent. The accounts were received and adopted, and the committee were requested to retain office for one month longer, with power to collect the assessment for the month of January, thus completing the twelve months. Mr. Rickerby observed that the returns of the Sanitary Committee clearly showed that the 20 per cent. of the land rentals agreed to be given up by the Japanese Government would not be sufficient to meet the requirement. A vote of thanks to the Sanitary Committee for their past services was carried by acclamation, and the meeting separated.

As stated in the last number of the *London and China Telegraph*, the notion of a new port being opened met with no enthusiastic reception from the Yokohama merchants. The *Japan Herald* remarks:—

There was a time when the news of the opening of any large port in Japan would have created an immense sensation; but that time has now passed. Our merchants have lately had sufficient time and opportunity to form very good opinions of the actual value of Japanese trade. They now know, almost exactly, what the country can produce and what are its wants that have to be supplied; and taking this as a criterion of the utmost that can be done in Japan, they feel satisfied that there are already more hands at work and more capital on hand than required for the amount of business. As a proof of this we have only to refer to the state of our silk market during the last few months, when the large amount of surplus capital caused so great a competition as to drive prices 20 per cent. above the highest points ever known before. Taking as an axiom that the prosperity of any trade consists in the benefits derived from it being in excess of the expenses necessarily incurred in its development, we may say that the question of the advisability of opening a new port in Japan resolves itself into this—Will it increase the trade of Japan sufficiently to make it worth the while of our merchants to establish new houses or open agencies therein? This is, of course, for our merchants to answer, but taking into consideration the experience they have already had of the capital introduced into the country being more than sufficient for the exigencies of trade, it may be inferred that if the opening of any new port be not preceded by radical reforms in the method of trading at present allowed by the Japanese Government, it will be rather prejudicial to commercial interests than otherwise.

Japan is but a small country. Its resources are not like those of China, almost unlimited; and the whole amount of business it could do with foreigners, under the present condition of its trade, would amount to but little more than what is now done in the ports of Yokohama, Nagasaki, and Hakodadi. If trade were really free, if Japanese merchants were at full liberty to deal with foreigners, there is no doubt that produce would come forward in larger quantities than hitherto, and that our import market would enter into a stage of progressive development which we hope would become considerable; but under our present relations with the Japanese merchants a great many new ports might be opened without sufficiently affecting the total of our imports and exports.

The most sanguine of our merchants will scarcely admit that Japan can export more than 30,000 bales of silk in the year; and if this amount be divided between two or three ports instead of remaining the exclusive share of Yokohama, whence 25,000 bales were exported two years ago, the profits derived from the silk trade would be reduced by halves or thirds. The same argument applies to other articles of export and import, with the sole exception perhaps of tea, the exportation of which article would possibly be increased by the opening of a new port nearer than Yokohama to the principal tea growing countries.

But if our trade with Japan is limited (and we are sorry to say it is very limited) the expenses incurred in transacting business seem to be almost without limit. In spite of the continual dulness of business, and consequently a continous diminishing of profits, expenses have steadily increased, and have at last attained to such a pitch that Yokohama, but a

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few years ago considered to be one of the cheapest places in the East, may now be looked upon as an unhappy rival of Shanghai, which has for some time enjoyed the unenviable reputation of being one of the most expensive places in the world. The business done in Yokohama at present is so small that our merchants look upon themselves as exceptionally fortunate if they are able to clear their expenses, and we doubt if the most fortunate would be enabled to maintain two establishments if by so doing they did not considerably increase their expenses.

We are of opinion that, under the present condition of trade, business cannot be greatly increased, and in order to make the opening of a new port desirable, our diplomatic representatives should come forward and take advantage of present opportunity to abolish the abuses that, although sanctioned by time, yet do the greatest harm to our commercial interests. By acting thus they would gain the gratitude of their countrymen, and leave Japan with the well-deserved reputation of having considered the general welfare of the community before their personal interests.

The Garrison Winter Races took place on the 22nd Feb. The day was a lovely one, and almost all the ladies of the settlement, and indeed the greater part of the foreign community, assembled to witness the sport. A commodious stand had been erected, and every provision made by the persevering stewards to insure the comfort and convenience of their visitors. Capt. Parry (Royal Marines) officiated as judge, Lieut. Poyntz as starter, Lieut. Harris (20th) as clerk of the course, and Lieut. Wood (R.A.) as secretary. The winners were Dr. Hensman's (20th) Sayonara; Mr. Bond's (R.E.) Pluck; Major Wray's (R.E.) Black Bob; Mr. Goldsmith's (20th) Satsuma; Capt. Blount's (20th) Ugly; Mr. Smythe's (20th) Falling Star; and Mr. Peter's (Royal Marines) Pericles.

Tenders have been requested, for the supply of meat, vegetables, and other requisites, for the supply of Her Majesty's troops at Yokohama, for six months, from the 1st April.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

The P. and O. mail of the 26th January arrived out on the 16th March. The dates are now down to the 20th.

At the cotton auction held by Messrs. Woodward and Co., the first four lots of 200 bales each, "good clean," were sold respectively at Tls. 16.4, Tls. 16.2, Tls. 16.2, and Tls. 16.3 per picul. A lot comprising fifty-five bales "Shanghai good" brought Tls. 15.1.

Messrs. Wheelock and Co. sold about 1,045 tons coal ex *Adelina*, by public auction, at the rate of Tls. 5.20 per ton.

The *North China Herald* says:—Of the three Yangtze ports thrown open to foreign trade by the treaty of Tien-tsin, Chinkeang has hitherto proved least worthy of the attention of our merchants. Its situation is less favourable than that of either Kiukiang or Hankow, and it has laboured under the additional disadvantage of proximity to districts held by the rebels. In the olden times it was a city of no small importance, on account of its favourable strategic position at the junction of the Grand Canal with the Yangtze. The city was crowded with inhabitants, and in the suburbs, we are told, there was 'so great a throng of people that one could scarcely squeeze through them.' The Taipings, however, have changed all this. The Chinese city was well-nigh destroyed during its occupation by them and its subsequent recapture by the Imperialists; and the neighbouring country has several times been the scene of encounters between the hostile parties. Devastation and ruin have, of course, been the result; the country has been laid waste, and the creeks have become choked. Thus situated, Chinkeang could hardly be expected to thrive. But the day is at hand when an improvement may be looked for in this picture; and although it is not likely ever to rival its sister riverine ports, a great improvement in its trade may be expected. The native authorities are working energetically to clear the channel of the Grand Canal, which had become choked during the rebel occupation, in this neighbourhood; and a vast through traffic is anticipated, so soon as the periodical rising in the river occurs. It remains to be seen whether the central position which Chinkeang will then enjoy will not in some degree compensate for its other disadvantages of situation. The tea crops of a province will not flow into it as into Kiukiang and Hankow; but it will be the natural depot for goods arriving by the Grand Canal for the foreign market, and for the foreign goods which Chinese may purchase for export along that stream into the interior. During the year 1863, the imports at Chinkeang amounted only to 4,567 tls., and the exports only to 690 tls.; but it must be remembered that communication with the South was then almost entirely precluded by the rebels. During 1864 a gratifying improvement took place; but the current year will be the first in which a fair opportunity will have occurred of testing its value as a port of communication with the interior. Besides copper cash, cotton and silk were the only noteworthy objects of export during 1863, and in the former of these a considerable increase took place last year, which will be again surpassed in 1865. In anticipation of the increased traffic which may fairly be looked for, the Chinkeang Municipal Council contemplate, we are glad to learn, the construction of a pier alongside of which steamers can moor for the purpose of loading and discharging cargo. The danger to cargo-boats in crossing from the steamers to the shore, during the heavy sea which not unfrequently prevails in the Yangtze, is great; and the construction of a jetty which may enable vessels to discharge directly into godowns on the shore, will be a valuable boon. In the days when the Foreign Settlement was a floating one, the measure was comparatively unnecessary, for hulks furnished godown as well as dwelling accommodation. But the concession has at length been marked out, and foreign buildings have been commenced on it, which will no doubt increase and multiply as trade developes. A custom-house, too, is being erected on shore, in supersession of the hulk which at present answers that purpose, and to it all goods will have to be brought for examination, instead of to the floating establishment which now lies so conveniently near to discharging vessels. We sincerely trust that the contemplated scheme may be carried out, and that the two hundred steamers which on an average usually discharge cargo at the port, will soon have more convenient accommodation than the open river for the purpose. The cost will, of course, be considerable, but the advantage, in expeditious discharge of cargo and avoidance of risk, will fully compensate for the outlay. And there is the additional advantage that, as the wharf will be clearly municipal property, wharfage dues can hardly be refused, and are not likely to be evaded.

The following items are from the *North China Daily News*:—

The troops sent down from the camps at Soochow, or at least a large detachment of them, are said to have arrived at Fa-wha, the former station of Kingsley's battalion. Here they will wait until steamers are obtained to transport them to Amoy. On their way down country they are accused of having committed cruel ravages on the country people, in order to supply the want of adequate provisions. As might have been anticipated, they were marched out of their camps without any of the necessaries of life, and the cravings of nature had to be supplied by a total disregard to the rights of property in the villages through which they passed. Thus their advance from Soochow seemed rather the march of an enemy over hostile ground than the peaceful conduct of troops destined for service upon their own soil. The odium of such outrages rests, of course, with the officials, for we could not expect even the most highly disciplined army to abstain from violence were the daily wants of the men left unsupplied. Such conduct betrays a policy even more short-sighted than we usually have to stigmatise in the Chinese. It teaches the peaceable inhabitants to regard their so-called defenders with the same unutterable fear and dislike as they would naturally exhibit towards an invading army. The rebellion has indeed taught the Chinese nothing. We have here another instance of the carelessness with which the Imperial authorities themselves sow the seeds of disaffection, and lead the minds of the people to look forward to any change, as of necessity heralding a happier state of things. Security for life and property is as dear to the Chinese mind as it is to the European, but the apathy of the former renders it safer to trifle with his privileges than it would be to attack the rights of foreign nations. There must, however, be a limit even to Chinese endurance, and such circumstances as we have just related will go far to induce the villagers to hail the advent of the rebels as a deliverance from the yoke which oppresses them. However mistaken they may be in their expectations, such will naturally be their opinion until sad experience teaches them that a Government, whether Imperial or rebel, affords little or no protection to its non-combatant subjects.

We have been informed that the arrest of the Shanghai Hien by the French Municipal police has had at least one tragic result. The Chinese linguist, Wang, whose misrepresentations to the magistrate, on the one hand, and to the police on the other, are said to have caused the difficulty which ended in the outrage upon the dignity of the Hien, was beheaded on the 11th or 12th inst. It would seem that a full report of the proceedings was forwarded to the Futai, and by his order the only person concerned in the affair, over whom the native tribunals could exercise jurisdic-

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of their subjects to the robbers who disturb the peace of our frontier.

On the 17th February, in the middle of the night, four French and three Cochin Chinese sailors were sent in a boat in pursuit of some malefactors, and when in the Great Vaico, in front of the highest part called the Great Trees, an alligator rose and placed his forepaws on the gunwale. The frightened Cochin Chinese jumped into the water and swam for the shore; and the Europeans by their brusque movements upset the boat. One of the last, a sailor named Buttez, managed to lay hold of the branch of a tree which overhung the water and thought himself in safety. He had not been there many minutes, up to his middle in water, when he felt an alligator seize him by the thigh and try to drag him down; he called for aid, and defended himself as well as he could with his other leg, and succeeded in driving his enemy off. He gained the mud and managed to drag himself to higher ground, when he was perceived by one of his companions and the three Annamites, and all five managed to regain their ship, after scrambling through the jungle for nearly an hour. The wounds of Buttez are severe, but not dangerous, but his two unfortunate comrades, Launay and Morin, have not been recovered. This accident has caused a profound sensation; and it has no precedent in the annals of the French expedition.

On the 22nd February Mgr. Dupond was consecrated Bishop of Ayoth *in partibus* by Mgr. Miche, and nominated *vicar apostolic* of the Mission to Siam. The Governor, accompanied by his aide-de-camp, some Europeans, and a great number of Annamites, were present at the ceremony. Mgr. Dupond succeeds the late Mgr. Pallegois, Bishop of Mallos.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Our newspapers are to the 1st April. The London mail of the 27th February was due on the 2nd of April. By the *Clan Alpine*, from Calcutta, telegraphic advices from London had been received to the 17th March.

The *Straits Times* acknowledges the receipt from the Government of the Budget estimates of 1865-66. The revenue is estimated at Rs. 2,114,676, and the disbursements at Rs. 2,258,468. "It will be perceived (remarks our contemporary) that, including the estimate of expenditure on public works, and the approximate cost of military, but excluding the support of convicts, the expenditure will exceed the revenue by about £14,000. But these are approximations only, and it is more than likely that while the revenue will exceed the amount set down, the expenditure will fall short of it." The estimated charge for the military exceeds by about £12,000 the amount actually spent last year; but our contemporary has been informed that the estimate of the requirements includes the cost of the troops stationed at Labuan, as the local treasury has to make the necessary advances on their account, although the amount is afterwards received from the Home Government.

At the meeting of the municipal council on the 15th of March, a letter was read from Mr. H. P. Stephenson, chairman of the Singapore Gas Company, requesting that the commissioners would reconsider the last alterations and amendments to the draft of the proposed Gas Act, more especially with reference to the penalty, not exceeding $1,000 per diem, on the company, should they fail to make gas enough to supply their regular customers. After consideration, the commissioners determined to adhere to their last revision of the proposed Act.

H.M.S. *Adventure* had arrived from Hong Kong with his Royal Highness the Duke of Brabant on board, on his way to Galle. The hired transport *Caroline Coventry* had arrived from Hong Kong with a detachment of the 2nd Belooch regt. on board. The American steamer *Woosung*, from Boston, with dates to the 11th November, anchored in the roads on the 22nd March.

Captain Risdon, of the barque *Constance*, arrived from Batavia on the 19th March, reports having seen, about eight miles south-west of the Horsburgh Light-house, a large vessel of about eight or nine hundred tons, apparently water-logged; the foremast and mainmast were gone, only the mizenmast standing. No one appeared to be on board. It is probable that the vessel would drift in towards Rhio Straits.

Twelve European seamen belonging to the British ship *Sebastopol* were charged before the Marine Magistrate, on the 20th March, with refusal to proceed in the ship. The men still persisting in their refusal, imprisonment for twelve weeks in the House of Correction, with hard labour, was inflicted on each.

The barque *Zephyr*, Captain Poyer, from Cardiff with coals, reports having sprung her foremast, and will have to repair.

The brig *Henrietta*, arrived on the 29th March, spoke the Hamburg barque *Johann Olaffa*, in Banca Strait, on the 14th, 198 days out from Newcastle, bound to Singapore, and wished to be reported.

PENANG.

The Chinese settlers have again been disturbing the public quiet by their feuds. The *Gazette* of the 18th March says:—

For the last few days there has been a disturbance between the To Peh Kong and the Chin-Chin Kongsi. It has been chiefly confined to the Bali Pulo district, but there have also been occasional outbreaks among their members in town. It will be recollected that some time ago the two societies fell out, and some of the Chin-Chins, in order to send their produce to town and to secure the same from being molested by the To Peh Kongs, engaged neutral Ghi Hin boats to convey the same from Bali Pulo to town. But the To Peh Kongs considering this an interference on the part of the Ghi Hins, began to attack the Ghi Hins; and hence the origin of the late quarrel and riots between the Ghi Hins and the To Peh Kongs. Now however that this has been settled, the To Peh Kongs have once more turned their attention to the Chin Chins. On Tuesday last some Chin Chins sent their produce from the country to the China Street ghaut instead of to the Ujong Passir, where the produce is usually sent, in order to avoid any contact with the To Peh Kongs, who always congregate in large numbers in the latter place. But the caution of the Chin Chins availed them nought, for while they were landing their goods they were attacked by a party of the To Peh Kongs and robbed of the greater portion of them. It will be imperative on the part of the Government to timely interfere in this as yet petty quarrel, in order to prevent such outbreaks and disturbances as we have lately witnessed. The To Peh Kongs are a bold and determined set of men, and will stop short of little in order to wreak their vengeance on their weaker brethren or to satiate their fury on a helpless rival.

A circular, agreeing to hold a half holiday on the Saturday afternoons, has been signed by all the mercantile firms.

MALACCA.

The weather had been very dry; no rain scarcely for weeks, and the paddy-fields and fruit-trees were suffering from severe drought. Within a few days there had been a few welcome showers of rain, and the country was already improving in appearance.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

LOFTUS—On the 24th March, at River Valley-road, Singapore, the wife of Capt. J. A. Loftus, of a son.

TENNENT—On the 11th March, at Shanghai, the wife of Dr. C. Emersen Tennent, of a daughter, stillborn.

MARRIAGES.

IVACHINZOFF—SMART.—On the 21st March, at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, D.D., Colonial Chaplain, William Ivachinzoff, of H.I.R.M. corvette Saghalien, to Lottie Maria, daughter of Captain Smart, of the American ship Lottie Maria.

MACKINTOSH—WINKWORTH.—On the 21st March, at Hong Kong, John S. Mackintosh, of Shanghai, son of the late Rev. Lachlan Mackintosh, of Edinburgh, to Jessie, youngest daughter of Thomas Winkworth, of Canonbury, London.

REMEDIOS—ALVES.—On the 17th March, at the Roman Catholic Cathedral, by the Rev. Pe. Favini, Silvano Antonio dos Remedios, of Messrs. Dent and Co., eldest son of the late Ignacio A. dos Remedios, to Anna Joaquina, third daughter of the late Jose Miguel Alves, Macao.

WALLACE—MISTER.—On the 29th March, at St. Andrew's Church, Singapore, Major John Duncan Campbell Wallace, to Sophia Elizabeth, daughter of the late Edward Taylor Mister, Esq., of Carmarthen, South Wales.

DEATHS.

COSTREJEAN—On the 18th March, at the Shanghai Hospital, Clement Costrejean, native of Auvergne, France, aged 28 years.

FARR—On the 18th March, at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, William Henry Farr, aged 21 years.

HARDING—On the 24th March, at Harpersville, Hong Kong, Susannah, the beloved wife of William Harding, aged 38 years.

M'DONALD—On the 17th March, at the Seaman's Hospital, Hong Kong, Thomas M'Donald, late barman at the Stag Hotel, Queen's-road.

STRACEY—On the 21st March, at Hong Kong, Frederick Stracey, seaman, late of the ship Albertine.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1863-64.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to Feb. 28, 1865	1862705	56199381	44686756	453017	8985322	112187181	28243
Corresponding period last season	2160943	5093961	43591351	2257092	12719873	111123223	36428

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SHIPMENTS IN MARCH, 1865.

Ship	From		
Behar (mail str.)	Shanghai, &c.	575	

TO UNITED STATES.

		Piculs.
From June 1 to Feb. 28, 1865	11911743	97½
Corresponding period last season	19685544	—

TO THE CONTINENT.

		Bales.
From June 1 to Feb. 28, 1865	968824	...
Corresponding period last season	135000	...

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Tea pkgs	Boxes.
From June 1 to Feb. 28, 1865	29390	56
Corresponding period last season	467375	29

SHIPMENTS IN MARCH, 1865.

Viscata	Hong Kong	772	20

TO AUSTRALIA.

From 1st June to 28th Feb., 1865	2,719,154 lbs.
Corresponding period last year	9,349,260 „

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	51,093,600	...
„ 1845 to 1846	57,334,200	18.60
„ 1850 to 1851	63,972,000	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854	77,327,800	61,280
„ 1855 to 1856	92,240,300	50,480
„ 1857 to 1858	76,990,255	68.31
„ 1858 to 1859	65,789,792	83.13
„ 1859 to 1860	35,560,452	64.16
„ 1860 to 1861	90,066,160	70,644
„ 1861 to 1862	109,854,040	79,199
„ 1862 to 1863	121,273,580	72,848
„ 1863 to 1864	117,463,586	46,605

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to Feb. 28, 1865 ...	315625	154	1793	780	—	189

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Feb. 28, 1865 ...	2982	—	—	420	—	1145

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to Feb. 28, 1865 ...	12000	1800	—	285	—	—

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to Feb. 28, 1865 ...	541	19431	45387	2540	3050	139580

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Feb. 28, 1865 ...	7	1171	7422	4415	10240	—

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents. and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At HONG KONG.—From London: March 17, Bengal; 18, Milbrook; 21, Young Lochinvar. From Swansea: 22, Flora, Ann Holzberg. From Glasgow: 22, Spanker. From Dartmouth: 23, Lydia Hilton. From New York: 21, Venus and Benefactress.

At SHANGHAI.—From Liverpool: March 9, Dunkeld. From New York: 16, Volunteer.

DEPARTURES.

From HONG KONG.—None.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: March 17, Grenadier. For Liverpool: 14, John Nicholson; 16, Queensbury.

DISMISSAL OF PRINCE KUNG.

A telegram has been received via Siberia announcing the dismissal of Prince Kung from all his important offices at Peking. It is probable that the next mail may bring us some particulars in reference to this important event.

The *Catharine Apcar*, the second of a proposed line of screw steamers for the India and China trade, will leave the Tyne on the 10th inst. for Calcutta. Her length is 240 feet, beam 34 feet, depth of hold 18 feet, tonnage 1,500, and 160-horse power nominal. The first vessel of this line, the *T. A. Gibb*, has already left for the same destination.

Literature.

We noticed, a short time since, the new daily paper, called the *Pall Mall Gazette*, and we are now called upon to mention several others which are announced as shortly forthcoming:—The *Monitor* is a Conservative review of politics, literature, science, and art, and will be published every Wednesday.—The *Fortnightly Review* is, by public rumour, associated with the name of Mr. CHARLES DICKENS, and is, we believe, to be published by Messrs. Chapman and Hall.—The *Londoner* is the title of a new morning paper published on the 1st May. It will be based on the plan of the celebrated *Gazette des Etrangers* now issued daily in Paris.—A weekly paper called the *Correspondent* will also be issued on the first Saturday in May. It is intended as a medium for publishing the correspondence of the public.—The *Chinese Advertiser* is announced to be published on the 3rd and 19th of each month, as a medium for advertisements in English and Chinese. It is projected by the proprietors of the "Chinese Repository."

PETROLEUM—ITS FORTUNES.

Whenever the history of the Petroleum trade is written, it is certain to contain among its annals more romantic incidents, more cases of individuals who have passed from poverty to almost boundless wealth, more instances of those who have parted with their wealth for a 30th or a 60th share in an oil well spouting bountifully, and which has run dry in a fortnight and left them beggared, than will be afforded by the traditions of any other trade or venture. The South Sea bubble, John Law's Mississippi scheme, or modern railway manias afford no manner of parallel to the perpetual change and barter, to the wealth squandered and easily won, in the muddy "changes" of Oil Creek and Cherry Run. Even the excitement of the "fresh diggings" of California, or the "new rushes" of Australia, afford but a faint example of what is done daily in the oil country of Pennsylvania. In the gold districts the prizes are few—so few, indeed, as to make the average earnings at "new rushes" lower than the average earnings of Australian labourers, and no one ever yet heard of a digger clearing his £200,000, £300,000, or even £500,000 from successful mining. Yet such instances, though not common, are still far from rare in the oil districts of Pennsylvania. No romance that has yet been written gives such extravagant illustrations of sudden fortunes as can be almost weekly proved from the records of these oil wells.

The green, foul-smelling liquid which exuded over the poor farms of Oil Creek and Cherry Run, which was known in by-gone days to the Indians only as a cure for rheumatism, and lately to the Americans as characterising places were a stench was to be avoided, is now sought after with an avidity to which new rushes or well-known gold-bearing reefs afford no comparison. The Egbert Farm, the Sherman, Maple Shade, Colwell, Ferrall, Jersey, Keystone, and Coquette wells have each their history of gigantic loss or profit to those who once owned this poor "half-scratched" land, as the thin farms are called in Pennsylvania. In some cases the owners have resolutely held on to their property, and with an outlay of $2,000 have realized $2,000,000 in a few months. Others have parted with the right of working wells for as little as $400, and a 30th share in the yield of such cheaply acquired property has since been sold for $30,000. In some cases the yield has been so sudden and prodigious as to spout up with a roar like escaping steam for more than 50 feet into the air, and there being no means of meeting this great efflux of the valuable liquid, it has at last, after vain efforts to stop its rush or to collect it in ponds, been allowed to flow wastefully away for days, and even weeks, till the supply has ceased as suddenly as it began. Under the depression of price produced by such a tremendous increase in the supply of oil, the value of the oil itself has been as low as half the value of the barrel which contained it; in some cases so low as not to pay the trouble of collecting it, even though flowing on the ground in streams. We believe, indeed, that the price of crude petroleum has at one time ruled as low as a dollar the barrel in Oil City, and even then the demand was checked from a fear that there could be no market for it. How far such a supposition was warranted may be guessed from the fact that though petroleum has been but four years an article of commerce, it has already assumed the second place among the exports from the States, and now ranks next to breadstuffs. In 1860 scarcely any was ex-

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ported; last year the exports amounted to 32,000,000 gallons, while the domestic consumption in America was even greater. As yet, certainly, the limit of its usefulness has not been reached. The pure oil is coming into general use from its cheapness as an illuminator. The secret of extracting its gas with greater ease, and at less expense than coal-gas has been discovered and is being put in practice in America. The solid residuum from the refining process which eliminates the gas gives paraffin candles. As a lubricator for wheels and machinery generally the heavier qualities are in demand. Paint oils and varnish are obtained from it, and the benzine is used as a substitute for turpentine. Some of the most beautiful and durable colours now worn are obtained from the waste petroleum after refining, and after the separation of the naphtha it has been found a valuable substitute for pit oil in tanning, and produces a better and stronger quality of leather. So, then, this green, ill-smelling liquid, to which poor Pennsylvanian farmers could scarcely allude in decorous terms from its presence having spoilt their salt wells, has now become the main source of wealth to the State, and is likely to prove even more productive than it has ever yet been, for the demand for it seems as boundless as the supply.

Pennsylvania, however, is far from being the only part of the world where oil wells have been discovered, or where they are believed on good authority to exist. The Crimea, it is stated by Americans who have examined it to ascertain the truth of the reports of its oil-bearing qualities, is likely to yield immense quantities on the skirts of its semi-mountainous interior. Canada, too, possesses oil wells, and many in the Upper Province have been worked with enormous profit while they lasted, and every indication which smell and discoloured water can afford shows that petroleum may be found in large quantities among the dense forests which cover the eastern shores of Lake Huron. But in one most important particular the oil wells of Canada differ from those of Pennsylvania. The former seldom yield oil for long; the latter, whether the flow ceases and they have to be pumped, or the pumping is useless and they have to be forced by air pressure, still always yield oil. The cases where oil wells in Pennsylvania have "given out" may easily be accounted for by the fact of the avidity with which every foot of land in the vicinity of an oil field is bought up, and the rival shafts sunk so deep as to tap and drain away the original source of supply in other directions. The short supply of the Canadian oil wells as compared with those in the States may possibly be explained by the geological fact of a deficiency, except at Pictou, in Nova Scotia, in the coal formation, to which, whether rightly or wrongly, the presence of petroleum is mainly attributed.

Though the methods by which it is professed to discover oil in Western Pennsylvania are almost endless, from the divining rod even to charms and oil-smellers, yet the *modus operandi* when once the site is determined on is nearly the same in all cases. Over the spot chosen a timber framework is erected about 10 ft. square by 40 ft. high, and strongly bolted together. A grooved wheel or pulley hangs at the top, and a windlass and crank are at the base. A few feet from the derrick a small steam-engine is stationed, and covered with a rough board shanty. A pitman-rod connects the crank of the engine with one end of a large wooden "engine-bob," as it is called in some of our mining districts, placed midway between the engine and derrick, the beam being pivoted on its centre about 12 ft. from the ground. A rope, attached to the end of the beam nearest the derrick, passes over the pulley already mentioned and terminates over the intended hole. A cast-iron pipe, from 4½ in. to 5 in. in diameter, is driven into the surface ground, length following length until the rock is reached. The earth having been removed from the interior of the pipe, the actual process of boring or drilling is commenced. Two huge links of iron, called "jars," are attached to the end of the rope. A long and heavy iron-pipe is fixed to the lower link, and in the end of this is screwed the drill, or punch, a chisel-shaped piece of hardened steel about 3 in. in diameter and 2 ft. to 3 ft. long. When all is ready, the drill and its heavy attachments are lowered into the tube, and the engine is set in motion. With every elevation of the end of the beam the drill strikes the rock, the heavy links of the "jars" sliding into each other, and preventing a jerking strain on the rope. The rock as it is pounded mixes in a pulverised condition with the water constantly dropping into the hole, and after a short time the drill is hoisted out and the "sand-pump" dropped into the hole. This is a copper tube about 5 ft. long, and smaller than the drill, having a valve in the lower end opening inwards, which, when the tube is dropped into the hole, the slimy fluid enters and is hoisted out. As the drill is chisel-shaped, the hole made by it would not be round, so a contrivance is resorted to in order to secure that end, which is accomplished in part by the borer, who sits on a seat above the hole, holding a handle fixed to the rope, and giving the latter a half twist at every blow. When the drilling is accomplished, another tool, called a "reamer," is inserted, which makes the hole round and moderately smooth. When the hole gets down to the point where the first reliable indications of oil are reached, the contents of the sand-pumps are carefully examined. The principal features of the geological formation of the Pennsylvania oil region are three strata of sandstone, with intervening strata of soapstone and shale. Indications of oil are found in the first and second sandstone, but the principal deposit is found in the third layer, at depths varying from 300 to 800 feet. Should no oil be found in the third sandstone, the attempt is abandoned.

The well having been bored to the required depth, it is tubed by an iron pipe with a valve at the lower end being run down the whole depth of the hole, the necessary length being obtained by screwing the joints together. As soon as tubed, and sometimes before, the oil and gas should it be a "flowing well," rush out with great force and considerable noise. A pipe is connected with the upper part of the tube, and the oil is conducted into an immense vat, holding from 500 to 1,200 barrels. The gas escapes into the air. If the oil should not flow, a pump-box, with a sucker-rod of wood, is inserted in the tube and connected with the "beam" of the engine. In many instances oil, gas, and water are all pumped up together, and are separated by a simple contrivance. The mingled fluids and gas are pumped into a small barrel. The oil and water fall to the bottom of the barrel, and run off by a pipe near the bottom into the large vat, where another separation takes place, the greater specific gravity of the water causing it to sink to the bottom. The gas escapes by a small pipe at the top of the barrel, and is conducted into the furnace of the engine, where it burns with a fierce and steady flame, frequently dispensing with the use of other fuel.

In some cases, as we have said, the sudden yield of oil has been so much beyond all calculation that the fortunate borers have been obliged to allow thousands upon thousands of gallons to flow away. One of these springs, after flowing away for weeks, has since yielded a clear profit of $1,500,000 on the original outlay of $2,500 to "strike" the oil. This, however, though a conspicuous instance of the waste of oil, is far from being a very conspicuous evidence of the yield of profit which some of these great wells have afforded. Captain Funk, the commander of a small lumber flat, cleared from one well £500,000 sterling in a few months, and invested this sum so judiciously in other oil lands that the amount of the wealth he bequeathed at his death soon after is still unknown, and is commonly reported to be incalculable. Not long before his death a young man at the Creek in search of employment was engaged by Captain Funk as a clerk at a moderate salary. Being well pleased with the manner in which his duties were performed, Captain Funk gave him an interest in a well he was then sinking. The well was a success, and the young man sold out his interest for $100,000. Another young man, not 21, was employed at waggoning oil on the Creek. In part payment of his services he took a sixth interest in a well then sinking. The well "struck oil," and at once the young man sold out his property for $150,000, with a part of which money he purchased a large farm in Minnesota. Everything at Oil Creek and Cheery Run was of course done at first in the roughest fashion. There were no railways, and the oil had to be got away by land or water anyhow, and at a prodigious waste of the commodity. But it was so cheap at Oil Creek and so dear at Pittsburg, that one cargo escaping out of five sent down the Alleghany river paid well, and at first at this rate of loss and gain the trade went on. Now, however, there is every appliance of barrels and tank-barges to save the oil, and a branch of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway runs right through the heart of the oil district. By this line all the oil is brought to market and from this enormous and constantly increasing source of traffic alone the Atlantic and Great Western promises to be the richest paying line in America, a fact which is not without interest for the English, considering that nine-tenths of its capital is owned in this country. Before the construction of the railroad the oil was floated down in open tank-boats or on rafts over the shallow rapids of the Alleghany into Pittsburg. When the stream was low a dam was built above the locality of the wells, and, at an appointed time, the dam was cut and the boats swept down to the river by the freshet. When the first flowing wells were astonishing the people on the Creek by the unexpected yield of oil, and puzzling them with the question what to do with it, to the want of barrels in sufficient number was added the want of flat boats to convey the filled barrels to market. All sorts of devices were resorted to. The barrels were launched into the stream and lashed together in a huge raft, on which were placed planks enough to support a rude cabin for the raftsman. Where there were more flat boards than barrels, the sides of the boat were made as tight as possible, and the stream of crude oil turned into the boat itself, filling it to the edge. The opening of the dam and the consequent freshet sometimes caused great confusion and loss among the boats and rafts, owing, perhaps, to the carelessness of a few boatmen. Ill-secured boats went plunging and smashing among rafts, barrels, and boats. Barrels of oil were sent careering wildly down stream on their own account. Flat boats filled with oil in bulk were stove in, and the oil escaped into the stream. The latest of the great freshet disasters, which occurred in December, 1862, occasioned a loss of 50,000 barrels of oil. But water disasters are as nothing to the fearful mischief caused by fires in the oil regions. The whole oil region is like a vast magazine of gunpowder, and the flowing wells are as so many open casks of powder; They are even more dangereus, for, while gunpowder only explodes when in immediate contact with fire, an oil well will sometimes take fire from a cigar many yards distant. The oil from a flowing well is accompanied by an exceedingly inflammable gas, which pervades the air for several yards around. At many of the wells a notice warns the visitor that smoking is strictly prohibited in the neighbourhood, and more care is taken in enforcing the rule than at some powder mills. But, in spite of all precautions, accidents will happen. Sometimes the lighted cigar of a careless visitor, or the pipe of a thick-headed labourer is the cause. Sometimes the gas suddenly rushes up from a well that has just struck oil, and, taking fire from the engine furnace, wraps everything in flames, shooting up a column of fire and smoke 100ft. in height.

When the burning-well happened to be near the Creek, which has often been the case, a new danger threatened. The boats, loaded with oil, took fire, and, burning their lines, went adrift down the stream. As they passed the tank-boats filled with oil in bulk the flames spread to them with the rapidity of lightning; a single flash, and the whole boat was in flames. The burning boats continued in their course of devastation, setting fire to everything they touched on their route. The bursting of tanks covered the stream with oil, which took fire, and added to the terrific grandeur of the scene. A great fire of this kind occurred rather more than a year ago, when blazing boats came down the creeks, and, plunging among a large fleet of loaded boats at Old City, set them all on fire, and the whole blazing mass swept down the Alleghany, burning the Franklin-bridge as they passed, and spreading terror for miles along the river.

Water has no effect on burning petroleum. To extinguish a burning well the only means discovered is to play on it with steam from the boilers of a neighbouring engine, or to heap the mouth of the hole with earth. To accomplish the latter is a work of great difficulty and danger, for the heat thrown out by burning petroleum is intense. For this reason a flowing well that takes fire frequently burns for many days before the fire can be extinguished. It is only the crude petroleum, however, which gives off this explosive gas; the refined oil is never dangerous. In a recent discussion at the United Service Institution, the Duke of Somerset expressed a confident hope that the time was not far distant when Her Majesty's ships would be able to use petroleum as fuel instead of steam coal. Such a change means nothing less than that a steam frigate, which now carries ten days' steam coal, costing say £1,000, would then be able from its portability to carry twenty days' fuel in petroleum, costing £500.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A REGISTER is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the FAR EAST and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office, or by letter.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, THURSDAY, MAY 4, 1865.

THE REDUCTION OF THE TEA DUTIES.

THE allotment by Mr. GLADSTONE of £1,868,000 out of the estimated surplus for 1865-66 of £4,031,000 to the reducing the tea duty by one-half, whilst confessedly a boon to the labouring classes, affords opportune relief to the trade by aiding in the moving off of excessive stocks of low priced teas. The rise in all descriptions that has taken place since the announcement of the Budget is not, however, to be exclusively credited to the remission, for to this both China and United States advices have conspired; the former as indicating a curtailment in shipments, and the latter an active demand for the descriptions that lay heaviest on our hands,—Green teas and Oolongs. Prices had previously receded so far that only the slightest stimulant was required for their reanimation, and the markets had already exhibited this tendency. The bidding in of lots at what were generally deemed extravagant valuations, showed the firmness of holders; and large purchases made by leading speculators, who are suspected of having been initiated into the secret of the forthcoming Budget —with what truth we will not pretend to say—aided in maintaining the advance; still, to most importers so large a reduction was, to say the least, unanticipated. The arguments which led to a remission of 5d. per lb., in the last financial year, were supposed already to have spent their main force; but in Mr. GLADSTONE'S mind it appears they were only awaiting opportunity to gain their due momentum, the rate of increase in the consumption of tea being accelerated in the degree that it is cheapened to the mass of the population. Independently of this reduction, the character of the advices received and the extent of the exports, the fact that we are close upon the period when demand will begin to overtake delivery, has added its influence.

That Mr. GLADSTONE should so effectually have rescued himself from the strife of barley to give the benefit of a reduction of 20 per cent. on the long price of tea is certainly creditable to his discretion and independence, refusing, as he did, to abandon the significancy and *efficacy* of the present reduction by frittering away a portion of its cost to less general interests. The reduction from 1s. to 6d. was a matter of justice, and a proof of financial foresight; but we must yield expression to the unnecessary individual injustice by which it is accompanied, not so much through giving immediate effect to it, as in not allowing a retrospective action to the measure so far as concerns teas released from bond and still held in original packages. On the 1st inst., the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER took advantage of an unguarded inquiry as to the application of the remission to "stocks in hand" to deny its practicability, as it would involve an inquiry unknown to our usages; but there are records of duties paid, and all such packages as importers could vouch for as being still held by them or others from them, and released within a given period, might reasonably have experienced the benefit of the remission. The grace of the gift has thus been marred by the manner of the giving. If this plan were judged undesirable, the giving immediate effect to the resolution should not have been urged so warmly on the Committee of the House.

As to the future of the home market, much confessedly depends on reduced consignments, or rather the course taken by buyers in China; for teas of fine quality, properly cured and up to the standard, realise high prices; whereas deliveries of teas late, weak, and out of condition, cannot have other than a depressing influence. The warnings we have given to China shippers, the advices sent out by London houses to their agents, and the experience derived from bills drawn against tea discounted by the banks, which, when realised, failed to net the first cost, have had their effect; but there is still the liability to too sanguine expectations, and it is impossible to weed out the adventurers concerned in overtrading, or speculators who seek merely to take advantage of the rate of exchange to make good their losses by shipping produce. Early increased consumption in this country, *as the direct effect of the remission*, cannot be largely calculated upon, the rise of prices (and these are still advancing), counteracting to a sensible extent that advantage; whilst as to the rise, the influences operating on it through the American and Continental markets, are at once so exceptional and yet likely to be so permanent, that a fair prospect presents itself of present quotations being well maintained, and without undergoing that speedy revulsion which followed on the advance of prices which the former reduction of the tea duty occasioned.

The data for determining the effect of remission of duty on tea, on the consumption of that article in the United Kingdom, are partly provided by past experience; but the actual fact that it is now more than ever brought within reach of the masses, and that labourers are prosperous and trade good, adds a new condition to be taken into account. Mr. GLADSTONE is too fond of analogies not to have reverted in thought, as he schemed this item of the Budget, to the effect of a similarly proportionate reduction in 1746, when an abatement of the tea duty from 4s. to 2s. per lb. resulted in an undiminished revenue from that article; a period, however, too remote for carrying out the analogy. A further reduction in 1784 stimulated consumption almost in a similar ratio. On coming to the present century we find the reduced duties of 1835 creating a consumption of 44,000,000 instead of 33,000,000 pounds, whilst the increase in 1840-41 caused an actual decline in collected duties from the amount reached five years previously. The enlightened legislation of Sir ROBERT PEEL in 1842 revived the receipts, and the deliveries of this article have doubled within the last twenty years. It would require the consumption by every individual in the United Kingdom above ten years of age of 8½lbs. of sugar per annum to make good the sacrifice in favour of tea for the present financial year. This allowance, after all, would be but moderate. In 1863, when the census gave 22,640,000 adults, the average consumption was but 3¾lbs. per head per annum; the proportion arithmetically allotted to the working classes being 2¾lbs., and to those higher in the social scale from that point up to 10lbs. per annum. For ourselves, looking to the general condition of the country, we have every confidence in a rapid augmentation of consumption. In a more general view, this remission must be regarded as fraught with numerous collateral benefits. On the Continent, where all fiscal changes are regarded with intense interest, the realisation of the calculations of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER must aid in disseminating that doctrine of pure political economy under which specific Customs tariffs judiciously diminished may be shown to yield eventually, directly or indirectly, a larger and increasing revenue. The United States during the past year took but half its accustomed supply, and notwithstanding a differential duty in favour of tea brought direct from the country of production, must mainly recuperate its stocks from our own deliveries. Russia and Prussia, too are improving customers.

THROUGH OVERLAND RAILWAY ROUTE TO CANTON.

THE late enthusiastic inauguration of the meeting of the two seas on the Isthmus of Suez—the prelude of the expenditure of time and money up to a point that will make a ship canal a reality, is calculated to revive in their full force those financial and commercial considerations and political arguments which exist in favour of a through railway route to Calcutta, with an extension to Canton.* The project of a Euphrates Valley Railway, to connect the Bay of Antioch with steamers on the Euphrates, or to be continued eight hundred miles to Bussorah, engaged the attention of the Board of Trade twenty-three years since, and £20,000, furnished by Parliamentary vote, was expended on the survey of the earlier section. The feasibility of a railway was never doubted. The Euphrates Valley was the actual route of our postal transit to and from India, even before the colossal wooden seaman surmounted the first India House. Down to the year 1815 it was thus made available, the distance

* The credit for the original projection and elaboration of the scheme of a Calais, Constantinople, Calcutta, and Canton Railway, must be accorded to Mr. William Pare, of the Seville Iron Works, Dublin, the line to Calcutta being conceived and planned in 1842, and the extension to Canton at a somewhat subsequent date. Sir R. M. Stephenson is already engaged on a projected line from Calcutta to Canton.

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tion, was arrested, tried, condemned, and summarily executed. If in truth the linguist was guilty of the charge laid against him, we cannot regret the fate, however appalling, which has overtaken him. So much depends on the integrity of an interpreter, that any dereliction in duty should be severely punished. This lesson will no doubt become widely known, and will afford a salutary warning to the natives who are employed in those foreign consulates where a qualified European interpreter is not provided. To Chinese are the most important negotiations entrusted, the correspondence is left altogether in their hands to represent as they like, and the Consuls are mere puppets in the hands of men for whose character, and even for whose knowledge of the niceties of the Chinese language, they possess no guarantee. For these reasons the execution of Wang is an event upon which we may congratulate ourselves, as its terrors will take a long time to wear away from the minds of men in his position.

We understand that the following figures afford an approximation to the results of the census of foreigners :—

English Settlement :—	
Males	990
Females	75
Children	40
Total	1,105
Hong-que :—	
Males	750
Females	70
Children	45
Total	865
Pootung :—	
Males	48
Females	4
Children	6
Total	58
Grand Total of Foreigners	2,028

A report has been issued, by the direction of R. C. Antrobus, Esq. (commanding Shanghai Volunteers), of the present existing rules of the corps, and suggesting sundry improvements. A permanent recruiting committee is strongly recommended, as well as an extraordinary meeting of the corps to discuss the state of the standing orders. The committee reports that the proficiency in drill is far from satisfactory, and that it is desirable to place all the members under elementary instruction. A knowledge of guard and patrol duty is mentioned as especially requisite to the efficiency of a Volunteer Corps, as also is regular attendance on the part of those advanced from squad-drill to parading with the battalion. The question of a Volunteer Club is also mooted, and strongly approved of as tending to promote friendship among the different members of the corps ; and it is suggested that members of one corps should be considered casual members of all other companies throughout China and Japan, and be entitled to fall-in with them during their drill. The following detail is given as being, in their opinion, the strength and organisation of a permanent Volunteer establishment, such as Shanghai can adequately maintain, and which the position of affairs demands :—

Cavalry.—One Troop	50 Men.
Artillery.—A Battery (or Company)	75 „
Engineers.—A Skeleton Company	25 „
Rifles.—4 Companies	300 „
Grand Total, ...	450 Men.

The formation of a band is strongly urged, and the report concludes by setting forth the advantages of, and the necessity for, a permanent and efficient force. The Committee consisted of Messrs. P. Maclean, J. Markham, Francis A. Groom, and R. F. Gould.

KIU-KIANG.

A correspondent at Kiu-kiang informs us of the dulness prevailing at that port. The weather has lately been so unseasonable, that the training for the races and all other outdoor amusements have come to a standstill. An amateur theatrical company, composed of the tidewaiters and municipal and consular constables, have devoted themselves to dispelling the *ennui* which weighs on the spirits of the foreign residents. On the evening of the 11th inst., the following pieces were put on the stage :—"A Desperate Game," and Tom Taylor's farce, "A Blighted Being." We have received no criticism on the performance, but the actors are said to act very fairly as a body. A large force of braves has been sent into the neighbourhood, and, as usual, there has been a slight disturbance. Nothing, however, of any importance had occurred up to the date of our advices.

HONG KONG.

The P. O. mail of 10th Feb. arrived out on the 25th March. The dates are down to the morning of the 26th.

The following on the "Celestial Cup," is from the *Evening Mail* :—

We have much pleasure in drawing attention to a specimen of native silversmiths' work now on view at Mr. D. Lapraik's. Our readers are aware that, a short time ago, many old members and friends of the London Scottish Volunteers subscribed for a challenge cup to be competed for by members of that corps and to be designated "The Celestial Cup." In order to give the proposed prize an appearance suited to the place of its origin, the ornamentation and workmanship are entirely Chinese, the outline and conformation of the cup being after the present English manner. The "Celestial Cup" is two feet high from the bottom of the pedicle to the apex of the lid. The body of the vessel is well proportioned as regards breadth and depth, and has a rich, massive appearance, rendered still more effective by the addition of two dragon handles. The lid is a very fine piece of workmanship, displaying good castings of several dragons in that state of confused animation which pervades all Chinese designs, and seems to mark their furthest reach of fancy in metallic modelling as in alto relief. The rampant attitudes of the intermingled reptiles are managed so as to bring the general outline of the lid to a proper apex, while about the base native vegetation, in which the lotus flower is most prominent, has been appropriately introduced. The body of the vase has, for its external decorations, the usual quaint-looking fighting figures in relief, the perspective being that of the willow-pattern school displayed in perfection. The military tactics which the Chinese artist thus hands down to posterity will doubtless serve to remind the members of the London Scottish Corps of the vast strides that have been made in warfare since the period illustrated on the "Celestial Cup,"—the same era of which traces are preserved in the fights at Donnybrook Fair. Though the larger portion of the space has been devoted to military evolutions, as befits the purpose for which the prize is presented, there are other representations of Chinese life and manners given in the same quaint style. The handles are very finely wrought, and show that in delineating the lizard tribe the Chinese decidedly excel. The bowl is supported by a cluster of bamboos, the canes and leaves being well executed, and gracefully disposed to answer their purpose in the general design. They form, we think, the most attractive feature of the work, and, as well as the lid and handles, the most elaborately wrought. The bamboo, we need scarcely mention, is everything with the Chinese,—food, clothing, furniture, and utensils of labour. It should never be absent in any artistic design intended to wear a national aspect, and there are few works of art in the precious metals where it may not, as in the present case, be most suitably introduced.

Having thus paid a proper tribute to the cunning workmanship of the Chinese craftsman, it only remains for us to mention that the "Celestial Cup" will be sent to England and forwarded to Lord Elcho by the next out-going mail. The terms of competition have been left to his lordship, but it is understood that it can only become the property of the competitor who wins it for two consecutive years.

This is, we suppose, the first prize ever sent to England by any colony ; and the "China Cup," lately subscribed for, or begun to be subscribed for at Shanghai and in Hong Kong, will in all likelihood, be the second. The latter, we doubt not, will be equally welcomed by our crack shots at home, and both will do honour to the Volunteer spirit which marks Englishmen, even in the most distant colonies.

We must not omit to notice the inscription, with the wreath encircling it. The former, which is neatly engraved, indicates the origin and destination of the gift ; the latter, the nationality of the givers and receivers, it being formed of such flowers as the heather, the "forget-me-not," and the wild rose, with the thistle as a central gem ; over the latter paws the rampant Scottish lion, and a scroll is legible with the motto upon it of "Wha daur meddle wi' me !" which is a good Doric rendering of the old legend, "Nemo me impune lacessit."

The value of the "Celestial Cup" is about five hundred dollars, and the number of subscribers amounts to sixty. After being on view at Mr. D. Lapraik's during to-morrow, it

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will, we believe, be exposed at the club, previously to being packed up for transmission by the P. and O. Company.

His Royal Highness the Duc de Brabant left Hong Kong on his way home, via Galle, in Her Majesty's ship *Adventure*. We understand that H.R.H. had received telegrams from Europe informing him of the serious illness of his father, and requiring his immediate return, consequently he has been obliged to defer his projected visit to the North and Japan.

The following is the circulation of the banks :—

Oriental	$798,795.
Chartered Mercantile	$788,270.
Chartered Bank of India	$602,132.
Agra	$452,891.

Tenders have been invited for the erection of the City Hall, and a premium of $1,000 offered for the best design.

The building will be required to comprise the following accomodation :—

In One Wing—A Theatre, capable of containing 500 spectators, independently of the gallery. The width of the proscenium and the depth of the stage to be not less than 28 and 35 feet respectively.

On the Basement Floor—Servants' rooms and kitchens.

On the Ground Floor—Entrance-hall, secretary's room, cloak-room.

On the First Floor—The St. Andrew's-hall with orchestra, banqueting-hall, retiring-rooms.

N.B.—It is considered desirable that the St. Andrew's-hall, or banqueting-hall, should communicate with the dress-circle of the theatre.

On either Floor—An apartment for the Chamber of Commerce.

A public library, calculated to afford space for 10,000 volumes, and for the museum of the South China branch of the Royal Asiatic Society.

The following report on the Post-office appeared in the Hong Kong *Gazette*, and will be found interesting :—

General Post-office, Hong Kong, Feb. 22, 1865.

Sir,—I do myself the honour to report, for the information of his Excellency the Governor, that the revenue which accrued from this department to the colonial Government, during the year 1864, amounted to $86,341.11, being an increase of $17,581.2 on the revenue for the year 1863, $35,208.36 on the revenue of 1862, and $51,021.57 on the revenue of 1861, which shows the steady and continued prosperity of the office.

The expenditure for the year 1864, so far as the same has been defrayed by the colony, amounts to $24,431.5, or $3,215.63 in excess of the expenditure of the year 1863, and this is accounted for by the continued increase in the gratuities paid to masters of vessels, under the 12th clause of the Post-office Ordinance, for the conveyance of ship mails; the employment of an additional sorter, and the increased expenditure at the Packet Agencies at the Ports in China and Japan.

The amount of Imperial revenue which was collected in Hong Kong, and remitted to the General Post-office in London during the year 1864, was £26,067. 11s., being an increase of £1,981. 6s. on the revenue of 1863. £7,504. 9s. 3d. on the revenue of 1862, and £15,809. 7s. 9½d. on the revenue of 1861.

In the cases of both the Imperial and Colonial revenue I consider the increases to have arisen from the additions which have been made to commerce at the various ports in China and Japan, and also to the addition to the mercantile and banking population of Hong Kong.

The total revenue of the Hong Kong Post-office for the year 1864, amounts to $21,1465.35, or a total excess over the previous years' revenue of $27,091.26.

From August last the business of the department has been carried on in a portion of the Supreme Court House, and pending the completion of the new Post-office, now in course of erection, these temporary offices will be sufficient for the requirements of the department. I fully anticipate, however, that in the new building I shall be able to give the public increased facilities, and I hope to make many improvements in the efficiency of the office.

During the past year the mails sent and received by the French line of packets have increased in some small degree.

The compulsory use of Colonial postage stamps in the payment of postages in Hong Kong, and also at the ports, has met with complete success; and although great opposition was made to the measure at the outset, it is now, I believe, admitted on all sides to have advantages over the old system of payments in money, and so far as the department and its agencies are concerned, the introduction and use of stamps has been found an improvement.

The illegal transmission of correspondence by the great firms still continues; and it has been observed that although some of the houses who have important agencies at Shanghai seldom receive their correspondence arriving by the British Contract Packets through the post, yet in many cases their correspondence sent from and to the same place by the French Mail Packets passes through the Post-office; and I submit that this fact goes to show that greater attention is paid to the regulations and law which prohibits the transmission of general correspondence outside the mails, on board the Messageries Imperiales steamers, than is given to the subject on board the vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, which are under contract to Her Majesty's Government for the conveyance of mails, and who are prohibited under that contract from carrying letters otherwise than in the mails, excepting of course such letters as are exempt by law, but notwithstanding, the vessels of this company never make a trip to or from the northern ports under contract, or otherwise, without illegally conveying correspondence; and although I have taken every means in my power to prevent the continuance of the system, which injures the revenue and gives advantages to those who adopt it, over those who adopt the legal method of sending their correspondence, I regret to say that my attempts have been unsuccessful.

The accounts of the department still grow in intricacy, and I am unable to recommend any change which would work advantageously in the system of keeping them, except it be to adopt a similar system to that which I believe prevails with the Australian Colonies, or some of them, and that is for the colony to retain all the revenue collected here, the Imperial Post-office acting in like manner with that collected in London, and for the colony to contribute annually, say £20,000, or some other fair fixed sum which might be arranged, to the General Post-office in London. A system of this kind would much lessen the work of the bookkeeper and the bulk of the accounts here, and I think be more satisfactory to the department, the local Government, and the Imperial Post-office; and if such an arrangement is entertained by the authorities in London, a simple system of accounts might easily be adopted to suit all parties concerned.—I am, Sir, your most obedient servant, F. W. MITCHELL, Postmaster-General.

The Hon. W. T. Mercer, Esq., Colonial Secretary, Hong Kong.

SIAM.

BANGKOK.

His Majesty the King of Siam reads his *Siam Times*, and will have justice done in cases where his newspaper points to offenders. Judgment has been given in the case of Amdeng P'lap *v.* Nai P'in. The latter was charged by the complainant with abduction and cruelty. The case was sent by the tribunals at Chantabun to Bangkok for trial, and in that capital judgment was given against Nai P'in. The particulars of the case were published in the journal named, and thus reached the notice of His Majesty, who issued a peremptory order for Nai P'in's appearance before the superior tribunals in Bangkok. The facts were proved, and it was decreed that Nai P'in should receive sixty lashes, be subjected for three days to the fire, *i.e.* sit on an iron tripod over burning embers, pay a fine of twenty-four catties, 1,920 ticals, and suffer imprisonment. The sentence has not yet been executed, and will be deferred till his Excellency Chow Phya Phraklang returns from Laconchasri. He may have some influence in modifying its execution. "It is more than probable (remarks our Siamese contemporary) that Amdeng P'lap's grievance would never have been redressed had it not been published. We do not say this to induce others to pursue the same course in petty affairs, but where there is a real wrong and grievous hardship which the victims thereof have reason to think will not meet with due attention from the appointed tribunals, our columns are open to them, and even in Siam we think there are few hardy enough to brave public condemnation and reprobation."

The Siamese gunboat which went to look after the Captain of the *Fah Kee* has returned. She brought from Chumpaun the two Chinese left there by the mate, and from Patchu the European who from illness was obliged to remain behind. The long-boat of the *Fah Kee* has also been brought on to Bangkok. Nothing has, as yet, transpired respecting the second mate who strayed on shore this side of Singora.

His Majesty the Supreme King of Siam has appointed Mr. A. Markwald Consul for Siam in Berlin, and Mr. P. W. Auchincloss Consul for Siam at Batavia.

Mr. Paul Lessler has been appointed Prussian Consul for Siam. By the treaty between Prussia and Siam, the citizens of the following German States will come under the protection of the Prussian Consul :—Prussia, Batavia, Saxony, Hanover, Wurtemburg, Baden, Electoral Hesse, Grandducal Hesse, Saxe Weimar Eisenach, Saxe Meiningen, Saxe Altenburg, Saxe Coburg Gotha, Schwarzburg, Rudolstadt, Schwarzburg Sondershausen, the Elder Branch of Reuss, the Younger Branch of Reuss, Brunswick, Oldenburg, Nassau, Free Town of Frankfort, Grand Duchies of Mecklenburg Schwerin, and the Grand Duchies of Mecklenburg Strelitz.

It is reported that in digging about the ruins of an old temple at Ayudhia, an image of Budh was found. The image is about 3 feet high. It is a composition of copper and gold, and the metal is said to be worth 8 ticals for every tical's weight. The image is being burnished, to be in a suitable state for presentation to the King. It is said that some jewels and some old silver coins were likewise found.

The first marriage ever performed between a British subject and a Siamese, with a regular Consular license, has taken place at Bangkok. The bridegroom was a compositor in the office of the *Siam Times*.

COCHIN CHINA.

SAIGON.

Lieutenant Chevalier, aide-de-camp to the Governor, who went to Huć in the *Cosmao*, has returned to Saigon after having accomplished with success the mission with which he was entrusted. If the results correspond to the promise of the Annamite Government, we may hope, remarks the *Courier du Saigon*, to see an end put to the assistance rendered by some

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from London to Bussorah being accomplished in 30 days, and thence by fast-sailing schooners to Bombay in 12 days more. The Syrian disturbances, involving the intervention of France, have been regarded as having prevented the British Government from giving effect by a guarantee to the scheme of a Euphrates Valley Railway; but the continued reticence of successive cabinets since 1857 must be taken as indicating a conviction of the insufficiency of either a line from Antioch connecting with river steamers, or its continuance to Bussorah, to answer present requirements, as involving several transhipments. Commerce is best diverted by lessening the number of intervening agencies. The proposed through route contemplates the extension of the line of railway from Vienna to Basiasch to the Bosphorous, the road crossing by a tubular bridge, thence to Alexandretta on the Mediterranean, and by the Euphrates Valley and the northern shore of the Persian Gulf to Kurrachee. Here it would presently unite with lines completed or in progress, connecting it on the one hand with Bombay and on the other with Calcutta, whence the route would lie through Burmah and the intervening Chinese provinces to Canton. One-fourth of the route from London to Calcutta is already built in Europe, and one-half the distance from Bombay to Calcutta completed. With such a choice of way, few engineering difficulties need be encountered, whilst continuous and available labour could at all points be relied upon. We do not disguise from ourselves the enormous cost of the undertaking; but commanding, as this railway must, a fair proportion of the trade between Europe and the Far East—say one-fourth of the whole aggregate—creating as well as developing resources along its route, and constituting the grand stem of numerous offshoots, we are satisfied that the required capital would be forthcoming on the provision of a Government guarantee of 5 per cent. on capital account; this account to include maintenance of way, and the Imperial guarantee to be supplemented by another of 1½ per cent. by the Indian Government. That Government contributes a moderate annual sum already to the promotion of intercourse with China, and could hardly be said to have a secondary interest in a through route which would stamp a new value on the railways of India, increase its actual trade, and augment its powers of competition in European markets. A legitimate basis of calculation is afforded by the Indian railways in operation. Of the guarantee on the lines of £13,000,000, upwards of £2,500,000 have been paid back, half this amount between May, 1863, and May, 1864. The success of those lines is no longer problematical, and each succeeding year places them in a better position, accruing profits augmenting rapidly in the ratio of their extension. The local trade of a through railway route, even in Central Asia, would be enormous. Whilst in Syria it would lead to a large investment of European capital in intertropical products, it would, as it proceeded, effect communications from Bushire with Bokhara and Herat, and stimulate whole Asiatic populations, who only need a motive to exertion to produce any required amount of indigo, spices, cotton, and other productions.

The materials of exchange between China, India, and Europe are especially suited for railway conveyance, a consideration only second to that of the value of time. Numerous minor articles, too, would thus find their way into imports and exports. The effect of such a railway on the inland trade of China, regarded as subsidiary to foreign trade, can hardly be exaggerated. Passing over an immense region of country, and tapping innumerable rivers and canals, it would prove of infinite service in breaking up those combinations among China merchants and dealers that now harass our transactions, and would afford us rare facilities for disposing of our goods. The extension to Canton is necessary, if only to improve the advantages in our power. The effect of the present overland route on our trade is but a slight token of the results to be anticipated from a line of unbroken railway communication from Ostend to Canton. Besides extending the profits of the foreign trade carried on by China beyond the immediate vicinity of the existing treaty ports, it would enlarge China dealings with neighbouring islands, and secure for conveyance a large proportion of the products of Java, Manila, and Borneo, in addition to considerable quantities of tea, silk and other products of Japan. The estimate we have given as to the proportion of through transit trade refers only to merchandise; this through line, so far as it linked existing lines, would have the monopoly of the conveyance of the precious metals and the revenue derivable from a conterminous telegraphic line. The additional supply of raw products thus secured would alone compensate for the cost in a national point of view, for it is in the manufacture of these our chief profits are obtained. And not only would trade be rapidly augmented, but better regulated. A week to Calcutta! Ten days to Canton! What a triumph would this be; and it is a triumph within our reach. A constantly extending trade is the very atmosphere and life of all commercial nations; and, looking to our improving relations with China, a railway scheme which will make that country the terminus of European and Indian lines, must be accounted full of promise. The financial nucleus of the company to undertake the work may be found among those who have interested themselves in the Euphrates Valley Railway; but a through overland route would excite from the first infinitely greater interest, commanding the attention of the whole monetary world. The political reasons that should influence the Government to furnish the required guarantee are of the first magnitude. The secured territorial position of France on the Isthmus of Suez enables her to dominate at will over the commerce of the Red Sea, and to confront us on our path to India. The Turkish question continues of far greater moment than is commonly supposed, and if this through railway would solve none of the problems that there present themselves, it would at least avert impending dangers; giving as it would to Turkey the means of financial and industrial resurrection. We would gain the advantage of protecting more securely an important portion of our Indian frontier, and with the strategic basis thus provided, could not fail to realise the apprehensions expressed years since in the *Revue Contemporaine* by the Count DE WARREN, and to maintain an ascendancy of political influence and commercial power which no possible combinations could weaken.

BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS.

The Board of Trade Returns for the month and three months ended the 31st March may be regarded on the whole as favourable, although there are no changes calling for any special remark. The total declared value of exports for the month of March is £13,770,154 against £13,555,674 in 1864 and £10,217,473 in 1863, which is an increase over the former period of £214,480 and over the latter of £3,552,681. For the three months of the present year the total is £35,635,707; in 1864 it was £36,667,381, and in 1863 £27,561,204, which shows a decrease of £1,031,674 as compared with 1864, but an increase of £8,074,503 as contrasted with 1863. The most important variations exhibited in the present returns are, as respects exports, an increase in the articles of alkali, beer and ale, coals and culm, cotton manufactures, earthenware, hardware and cutlery, linen manufactures, machinery and seed oil; but a decline in cotton yarn, haberdashery and millinery, linen yarn, metals, thrown silk, silk manufactures, woollen and worsted yarns, and woollen manufactures. As regards imports, an increase is shown in raw cotton, guano, tanned hides, tallow, wool, cocoa, coffee, spirits, sugar, and tobacco. On the other hand, there has been a decline in flax, leather manufactures, flaxseed and linseed, raw silk, woollen manufactures, tea, and wine. The trade to and from the Far East, as far as distinctively exhibited in these returns, is represented by the following figures:—

EXPORTS TO CHINA AND HONG KONG.

	For the Month ended 31st March. 1863.	1864	1865.
Cotton yarn	60,800 ..	63,042 ..	263,990 lbs.
Cotton manufactures ..	5,007,244 ..	8,437,906 ..	11,569,177 yds.
Worsted stuffs	1,120,902 ..	1,231,482 ..	1,175,182 ,,
Woollen and worsted cloths	245,959 ..	110,969 ..	143,092 ,,
Lead	2,413 ..	549 ..	50 tons
	Value for the Three Months ended 31st March.		
Cotton yarn	£19,560 ..	£56,591 ..	£53,316
Cotton manufactures ..	163,600 ..	386,967 ..	547,523
Worsted stuffs	127,053 ..	192,859 ..	243,968
Woollen and worsted cloths.	73,423 ..	67,185 ..	62,098
Lead	92,026 ..	33,609 ..	15,191

The quantity of Cotton Manufactures exported to other ports and countries of the Far East during the month of March, and the value for the first three months of the present year, are thus returned:—

	Quantity for the Month ended 31st March. 1863.	1864.	1865.
Ceylon	746,534 ..	1,181,614 ..	1,592,521 yds.
Singapore	848,288 ..	3,080,464 ..	7,344,557 ,,
Java	507,720 ..	1,857,213 ..	3,213,562 ,,
Philippine Islands ..	— ..	2,402,362 ..	462,620 ,,
	Value for the Three Months ended 31st March.		
Ceylon	£33,532 ..	£159,148 ..	£74,072
Singapore	60,987 ..	276,231 ..	316,590
Java	32,444 ..	173,059 ..	149,981
Philippine Islands ..	37,400 ..	162,159 ..	189,201

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Of Cotton Yarn 199,200 lbs. was forwarded to Singapore in the month of March, and 33,192 lbs. to Ceylon; the value of the export, for the three months ended 31st March being—to Singapore, £43,934; and to Ceylon, £3,450.

IMPORTS.

Of Raw Cotton the import is smaller for the month of March, both from China and British India, as compared with last year:—

Quantity for the month ended 31st March.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
British India.. ..	122,676 ..	225,383 ..	218,506 cwts.
China	19,635 ..	76,488 ..	60,494 „

For the Three Months ended 31st March

British India.. ..	387,701 ..	459,028 ..	404,610 „
China	26,951 ..	105,476 ..	106,146 „

Value for the Two Months ended 28th February.

British India.. ..	£2,022,469 ..	£2,252,206 ..	£1,261,003
China	49,505 ..	265,905 ..	269,858

Of unrefined Sugar, the quantity imported from Java and the Philippine Islands, in the month ended 31st March, was 12,093 cwt. of the 3rd quality, and 130,900 of the 4th quality. The quantity for the three months of the three years, and the value for the first two months:—

Quantity for the Three Months ended 31st March.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Of all qualities (cwts.)	269,862 ..	23,650 ..	213,880

Value for the Two Months ended 28th February.

Of all qualities	£92,428 ..	£10,843 ..	£72,261

Of Hemp the import from the Philippine Island in the month of March was 40,507 cwt., and the quantity and value for the three years is given thus:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity to 31st March (cwts.)..	59,516 ..	3,008 ..	76,083
Value to 28th February.. ..	£22,235 ..	— ..	£41,250

Of Coffee, the importation from Ceylon for the month of March was 6,168,032 lbs., and the quantity and value for the three years as follows:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity to 31st March (lbs.) ..	11,136,422 ..	8,012,292 ..	9,553,501
Value to 28th February.. ..	£224,397 ..	£165,777 ..	£117,887

These Returns furnish also the Declared Value of the British and Irish Produce and Manufactures exported from the United Kingdom for the two months ended the 28th February. The ports and countries of the Far East are debited with the following amounts:—

To	1863.	1864.	1865.
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)..	£191,292 ..	£359,993 ..	£493,137
Hong Kong	123,287 ..	186,654 ..	161,655
Singapore and the Eastern Straits .	84,739 ..	280,110 ..	264,609
Ceylon	59,899 ..	181,117 ..	81,408
Netherlands India	30,283 ..	173,521 ..	98,729
Philippine Islands	61,029 ..	131,542 ..	260,327
Japan	13,467 ..	39,872 ..	59,812

TRADE OF TIEN-TSIN, 1864.—CUSTOMS RETURNS.

SUMMARY OF FOREIGN TRADE.

Total value of goods imported from foreign countries (Japan and Hong Kong)		Tls. 622,213
Ditto	Ditto re-exported	1,576
Ditto	Ditto after deducting re-exports	Tls. 620,637
Total value of native produce exported to foreign countries..		Tls. 577,329

(Signed) W. BAKER, Assistant in Charge.

Tien-tsin, Dec. 24th, 1864.

SUMMARY OF COAST TRADE.

Showing the total value of native produce imported from Chinese ports, according to table No. 1			Tls. 3,752,601
Ditto	Ditto	re-exported to foreign countries, according to table No. 2	344
Ditto	Ditto	re-exported to Chinese ports, according to table No. 3	17,558
Ditto	Ditto	after deducting the value of the re-exports	3,734,699
Ditto	Ditto	exported to Chinese ports	1,153,457
Ditto	Ditto	of foreign goods imported from Chinese ports	3,404,383
Ditto	Ditto	re-exported to Chinese ports ..	114,397

(Signed) W. BAKER, Assistant in Charge.

Tien-tsin, Dec. 26th, 1864.

A. Table 1. Foreign trade—Showing the goods imported from foreign countries.

A. Table 2. Foreign trade—Showing the foreign goods re-exported to foreign countries.

A. Table 3. Foreign trade—Showing the native produce exported to foreign countries.

B. Table 1. Coast trade—Showing the native produce imported from Chinese ports.

B. Table 2. Coast trade—Showing the native produce re-exported to foreign countries.

B. Table 3. Coast trade—Showing the native produce re-exported to Chinese ports.

B. Table 4. Coast trade—Showing the native produce exported to Chinese ports.

B. Table 5. Coast trade—Showing the foreign produce imported from Chinese ports.

B. Table 6. Coast trade—Showing the foreign goods re-exported to Chinese ports.

ARTICLES SELECTED FROM THE TABLES OVER 10,000 TLS. IN VALUE.

A 1.	Total Tls.
Anniseed, Star	11,516
Betel Nuts	10,170
Buttons, Brass	14,570
Camphor	10,635
Glass, Window (9,635 boxes)	28,905
Lead, White	13,430
Matches (23,458 gross) ..	19,140
Metals, Steel	13,127
Needles (43,200,000 pieces)	15,376
Opium, Malwa	83,625
Pepper, Black	16,601
Seaweed	14,272
Sugar, Brown	66,726
„ White	39,023
Tea Black	29,117
Tobacco	46,022
Woollens, Camlets ..	11,100

A 3.	Total Tls.
Almonds	10,186
Medicine	41.883
Peas	39,661
Rhubarb	11,152
Skins, Sheep	10,263
Wool, Sheep, P. 256 (Tls. 4,352)	
Cotton (P. 27,457) ..	384,400

B 1.	Total Tls.
Anniseed, Star	18,510
Bamboo, Split	10,277
Buttons, Brass	80,931
China Ware, Coarse ..	11,847
Copper	49,126
Fans, Paper	16,009
Flower Plants	10,586
Gold Leaf	864,000
Grass Cloth, Coarse ..	41,201
„ Fine ..	17,312
Indigo, Dried	12,247
Lead, White	48,049
„ Yellow	16,576
Medicines	19,944
Nankeen	92,932
Oil, Wood	12.278
Opium, Prepared ..	32,960
Paper, 1st quality ..	68.646
„ 2nd „ ..	79,255
Preserves	12,498
Silk, Embroidery ..	25.236
„ Piece Goods ..	672.580
„ Ribbons	200,560
Snuff, Native	23.741
Sugar, Brown	282.538
„ Candy	12,676
„ White	283,049

B 4.	Total Tls.
Caps, Felt (Tls. 9,150) ..	

B 4.	Total Tls.
Cotton (P. 39,825) ..	557,550
Curios	10,375
Cloth, Russian (Tls. 9,870)	
Grain	28,875
Horns, Deer	47,340
Lily Flowers, Dried ..	21,285
Medicines	80,207
Mushroom	14,418
Peas and Beans	39,340
Skins, Sheep	32,674
Snuff, Native	12,300
Soap, Chinese	14,416
Tobacco	135,270
Wax, White	19,865
Wool, Camels', P. 428 (Tls. 5,139)	
„ Sheep, P. 114 (Tls. 1,938)	

B 5.	Total Tls.
Betel Nuts (Tls. 6,825) ..	
Bectre de More (Tls. 8,609)	
Cardamons, inferior (Tls. 6,600)	
Cotton Shirtings, Grey ..	673,872
„ White	287,340
„ Dyed (figd. & plain)	59,792
„ White Spot. ..	44,412
Chintz	37,726
T-Cloths	94,952
T. R. Cloths	20,440
Drills, English (Tls. 7,735)	
„ American	13,580
Damasks	17,250
Velvets	19,330
Twills	10,150
Jeans, American (Tls. 8,690)	
Metals, Steel	12,871
„ Lead, in Pigs ..	29,475
„ Quicksilver (Tls. 7,665)	
Needles	39,889
Opium, Malwa ..	1,413,110
„ Patna	64,522
Seaweed	24,274
Sugar, ...	21,696
Woollens, Sp. Stripes ..	90,566
„ Long Ells (Tls. 8,466)	
„ Camlets ..	75,129
„ „ (Tls. 9,900)	
Woollens, Lastings ..	29,666
„ Shirtings ..	60,030
„ and Cotton Mxtrs.	23,388
Watches	13,284
Window Glass	22,260

B 6.	Total Tls.
Cotton, Damasks ..	13,000
„ Chintzes	12,406
Opium, Malwa	43,265
Woollens, Long Ells (Tls. 8,452)	
„ Orleans (Tls. 7,212)	

COMPARATIVE TABLE.—1864.

Description of Goods.		1863.	1864.	Increase.	Decrease.
Cottons.—Shirtings—Grey ...	Pces.	86,151	164,359	78,208	—
„ „ White ...	„	30,207	72,185	41,578	—
„ „ „ Spot.	„	4,897	13,139	8,242	—
„ „ Dyed ...	„	1,303	14.948	13,645	—
T-Cloths	„	21,599	36,120	14,521	—
Chintz	„	6,830	21,879	15,049	—
Cambrics, T.R.	„	18,000	5,840	—	12,160
Velvets	„	61	4.137	4,078	—
Woollens.—Spanish Stripes ...	„	1,328	6.310	5,582	—
„ Long Ells... ...	„	3,486	1,345	—	2,141
„ Camlets, Engl. ...	„	3,042	4 661	1,619	—
„ Lastings	„	797	2,322	1.525	—
„ do. imitation ...	„	142	10.165	10,043	—
Matches	Gross	131,263	40,973	—	90,290
Metals.—Copper	Pcls.	2,101,26	3,778,89	1,677,63	—
„ Lead in pigs	„	1,735,53	4,534,64	2,799,11	—
„ Quicksilver	„	—	221,87	221,87	—
„ Steel, Native & Foreign	„	1,429,44	3.714,10	2,284,66	—
Needles	Pces.	20,545,000	141,563,000	121,018,000	—
Opium.—Malwa	Pcls.	3,571,49	2,672,74	—	898,75
„ Patna	„	63,03	182,64	89,58	—
„ Benares...	„	—	9,60	9,60	—
„ Persian	„	—	4	4	—
„ Prepared	„	98,59	42,724	—	55,667
„ Native	„	15,81	—	—	15,81
Paper.—1st quality	„	13,745,51	7,248,74	—	6,496,77
„ 2nd „	„	28,331,49	13,209,29	—	15,322,20
Silk.—Piece Goods	„	786,65	1,452,09	666,84	—
„ Ribbons	„	137,61	505,63	368,02	—
„ Thread	„	14,05	64,63	50,58	—
Sugar—Brown	„	21,317,04	94 548,29	73.181,25	—
„ White	„	19 822,17	65.155,56	45,333,19	—
Tea—Black	„	14,635,23	9,573,66	—	5,061,57
„ Green	„	—	243,13	248,13	—
„ Brick	„	12,197,53	12,631.44	—	162,09
Tobacco	„	3,785,16	5,754,73	1,969,57	—
Vermilion	„	91,99	3,89,99	298	—

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ALBERT INSURANCE COMPANY.

(LIMITED.)

FIRE AND MARINE.

Directors.

WILLIAM BEATTIE, Esq.
OSWALD H. COLVEN, Esq.
E. T. GOURLEY, Esq.
WILLIAM KING, Esq.
G. GOLDSMITH KIRBY, Esq., Managing Director.
ANGUS M'KENZIE, Esq.
JOSEPH M'MASTER, Esq.
JAMES NICHOLS, Esq.
WM. PAGE T. PHILLIPS, Esq.
P. W. SPENCE, Esq.
T. STEVENSON, Esq., F.S.A.
CHARLES RUDD TATHAM, Esq.
C. P. VARSAMI, Esq.
ROBERT WHITWORTH, Esq.

Underwriter (Marine Department).
PHILIP SECRETAN, Esq.

Manager (Fire Department).
MORELL THEOBALD, Esq.

REPORT,

Presented to the First General Meeting of Shareholders, held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Thursday, the 20th day of April, 1865.

The Directors, in presenting the Statement of the Accounts to the 31st December, 1864, embracing the transactions of the Company from its commencement to that date (a period of eight months only), have much pleasure in congratulating the Shareholders on the satisfactory progress of the business of the Company.

The Accounts, which have been examined and certified by the Auditors, show that, after having paid office charges and other expenses, losses in the Fire Department, and all adjusted claims for losses, averages, and returns in the Marine Department, there is a balance on income account of £59,719. 16s. 6d. This sum, less 10 per cent. deducted as stated in the Balance-Sheet, will be carried forward to the account for 1865.

The Directors report with much satisfaction the acquisition of the business of the Oriental and General Marine Insurance Company, a Company which had attained a position of considerable importance in the City.

The Auditors, Messrs. Johnstone, Cooper, Wintle, and Co., and E. H. Galsworthy, Esq., retire from office in conformity with the Articles of Association, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The Shareholders will be called upon to determine the remuneration of the Auditors.

The Shareholders will also be called upon to alter the 5th and 14th Sections of the 96th Clause of the Company's Articles of Association, in order to prohibit the loan, advance, or investment of any part of the Company's funds, upon or in the Shares of the Company, and to alter the Articles of Association for the purpose of empowering the Directors, with the sanction of general meetings, to declare interim dividends from time to time.

In conclusion, the Directors would remind the Shareholders that they may, by their individual exertions, materially extend the operations of the Company, and trust that no opportunity for doing so will be lost by them.

The following is now the complete list of the Company's agents abroad:—

CALCUTTA	GRANT, SMITH, & Co.
BOMBAY	RITCHIE, STEUART, & Co.
MADRAS	BAINBRIDGE, BYARD, GAIR, & Co.
SINGAPORE	CUMMING, BEAVER, & Co.
HONG KONG	JOHNSON & Co.
SHANGHAI	JOHNSON & Co.
YOKOHAMA	DE CONINGH & Co.

By order,
JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

ALBERT INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

Balance-Sheet, 31st December, 1864.

Dr.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
To Capital, 10,000 Shares of £50 each, £500,000.		
Subscribed 6,976 Shares	£348,800	
Deduct not called up	313,920	
Call of £5 per Share on 6,976 Shares	£34,880	34,880 0 0
To Income and Expenditure Account, as per statement annexed ...		53,747 16 10
To Sundry Creditors		1,741 8 7
		£90,369 5 5

Cr.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
By Investments		5,220 0 0
By Cash at Bankers' on Deposit and Drawing Accounts		18,322 11 2
By Debtors (including £8,090 arrears on Shares, nearly all of which has been paid since 31st December)		15,577 7 2
By Agents' Balances and Current Premium and Interest		17,781 12 2
By Finch-lane Premises, Lease, and Furniture		13,000 0 0
By Oriental and General Marine Insurance Company, Acquirement of Business (including extra losses on Risks transferred, &c.). Balance of Account	£19,941 17 7	
Preliminary Expenses	6,095 5 0	
	£26,037 2 7	
Less written off as per Income and Expenditure Account	5,971 19 8	20,065 2 11
By Cash and Stamps in hand		402 13 0
		£90,369 5 5

Income and Expenditure Account, from 1st May, 1864, to 31st December, 1864.

Dr.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
To Nett Premiums—Marine	90,552 16 4	
Fire...	4,014 2 6	
		94,566 18 10
To Interest		739 19 6
To Duty		769 9 4
		£96,076 7 8

Cr.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
By Losses, Averages, Returns, and Re-insurances—		
Marine ...	22,664 8 1	
Fire ...	2,902 2 2	
		25,566 10 3
By Salaries ... ... Marine ...	3,552 5 3	
Fire ...	662 12 7	
		4,214 17 10
By Directors' Fees		1,500 0 0
By Law Charges		124 9 8
By Office Expenses, Advertising, Printing, Stationery, Travelling Expenses, Agents' Allowances, Postages, Parcels, and all Expenses of Establishing Agencies ... ... Marine.	2,860 9 0	
Fire ...	1,304 6 9	
General.	16 8 4	
		4,181 4 1
By Duty		769 9 4
By Balance	59,719 16 6	59,719 16 6
Less amount written off cost of purchase of Oriental business and preliminary expenses, being 10 per cent. of above balance	5,971 19 8	
	£53,747 16 10	
		£96,076 7 8

We have examined the above Statements with the Company's books, vouchers, and securities, and have found the same correct,

London, 13th April, 1865.

JOHNSTONE, COOPER, WINTLE, AND EVANS,
EDWIN H. GALSWORTHY,
} Auditors.

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ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL, £2,000,000.

Paid-up Capital, £500,000.

HEAD OFFICE, No. 4 LOMBARD-STREET.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Francis Boykett, Esq., Chairman (Messrs. Timothy Wiggin and Co.).

John A. Russell, Esq., Deputy-Chairman (Messrs. Grey and Coles, and Grey and Co., Bombay).

Thomas Cardwell, Esq. (Messrs. Thomas Cardwell and Co., and Cardwell, Parsons, and Co., Bombay).

Charles A. Fearon, Esq. (Messrs. Fearon and Co., late of Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co., China).

William Maitland, Esq. (Messrs. M'Killop, Stewart, and Co.), Calcutta).

COMMITTEE IN BOMBAY.

The Hon. Michael H. Scott (Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, and Co.).

Robert Hannay, Esq. (Messrs. Grey and Co.).

Cowasjee Jehanghier, Esq.

GENERAL MANAGER.

Anthony Morrison, Esq. (late Agent at Bombay).

ACTING-MANAGER—F. W. Lawrence, Esq.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England; The London Joint-Stock Bank.

AGENTS IN IRELAND.

The National Bank.

AGENTS IN SCOTLAND.

The British Linen Company.

BROKERS.

Messrs. Foster and Braithwaite.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Freshfields and Newman.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. Coleman, Turquand, Youngs, and Co.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

The Corporation grant Drafts and negotiate Bills of Exchange, payable at the above places, issue Letters of Credit, and conduct every description of Banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian Securities, the receipt of Dividends, &c., and undertake the safe custody of Securities. They also receive Deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of Interest and Exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England.

The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)

Branches and Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo, Kandy, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Point de Galle, Manila, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow, Nagasaki, and Kiu-kiang.

Deposits received at ten days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed period, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued and Bills negotiated payable in India China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government loan notes effected so that the interest may be paid in England. Every other description of Banking and Agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms. J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

DOCKS.

PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caissoon Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1864.

THE AGRA and MASTERMAN'S BANK

(Limited).

(Established in 1833.)

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up Capital, £1,500,000 (one million and a-half sterling).

Subscribed Capital, £3,000,000 (three millions sterling).

In 20,000 Shares of £100 each, and 20,000 Shares of £50 each.

Number of Shareholders, 908.

Reserved Fund, £500,000.

HEAD OFFICE.

Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

GEORGE GORDON MACPHERSON, Esq., Chairman.

Alderman THOMAS QUESTED FINNIS, Deputy-Chairman.

GENERAL MANAGER.
Mackintosh Balfour, Esq.

LONDON MANAGER.
William Shipman, Esq.

ASSISTANT MANAGER.
T. F. Robinson, Esq.

INSPECTOR OF BRANCHES.
Richard Barnes, Esq.

AUDITORS.
J. H. Williams, Esq., and William Farr, Esq., F.R.S.

SOLICITORS.
Messrs. Uptons, Johnson, and Upton, 20, Austinfriars.

EDINBURGH BRANCH.
17, St. Andrew-square.

DIRECTORS.

THOMAS RANKIN, Esq., 68, Queen-street, Chairman.
Daniel Ainslie, Esq., 48, Moray-place.
Benjamin Burt, Esq., M.D., 31, Charlotte-square.
George Moir, Esq., Advocate, Sheriff of Stirlingshire, 14, Charlotte-square.

MANAGER.
Robert Hunter, Esq

Branches in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Sydney, Melbourne.

Current accounts of firms and individuals are kept at the head office, on the terms customary with London bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received at seven days' notice of withdrawal, at rates fluctuating with those of the Bank of England; and for longer periods at fixed rates, particulars of which may be obtained upon application.

Sales and purchases effected in British and foreign securities, in East India stock and loans, and army, navy, and civil pay and pensions realised.

Every other description of banking business and money agency, at home and abroad, transacted.

Letters of credit and circular notes issued, payable at the chief cities of Europe and Asia, and also at Cairo and Alexandria.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up capital, £750,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

Bombay. Colombo. Penang. Hong Kong. Yokohama
Calcutta. Kandy. Singapore. Shanghai. Mauritius
Madras. Galle. Hankow.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at the places above mentioned, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the Overland Route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

No. 53, Threadneedle-street, London, E.C.

THE UNDERSIGNED LICENSED PILOTS

FOR THE

PORT OF SHANGHAI, CHINA,

BEG to inform SHIPMASTERS that their Schooners DANIEL WEBSTER and A. J. WESTEWELT will be found at the OUTSIDE PILOT STATION on the YANG-TZE-KEANG, with thoroughly qualified PILOTS on board. The schooners distinguishable by being painted white, and having the word Pilot on the mainsail.

To regular traders the undersigned are known to be among the oldest and best Pilots on the River:—

DANIEL MARTIN. JOSEPH SHERMAN.
ALEXANDER SMITH. JOSEPH CARGILL.
JOHN COATES. JOHN KURSH.
EDWARD BRAND.

WHITWORTH RIFLES.

THE MANCHESTER ORDNANCE AND RIFLE COMPANY beg to give notice that WHITWORTH ORDNANCE RIFLES and AMMUNITION are manufactured by Mr. Whitworth's Patent Machinery only at their works in Snckville-street, Manchester.

Application may be made either at the above works, or at the Company's Office, 28, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

The Rifles and Ammunition may be also obtained through the agency of any respectable Gunmaker.

N.B.—In the International Match at Wimbledon in 1864 all the competitors used the Whitworth Rifles

---

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, AND JAPAN (Limited), 1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the THIRD ORDINARY MEETING of the Company will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, Bishopsgate-street, in the City of London, on Monday, the 15th day of May next, at One o'clock P.M. precisely, when the Report of the Directors will be presented, and Directors and Auditors elected.

The retiring Directors, viz., James Nugent Daniell, Esq., Deane J. Hoare, Esq., and Henry Young, Esq., being eligible, will offer themselves for re-election; and the retiring Auditors, viz., James Goodson, Esq., and Frederick William Spooner, Esq., also being eligible, will offer themselves for re-election.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be Closed from Monday, the 1st day of May, until Monday, the 15th day of May, both days inclusive.—Dated this 28th April, 1865.

By order of the Board,

R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON, AND CHINA.

The SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS of the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China, will be held within the BANKING HOUSE, No. 52, Threadneedle-street, City, at One o'clock precisely, on TUESDAY, 16th proximo, in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Settlement.

By order of the Directors,

D. T. ROBERTSON, Chief Manager.

London, 27th April, 1865.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

JOSEPH GILLOTT,

Metallic Pen Maker to the Queen,

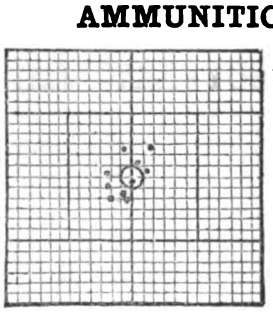
BEGS to inform the Commercial World Scholastic Institutions, and the Public generally that, by a novel application of his unrivalled Machinery for making Steel Pens, he has introduced a NEW SERIES of his useful productions, which, for EXCELLENCE OF TEMPER, QUALITY OF MATERIAL, and above all, CHEAPNESS IN PRICE, must ensure universal approbation, and defy competition.

Each Pen bears the impress of his name as a guarantee of quality; they are put up in boxes containing one gross each, with label outside, and the fac-simile of his signature.

At the request of numerous persons engaged in tuition J. G. has introduced his WARRANTED SCHOOL and PUBLIC PENS, which are especially adapted to their use, being of different degrees of flexibility, and with fine medium, and broad points, suitable for the various kinds of Writing taught in Schools.

Sold Retail by all Stationers and Booksellers. Merchants and Wholesale Dealers can be supplied at the Works, Graham-street, Birmingham; at 91, John-street, New York; and 37, Gracechurch-street, London.

AMMUNITION.



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12 FEET SQUARE

Represents average shooting at 500 yards with

ELEY'S BEST ENFIELD CARTRIDGES

ELEY'S AMMUNITION

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION FOR

SPORTING OR MILITARY PURPOSES.

Double Waterproof Central Fire Caps. Felt Waddings, to prevent the leading of Guns, Wire Cartridges, for Killing Game, &c., at long distances, Breech-Loading Cartridge Cases of superior quality, for Shot Guns and Rifles.

Jacob's Rifle Shell Tubes, Cartridges and Caps for Colt's, Adams', Deane's, Tranter's, and other Revolvers.

BALL CARTRIDGES

For Enfield, Whitworth, and Henry Rifles; also for Westley Richards', Terry's, Wilson's, Prince's, Deane's, and other Breech Loaders.

"Black Buck Shells," for 10, 12, and 16 Bore Breech Loaders.

The "Metford" Shel Bullet, for Enfield and Whitworth Bore Rifles.

Bullets of uniform eight made by compression from Soft Refined Lead.

ELEY BROTHERS, GRAY'S-INN-ROAD, LONDON, WC. or of Messrs. SMITH, ELDER, and CO., and their Agents.

Wholesale Only.

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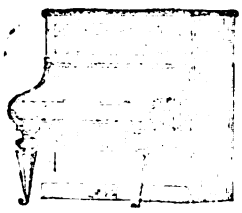
TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND INDIA.



JACKSON & PAINE

(FOURTEEN YEARS WITH COLLARD AND COLLARD)

PATENT PIANOFORTE MAKERS,

PIANOFORTES, WITH ALL THE LATEST IMPROVEMENTS EXPRESSLY FOR EXPORTATION.

13, STORE-STREET, TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD, W,

FACTORY, LITTLE STORE-STREET.

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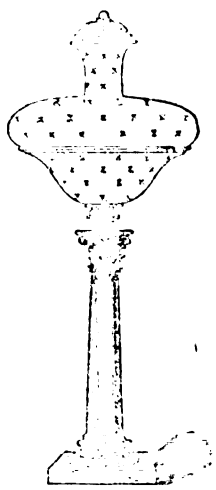
MPORTANT TO RESIDENTS, MILITARY MESSES, &c., IN INDIA, CHINA, &c.

TUCKER AND SON'S

IMPROVED

ENAMELLED PUNKAH TABLE LAMPS.



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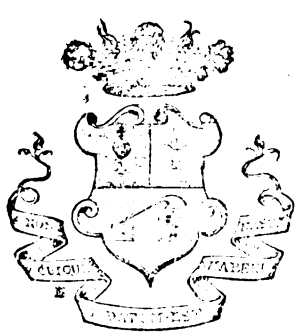

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Manila, ...	Manila ...	W.I.D.	With des.

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Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

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THE SEVENTH Volume of this JOURNAL commenced on the 3rd of January, 1865. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 173.] LONDON, MONDAY, MAY 15, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Jan. 10	March 7	March 18
Nagasaki			
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai			„ 26
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong			April 1
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila			
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			„ 1
SIAM— Bangkok			„ 3
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 8
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore			„ 8
Penang			

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, to Marseilles, per P. and O. Company's steamer Pera, arrived May 12.—From Yokohama: Commander Harrington, R.N. From Shanghai: Messrs Watson and Wright. From Hong Kong: Messrs. Lamond, Orne, Ogea, Willaume, and Ellessen, Mr. and Mrs. Smale, Miss Smale. From Penang: One 2nd class passenger.

The Duke of Brabant arrived at Brussels on the 6th inst.

To Southampton, per Poonah, expected to arrive May 19.—Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Fletcher, Mrs. Gibson, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Muirhead, Mr. and Mrs. Warden, Capt. Boxer, Capt. Moresby, R.N., Messrs. J. C. Power, Fenn, Ballantine, J. Histon.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Syria, from Southampton, May 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. Jas. Crossley. To Hong Kong: Messrs. Turner and George. To Ceylon: Miss Green, Miss Church, Mr. F. M. Mackwood, Mr. F. Comyn, Mr. J. S. Allen.

From Marseilles, May 28.—To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin, Mr. John Fraser. To Singapore: Mr. Erdmann. From Suez.—To Shanghai: Sir E. Hornby.

Per P. and O. steamer from Southampton, June 4.—To Hong Kong: Rev. E. G. Coar, Mr. G. M. Smith.

From Marseilles, June 12.—To Ceylon: Dr. and Mrs. Charsley. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. C. Arnemann.

Per P. and O. steamer from Marseilles, June 28.—To Singapore: Mr. John Ross.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Dates hence are to the 18th March. The London mail of the 10th January arrived out on the 7th March.

The reported intention of the Japanese Government to open the port of Hiogo had received an official denial in a correspondence between the United States Minister and the Gorogio, which had been communicated by that Minister to his Consul in the following terms :—

THE U.S.A. MINISTER TO THE U.S.A. CONSUL.

"Sir,—Rumours of the intention of the Japanese Government to open Hiogo in advance of the time fixed by treaty having obtained currency and even credit, in consequence of the appointment of custom officials to that port who are now connected with the Custom-houses at the open ports, I addressed a letter to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs in reference thereto. While saying that I discredited those rumours because well assured that so important a measure would not be taken unless the Ministers of the Treaty Powers were consulted on the subject, or at least at an early day apprised of such intention, I pointed out that uncertainty always proved injurious to trade, and that I therefore felt it to be my duty to ask what purpose they had in view in making such appointments, so that I might have it in my power to remove uneasiness. I now enclose a copy of the reply of the Ministers. You will please cause this letter, and also the letter of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, to be published for the information of the citizens of the United States.

THE JAPANESE FOREIGN SECRETARIES TO THE U.S.A. MINISTER.

"We received and understood your letter No. 16 of the 16th February, informing us that you heard a report that our Government has the intention shortly to open the Port of Hiogo. As the said port is in the vicinity of Kioto, the key (throat) as it were to the Western Provinces, it cannot be left uncared for at present, in view of the various internal difficulties existing, wherefore a governor has been appointed to maintain order at that place. When the time fixed for the opening of that port shall arrive, according to the stipulation of the treaty regarding it, the Ministers of the Treaty Powers will, as a matter of course, be consulted; it is, therefore, desirable that you will now cause uncertainty on this subject to be removed. Which we have to state with respect and esteem.

"(Signed MIDAMO IDSUMI NO KAMI.
SUWA JUBA NO KAMI."

A report which had arisen that the French Legation was endeavouring to obtain a concession of the monopoly of the silk trade has been emphatically denied by the Consul-general in the following terms :—"The report is entirely devoid of foundation. So far from any step having ever been made, either directly or indirectly, tending to obtain such a monopoly, the French Legation would consider this or any other particular concession in favour of any nation whatsoever, as a radical infringement of the treaties."

The *Japan Herald* hopes that the Yokohama community will at last be enabled to effect some sort of organisation for the government of their municipal affairs. A public meeting of the land-renters was held on the 7th March, in the court-room of the British Consulate, when Mr Kingdon, as chairman of the former meetings, and convener of the present, was called to the chair, when a scheme put forward by Mr. Piquet was adopted with sundry amendments, till the definitive wording of it was as follows :—

1. That the general municipal committee of Yokohama be composed for a term of one year of eleven English, five Americans, four French, two Dutch, two Prussians, one Portuguese, one Swiss total twenty-six; and that a majority of members form a quorum for business.
2. That the council be authorised to form a code of rules and regulations for the government of the settlement.
3. That the council be empowered to appoint an executive committee of not less than three of their number to superintend the execution of the municipal ordinances.
4. That municipal regulations shall be voted for by a majority of the general municipal committee.
5. That the municipal council shall publish a quarterly account of the expenditure of the municipal funds.
6. That Mr. Piquet and Mr. Schoyer be deputed to inform the Consuls of the proceedings at this meeting, and to request the Consuls to proceed to elect the members of the council from their respective nationalities.

Mr. W. Curtis gives notice, under date of March 1, that he has admitted Mr. Gustave Glackmeyer a partner in his business as proprietor of the Commercial Hotel.

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CHINA.

PEKING.

The Mongol Prince Seng-kolin-sin is still fighting in Honan province. He recently reported a victory over long-haired rebels in that province. He is one of those princes who are nearly allied to the Imperial family. When a boy he fancied the monastic life, and spent two years habited as a Lama in a large monastery in Peking. The death of his father, who bore the title of Prince before him, recalled him to his family and to political life, and, on the outbreak of the rebellion in 1852, he was sent into the field against the Taipings. He has continued ever since at the head of an army, which is chiefly supported from the feudal complements of men and contributions of silver of Mongol tribes.

The Taipings being now nearly exterminated, the Government is erecting temples to the manes of soldiers and generals killed in battle in various cities and provinces. Upwards of thirty thousand Mantchus perished at Nanking. To die at the taking of a city, to throw one's self into a well on the approach of the enemy, to continue at one's post till cut down by a ruthless soldiery, are virtuous deeds which the Emperor rejoices to reward with an ancestral fane, an image, and sacrificial offerings.

The following despatch has been published in the China papers, addressed to the Consul at Tien-t-in :—

PEKING, March 2, 1865.

SIR,—In despatch dated January 7th, 1864, Sir F. Bruce instructed Mr. Gibson to issue no passports without previously submitting the names of the applicants to Peking, with exception of such as might be applied for by officers in civil, military, or naval services of Her Majesty, and the partners in large mercantile firms.

I do not find that in any subsequent despatch Sir Frederick Bruce rescinded the instructions above quoted, and I have to direct you to observe that they are still in force.

It came to my knowledge a few days ago, that, about the middle of last month, two foreigners, being British subjects, had, according to the statement of the Lama in charge, forced their way into certain premises, into which he had refused them admittance, breaking or removing the padlock by which the door of the entrance was secured. The identity of the parties having been established by the Chinese who acted as their guide, and who corroborated the statement that there had been some collision between them and the people of the temple in question, the Lama in charge was further interrogated; and then affirmed, not only that the acts of violence above charged had been committed, but that he himself had been twice struck on the back of the head with a whip.

The parties had left Peking on the morning of the day on which the above evidence was obtained, but I recalled them by summons to make answer to the charge of trespass with violence, and they yesterday appeared before me. The two witnesses, however, so completely modified their original statements regarding the trespass that it was impossible, by their evidence as taken before me, to convict the accused of having entered premises in a manner deserving of punishment, and, as regards the assault, although the Lama did still affirm that one of the two foreigners had threatened him with his whip, he professed himself unable to say which of the two. They were consequently discharged, but with an admonition regarding acts of violence or intimidation.

The fact that the testimony on which I issued the summons was not given against the accused with any willingness, either by their guide, who was the servant of their hosts, or by the Lama, who, as the receiver of fees for admittance into premises closed to the public, was alarmed lest he should be compromised with his own authorities, forbids my believing that the first story told by these witnesses was utterly without foundation; and I think it desirable that the junior members of the British community should be reminded that the inmates of any building in China, even though they should have been in the habit of admitting strangers as visitors, have a perfect right to discontinue the practice whenever it may seem to them good.

There are several places in this capital, as in all others, that are not open to the public, but the keepers of which, as is the usage elsewhere, have been ready enough to show them to visitors for a fee. That they arbitrarily raise their tariff from time to time, or that they show themselves on occasions as little disposed to oblige as other people who believe the game to be in their own hands, I have no doubt. But the precedents supplied by their departure from their orders in particular instances, no matter how numerous these may have been, are of no authority. We cannot demand admittance into this temple or that enclosure because some one else has been, even recently, admitted, and that we are still less justified in attempts to extort a concession of the kind such as, were the sides changed, we should indignantly resent as violations of law and treaty, it is scarcely necessary to demonstrate.

I wish attention to be drawn to this question of right of way or visit, more especially in Peking, because, in the first place, there is no act that can be made matter of complaint that has not, here, a greater political significance than elsewhere, and, secondly, I had received but a short time before the occurrence to which I have referred at the beginning of this despatch, a formal complaint from the Chinese Government that the guardians of places not open to the public were frequently overborne by foreigners whom, in conformity with their instructions, they endeavoured to exclude. I requested in my reply, that any British subject committing such an irregularity as that described should be at once taken into custody and forwarded to this Legation.

You will be so good as to have a copy of the rule laid down by Sir Frederick Bruce hung up in the office of the British Consulate, and you will take steps to ensure publicity to the contents of this despatch.

(Signed) THOMAS FRANCIS WADE.

TIEN-TSIN.

From Tien-tsin we learn that several steamers had arrived in the Peiho, namely, the *Ying-tsze-tei*, *Promise*, *Yeddo*, *Gerard*, *Sir Harry Parkes*, *Glengyle*, *Nanzing*, and a few sailing vessels. Mongol hordes continue to ravage the country in the neighbourhood of Jehol. Trade is reported dull, the markets being even more depressed than usual.

SHANGHAI.

The following is from the *Recorder* :—

The great study of the Chinese sages and rulers, from time immemorial, has been how their country might be tranquillised. This is the great end of their most highly-revered classics; and for this consummation their best minds have laboured for more than two thousand years. It is not, then, to be wondered at that their magistrates should give earnest heed to carrying out those principles which were no small part of their earliest education, and the study of their more mature years—a failure in which must be considered by their men of reflection as the failure of a lifetime. Taking this view of the case, we may easily perceive why the magistracy of the empire is so particularly watchful over the incipient stages of popular disorder; observing, as they necessarily do, the germs which, when developed, must lead to the destruction of the visionary fabric of political perfection which they have reared for themselves. We have been led to these remarks from the perusal of a communication recently addressed by the Shanghai District Magistrate Wang to the foreign Consuls of Shanghai, representing to them that there is an objectionable element in our settlement here, which needs to be looked after lest it sap the foundations of time-honoured propriety, and introduce anarchical confusion, if not into society in general—which may, perhaps, be considered as too elevated to be affected by its pernicious influence, yet into the ranks of common life, and, rendering unsafe the tenure of magisterial authority, bring about a repetition of scenes which many of us have unfortunately witnessed even at Shanghai, without proceeding to Suchan or to Nanking. The element to which we allude has among us been denominated "the rowdy element." It consists partly of persons unwilling to submit either to moral or political restraint; and it has received many accessions undoubtedly from persons who unfortunately have been drawn hither under the erroneous impression that temporal prosperity must inevitably attend them. Persons of this class are certainly deserving commiseration from every one in whose bosom compassion dwells; while they should be as beacons to deter others from entering a land where their prospect of obtaining even a livelihood is of the most precarious character. But the class of foreigners to which the district magistrate calls attention is a class both of black men and white, who become the leaders of the bolder among the ninth class of Chinese, furnishing to them physical power and courage, in which they are lacking. The reason stated by the district magistrate for calling on the Consular authorities to assist him in suppressing this class, is that during the last four months no less than nine robberies have taken place in the vicinity of Shanghai, in which foreigners and Chinese have been concerned. He specifies to the effect that :—

1. On the 5th day of the 10th moon (3rd Nov., 1864), foreigners and Chinese in concert committed a robbery at the house of a Chinese named Cheu-shui, living outside the great East gate. His wife was wounded by them, and one of the foreigners was arrested and sent to the French Consulate.

2. On the 8th of November, three foreigners and several Ningpo men committed a robbery in the grocery of Chau-meu-yune, near the joss house. On this occasion clothes and money were stolen.

3. On the 20th of December, six foreigners, with several Chinese, broke the doors of Shun-tsing-ching's money changing shop, and stole clothing, dollars, and silver. This party was armed.

4. On the 20th December, five or six foreigners, with Chinese, stole gold and silver ornaments from Shun-wun-kyang's, at Pootung, near the old ferry.

5. January 21st, 1865, at night, several black and white foreigners led Chinese who committed a robbery, stole cash, dollars, and clothing from Chang-hoh-kee's distillery, north of Hongque.

6. February 11th, at Pootung, four foreigners and some forty Chinese stole silver, dollars, and clothing from Hoo-hyi-fu.

7. February 12th, three foreigners and two Chinese robbed a small mandarin's boat, on the way to Sungkyang.

8. February 19th, at night, outside little East gate, some Cantonese in foreign clothing, with foreigners, committed a robbery.

9. February 24th, two foreigners and two Ningpo men, in a small boat, robbed an oil-boat.

A formidable list, our readers will say, and no marvel that the district magistrate should write to the foreign Consuls, stating—"That Shanghai, being an open commercial port near the sea, becomes a gathering-place for people of all sorts, collected from the four cardinal points, and good and bad

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are intermingled. Chinese and foreign vagabonds consorting together, are constantly committing thefts and robberies; and inasmuch as foreign vagabonds neither esteem nor fear the Chinese magistrates; and Chinese vagabonds, relying on the example and daring of foreigners, are bold to disobey the laws; therefore the district magistrate now selects nine cases in which foreigners and Chinese were together concerned in thefts and robberies. Seeing how detrimental this state of things must be to the well-being of the Settlement, the Consuls are requested to take some measures for convincing these people of their errors, and by making a few examples induce a general reformation."

The Consuls of the treaty Powers will, we feel assured, perform their part; and our object in presenting the matter to our readers is mainly for the purpose of calling their attention to the manner in which the Chinese reason; and to show, that notwithstanding the native magistrates when they go abroad have a numerous retinue and much that is meretricious, yet, when at their yamuns, they have such an amount of practical business to perform as might well terrify any man who loves a life of ease or dissipation.

We have heard that recently it became the duty of one of our resident Consuls to represent to the Tautai that the unbecoming occupants of some houses in certain neighbourhoods had made it necessary to require either that they should keep within doors, so as not to be offensive to respectable people who were under the necessity of passing by their dwellings, or to remove from the vicinity. The Tautai, in reply said:—

"The Tautai finds that the hearts of people are very easily led astray by the seductive influences of lewd women from a distance and by the fascinations of native women of loose character; the unwise are thus led away by the current, and, drowned in forgetfulness, return not to their homes. The lighter evil proceeding from this is, that their means are squandered in dissipation; the heavier is, that they abandon their families and throw away their lives. At their habitations vagabonds collect together, and they draw a revenue from the gambler's winnings. Murders and robberies proceed not unfrequently from these sources; and if we do not suppress them, how can we expect peace and security? In addition to issuing a proclamation, the Tautai will call upon the district magistrate and the Defence Committee to consult together, and act in suppressing them."

The *Friend of China* publishes the following items:—Col. Kirkham was engaged recently by the Footai, we hear, at a salary of six hundred taels per month, to take the adjutant-generalship of some eight thousand Chinese soldiers, under the military command of Kwo Sun-ling, the worthy with whom Rohde acted in a command altogether distinct from Gordon's. One of the conditions attendant on the gallant Kirkham's engagement, however, ran that he should obtain the consent of the British Consul, not only to his own re-enlistment in the Imperial service, but to that, also, of a few other foreigners; and as that consent the Consul would not give, Colonel Kirkham's services cannot be availed of unless he charters the *Garland*, shortly expected, and so transports himself and his friends to the scene where bullets are said to be as plentiful as leaves in summer. Meantime the troops await transport, and it affords us some satisfaction to learn that the following British vessels have been engaged at four dollars per head to carry the men away; the great fear while the rabble (and we do not expect they are much better) are so near to our foreign quarter being that they might be induced, in the absence of those proper rations which the official paper tells us the Imperialists do not give, to make a dash at mercantile treasuries some fine night, and give those residents who are not asleep an untold amount of trouble and anxiety. Ten days are allowed to load and discharge the vessels mentioned, viz., the *Shooey-leen*, *Dumbarton Annette*, *Viola*, *Chanticleer* and the ship *Polmaise*.

Among our list of shipping arrivals will be noticed the name of the *Gingat Simaro*, Japanese steamer, from Nagasaki. This is the vessel erstwhile known as the British clipper *Lancefield*, and at one time reported destroyed in the Straits of Simonski. How she came here is a story in itself, and this is the way it has been told to us. She was out of sight of the Japanese coast, and did not know which way to reach it—whither bound, full of men, we are not advised. The American steamer *Monitor* caught sight of her in this predicament, and, under the kind care of the master of that vessel, she came to China, whence she will not depart till certain claims for salvage are duly liquidated.

The following items are from the *North China Herald*:—

During the past week the weather has been fine, and the temperature has risen considerably, giving indications of the speedy approach of summer. There has been no lack of amusement in the foreign settlements at Shanghai since our last issue, in consequence of the appearance upon the Lyceum boards of the Volunteer Amateurs and Lewis' Dramatic Company. The former opened the season on the 21st inst., on which occasion the pieces "Time Tries All," and "To Paris and Back for £5," were put on the stage. It is needless for us to descant here upon the merits and talents of the company; suffice it to say that their efforts were rewarded by the unbounded satisfaction expressed by the audience. On the 23rd inst. our old friends the Australian Dramatic Company made their first appearance this season. The performance commenced with the three-act comedy "The Serious Family," which was followed by Planche's extravaganza, "The Invisible Prince." Both pieces were well rendered, and the company acted throughout without with their usual skill and self-possession.

From Ningpo we learn that the rebellion in Fuh-kien has caused a considerable decrease in the number of rowdies at and about that port. They have no doubt gone southward to swell the ranks of the Tsze-wang. The Chinese are apprehensive of the rebels proceeding northward, and place very little reliance on the forces of the mandarins.

The tenth regular meeting of the North China branch of the Royal Asiatic Society was held in the Shanghai Library on Friday, the 10th of March. Sir Harry S. Parkes, president, in the chair. Present: Sir H. S. Parkes, president; G. F. Seward, Esq., and Dr. Henderson, vice-presidents; Rev. C. H. Butcher, Drs. Johnston, Lamprey, Robson, Collins, and Meyer; Messrs. Lynill, Alabaster, Noetzli, Kingsmill, Forbes, Canny, Hanbury, Dunn, R. A. Jamieson, Probst, Whitfield, R. C. Brown, Turner, P. Maclean, J. M. L. Brown, &c.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed. The acceptance of the office of Treasurer by Mr. Lynill in lieu of Mr. Carnie, resigned, was announced.

The several members proposed at the last meeting were duly elected.

The following gentlemen were proposed for election as members of the society:—

Proposed by Sir H. S. Parkes, seconded by Rev. C. H. Butcher: Dr. Meyer.

Proposed by Sir. H. S. Parkes, seconded by Dr. Henderson: Capt. Blakiston, A. Howell, Esq.

Proposed by G. F. Seward, Esq., seconded by Sir H. S. Parkes: George Basil Dixwell, Esq., G. H. C. Salter, Esq.

Proposed by F. B Forbes, Esq., seconded by G. F. Seward, Esq.: Francis P. Knight, Esq.

Proposed by T. W. Kingsmill, Esq., seconded by R. C. Brown, Esq.: Captain Castilla.

A paper on the "Remains of Ancient Cambodia," by Dr Bastian, was read by the President. The author described the early history of Cambodia, which in ancient times was the seat of an advanced civilisation. He also gave an interesting account of the Ruins of Nakor-wat, illustrated by tracings of drawings made on the spot.

The President having made some remarks on the paper, Mr. Kingsmill, in proposing a warm vote of thanks to Dr. Bastian, drew attention to the ethnological interest of the country and to its mineral resources and remarkable deposits of gold.

Mr. Dunn suggested that some member of the society should furnish a paper on these topics.

Dr. Henderson seconded the motion of Mr. Kingsmill, which was carried unanimously.

"Notes on China Grass as a partial Substitute for Cotton," by R. Jarvie, Esq., was then read, illustrated by specimens furnished by that gentleman. A discussion then arose in which Messrs. Dunn, Hanbury and others took part. At the suggestion of the President, Mr. Dunn promised to present the society with specimens of the different varieties of grass grown in China. After a vote of thanks to Mr. Jarvie the meeting separated.

HANKOW.

The following is a brief account of the Spring Race Meeting at that port, which took place on 17th and 18th March:—

FIRST DAY.
March 17th, 1865.

1. Trial Stakes,	won by..	..	Red Deer.
2. Kiukiang Cup	„ ..	..	Meteor.
3. Ladies' Purse	„ ..	..	Caution.
4. Hankow Plate	„ ..	..	Widdie.
5. Compradores' Gift	„ ..	..	Pat.

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6. Hankow Derby	„	.. ..	Oxygen, late Inheritor.
7. Farewell Cup	„	.. ..	Caution.
8. Chaasze Cup	„	.. ..	Forlorn Hope.

SECOND DAY.

March 18th.

1. Hopeful Plate	won by	.. ..	Caution.
2. Visitors' Plate	„	.. ..	Cheviot.
3. Challenge Cup	„	.. ..	Meteor.
4. Hap-hazard Stakes	„	.. ..	Burnt Out.
5. Kathay Vase	„	.. ..	Forlorn Hope.
6. Try-again Stakes	„	.. ..	Cut Off.
7. Great Wall Scurry	„	.. ..	Meteor.
8. Mantchoo Race (China Scramble)			Safety Valve.

AMOY.

The rebels in Fohkien (says the *Recorder*), it may be inferred, have by no means fully relinquished their ideas of conquest. They seem to know the times and seasons when they may best execute their projects in regard to any given locality. They do not undertake a northern invasion in winter, nor care for an advance into southern territory in summer. The instruction received by the Kan-wang from his teachers in foreign affairs has been disseminated freely among the rebel leaders, and they now are well aware of the value of seaports. Should they succeed in acquiring a port in the south of Fohkien, and one in the north of Kwangtung, they will then be in a position, not only to dispute "the Empire of the sea" with the present Government of China, but to destroy the native coasting trade in junks, which now extends from the Straits of Malacca on the south to the Russian possessions on the north. The people of Fohkien have always manifested more inclination towards a seafaring life than those of any other province. They have more of that hardihood necessary to successful navigation according to their crude method than other Chinese, and they will readily be acknowledged to be the least scrupulous as to how acquisitions are made. Can it be, therefore, that the eyes of the rebel chiefs are not already on the beautiful Island of Formosa? If not, why seek for a seaport in such close proximity to Taiwan? Well do they know the value of the commerce of that island; and the possession of seaports in Fohkien will give them, ere long, the control of that commerce. Crude material for the manufacture of ammunition will no longer be scantily supplied, and then, perhaps, will the present Government of China find the rebels accomplishing what the French writers feared the English contemplated many years ago, that is, obtaining possession of Formosa, and thereby getting the control of the coasting trade of China, which would undoubtedly be at the mercy of any powerful organisation having their head-quarters in that locality. At no very remote period regarded by the Chinese Government as nothing more than a waste domain of the Empire, it acquired importance so soon as the Dutch settled upon it, and its present supplies of coal, salt, sulphur, rice, fruits and vegetables of all kinds, with its sugar and tea, would at once make a prize too great to be overlooked. Situated from the province of Fohkien at only a day's sail for a junk, the rebels would then become so powerful as to defy the Chinese Government, and therefore we would advise those concerned to look well at once to its defences, and thus prevent an acquisition being made where their maritime strength might prove inadequate to dispossess them.

HONG KONG.

The following items are from the *China Mail* of March 30:—"The past week has been remarkable for unusual changes in temperature, the thermometer during two days showing a difference of over twenty degrees—from 76 to 55, and even 54. Some rain has likewise fallen, with a passing thunderstorm the other day of about half an-hour's duration. The occurrences of the week are neither numerous nor very important; they chiefly concern the doings of the horde of pirates and burglars which infest the colony and adjacent waters. Both departments of their nefarious trade are being carried on with increased vigour and defiant bearing; and an instance of each is recorded in our daily issue vying in all these qualities with their previous efforts. A case of piracy is reported just outside the Ly-ee-moon, in which a whole junk's crew, numbering some eighty men, were murdered by the crews of two piratical craft. Strange to say, the crime was discovered only by mere chance, from the information of a little boy whom the ruffians had saved from the general massacre, and who was accompanying them from Macao to this in the *Feiseen*. Some seven or eight of the scoundrels have been apprehended."

"On Monday last, at three o'clock in the afternoon, in broad daylight, Dr. Kane, one of our most respected residents, was attacked, robbed, and left for dead. The injuries he has received are very serious, but we believe not dangerous. The property of which he was robbed was his watch and chain; and we now learn that Assistant Superintendent Jarman, on entering a Taipingshan lodging-house in search of the property in question, was accidentally pushed from an elevated doorway, and falling into the street received some injuries on the side and shoulder. Add to all this, the fact that a policeman was stabbed the other day while attempting to secure three ruffians, and the state of the colony may in some measure be guessed at."

"At the meeting of the Victoria Library and Reading Room, the impossibility of its continuing to exist under its present constitution was fully demonstrated by the accounts of the year. A committee was appointed to consider and report on the best means of carrying on the institution."

"The Hong Kong Debating Society has been opened with an address from the President, H. E. the Acting Governor, on the pithy text of 'What to say, and how to say it.' The telegrams received *via* the Persian Gulf were only twenty-one days from London, and conveyed very important news from America. One of them ran as follows:—'Wilmington taken—Charleston taken—Beauregard dead—Panic in Liverpool—Cotton down to one shilling.'"

"A shooting match between half-a-dozen of the H.K.V.R. Artillery and a like number of the rifles came off on Tuesday, when the latter made their account straight with the former by proving the victors, as the Artillery did on the last occasion of the kind."

"Among the passengers homewards by this mail steamer is the Hon. Mr. Smale, H.M.'s Attorney-General for Hong Kong. He has discharged the duties of his office during the last four years with great energy and ability, and now goes home on leave of absence. Judge Ball (of the Summary Jurisdiction Court) will act in his absence."

At a meeting of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Company, the reports which had spread, accusing the committee of holding shares to realise at a premium, were satisfactorily disposed of. The following is the report of the directors:—

GENTLEMEN,—In accordance with their notice dated 14th instant, the directors have now to report to you on the state of the company's affairs at the present time.

CAPITAL.—The 20,000 shares of $250 each constituting the subscribed capital of the company, were finally allotted by the provisional committee in December last, with the exception of 2,000 shares sent to Bombay in compliance with very large applications from that quarter; the shares are almost entirely held by residents in China and Japan, and the list of shareholders therefore comprises a very large constituency in the trading interests of these countries.

The first call of $25 per share was due on the 1st of January, and promptly paid. The second call of $100 falls due on the 31st current, and it is not anticipated that any further calls will be necessary for at least two years.

BUSINESS.—The directors have secured the services of efficient officers for carrying on the work of the company.

In the three weeks which have elapsed since the Hong Kong office was opened for the transaction of banking business a large number of current accounts have been intrusted to the bank, representing more considerable balances than the directors anticipated in such an early stage of operations.

The head office in Hong Kong is the only one as yet opened, but the Shanghai branch will be prepared to transact business in a few days, and agencies at the other ports in China, as also in Japan and India, are in course of arrangement.

The directors have been fortunate in obtaining the assistance of two gentlemen of the best mercantile standing in London in negotiating the interests of the bank in that quarter, and the directors expect to hear by next mail that the agency of the Bank has been undertaken by one of the first banking establishments in London.

Bank notes will be issued as soon as they are received from England, the orders having been sent for them four months ago; considering the interest of every proprietor in the circulation of these notes a considerable issue may be reasonably anticipated.

INCORPORATION.—The Provisional Committee took the earliest opportunity of applying to his Excellency the Governor for a charter on behalf of the bank. The application was most favourably received, and in December last his Excellency addressed the Home Government for instructions with a view to framing a special ordinance incorporating the bank. The directors therefore anticipate no unnecessary delay in this measure being carried out. FRANCIS CHOMLEY, Chairman.

SIAM.

The Siamese had, just before the departure of the mail, been celebrating one of their new years—of which they have two, a lunar and a solar. The lunar new year comes first, and commences on the 27th March. The solar new year commences on the 12th of April. Both are alike observed. The gambling laws being suspended for the time, the first thing done by the Siamese is generally to get together, bet, and try their skill

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in games of chance. Feasting and making presents constitute a part of their pastimes, but there is much more of the former than of the latter. On the day of worship there is a more than usual turn-out, and the priests come in for a share of the good things. The New Year's dinner at the Royal Palace consisted of one consul, one assistant to a consul, one student interpreter, the harbour master and inspector of customs. The consular gentlemen had a table by themselves.

Mr. Ruthven, the second mate of the schooner *Fah-Kee*, who was left on shore down the west coast by the captain, in the month of November last, has arrived in Bangkok, by a junk from Lekon, a place this side of Singora. Mr. Ruthven states: —"The same day that my companions left me, I found a native village. I returned, accompanied by some natives, to the place where I had left the boat, but I found she had gone. There was a piece of paper nailed to a tree, informing me that the boat had put to sea to endeavour to procure food. The food and fruit which I had brought with me from the village I lived on for three days, when, despairing of the boat's return, I went back to the village. I subsequently fell ill of fever and ague; and after a period of forty-five days I began to recover. The natives were very kind to me, and eventually got me a passage on a junk bound to Bangkok. There was $8,000 in specie on board the *Fah-Kee*; it was between the cabin and the lazarette, and unless the vessel worked very much, could not fall out."

Advices from Bangplasoi inform us (states the *Siam Times*) that a European of rank, who at one time held an official position at Bangkok, has been there on an excursion. He was accompanied by native women and several boatmen. The native officials at Bangplasoi furnished him with food and paid him every attention. He rewarded their hospitality and courtesy by going forth on raiding expeditions accompanied by his women and boatmen. They shot the fowls of the villagers, took their rice, fish and vegetables, and set fire to two houses. The Bangplasoi authorities, getting weary of this sort of thing, sent the man and his followers to Bangkok. We trust his Consul will make an example of this person. If this be not done and we publish the name, nation and condition of this violater of the laws of courtesy and of the land, so that the natives need not think that such disgraceful proceedings are sanctioned by the foreign community here, it will be only doing our duty. This man has been here too long. He is educated and cannot plead ignorance in extenuation of his outrages.

In consequence of the Government demand for bricks to build pagodas, the price has nearly doubled within a month or so past. Building material of every kind is very dear, and labour expensive.

We recently made a tour up the Menam Chow Phya (observes the *Siam Times*), into the principal grain-bearing districts of the kingdom. It was a delightful change and an interesting excursion, but the cheerful countenances, and many happy gatherings around the village threshing floors, which we have been accustomed to see in the months of February and March, were wanting. Rice fields in low places yielded bountifully, and some rather high fields in particular localities gave half a crop or so. The grain in all places visited was full and very handsome, but taking the average, the crop was only about a quarter one. It was very gratifying to see the rice-farmers in all the villages carefully laying away seed-rice for the coming season. On inquiry it was generally stated that rice crops rarely ever failed more than one season at a time; our own observation during a residence of over twenty years goes to confirm this statement. The want of rain is not only felt in the rice crop but also in the supply of fish. There are few countries where fish is so abundant as in Siam. They multiply and, as the extensive valleys bordering on the river overflow, scatter themselves abroad, feast and fatten among the rice fields. When there is an excess of rain, or the people do not plant their rice in season for it to grow the proper height before the floods, it is sometimes submerged and the fish eat it up. Some years great complaints are made on account of loss sustained by the ravages of the fish. But this loss is more or less made up by the abundance of large fat fish, which the people catch in great quantities at the close of the rains. So few of the rice fields were overflown the past season, that river fish is very scarce and high. In fact, the scarcity of fish was as much or more complained of than rice.

The following is of some interest, looking at the recent extraordinary advance in the price of camphor:—

There seems every reason to believe that camphor may, at no very distant period, form one of the staple products of Siam. It seems pretty clear that the west coast is admirably adapted for the cultivation of the plant affording it. The following from the pen of Mr. E. O'Reiley, of British Burmah, is worthy of note at the present time:—"The most common weed which springs up after the fires of the new clearings in the jungle, is that which produces the camphor. Of its abundance it is scarcely necessary to remark that it is, next to grass, in excess of all other spontaneous vegetable life, and with proper appliances in the manufacture of the salt (its property) might be rendered useful as an article of commerce."

JAVA AND NETHERLANDS INDIA.

BUITENZORG.

The rice fields are looking beautiful. The reaping has commenced everywhere, but through heavy rains millions of walangs (a kind of grasshopper) and other insects have done considerable damage to the reaping crops.

RESIDENCE BANKA.

February, 1865.—Everywhere they are busy with the rice crop, which will be very favourable at every place in the districts of Dgeboes and Soengoeshan. At Dgeboes the paddy fields had suffered not only from the heat but also from the destructive insects, while at Soengoeshan the product from a great number of fields was totally lost on account of the dry weather. The people are busy in repairing the water works of several mines which were damaged by the flood in January.

BILLITON.

On account of the dryness, accompanied with northern winds, the rice culture has suffered so much that the crop will not be sufficient for consumption. During the dry weather they are taking the opportunity of repairing the damages caused by the flood. There are now 70 mines in working order. There was exported 733 piculs and 56 ctys tin from the Biliton Society. By the great demand for rice in the market, the prices have risen to f.13 per picul, and imports are soon expected.

PALEMBANG.

Notwithstanding the continuous rain in the lower and upper regency, the rice plant looks very favourable. The trade of the chief place is stationary. The trade in cotton (kapas) is much pressed, as the holders of this article demand high prices for it. The trial of the cultivation of the oil palm tree near Mocara Enem has favourable prospects; several trees have already dropped their fruits.

LAMPONG.

During the commencement of February, the weather was very dry, in the regencies of Sepocti and Boemi Agong; so much so, that it was feared that the crops would fail; however, in the latter part of this month the rain commenced to fall, which made a favourable and great change. The rice plant now promises everywhere a good crop.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Our dates hence are to the 8th April. The London mail of the 27th February arrived out on the 3rd April.

We have had fine, but very sultry weather lately (reports the *Overland Free Press*), with some few occasional heavy showers. The cholera has in great measure subsided, although it may and does linger about the lower part of the town, where the drains &c., are allowed to pollute the atmosphere. If there had not formerly existed such a mania for cutting down, and burning, and destroying all the lofty trees from the hills, as if people desired to convert the neighbourhood of the town into one vast bleaching ground, the place might have retained its reputation of being favoured by having at least one genial shower of rain within every twenty-four hours, as in early days of the colony. That fact may be found recorded to the credit of the place in General Geographies of years ago. Lofty trees on hilly ground are well-known to attract rain, and retain moisture; in fact, acting as refrigerators to the land. Lofty trees contribute to health in the tropics, although brush-wood and jungle generally do not. Every effort should be made to cultivate and encourage trees of lofty growth on hilly ground, to prevent it from becoming arid, desert, and reflective of heat merely. In founding all colonies within the tropics, particular regulations or enactment, should be made and enforced to secure large and lofty trees throughout the settlements from spoliation or destruction.

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When once these refrigerative friends to colonists have been removed, a whole century would not fully repair the evil, although every effort might be made to that effect.

The transport *Shakespeare* arrived on the 29th March from China with the right wing of the 2nd Beloochees on board, *en route* to Bombay. Some of the men were accompanied by their wives and families, and these, as well as a few of the unmarried men, had young Chinese girls with them. The latter fact led to an amusing incident. It appears a story was spread among the Chinese that the Local Government intended to deprive the Beloochees of the children and dispose of them at the Court House by public auction to the highest bidder. Consequently, on Monday a great number of Chinese visited the above building, with a view to make a few purchases. They were much disappointed on learning that the rumour was false. The Chinese girls, having been some time with them, had quite learnt to love the Beloochees. The greatest reproach to them is to call them Chinese.

We observe by the proceedings of the municipal commissioners, at their meeting on the 3rd inst., that the commissioner of police objects to a reduction of the force, on the grounds that the town is extensive, and the ordinary duties his men have to perform occupy them twelve hours out of the twenty-four. The Governor accepts the report as satisfactory, and so the matters rests for the present. Mr. Dunman, with his report, puts in a memorandum showing an increase to the population of 14,133 Chinese during the past year.

An Englishman named West was committed for trial by the sitting magistrate, on the 5th April, on a charge of having fraudulent possession of a gold watch and chain worth 50 dols., which were stolen from the Neptune Tavern in July last. On the same day a man named Campbell was sent to the House of Correction for six months for fraudulent possession of a silver watch valued at 15 dollars, which was stolen from the steward of H.M.S. *Perseus*, about two months ago. There are at present a number of Europeans at Singapore of disreputable character, and it is supposed that some of the robberies lately perpetrated have been the result of their handywork.

PENANG.

An important decision has been given by the Recorder, Sir Benson Maxwell, in reference to the law of property under a Mahomedan marriage. The *Gazette* observes, "It is, in reality, an act of judicial legislation, and when carried out in its just and logical consequences, must place the institution of the family among the Mahomedans, Chinese, Hindus, and other Asiatic societies which, with the exception of the small sect of Christians, make up our population, upon a stronger and better defined legal basis than it has hitherto occupied." The petition in the case alleged that the plaintiff, being seised and possessed of real and personal property, married the defendant some years ago. The latter was without property; his occupation in life was that of a police peon. He left the police shortly after his marriage, and until about a year ago he lived with his wife, and upon her property. A year ago he got possession of her title deeds, gold ornaments, and money, divorced her, and turned her out of his house. In answer, the defendant alleged that the ornaments had been purchased by him, that the money which he had taken was his own, and had never been his wife's, and he denied the divorce and expulsion. The object of the suit was to recover the property taken, and for this purpose that the defendant might be declared a trustees for the plaintiff.

The Recorder said that he had no doubt upon the facts of the case; and, after examining the conflicting statements of the parties, he held that those of the plaintiff were substantially true, and those of the defendent unworthy of credit; except as to the subject of divorce, as to which, he said, it was unnecessary to express any opinion. He proceeded, then, to observe that the legal question which was raised by the petition was one to which he had often given consideration before this suit. According to the Mahometan law and Mahometan usage, marriage was a contract dissoluble at the will and pleasure of the husband, and dissoluble by himself. He had but to pronounce the word and the marriage was at an end. On the other hand, the Mahometan law threw its protection over the wife, leaving her in full possession of all her property, rights and ability to contract. To call such precarious unions by the same name as our own marriages was, perhaps, to give one name to two different things (see Lord Brougham's judgment in Warrender v. Warrender 2 Cl. and F. 448). But still, that the Mahometan marriage was a good marriage in the eye of our law seemed incontestable; at all events it could not be contested here, without bastardising the mass of the population. And the validity of the divorce was equally incontestable. A resumption of co-habitation without re-marriage would be against the Mahometan law and religion, and it could not be enforced by our courts. The question which then arose was whether the marital rights of a husband over his wife's property were the same in Mahometan marriages as in the indissoluble, or virtually indissoluble marriages of Christians. If they were, a Malay, under the combined operation of his own religious law, and of the law of the settlement, was able to strip a woman of all her personal property, and after the birth of a child to keep her real estate, also, for his life, and at the same time to turn her out into the street penniless, absolving himself by the same step from liability for her ante-nuptial debts. If such consequences were the logical result of such a state of law, there were assuredly grounds for pausing before holding that the law was so. It seemed to him that it might be that the Mahometan marriage was a good marriage as regarded its essential character, sanctioning and legalising the union of the man and woman, and legitimising their offspring, and yet not be that species of marriage to which the legal incidents as to property, rights and disabilities attached. Or it might be that if the husband was at liberty to dissolve his marriage, he became impliedly bound, on exercising that power, to restore his wife, as regarded her property and rights, to the position or condition in which she was before the marriage, or (what would be the same thing) to place her in the position in which she would be under the Mahometan law, upon the divorce. It was not, however, necessary in the present case, to determine whether any of these views were well founded; for if the property and rights of the Mahometan wife vested in her husband in the same manner as those of a Christian wife, at law, there would yet be good ground for holding that the man in whom such property and rights became vested by virtue of a contract which he was at liberty to rescind at his pleasure, impliedly undertook to hold them as a trustee for the benefit of his wife, in equity, in the same manner and to the same extent as the Mahometan law gave them, or left them to her, on her entering into the Mahometan contract of marriage. Implied contracts and implied trusts were not strange either at law or in equity. In equity, if one bought and paid for an estate in the name of a stranger, or conveyed to him without consideration, the latter held it as a trustee for him, or as the expression was, there was a resulting trust in his favour. When freehold land was purchased by partners for partnership purposes, though at law they might be joint tenants of it, equity impressed the property with the character of personalty. When a husband died without having obtained administration to his wife, her administrator was in equity a trustee for his personal representative. In these and a multitude of other cases, implied trusts were raised to obviate injustice and meet the presumed wishes of the parties or what would have manifestly been their wishes if the question had occurred to them. The Recorder thought that the same principle might be applied to cases like the present. In any view of the case, however, whether the wife's property remained her own at law, unaffected by the common law rules which gave the husband certain rights over it in Christian marriages, which was perhaps the true view, or whether the husband was under an implied contract or an implied trust, it seemed to him (the Recorder) that the plaintiff was entitled to the relief prayed in her petition. He would therefore order the defendant to deliver up the ornaments and money to his wife, in the same manner as he (the Recorder) would have ordered him to do so if they had been settled to her separate use, and for her own personal enjoyment, and he should restrain him by injunction from receiving the rents and profits or otherwise intermeddling with the real estate of the plaintiff.

Two Chinese Nakodahs had been brought up before the magistrate, charged by Inspector Gasper, under the Act 41 of 1850, with having brought and landed in the settlement two diseased paupers. The charge was proved against them, and they were each fined $100, the full extent authorised by the Act.

We learn from Perak that the Rajah, the Jang-de-per-Tuan, died of cholera a few days ago. It appears that this disease is still raging in the native states. In the north of Province Wellesley, where there was a few weeks ago a good deal of

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this disease, we believe it is abating. In Kedah it is still bad, and many of the natives with their whole families are coming across to the British territory in the hope of escaping it. A good deal of the sickness in the North and in Kedah is said to have been caused by the bad quality of the drinking water.

Some time ago we had the satisfaction (says the *Gazette*) of recording the success of the efforts of Colonel Man and his able and zealous assistant Mr. Plunket, to deprive the Mahomedan clubs (*jumaha*) of much of the mischievous power and prestige which they had previously possessed. The local government set itself earnestly against those associations, detached from them many of the wealthy and influential Mahomedans in town, induced the Pangulus and other leading Malays to proccure the suppression of severalof the branches in the country, and brought the parent societies into disrepute. But they still exist, and we regret to say that the old system of forcible proselytism which used to prevail in Penang has been revived in the province, and that these societies are every night becoming bolder and more domineering there. Of the despotic sway which the heads exercise over the members, some evidence was given during the last criminal session. A Kling cartman had neglected to attend the funeral of a member of his club. He was summoned before the head and the elders and fined five dollars, which he refused to pay, and on this they excommunicated him. The effect of this was, that as far as the influence of the club extended, he was debarred from going to the mosque, and no one would associate or deal with him.

Notice is given that Mr. Charles Blackman is authorised to to sign the firm of Lorraign, Gillespie, and Co., per procuration, from the date of the 16th March.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

ARNOULD—On the 4th May, at Shirley, near Southampton, the wife of Henry Arnould, Esq., of Hong Kong, of a daughter.

DUMONT—ROUSSEL.—On the 24th March, at H.N.M.'s Consulate, Shanghai, Mons. A. J. Dumont, Secretaire percepteur de la Municipalite Francais, a native of Brussels, to Mademoiselle N. M. Roussel, of Valleraugue, France.

DUNDAS—On the 6th May, at South Cottages, Herne Bay, the wife of Robert T. Dundas Esq., Commander P. and O. Company, of a daughter.

HULEAT—On the 8th May, at Heston, near Hounslow, the wife of the Rev. Hugh Huleatt, Chaplain to the Forces, of a daughter.

KEPPELL On the 4th May, at 40, Connaught-square, the wife of Vice-Admiral Hon. Sir Henry Keppel, K.C.B., of a daughter.

SICHEL—On the 1st May, at 25, Prince's-gardens, Hyde-park, the wife of Michael Sichel, Esq., of a daughter.

WALKI SHAW—On the 26th April, at 2, Upper Hyde-park-gardens, the wife of W. Walkinshaw, Esq., of China, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

ANGIER—LARKIN.—On the 4th May, at Hadlow Church, by the Rev. — Moneypenny, assisted by the Rev. — Courtenay, Dr George Augustus Angier, of Chestnut House, Tunbridge, eldest surviving son of J. H. Angier, Esq., surgeon, Ipswich, Suffolk, to Ellen, young st daughter of John Larkin, Esq., of Hadlow-place, Hadlow, Kent.

FRASER—ONNEN.—On the 30th March, at Sourabaya, Java, William Thomson Fraser, Esq., second son of John M. Fraser, Esq., of 17, Mincing lane, London, to Anna, eldest daughter of Dr. Onnen, of Sourabaya.

REISS—POTTER.—On the 27th April, at the parish church, Eccles, by the Rev H. A. Morgan, M.A., Fellow and Tutor of Jesus College, Cambridge, assisted by the Rev. J. P. Pitcairn, M.A., vicar of Eccles, James Edward, eldest son of the late Leopold Reiss, Esq., of Broom House, Eccles, to Jane Frances, eldest daughter of Harold Potter, Esq., Green Bank, Pendleton.

WRIGHT—MANSELL.—On the 27th April, at St. Barnabas, Kensington, by the Rev. W. W Edwards, B.A., and the Rev. Dr. Hessey, incumbent, Herbert Montague Wright, Esq., of Addison-gardens, South Kensington, and of Nagasaki, to Elizabeth Mary, eldest daughter of Joseph Mansell, Esq., of Addison-road, Kensington, and Red Lion-square. No cards.

DEATHS.

CRACROFT—On the 21st March, on the passage from Havre to London, Walter Sewell Cracroft, formerly of the H.E.I. Company's Penang Civil Service, aged 70.

MIDDLETON—At sea, on the voyage from Hong Kong to Calcutta, John Middleton, Esq., for many years merchant of the latter place, aged 58.

WEBSTER—On the morning of the 22nd March, on board the British ship Resolute, in the port of Shanghai, Horace Webster, junr., late of New York City, aged 35 years.

WHITE On the 4th May, very suddenly, at his residence, East Point House, Vanbrugh Park, Blackheath, deeply lamented by his bereaved wife and a large circle of sorrowing friends, Thomas B. White, Esq. (late of China), in his 47th year.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—CANTON.—During the early part of the fortnight one chop, a third crop Oopack, was settled at 23.8 taels, and later a reaction set in, and 16 chops were settled during the next three days; they may all be classed common to fair Oonams, and many possess both strength and quality; they have been settled throughout at from 17.5 to 21.5 tls., and certainly such low prices as the teamen have been induced to accept have not been seen in Canton for many seasons; the comparative worth of them with the home market, however, shows them to rule 1d. to 2d. over advices of the 26th January mail, and now the mail of the 10th February makes them even higher. It is reported that teamen have all lost heavily, but they had become tired out by waiting so long for any offers that could in any way reimburse them. Thus during the fortnight 17 chops have been taken, leaving our present stock 6 chops. A few musters of the Canton new season's new-make Congou and Gunpowder have been shown, but prices have not yet been settled.

AMOY.—Settlements of Oolong consist of 680 half-chests at $17.50 to 18, and of Ankois 500 half chests at $13 to 14.50, prices showing no noticeable change; these have mostly been made for the Danish brig Friedrich, which vessel has been chartered to load for New York at £2 per ton of 40 feet. Stock of Oolong, 4,300 half-chests.

FOOCHOW.—Small settlements of Congou have taken place during the st fortnight at about previous rates. The stock is reduced to four chops, two of which are Foochow packed. Oolongs: The few settlements which have taken place have been at slightly easier rates. The season may be said to be over at this port. The following are the settlements of the fortnight:—Congous: 1,380 chests and 575 half-chests at 7 t. 2 m. to 12 t. for dust and broken leaf, and 16½ to 18 tls. for inferior flavory. Pekoe: 565 chests at 16 to 19 tls. for common. Oolong: 2,380 half-chests at 10 to 12 tls. for inferior to common cargo. Scented Teas; 640 boxes at 14½ tls.

SHANGHAI—Black: 5 chops have been settled, 1,230 chests and 1,842 half-chests. Oonam and Ningchow, at tls. 14 to 24½ per picul. Reshipments, 331 half-chests. Stock, 8 chops, consisting of 1,203 chests and 3 100 half-chests; 5 chops in Chinese, the remainder in foreign hands. Market stationary. Green: A large business has been transacted in Fychow and Moyune, chiefly for America, the settlements for the fortnight being 43,607 hf. ch., at 25 to 35 tls. per picul, and 2 small chops Shanghai packed at 29 tls. per picul. The reshipments are 9 chops Fychow and Moyune, 4,647 hf. ch., and 2 chops Pingsuey, 368 hf. ch., and 680 boxes. The total stock is 95 chops:—81 chops Fychow and Moyune, 24,952 hf. ch. in the hands of the Chinese, and 13,678 hf. ch. belonging to foreigners; 13 chops Shanghai packed, 4,833 hf. ch., and 2,508 boxes, in Chinese hands; 1 chop Japan, 1,900 hf. ch., in foreign hands; and 180 packages Japan leaf tea. The market is a shade higher and the demand good, but supplies are likely to continue heavy for some time to come.

HANKOW.—Only one chop of very common has been settled during the last fortnight at tls. 14.50, making the total settlements for the season 728 chops, and leaving a stock on the market of only 3 chops of coarse common kind. Quotations are quite nominal.

KIUKIANG.—Green Teas: Over 11,000 packages had been settled during the fortnight at a reduction varying from 1 to 4 taels on previous quotations. Teamen were continuing to ship largely to Shanghai, 16,000 more packages having gone forward on native account, reducing the stock on the market to 121,000 half-chests, from which the fine teas, of which the supply is small, were being rapidly selected. Quotations were, Moyune, finest to finest, tls. 28 to 32; common to medium, tls. 23 to 27 per picul. Fychow, medium to fair, tls. 22 to 25; common, tls, 20 to 22 per picul.

YOKOHAMA.—Some slight increase of activity has been apparent. In prices we have not much change to report; common teas we must quote $0.50 to 1.00 higher, but other descriptions remain as they were last quoted, the native teamen being as firm as ever in their demands for the finer sorts.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—Since last report 200 bales, chiefly medium to inferior descriptions of Tsatlees and Tysaams, have been settled at extreme prices, say taels 450 to 480 per picul for No. 4 and 5 Tsatlees, and for No. 3 and 4 Taysaams Tls. 400 to 450 per picul. Owing to the small transactions it is impossible to give any quotations. Prices remain firm and dangerously high. About 150 to 200 bales having been received from the interior there is little alteration to notice in the unsold stock. 300 bales, all medium to coarse silk, fine qualities continue very scarce. The transactions of the fortnight are estimated at 200 bales, against 570 bales corresponding fortnight of last season, and 1,350 bales the season before. The present stock is reduced to 200 to 300 bales, against 4,000 bales same period last season, and 2,000 the season before.

YOKOHAMA.—We have had an active business this fortnight, especially since the receipt of the 10th of January mail from Europe. 1,000 bales altogether have been settled, at gradually stiffening prices, resulting in an advance of about $20 on previous quotations. The total settlements to date amount to 11,900 bales, against 13,700 same time last season. The unsold stock on the market is small, but moderate arrivals from the country may be daily looked for. Mybash and Sinchu: Best parcels offering, 700 to 720; medium, 670 to 690.

DRUGS, &c.—CANTON.—Cassia Lignea: There are neither sales nor supplies to be reported. The first arrivals of the new crop are expected by the end of April, but in the meantime some of the old stock still held on speculation may be brought to market. Cassia Buds: The stock of 45 pls. is offered at $51. China Galls: In consequence of more extensive supplies from the interior, the rate for this article is somewhat easier and settlements for native consumption are reported at $16. Vermilion: Same as last quoted, say $38.50 per box of 50 catties. Musk: Another small chop of good quality, all that was left on the market, was taken for export at high rates, and fresh supplies are not expected to arrive for several months to come, owing to the continued success of the Taiping movement in the interior. Rhubarb: The low quality offered at high rates is further neglected. Galangal: Holders evince anxiety to part with their stocks, but even the lowest rates do not tempt buyers at the present moment. Essential Oils: Neither supplies, stock, nor settlements.

CAMPHOR.—HONG KONG.—1,240 piculs have arrived from Formosa since the issue of last report and the whole sold at $18.20 to 18.30 per picul packed. Stock on hand very small.

RAW COTTON.

HONG KONG.—Owing to unfavourable reports received by successive mails, and communicated by late telegrams from London, shippers have retired from the market, and rates have fallen $2 to $3 on last quotations. The local demand appears to be supplied, and dealers are averse to augmenting their stocks under present circumstances, as they see pretty clearly that foreigners are not likely again to enter the market. Supplies continue small, but rates tend down nevertheless.

SHANGHAI.—Continued unfavourable advices have kept foreigners out of the market, and rates have fallen to 15 to 15½ taels, below which holders refuse to part with their stocks. As the stock in the hands of native manufacturers is very small, rates will not be altogether influenced by the course of the Liverpool market, and it is probable that shipments from India will regulate matters.

NINGPO.—Last purchases for Shanghai were made at $28.35 for the best quality. Since the receipt of unfavourable intelligence from England buyers have retired altogether. Holders are firm in demanding $27 to 28 for good to fine Yoo-you.

YOKOHAMA.—No business whatever has been done in this staple since our last report. Stocks on the market have been exceedingly light and of inferior quality.

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SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From Amsterdam: March 13, Minister.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: March 17, Grenadier; 20, Min; 22 (via Melbourne), Ethiopian. From Liverpool: 9, Dunkeld. From Shields: 23, Minnie. From Bremen: 18, Andreas. From New York: 16, Volunteer.

At FOOCHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG.—From London: March 15, Belted Will; 17, Milbrook; 21, Young Lochinvar (via Plymouth); 17, Bengal. From Glasgow: 22, Spanker. From Sunderland: 23, Lydia Hilton. From Swansea: 22, Holzberg and Flora. From New York: 21, Venus and Benefactress.

At SINGAPORE.—From Newcastle: April 2, Johanna Oluffa. From Sunderland: March 30, Asia. From Hamburg: March 30, Saturnus (str.), Nordstern. From Boston: March 22, Woosung (str.).

At PENANG.—From Bremen: April 5, Serene.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—For London: March 6, Gabalvu.

From SHANGHAI.—For Liverpool: March 14, John Nicholson; 16, Queensbury; 23, Her Majesty; 24, Stuart Wortley.

From FOOCHOW.—For London: March 23, Maiden Queen.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—None.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: April 4, British Crown. For Falmouth: March 28, Carl Julius. For Liverpool: March 23, Springwood.

From PENANG.—For London: March 20, Dunmore; April 10, Devonvale. For Boston: March 20, Rocket.

VESSELS LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Mirage.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Antipodes, Vanguard. For Liverpool: Lalla Rookh, Wm. Melhuish, Woosung, Agamemnon. For New York: Resolute, Canvas Back, Egmont, John Normary, Marion.

At FOOCHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Banda, Philippine, Corriemulzie, Broadwater, Sovereign of India. For Liverpool: Vanda.

At MANILA.—For New York: Malay and Marmion. For Boston: California.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: British Crown, Silver Cloud, Conference. For Liverpool: Veloz. For Falmouth: Melissa.

At PENANG.—For London: Caroline, Britannia.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—March 13, Louisa Collet, from Havre to Saigon; 14, Waalstroom, from Amsterdam to Japan; City of Aberdeen, London to Hong Kong.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—March 15, Syren, from Boston to Shanghai.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—March 4, Madura, Manila to Falmouth; 5, Spirit of Trade, Shanghai to Liverpool; 10, Sharpshooter, Singapore to Liverpool; 12, Agnes Holt, from Japan to London; 15, George Henrich, Singapore to Falmouth; 18, Stag, Shanghai to London; 21, Beatrice, Shanghai to London.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—March 17, Diana, Hong Kong to New York; 23, Fenella, Shanghai to New York.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

YOKOHAMA.—To London: Cotton and tea, £3 to £3. 10s. per ton; silk. £4 to £4. 10s. per ton of 50 cubic feet, nom.

SHANGHAI.—To London and Liverpool: Cotton, £2. 10s.; tea, £2. 15s. to £3. To New York: Tea, £2. 10s. per ton of 40 feet.

FOOCHOW.—To London: £2 per ton.

HONG KONG and CANTON.—To London: £3 per ton of 50 cubic feet.

At SINGAPORE.—There is but little demand for vessels to load home. The rates are for dead weight, £2; and for light freight, £2. 10s. To Rangoon and back, 30 cents.

At PENANG.—For London: The Britannia, now loading, has nearly a full cargo engaged at £3. 5s. per ton for dead weight, £3. 10s. light freight, £4 measurement, and 4d. per gallon rum; the Bremen ship Caroline, 860 tons register, has been placed on the berth at 5s. per ton reduction on the above rates.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

The meeting of the Bank of Hindustan held at the London Tavern, was of rather a stormy nature. The Chairman, however, Mr. Daniell gave such full explanations, that eventually the report was adopted. On the proposal to re-elect the retiring directors considerable discussion took place, and, finally, Deane J. Hoare, Esq., was rejected.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—May 13, at Falmouth, from Maulmain, King of the Seas; 7, at Cadiz, from Manila, Elisa; 14, at Deal, from Ceylon, Calphurnia.

DEPARTURES.—May 8, from Newcastle for Java, Maria Elise; 11, from Cardiff for Manila, Johannes Lodewyk; 10, from Shields for Batavia, Batavia.

SPOKEN.—Sydney Eggers, China to London, May 5, 49 N., 13 W.; Eastern Chief, Shanghai to Montreal, March 13, 31 S., 13 E.; Ercilla (Spanish barque), Manila to Corunna, 120 days out, April 27, 35 N., 30 W.; Caledonia (?) (barque), from Colombo, May 7, 48 N., 8 W.; Johann Frederich (Russian schooner), bound to China, May 11, 5 N., 3 E.

LAID ON.—At London, for Colombo and Cochin: Eaglet.

BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—Several of the religious societies of London have been holding their usual May meetings, but none have been better attended than that of the Baptist Missionary Society, presided over by Sir Morton Peto, M.P. After reading the financial report, and expressing his pleasure at the very large gathering around him, the honourable baronet went on to relate some anecdotes of the former meeting, mentioning, amongst others, the case of a Chinese convert, a priest of the creed of Confucius, who had expressed his astonishment on learning that the English people had enjoyed the knowledge of Christianity for 1,400 years, and had not communicated it to the people of China. He proceeded to dwell upon the solemn object of the present meeting, and alluded in terms of strong censure to the proceedings of a former meeting, the repetition of which would, he said, drive the laity away from them. He said that the labours of the Baptists in relation to this society had not at all been commensurate with their power and resources. He contrasted what was done in the little principality of Wales, where a quarter of a million of money was expended in chapels alone. To be sure, £14,000 had been spent in India; but, when they remembered how the progress of civilisation had opened up that country to them within the last ten years, they would see that they had done little indeed. Again, there had been a great awakening in Norway and Sweden, and the truth of the Gospel had penetrated into Russia. In that country some of their brethren were suffering persecution. Lord Russell had been induced to interfere on their behalf, and he was going with others, as a deputation, to appeal to the Czar. He then referred to a recent meeting of the Anthropological Society, and quoted some remarks of Captain Burton to the effect that the labours of the missionaries were disastrous in Africa, only promoting the misery and degradation of the natives, whose only real hope was in Mahometanism. Captain Burton was consul for England, and he seemed, by his words, to be a Mahometan; but, as treasurer of that society, he (the chairman) declared that Captain Burton's statement had no foundation in truth, and he challenged him to a public discussion of the subject on that platform.

WESLEYAN MISSIONS TO CHINA.—On the 29th of April the annual meeting in connection with these missions took place at the London Tavern, the Lord Mayor presiding. In opening the proceedings his lordship, adverting to the allegation that those who most anxiously interested themselves in foreign missions were apt to neglect their duty in "looking at home," observed that those whose names were most conspicuously associated with missionary enterprise abroad were the foremost in their endeavours to diffuse its blessings in this country. A report was read stating that the agents of the missions, including teachers, colporteurs, tract distributors, &c., carried on their operations, among other places, at Canton, Fatschan, Poonan, Hankow, and other parts of China. In some instances, it was stated, conversions had been effected, but in others the disciples of Confucius actually gambled in the places erected for Christian worship. There was, the report said, a great necessity for further pecuniary support. The proceedings terminated with a collection.

IN RE SIR J. A. DOUGLAS.—The bankrupt, Sir Joseph Abraham Douglas, Knight, who was described as of 2, Apsley-cottages, Downes-street, New Peckham, Commander R.N., and a prisoner for debt in Horsemonger-lane Gaol, applied to pass his examination and for an order of discharge. The debts are returned at £194, of which the unsecured creditors represent £73 only; there are no available assets. The bankrupt stated that he was entitled as a retired staff-commander in the navy to an allowance of 5s. per day as half-pay; also to an out-pension of £50 per annum from Greenwich Hospital for wounds and public services. He also considered himself entitled to a very considerable sum from Her Majesty's Government by way of compensation for services rendered and losses suffered in the public service in China in the years 1839 and 1840, when he protected at his own expense British lives and property there. Mr. Aldridge appeared on behalf of the official assignee, Mr. Denny for the bankrupt, and Mr. Sargood for a creditor. Mr. Denny asked for an adjournment of three months, in order to enable the bankrupt to pay his creditors. He said his client was a very aged and infirm person, who had seen a good deal of service. In answer to Mr. Sargood, the bankrupt said that he had already received £4,760 from the Government for services rendered, and he had a further claim which was still pending. The last communication he received from Government was unfavourable in its terms. With the assistance of friends he hoped to satisfy all claims upon him. The Court granted the application for a three months' adjournment.—Adjourned accordingly.

SUBSIDIES TO POSTAL SERVICES.

Subjoined is a statement of the sums to be paid for ocean postal subsidies during the current financial year, compared with those of the past year. The total is £841,867, showing a reduction of £18,409, which is attributable to the circumstance of the cessation of the Galway subsidy, being more than sufficient to cover some small additions in the West Indian, Pacific, and East Indian services:—

CONTRACTS.	1865. £.	1864. £.
United Kingdom:—		
Holyhead and Kingstown	85,900	85,900
Aberdeen and Lerwick	1,200	1,200
Thurso and Stromness	1,300	1,300
Southampton and the Channel Islands	4,000	4,000
Liverpool and the Isle of Man	850	850
Liverpool and Ramsay, Isle of Man	100	100
Penzance and Scilly	300	300
Southampton and Cowes	750	750
Ryde and Portsmouth	55	50
Dunvegan and Lochmaddy	233	233
Greenock, Portree, and Stornoway	200	200
Stornoway and Aultbea	154	154
Ardrossan and Arran	120	120
Greenock, Rothesay, and Ardrishaig	1,260	1,260
Europe:—		
Dover and Calais	9,000	9,000
Dover and Ostend	4,000	4,000
Ditto, from the 21st of June, 1863, to the 31st of March, 1864 (re-vote)	—	3,110
America:—		
Liverpool and Halifax and Boston, and to and from Liverpool and New York and Nassau	£176,340	

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Deduct.—Proportion to be paid by the Government of the Bahamas ..	1,500			
		174,840	..	174,840
Halifax, Bermuda, and St. Thomas, and Halifax and St. John's, Newfoundland, for conveyance of mails		14,700	..	14,700
Galway and Ports in America		—	..	50,000
West Indies, to and from		174,000	..	*135,360
Turk's Island and St. Thomas's		300	..	300
Porto Rico and St. Thomas, second monthly mail		1,000	..	1,000
St. Kitts, Nevis, and Montserrat		490	..	613
Jamaica and Honduras:—Contribution in aid of the expense of the mail service		—	..	—
Monthly services between Liverpool and Belize, and between Bilize and Jamaica	£2,250			
Deduct proportion to be paid by Honduras	1,125			
		1,125	..	4,000
Brazils and Buenos Ayres		33,500	..	33,500
West Coast of America, between Panama, Callao, and Valparaiso		18,250	..	25,000
Africa:—				
West Coast of Africa and England		30,000	..	30,000
Cape of Good Hope and England		19,700	..	19,700
India, China, and Australia:—				
Alexandria, Ceylon, Calcutta, Hong Kong, and England, including a branch from Marseilles to Malta ..	£162,125			
Deduct—Proportion to be paid by the Indian Government	£44,000			
Deduct—Proportion to be paid by the Australian Governments for conveyance of the Australian mails between England and Point de Galle ..	15,058			
	59,058			
	£103,067			
Deduct—For abandonment of reduced fares for Government passengers on the vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental Steampacket Company	£15,000			
		88,067	..	81,941
Aden and Bombay		22,000	..	22,000
Additional services:—				
Extended services, including two additional packets per mensem between Marseilles and Alexandria		21,000	..	21,000
Extra packets from Southampton to Alexandria, for Bombay mails		20,500	..	20,500
Extra packet, monthly, between Bombay and China		24,000	..	24,000
Point de Galle and Sydney	£135,000			
Deduct, moiety to be paid by the colonies	67,500			
		67,500	..	67,336
Australia and New Zealand		10,290	..	13,000
Melbourne and Launceston		800	..	—
King George's Sound and Adelaide		2,475	..	—
For allowance to Government agents on board the contract packets ..	£5,745			
Deduct—Proportion to be paid by the Government of India and the Australian colonies	1,720			
		4,025	..	5,050
Total for contracts		..£837,984	..	£856,367
Packet establishments at Dover, Holyhead, Liverpool, Southampton and Devonport		3,883	..	3,909
Total		..£841,867	..	£860,276

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, May 7.

In spite of the opposition of the trade, the Second Chamber of the States General voted yesterday the Bill confirming the International Treaty about the Sugar Duties. Only eight members of the fifty-two present voted against the Bill. Tomorrow the law about the excise of the sugar will be brought into discussion.

In a former letter I told you that I was of opinion the Bill for abolishing the stamp duty on newspapers on the 1st July would be deferred. My apprehension is confirmed. The Minister has communicated that the date is now fixed for the 1st January, 1866, because the stamps necessary for the trade cannot be made in the short delay of eight weeks! (You see that the Minister has no great opinion of the Dutch lithographers.) The general opinion now is, that before the 31st December some other motive will be found for a fresh delay, and so the Bill will be deferred *ad kalendas Græcas*.

On the 18th the First Chamber will meet again to vote several Bills that have passed the Second Chamber.

The Indian tariff, as it is proposed by Mr. Fransen van de Putte, our Minister for the Colonial Department, induced severe criticism from the daily press and the several periodicals. Only the *Nieuwe Rotterdamsche Courant* took the Bill under its protection, and insisted that it should be brought on the table as soon as Parliament should meet, because it might be possible that we should lose the advantages of the commercial treaty with France if the discussion were delayed. The *Arnheinsche Courant* says, on the contrary, that if we must buy these advantages at such a price, we certainly pay too dear for them. This paper calls the Bill an anti-Liberal production of a Liberal Government, and a "blunder" of the Minister.

Mr. Fransen van de Putte has now answered all these cavils. To conceive the question correctly, he says, it is necessary to bear in mind that the Indian tariff has two aims in view—first, to tax the products which are manufactured here and sent out to the Indies at a much lower quotation than the same articles when sent out from any other country, so that Dutch industry will be protected; second, to tax some products which are exported from India to Holland much lower than when they are exported to any other country. Cotton, woollen, and linen goods will be charged with an import duty of 10 per cent. when they are accompanied by a Dutch certificate of origin; but when this is not the case, they will have to pay 20 per cent. Sailcloth and rope may be imported from Holland free of duty, while it will have to pay 5 per cent. when imported from elsewhere. Iron manufactures in foreign countries will be charged with 20 per cent., and when it is manufactured here with only 10 per cent. As to the exports—Indigo will be charged with 10 cents when it is destined for Holland, and with 15 cents when it is shipped for elsewhere; with coffee the difference is 6 per cent. and 9 per cent., sugar, nil and 3 per cent.; tin, f.3.50 and f.5. Certainly this cannot be deemed Liberal legislation; but, says the Minister, "the position of things forces me to forsake the principles of free trade." His only intention was to take the first step to give the first impulse for a Liberal tariff. But he could not at once abolish that protection with which our industry had been favoured for many years. The protection for our navigation in India will be totally abolished, and foreign vessels will in future have the same rights as the Dutch.

At the election at Arnhem Mr. J.P. P. van Zuylen van Nyeveldt was duly elected Member of Parliament with 916 votes. The Liberal candidate, Mr. Henny, received only 601 votes.

An election must also take place in the district of Haarlem, for which Mr. J. J. van Mulken, being appointed general-major, was obliged to send his resignation.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Our market is in a calm but firm condition, waiting for the auction of the Netherlands Trading Company on the 17th, when 85.200 b. of all descriptions will be offered. Since my last report the private transactions consisted of 3,206 b. Padang, ex Bulgersteyn, at 43½ to 47 c.; 2,300 b. Java, ex Hogendorp, at 43¾ c.; 3,400 b. Java, ex Joan, at 43½ to 44 c. The deliveries of the Trading Company amounted in the month of April to 73,339 bags, so that since the 1st Jan. 17,771 bags were delivered more than in the same period of 1864. General stock, 538,500 bags, against 471,400 bags. On the 1st the private unsold stock here consisted of 6,237 b. Java, 2,686 b. Padang, and 624 b. Macassar; and at Amsterdam, 13,100 b. Java, 4,500 b. Padang, and 200 b. Macassar. Imported since, 6,400 pie. Padang, and 8,198 b. Java.

SUGAR.—The market is in a very firm condition, with an important business. About 15,000 kr. were sold at 1f. to 1½f. above the prices of March. The Trading Company announces the auction of 72.200 kr. on the 23rd. The unsold stock of the Trading Company amounted to 117,850 kr., against 96,184 kr. in 1864. The private stock consisted o 50,600. kr.

RICE.—5,534 b. table, ex President van Rychevorsel, were sold at 11f., except 780 b. prima quality, at 14f., besides 10,600 b. Bassein, ex General Havelock, at 6¾f. Stock 35,000 b., against 75,700 b. in 1864.

SPICES.—Still flat. Nutmegs, No. 1, 70 to 71 c.; Mace, 64 c.; at this quotation there was some demand, so that holders declined to operate under 65c.

STOCK OF THE TRADING COMPANY.

Nutmegs	2,940	casks	against	1,286	in	1864.
Mace	816	„	„	714	„	„
Cloves	1,612	„	„	—	„	„
Cinnamon	1,614	fard.	„	1,378	„	„
Pepper	1,619	bags	„	—	„	„

TOBACCO.—In Java leaves a fair business was done. By inscription and by auction 17,369 p. were sold, the most of common quality and damaged. Manila, with a good demand for consumption, but nothing is done for speculation or export. The news that 40 mille quintals tobacco were burnt there had no influence upon the market. But confidence in this article is lost. Stock, 8,826 p. Java, 5,397 p. Manila.

*A deduction of £37,554 from the contract payment of £172,914 was made last year for proportion to be paid by the colonies.

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DRUGS.—In the auction of the Netherlands Trading Company, the following was sold:—276 ch. and 66 b. Japan Tree Wax, at f.34.50 to f.40.25, per 50 lb.; 1,089 Japan Camphor, at f.74½ to f.82½, per ½ lb; 90,920 lb. Gutta Percha, imported from Macassar at f.1.65½ to f.1.81½ per ½ lb.; 36,000 lb. imported from Sumatra at f.80 to f.1.45 per ½ lb.; 164 p. Getah Pantoong at 6½ to 11½ c.; 606 Coll. Gummi Elasticum at f.80.50 to f.81.75 per 50 lb.; 12 ch. Getah Gitang, at f.52.50 to f.57 per 50 lb.; 597 p. Cassia Vera at 28 to 32 c. per ½lb.; 2 b. Pengha War-Yambie, at f.6.55 per ½ lb.; 96 ch. Cocoa Nut Soap at f.1.10½ to f.1.20 per ½ lb.

INDIGO.—In waiting for the auctions nothing was transacted, the market however remained in a firm condition. The 4,433 ½ ch. offered at sale were paid with 320 to 720 c. The 335 ch. offered thereafter were paid with 10 to 20 c. lower. The buyers were much animated, and in particular for good and fine qualities. In private hands nothing is disposable.

JAVA COCHINEAL.—The 80 ch. offered at public sale were sold at 170 to 225 c. The prices were 15 to 30 c. higher than those paid at the last auction.

VANILLA.—On the 17th 70 lb. Bourbon will be offered at public sale.

MANILA HEMP.—With some demand, at unaltered prices.

HIDES.—Sold at inscription 357 p., E.I. ex Brederode (damaged) at 34 c. No other transactions took place because nothing is imported. The stock now is reduced to 475 p., salted B. A., 400 p. dr. do., 1,738 p. dr., West Indian; 1,274 p. Java Ox, and 13,556 p. Java Buffalo.

ARRACK.—38 casks Batavia ex Frederic Warren were sold, and 58 casks Sourabaya ex Golden Eagle at secret prices. The article is dull.

TEA.—The public auction of the Netherlands Trading Company has given the following results:—

	Chests.			Sold at
Java Boei	625/4	——	——	50 to 87 c.
„ Congo Boei	163/4	——	——	61 „ 81
„ Congo	5,017/4	4/8	213/12	70 „ 110
„ Pecco Congo	22/4	——	——	101 „ —
„ Kempoei	105/4	——	——	96 „ 100
„ Pecco Kempoei	18/4	——	86/12	115 „ 123
„ Souchon	4,519/4	——	251/12	76 „ 129
„ Pecco Souchon	109/4	——	——	114 „ 124
„ Pecco	1,538/4	——	495/12	87 „ 291
„ Schin	229/4	——	——	38 „ 83
„ Thunkay	1,707/4	——	——	45 „ 104
„ Hysant	1,091/4	——	——	56 „ 126
„ Uxim	2/4	——	407/12	67 „ 120
„ Joosjes (G.B.)	——	27/8	167/12	102 „ 150
„ Joosjes (F.B.)	——	3/8	49/12	25 „ 144

Besides the quantities retired in the auctions of 20th April and 12th October, 1864, consisting in

Java, 59/4 Congo Boei	51 to 55 c.
„ 51/4 Congo	70 „ —
„ 69/4 Souchou	86 „ 88
„ 58/4 Pouchon	67 „ 74
„ 206/4 Pecco	110 „ 118
„ 30/12 Pecco Kempoei	118 „ 125

All was sold. The private auction of Java tea went off as follows:—Boey 65 c., Congo, 71 to 74 c., Souchon, 76 to 79 c., Pecco, 116 to 118 c., Toukay, 46 to 47 c., Schin, 34 to 35 c., Hysant, 106 to 112 c., Uxim, 86 to 87 c., Joosjes g.b. 126 to 127 c. The China Congo was retired at 125 c. Since these auctions there was some demand for several qualities, but all seemed to be disposed of. Buyers declined to pay an advance, they will, however, soon be forced to do so, as the English market rose 1d. to 1½d. Stock, 6,550 chests against 8,400 chests in 1864.

COTTON.—With more demand, the transactions consisted in 3,000 to 4,000 b. East Indian and Japan for export. The China cotton sold in auction was paid with 98 c.

TIN (BANCA).—The market is very steady, but in consequence of the American news the prices were reduced from 60½f. to 59f. At this quotation some hundreds of blocks were sold. Private stock, 42,390 blocks; stock of the Trading Company, 163,201 blocks. Delivered since the last auction, 137,881 blocks.

COPPER.—A fair business was done in Droutheimer at 57f.

MONEY.—After important fluctuations in consequence of the American news, the market now is calm. Rate of discount at the Bank: Bills, 3½ per cent.; acceptances, 4. Open market, 3½ per cent. National Debt, Two-and-a-Half per Cents., 62; Three per Cents., 72½; Four per Cents., 95 15-16ths; Trading Company, 144½; Dutch Rhenish Railway (shares), 273; Central Railway Company, 119; Expl. Co.'s State Railway, 92. 'Change: London, 3 months, f.11.69; 2 months, f.11.73½; short f.11.81: Paris, 3 months, f.46.52; 2 months, f.46.66; short, f.47 05; Hamburg, 3 months, f.34.95; 2 months, f.35; short, f.35.15; Berlin, short, f.172.50.

EXPORTS TO JAVA FROM THE 11TH TO THE 30TH APRIL.—Coals, 1,516,165 lbs.; iron (bar bolt), 24,750 lbs.; railway bars, 759,500 lbs.; copper 28,700f. and 70,673 lbs.; zinc, 1,200f. and 25,004 lbs.; guns, 514 pieces, cotton (plain and coloured), 1 064,643 yards; woollens, 8,600f. and 2,101 yards; beer, 67,310 litres; brandy, 5,471 litres; Geneva, 93,888 litres; wine, 48,782 litres; oils, 18.514 litres; paints, 13.320 lbs.; sail-cloth, 2,050f. and 174 pieces; rope, 900 lbs.; coal-tar, 98,500 litres; earthenware, 3,660f.; glass 6,742f.; candles, 2.800f.; butter, 24.914 lbs.; perfumery 861 lbs.; cakes, 9.605 lbs. madapollams, 31,375 yards; drillings, 60,750 yards; chocolate, 290 lbs.; flour, 16,480 lbs.; millinery, 800f; mercery, 9,320f.; yarns (cotton), 16,500f.; vinegar, 13,771 litres; musical instruments, 2,240; confectionery, 1,970f.; silverworks, 17.200f.; opium, 4.0 0 lbs.; drugs, 2,875f.; books, 1,472 lbs.; paper, 8,984f., 1,300 lbs. and 196 reams; provisions, 3,480f.; beef, 73,176 lbs.; hams, 8,868 lbs.; cheese, 2.921 lbs.

SHIPPING.—ARRIVALS.—April 24, at Texel, from Batavia, Bernard nd Agnes; 25. Jacob Roggeveen, from Batavia; Aristides, from Banjoewangie; 26, Thomas Mitchell, from Samarang, Maria, from Batavia; May 4, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Doelwyk; from Padang, Jan Daniel; from Banjoewangie, Hugo Grotius; 5, from Banjoewangie, Geertruida Maria; from Samarang, Oceanus; at Texel, from Banjoewangie, Telanak, Urman, and Constance; from Padang, Tjielingsie and Nordstern.

DEPARTURES.—April 24, from Brouwershaven to Batavia, Twee Cornelissen; 25, to Samarang, Ida Elizabeth; to Sourabaya, Huydecoper; 27, from Hellevoet to Batavia, Copernicus; 28, from Hellevoet to Singapore, Albrecht Beyling; 29, from Brouwershaven to Batavia Dagaraad; from Texel to Batavia, Mentor; 30, from Brouwershaven to Batavia, Lichtstraal; from Texel to Batavia, India Packet, Maria Veronica; to Samarang, Estafette; May 1, from Texel to Batavia, Koning Willem III., Kandanghauer (returned since, much damaged), Koophandel; 5, from Brouwershaven for Melbourne, Ægedia and Paulina; for Batavia, Nieuwland; from Texel for Japan, Julie; from Zierikzee for Batavia, Vooruit.

FREIGHTS.—Quotations of Messrs. Fauchey and de Vletter, shipbrokers, Rotterdam:—For Batavia: Kortenaer, 973 tons, Grootmeester Nationaal 755, Kosmopoliet 753, G. K. Graaf van Hogendorp 754, Noach 892, Mary and Hillegonda 754, Ternate 747, Joan 688, Koffyboom 1,280 —18f to 20f. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Cortgene, 752 tons—18f. to 20f. for B., 25f. to 30f. for S. For Batavia and Samarang: Cornelis Anthonie, 644 tons—20f. for B., 25f. for S. For Macassar: Macassar, 328 tons—45f. For Samarang: Hendrika, 667 tons, Landbouw 725, Henriette Gerardina Susanne 575, Onrust 808 25f. to 30f. For Sourabaya: Antonia Petronella 711 tons —25f. to 30f.; all per last of 2,000 ks., or 120 cubic feet Amsterdam and 15 per cent. For Melbourne (H.B): Kanagawa, 1,216 tons, 40s. to 45s. and 5 per cent. For Singapore and Hong Kong: Sophia Amalia, 319 tons, Mary Goddard, 312 tons - 30s. for S. 40s. for H., and 15 per cent. For Singapore: Neerlands Vlag, 30s. to 35s. and 15 per cent.; all per ton of 1,000 ks., or 50 cubic feet English.

LOADING.—At Amsterdam: For Kanagawa and Decima, Bantam; Batavia; for Padang, Brouwershaven, Excelsior; for Macassar, Elizabeth and Jacoba; for Batavia, Krimpenerwaard; for Batavia and Samarang, Anthony van Hoboken; for Batavia and Sourabaya, Loevesteyn, Amsterdam, Nicolaas Witsen, Louise; for Samarang, Maria Regina, Mathilde, den Elshout; for Sourabaya, Petronella, Quintet, Staatraad van der Houven, Jacoba Cornelia, Nederland and Oranje, Senior, Bellatrix; for Singapore and Hong Kong, Bernard and Agnes.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

To Java, per Dageraad, Captain Duinker, Mr. Koelman and family; per Koning Willem II., Captain Besseling, Mr. Bounin; per Lichtstraal, Captain Wierikx, Mr. C. F. Huisdens and family; L Kuyk and family; Mrs. Hildebrandther Meer; per India Packet, Captain Diepering, Mrs. Berger and family, Miss Gheleyns, Neuhaus; per Kandanghauer, Captain Zeelt, Mrs. Nierop and daughter, Mr. Lightenberg and family, Mr. Boulet and family, Mr. Klaus and family, Mr. van Eldik and family, Messrs. Annokkee, Graat Langeveld, and Tegel.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From Java, per Jacob Roggeveen, Messrs. Bruins van Rosenburg and family, Anten and family, Haastert and family, Hubeck and family, Mrs. Strauss and three children; per Bernard and Agnes, Captain Ordeman, Messrs. Harreveld, van Santen, van Moerkerken, van der Heyden, Misses van Gheyn and Ordeman; per Doelwyk, Captain Hoefman, Mr. Margadant and family, Mr. Imminck and family; per Geertruida Maria, Captain Ligny, Mr. Roem and family, Mr. F. Cartz; per Azia, Captain Molenaar, Mr. C. G. Heiligers and family; per Telenak, Captain Popken, Mr. J. M. de Bruin and family, H. Spoelder, R. Hissink, Frees van Nahuis, G. van Bitlotz.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MAY 7.

Vice-Admiral Steen-Bille, of the Danish Royal Navy, formerly Minister for the Marine at Copenhagen, who was sent last year on a special mission to China to exchange the ratifications of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation concluded on the 13th of July, 1863, by the special Ambassador, Colonel Raasloff, between the King of Denmark and the Emperor of China, has just published in the Danish language a detailed and interesting account of his mission and experiences, under the simple title of "My Voyage to China in 1864." Some twenty years ago the gallant Admiral, when only a captain and in command of the *Galatea* frigate, in which he circumnavigated the globe on a scientific expedition, published a highly interesting and valuable description of his voyage, which was not only favourably received by the public, and is considered a standard work in his own country, but was translated into German, and made a great sensation at the time in Germany.

Orders have been given by the Austrian Naval Minister to the Central Board of Administration for the Navy to draw up and prepare, in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce at Trieste, drafts of treaties between Austria and the Governments of China, Siam, and Japan respectively, and to send them in to the Minister by the end of this month. The mercantile department of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry at Trieste has responded with great alacrity to the invitation, and nominated two of its most clear-headed and experienced members to take part in the deliberations. In a short time I shall probably be enabled to give your readers further particulars on this interesting subject.

The accounts received of the result of the annual fair at Irbit are encouraging. Manufactures, tea, pel-

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tries, dried fruits and wine, all fetched satisfactory prices, and were in good demand. Sixteen thousand chests of tea were brought to market from Kiachta, and sold at 84 to 85 roubles for ordinary qualities, 95 to 120 r. for better descriptions, and 130 to 180 r. per chest for flowery teas. Of common brick tea, 4,000 chests were sold at 44 to 45 r., and 1,000 chests of black ditto at 38 r. Jakutzk sables fetched 800 to 1,200 roubles per sack; Amoor, ditto, 400 to 450 r., Ermine skins 60 copecks, squirrels 18, martens 13 cop., red foxes 4 roubles, white foxes 3 r., wolf, 2 to 3 r., and hares 5 cop. each.

For some time past there have been large arrivals of Jews at Nicolayefsk, at the mouth of the Amoor. They come by sea from California, and speak fluently the Russian language, which shows that at some time or other they must have lived in some part of the Russian dominions. By means of their natural sagacity and acuteness, probably sharpened by their residence in California, they have already absorbed a large portion of the wholesale, and nearly all the retail trade of the place, and are amassing large fortunes.

The Senate of Hamburg has appointed M. Th. Weber, of Apia, on the Island of Upolu, to be Consul in the groups of the Navigators, the Tonga, and the Feejee Islands.

Upwards of fifty Schleswig-Holstein vessels trading to distant countries have placed themselves under Prussian protection, and wear the Prussian flag; — under the Austrian flag none.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—There has been a lively demand for this berry, and the business would have been considerably larger, if there were a better assortment of the finer qualities. A good deal was taken on speculation. Sales of the fortnight 33,000 bags.

SUGAR.—Market rather firmer, and raw 4 Sch. Bco. higher. Refined, steady and in favour; sales since last mail 22,000 loaves of fine Melis.

RICE.—A fair amount of business done, and a rise established in all descriptions of cleaned grain. The only sale of rough was 6,000 bags of Java per Cecilie at prices that did not transpire.

SPICES.—Cassia Lignea a shade lower; 6,000 chests sold at 8¾ Sch. Bco. There is more inquiry for Pepper, but hitherto no alteration in values.

DRUGS.—Refined Camphor follows slowly the late advance in raw, and 18 Sch. Bco. are now willingly paid. There is an improved demand for Star Anniseed, and prices have risen, the last purchase being made at 15¼ Sch. Bco.

TEA.—Market firm, and all descriptions from 1 to 2 Sch. Bco. higher. Among the dealings were 550 chests of Oopack ex Kestner, 435 do Congo, and 74 do. Pekoe ex Persia, together with 1,000 chests of Congo, Souchong, Tonkay, Hyson, and Young Hyson, ex warehouse.

SPELTER.—As holders are more inclined to do business, and willing to accept easier terms, the following sales have taken place: 1,000 centners, ex warehouse at 13 mks. 11 Sch. Bco.; 4,000 do. per June and July, at 13.12.; 5,000 do. for June, at 13.5.; 3,000 do ex warehouse, at 13.8.; 2,000 do. afloat at 13.7.; 1,000 do. for arrival, at 13.8., and 1,500 do. for delivery in July, at 13.9. The imports to end of April, were 39,000 centners, against 201,000 do. last year at same period. Present stock 40,000 centners, against 23,000 do. last year.

DISCOUNT 3¼ per cent.

SHIPPING.—Sailed from Cuxhaven, Galatea, to Hong Kong.

RECEPTION OF SIR F. BRUCE AT WASHINGTON.

The reception of Sir Frederick Bruce by President Johnson augurs well for our future relations with the United States. It was a formal act, but it was accompanied with cordial expressions on both sides, which divested it of formality and justify us in regarding it as a fresh earnest of amity between the two Anglo-Saxon nations. The occasion was singularly favourable to the exchange of those kindly feelings which, in spite of temporary misunderstandings, have never been extinguished. For the first time since the great civil war broke out, we have been enabled, without any sacrifice of principle, to show an unqualified sympathy with the American people. The tragical end of President Lincoln, in the very hour of triumph, and when he had earned by his moderate counsels the respect of this country, has been the means of bringing us face to face under the influence of a common sentiment. It has gone far to break down the ice of reserve and suspicion which embittered every difference of opinion on subjects that had already divided America against herself, enabling us to appreciate the devotion of the Northerners to a cause which they believed to be high and holy, and the Northerners to recognize the true nature of the motives which dictated our neutrality. If this only had been the effect of Mr. Lincoln's murder, he would not have died in vain.

It was in this spirit that Sir F. Bruce spoke in presenting his credentials, and it was in this spirit, as we hasten to acknowledge, that President Johnson replied to him. The first duty of the new Minister was, of course, to offer condolences on the death of the late President, with whom he was to have had his first interview on the previous Saturday. Sir Frederick assured Mr. Johnson with perfect truth that the event would call forth an unanimous burst of horror throughout Great Britain. He then proceeded to express Her Majesty's earnest desire to maintain friendly intercourse with the United States, and her "hearty good wishes for their peace, prosperity, and welfare." He declared, on behalf of his Sovereign, whose letter to Mrs. Lincoln *will* touch the Americans more than any official declaration, that she had *nothing* more at heart than to remain on the most amicable terms with the Federal Government, and pledged himself to carry out this intention to the utmost of his ability. President Johnson not only accepted these assurances most graciously, but entered somewhat fully into the principles which should govern the two nations in their dealings with each other. He pointed out that Great Britain and the United States are "exposed to frequent occasions of misunderstanding" by the very fact that their mercantile connections are so intimate, their territories in one direction conterminous, their language the same, and their laws similar. Hence the need of greater "mutual forbearance." If we look, says the President, to the numerous sources of discord engendered by these circumstances, we might be tempted to despair of peace, or at least of permanent goodwill, between two such rivals. If, on the other hand, we look to their common heritage of freedom, to the "principles of civil rights and constitutional liberty" established throughout their dominions, we might be led to expect an identity of policy, if not an intimate alliance. Experience shows that neither attitude is inevitable, but if Great Britain and the United States must pursue respectively an independent course, they may at least continue to be good friends. "Each is charged with the development of the progress and liberty of a considerable portion of the American race. Each, in its sphere, is subjected to difficulties and trials not participated in by the other. The interests of civilisation and humanity require that the two should be friends. I have always known, and accepted it as a fact honourable to both countries, that the Queen of England is a sincere and honest well-wisher to the United States. I have been equally frank and explicit in the opinion that the friendship of the United States towards Great Britain is enjoined by all the considerations of interest and sentiment affecting the character of both."

Naval and Military.

The Serpent, 4, 200-horse power, Commander Bullock, fitting at Sheerness for surveying service on the coast of Japan, is nearly ready for sea, and has received the whole of her stores, &c., on board.

Major Wray, R.E., now in Japan, will most probably be placed in command of the works at Weymouth and Portland.

The Tartar, screw corvette, Capt. John M. Hayes, has arrived at Spithead from China, after having been nearly five years in commission. On passing the Royal residence at Osborne she saluted Her Majesty, and on anchoring at Spithead she exchanged salutes with the Victory, flagship of the Commander-in-Chief, Admiral Sir M. Seymour, K.C.B. The Sprightly, steam tender, proceeded to Spithead to disembark the naval invalids and the crew of the Racehorse, recently lost in the China Seas.

Viscountess Templetown, the wife of Lieut.-Gen. Viscount Templetown, C.B., Commander of the Forces in the West of England, presented new colours to the 1st Battalion of the 6th Regiment, stationed at Devonport. The presentation took place in the park. The regimental colour bears in the centre the figure of an antelope and the title of the regiment, the 6th Royal 1st Warwickshire, encircled by the rose, thistle, and shamrock, and surmounted by a crown. On the borders are the words "Roleia, Corunna, Pyrenees, Orthes, Vimiera, Vittoria, Nivelle, Peninsula, and Niagara." After being placed in charge of the two ensigns, Hebeller and Granville, their reception was acknowledged in warm terms by Lieut.-Col. Lowe, C.B. During the proceedings Viscount Templetown, in addressing the men, stated that within the last hundred years the 6th Regiment had seen duty in all quarters of the globe. The old colours were then borne to the rear by Ensigns Crisp and Morton; they were presented to the regiment at Poonah by the wife of the Brigadier in 1833.

Her Majesty's fourteen-gun floating battery Trusty, 1,539 tons and 150-horse power, which has encumbered the fitting basin at Woolwich during the past ten years, has been taken up to the "breaking-up yard" at Charlton, to be disposed of for fire-wood. Her engines during that period have been in charge of a chief engineer and assistant constantly kept on the books of the Fisgard for that purpose.

Captain Roderick Dew, C.B., an officer who highly distinguished himself in China (says the *Army and Navy Gazette*) will, it is reported be shortly nominated to the command of the Bellerophon. It is, we believe, the intention of the Admiralty that this highly important experimental ship shall be at sea before the close of the year.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

CHINESE AFFAIRS.

(May 2.) Col. SYKES asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether further papers respecting proceedings in China would be laid upon the table of the House; whether the Consul at Amoy had reported his visit to the Taiping chief at Chang-chow, and with what results; and whether information had reached the Foreign Office of the reported revolt of the Imperialist troops in the cities of Hang-chow and Chang-chow, with the rumoured connivance of Tsing-kwo-fan, the ante-Foreign Minister of State.—Mr. LAYARD said there were no papers of sufficient importance to lay upon the table. They were aware from his last despatch that it was the intention of the Consul at Amoy to pay a visit to the Taiping chief in question, but his report on that subject had not as yet been received. No information had reached the Foreign Office respecting the reported revolt of the Imperialist troops in the cities referred to by the hon. and gallant member.

SINGAPORE.

(4th.) Lord STANLEY asked the Secretary of State for India whether it was his intention to brink in a Bill, during the present Session, for the transfer of Singapore, Malacca, and Penang from the Indian to the Colonial Administration. – Sir C. Wood said he could not positively answer the question of the noble lord. It was quite certain that the Indian Government were willing to meet the wishes of the Home Government. He had written to the Colonial Government requesting them to state whether they were willing for the transfer of these places, but he had not yet got any reply.—[This is simply official reticence.]

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, MAY 15, 1865.

PRINCE KUNG.

"PRINCE KUNG has been dismissed from all his functions. "The Ministry for Foreign Affairs has been entrusted to OUEN "SIONG and his colleagues." Such are the contents of a telegram dated Peking, April 3, which was received in London on the 27th of the same month, by way of Siberia and St. Petersburg. Our latest advices by the overland mail from the Chinese capital are only up to January 26. At that date we learn that Prince KUNG was despatched to perform the necessary rites at the tomb of his cousin, and an uncle of the EMPEROR; but the EMPRESS Dowager, who is chief Regent, demanded that his juvenile MAJESTY should proceed in *propria persona*, and perform the rites over the deceased, consequently, a Mandarin was sent to prepare the way for him. It appears that this functionary's office is to warn all the people on the route that the sacred person of his Celestial MAJESTY will pass that way, and woe be to those whose profane eyes look upon him, they must bow their heads to the dust as the *cortege* passes. Moreover, should any object appear in the way obnoxious to the sacred presence, to disturb his thoughts intent upon the shrine of his ancestors, it must be removed. It so happened that on the very roadside where the EMPEROR would pass there is a French Roman Catholic chapel, surmounted by a cross. Now this emblem of Christianity is a thing obnoxious in the eyes of all followers of the "Tao-lee," or whatever kind of religion CONFUCIUS or KONG-FOO-TSZE enjoins upon Celestial Monarchs. Consequently he requested the padré who officiates at this chapel to remove the cross during the time the EMPEROR would be engaged in the ceremony. The priest referred the matter to the French Minister, at Peking, who decidedly objected to its removal, ordering that it should be left alone, but adding that the Chinese might remove it if they thought fit. Apparently this would have been a step that might bring the French bayonets once more to the gates of Peking. and it was let alone. Accordingly, on the passing of the EMPEROR and his train, the obnoxious emblem reared its crozier form in full glory, while the attendant priest stood at the door of the chapel to see the procession pass. In his report to the Minister, stating that no one attempted to remove the cross, or otherwise insult their religion or himself, he adds that he caught a glimpse of the juvenile MONARCH, describing him as a "nice-looking little fellow." These details, of what at first appeared as a trifling circumstance, we have given as it is just possible it has some connection with the dismissal of Prince KUNG. It is well known that he has strong foreign sympathies, or if not that, such a conciliatory policy towards foreigners, probably from a dread of their warlike power, that on all occasions where he has been consulted to treat with their representatives his policy was to extend rather than contract their privileges in China, in religion as well as commerce. It was through his advocacy that his colleagues allowed the French to restore their Roman Catholic Propagation of the Faith to the same *status* that it enjoyed in the palmy days of the Emperor KANG-HI, before they were driven from the empire. As he was Minister for Foreign Affairs, this case of the cross in all likelihood was submitted to him; and the threatening hint of the French Envoy, "that the Chinese might remove the cross if "they thought fit," discussed by him and his colleagues when acting upon his foreign proclivities and caution, thought it best to let the cross alone. Of course this would be represented to the EMPRESS Dowager, who is a woman of most determined and even masculine mind, who may have considered it an insult to the State. She is not the mother of the youthful monarch, and never had any children, but his mother and herself are sole Regents, and possess all authority, even to dismiss Prince KUNG, who it is a mistake to suppose was a Prince Regent. He only administered the foreign affairs. At the same time WEN-SEANG, the Prime Minister, had no control over him. This power of dismissal lay entirely in the hands of the two Empresses Dowager, which it would appear from the above telegram they have exercised, and deprived the best friend foreigners had at the Court of Peking of all his functions. Be the cause what it may that has led to this, the removal of that Prince from his high post is a matter for the serious consideration of all foreign Powers who have representatives at Peking. Now that the Taiping war may be said to have ended, so far to the assistance of English and French forces were necessary as quell the rebellion, no doubt the old feeling of antipathy to foreigners is revived, and the exclusive policy of the Government once more in the ascendant. It only wants just such a circumstance as we have related to fan this latent heat into a flame. The Western politician may smile at such a trifling event leading to serious consequences, but we know that those events that led to the *coup d'etat* in which this bold EMPRESS Dowager played such a prominent part, were of a nature similar to this. In the accusations against SOOSHUN and the delinquent Ministers it was held as a heinous crime that the former had sat in the Emperor HIEN FUNG'S vacant throne, while he was dying at Zehol. Also, that other Ministers had moved about the Imperial palace without due regard to the sacred apartments of the EMPEROR. In her eyes these were the most serious charges that led to their decapitation and strangulation. In like manner this affair of the cross may have been construed into an insult against Imperial MAJESTY, that in her opinion could only be wiped out by the condign punishment of the French priest, and razing the chapel and cross to the ground, or some equally prompt physical chastisement according to the Chinese bamboo code of laws. Such a course no doubt would be objected to by Prince KUNG, and hence his dismissal, with the transfer of his functions, as the telegram reports, to "OUEN SIONG and his colleagues." For the information of those unacquainted with the jumble into which foreigners have turned their alphabetic orthography of Chinese names, this is the French mode of spelling the name of the Prime Minister, which is written in English WEN-SEANG. This Minister is an able man, but one who cannot be trusted in dealing with questions of foreign policy. He is strongly imbued with Chinese official tergiversation, as amusingly described by Capt. SHERARD OSBORN in his account of an interview between Mr. LAY and him, together with other members of the Cabinet, when discussing the Anglo-Chinese fleet question. As the notes of that gallant officer give some description of the Prime Minister and his colleagues, it is interesting to quote an extract or two as showing what manner of men these are to whose tender mercies foreigners and foreign policy is now committed.

"WEN-SEANG is an intelligent, energetic-looking man, with a "sinister cast in his eye, and a cruel mouth; richly clad, but with-"out the slightest ostentation; had dirty nails, and was constantly "using either a pipe or a snuff-bottle; he looked a refined Yeh. "SIEH made a reputation and a fortune by Europeans, and "now, Chinaman like, is devoting it in Peking to thwarting us, "and insulting all the Embassies. He has been introduced "to the Board as a 'queller of barbarians.' There is something "in his manner which insults you and irritates you." "WEN-"SEANG, the Prime Minister of China, made an admission of "a very remarkable character. Mr. LAY directly afterwards "repeated it, with the argument, 'As you admit so and so, "of course such and such is the case.' WEN slowly raised his "eyebrows and exclaimed, 'Who said so?' 'Why you did, "your Excellency.' 'Oh no, I never said any such thing,' is "the cool disavowal, and as he turns to his *confreres* his head "is again enveloped in smoke. 'No one said so,' at once "asserts SIEH. 'Oh, of course not, how could any one have "thought of saying so?' is the chorus of all the old story-"tellers together, and the wag of the Board makes some apt "quotation from the classics which gets up a laugh, and the "Board may be said to retire amidst general 'hear, hears!'" We shall look forward with interest to the detailed accounts of Prince KUNG'S dismissal, and the foreign policy of this group of worthies in the Ministry.

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Since the foregoing was written a second telegram has appeared, announcing that "The Ministerial crisis in this city is at an end; Prince KUNG resuming his official position as Prime Minister." It is dated Peking, April 13—ten days later than the previous announcement—purporting to have come by direct overland telegraph from Point de Galle, and was despatched from thence at 4.55 P.M. on the 1st of May, arriving in London on the 7th—the quickest despatch yet attained by the new telegraph route. How it reached that point of departure we are at a loss to understand. It could not have come by way of Shanghai, as the latest date from there is April 9, and from Canton April 15, allowing only two days from Peking, a distance by road of not less than 1,500 miles, which the Chinese pony-express takes a fortnight and longer to accomplish. Under these circumstances we are of opinion that there is some mistake, and that the telegram came *via* Siberia and St. Petersburg. Accepting its authenticity, and that of the important intelligence conveyed, it is most satisfactory, and we await with further interest the details of this Ministerial crisis.

SILK IN FRANCE.

THE silk trade is in great distress in France. It appears that there is a quarter of a million of people occupied in the rearing, spinning, and weaving of silk, that the failure of the worms is general, and that there is no hope of a supply from any part of the world but the Far East. The disease which has attacked the worms, and which is believed to be both contagious and hereditary in the insects, is rapidly spreading to every district in France in which silk is produced, and has committed great ravages in Spain and Italy, and is said to have diminished the quantity of silk to one-half of the amount produced before the appearance of the disease. In 1853 the total was nearly sixty millions of pounds in weight; in 1856 it had fallen to about sixteen millions; and since that time it has ranged between twenty and thirty millions. So great has been the effect in the department of the Drome, that the produce of the worm farms has fallen from sixteen or eighteen millions of francs per annum to two or three millions. The subject has occupied the Government and the scientific world for years, but no remedy seems to be found either in the importation of the ordinary silkworm's eggs or in the acclimatisation of new species of worms, such as those which feed on the oak and on the Japan varnish tree.

The importation of the silkworm's eggs has, during the last five years, been enormous. The value of the imports was £536,304 in 1860; about half that in each of the two following years; £419,796 in 1863; but only £176,724 last year. It does not appear why a supply so much demanded should have fallen off, but it is the rule in France that when anything presses urgently, individual exertion always gives way before Governmental action, and therefore we are not surprised to be told that the whole importation of eggs this year has been due to the Imperial Government, which sent out orders to its consular agents in Japan to purchase and send home a thousand cases of this precious seed. This large import reached Marseilles in the *Mœris* on the first day of January, and the eggs were disposed of by auction through the agency of the Acclimatisation Society between Lyons and Montpelier. Now comes a strange and unexplained part of the story. Speculation stepped in, and purchasers from Italy bought up nearly the whole of the imported seed, not only from merchants, but even out of the hands of silk farmers themselves, at a premium of a few francs on the original price, so that the whole, or nearly the whole, of the benefit to be derived from the importation by the French Government of so large a quantity of seed is said to have fallen to the share of Italy. Why was this? Are the Italians so much superior in matters of business that they were thus able to snatch the meat while their less shrewd neighbours were satisfied with the shadow of a few francs in hand? Has the disease taken such deep root in France and rendered the silk farmers so hopeless that they do not care to try their fortune again, at any rate for the present? or have they become so impoverished that the small premium was a temptation which they could not resist?

One thing is pretty certain, namely, that as French-produced silk has fallen to one-half of the former amount, there must be a larger demand for the foreign material as soon as business shall have recovered itself from the effect of the American struggle and European crises, and this may be worthy of consideration. It has always been a sore point with the French that England should be the chief dealer in such matters as Cashmere shawls, and more especially raw silk. The writer of the commercial article in the *Presse* of last week says:—"Why "is Lyons not the grand *entrepot* for the silk of Asia, and "Paris that of the Cashmeres of Lahore? Is it not strange "that the raw material which Lyons requires for her work, "and the precious tissues of which Paris requires seven-"eights, should, before reaching their destination, make a long "stay in the London Docks?" The estimate of the proportion which Paris takes of Indian shawls and other Eastern productions is doubtless enormously exaggerated, but this does not affect the value of the query, the answer to which must come from French merchants and capitalists, who will, perhaps, explain how it is that when silkworm's eggs are wanted, the rich Lyonese do not take care that the silk districts are supplied with them without the intervention of Government; and, further, how it is that when the seed is placed in the hands that are said to be idle for want of it, it should be parted with for a few francs premium. Our duty is only to point out the facts as stated, and to leave poor speculation, who is believed to be such a mischief-maker in one way, to compensate by different conduct in another. In spite of all complaints, however, the silk trade in France presents a very respectable appearance still. The Douane has just issued the account of imports and exports for the first quarter of the present year, from which we find that the silk imports amounted to nearly three millions sterling, and the exports to more than that sum.

CEYLON COFFEE IN THE LONDON MARKET.

THE reduction of the tea duty will naturally excite inquiry in Ceylon as to its probable effect on the consumption of coffee in the United Kingdom. Many of our tea dealers have expressed the opinion—without, as we conceive, due consideration, that cheaper tea will lessen the use of coffee. It will be found, however, that the greatest tea drinkers are also the greatest coffee drinkers, and so downwards, the sedative qualities of the leaf provoking an alternating appetite for the more exhilirating beverage from the berry. As the use of tea extends downwards, displacing, to a certain extent, poisonous spirituous decoctions, it cannot but react in favour of coffee. Concurrently, indeed, with the low prices of tea during the past season, a decrease is exhibited in the home consumption of coffee as compared with the same period last year; but this decrease has not been confined to coffee, tea has shared in it; and on analysing the character of this decline we find it to lie wholly with the better descriptions of Ceylon importations, and attributable to the comparatively high prices demanded by holders, the demand for other coffee, both colonial and foreign, having actually augmented. In the three months ending March 31st, the consumption of Ceylon coffee reached 5,230,508 lbs., against 6,501,257 lbs. in the same period last year, whilst the consumption of coffee from other countries advanced from 2,052,600 lbs. to 3,047,267 lbs. The total decline in the home consumption in the seventeen weeks ending the 29th ult., as compared with the corresponding time in 1864, was 731 tons, whilst the decline in tea was 2,299,736 lbs. The last month, however, showed a large improvement in our export trade, and this has gone far to diminish the late excess of stock as compared with last year. The demand that has sprung up in the United States, in addition to more continental and colonial exports, adds to the firmness of holders, induces lightness in public sales notwithstanding the high prices realised by the small parcels of Plantation and Native Ceylon brought forward, and compels those whose immediate wants must be met to give extreme value; this, too, despite heavy deliveries and the cargoes now nearing our port. Latterly expectations as to the extent of the United States demand have been moderated, but there is no doubt requirements will be considerable. Last year the United States took from Rio only 11,082 bags more than in 1861. Whatever relief is thus given to our present stock, colonial and foreign, will have a marked effect on prices. This stock on the 29th April amounted to 8,955 tons against 8,282 tons at the same time in 1864, an excess by no means large. Mr. GLADSTONE has credited our tea dealers with being able, when occasion serves, "to act as one man;" yet the taunt implied has little force in it, for with increased competition in production of colonial and foreign produce—a competition stimulated by London capital—it obviously becomes increasingly difficult to bolster up prices. What Ceylon cultivators most require is the power to obtain advances on more reasonable terms than those which existing monetary agencies are inclined to supply, together with certain modifications in the arrange-

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ments attending the payment of interest and instalments by consignments. From indications now presenting themselves, we are satisfied that this colony will not have long to wait for a material reduction in the ruling rates of interest, together with financial organisations, specially and peculiarly adapted to her wants.

THE COLONIAL NAVAL DEFENCE ACT.

THE Act "to make better provision for the naval defence of the colonies" is another important step in that new system of administering the affairs of our dependencies, which began by endowing them with powers for self-government. Now, after having for some time past been warning them that they must in future contribute a proportion of the cost incurred for their protection against foreign foes or native disturbers, the Imperial Executive is pointing out the means, and conferring on them the capacity, for compelling flying squadrons and marauding privateers to respect their ports and shores, even at the critical juncture, sure every now and then to occur, when no pennant of the Royal Navy is at hand to succour. The more distant the colony the more valuable will be the new ever-present protection contemplated by the Act passed on the 7th April of the present session, which is to be legally and officially known as "The Colonial Naval Defence Act." The preamble sets forth the expediency of enabling the several colonial possessions of Her MAJESTY to make better provision for naval defence, and for that end to provide and man vessels of war, and to raise a volunteer force, which is to form part of the Royal Naval Reserve established in Britain under the Act of Parliament of 1859. To effect the object thus enunciated, the Legislative authority of any colony is empowered, with the approval of Her MAJESTY in Council, to make provision for maintaining a vessel or vessels of war; for raising and maintaining seamen and others bound to serve in such vessel; for raising and maintaining a body of volunteers bound to general service in the Royal Navy on emergency, and, if so directed by the Legislative authority, to serve in any such vessel as before mentioned; for appointing commissioned, warrant, and other officers to serve with any such men ashore or afloat, or for obtaining from the Admiralty the services of officers and men of the Royal Navy; for enforcing good order and discipline among those men and officers, and for subjecting them to all enactments and regulations in force for the discipline of the Royal Navy. All this is to be done at the expense of the colony; and that point is further ensured by a special clause providing that nothing done under the Act shall impose any charge on the revenues of the United Kingdom without express provision made by Parliament for meeting that charge. Volunteers raised under this Act are to form part of the Royal Naval Reserve, but to be subject exclusively to the provisions made by the Legislative authority of the colony. Her MAJESTY may authorise the Admiralty to issue to any officer of the Royal Navy volunteering for the purpose a special commission for service under the Act; and may also authorise the department to accept any offer made by the Government of a colony to place their vessel of war, with the men and officers, at the disposal of Her MAJESTY; and, when accepted, such vessel and men and officers are to all intents to be deemed a portion of the Royal Navy. So, also, the whole or any part of the volunteers referred to above may be placed at the disposal of Her MAJESTY for service in the navy; and the Admiralty may appoint any officer of the rank of captain in the navy, or of a higher rank, to exercise any power conferred on the Admiralty under the Act. Finally, nothing in the Act is to take away or abridge any power vested in or exerciseable by the Legislature or Government of any colony.

We have been thus particular in condensing the powers created by the Act, because we hold it certain that in any future war the whole of the Colonies will be prompt to avail themselves of the security it will afford to their seaboard and their intercolonial traffic. The Confederate cruisers have taught the world how great the mischief that may be inflicted by an active rover. Yet one gunboat armed with a single gun of the large calibre now brought into use would have a vast effect in enforcing caution on these predatory pests. Moreover, the capability of obtaining from the Admiralty the services of officers and men belonging to the navy for manning a vessel equipped by a colony is a wise and farsighted provision, since it will enable a small staff of both to be engaged, who will be constantly at hand to drill in the best fashion whatever numbers the public spirit of the Legislature and the population may rally to the service either as volunteers or as part of the Royal Naval Reserve. The success that has attended the creation of the last-named force in the mother-country will, we are confident, be renewed in her far-off dependencies. Men and officers of the commercial marine, altogether employed in the intercolonial trade, or identified with a particular colony by a long series of voyages out and home, will be proud to enrol themselves among the recognised defenders of the commerce by which they have thriven, and of the flag that is endeared to them by the glories of its history as well as from having been the ensign that has waved over them through the successes and the perils of their own lives. The Volunteer Rifles of England soon had their counterparts in every spot in either hemisphere that acknowledged Queen VICTORIA'S sway; and the Royal Naval Reserve will, in like manner, soon have launched their vessels in every sea and river that brings commerce and fertility to her colonial empire.

THE NEW COURT FOR CHINA.

SIR EDMUND HORNBY, the newly-appointed Judge for China, will proceed to Shanghai by the mail of the 10th June, accompanied by Mr. C. W. GOODWIN, Assistant Judge, and Mr. JOHN FRASER, as Law Secretary. The following is the official announcement from the *London Gazette*:—

The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint Sir Edmund Hornby, Knight, late Judge of the Supreme Consular Court at Constantinople, to be Judge of the Supreme Court for China and Japan; Charles Wycliffe Goodwin, Esq., to be Assistant-Judge of the Supreme Court for China and Japan; and John Fraser, Esq., to be Law Secretary and Registrar of the Supreme Court for China and Japan.

COLONEL NEALE, C.B., late *Charge d'Affaires* in Japan, has been appointed Secretary to the Legation at Athens.

MR. W. H. READ, who leaves by next mail for Singapore, had an interview with the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

COCHIN-CHINA.

A PARIS correspondent of the *Indépendance Belge* says that a *senatus-consulte* will shortly issue declaring Cochin-China a French colony. In the first place, this announcement is rather vague in its terms, and, in the second, the journal in question is peculiarly fortunate in its discovery of mares' nests. Its correspondents have, however, frequently put forth what looked very much like Ministerial feelers, and its statements have sometimes been erroneous only from their being prematurely published.

Admiral de la Grandière has been looking up documents relating to manners, customs, and literature of the Cambogians, the religion of Buddha, and other subjects. A mission sent to Houdon with that object succeeded in discovering a number of manuscripts written in Cambogian characters, and treating of the war with China, of marriage and the duties of husband and wife, of the precepts of Buddhism, of crimes and punishments, and also a number of tragic and comic plays. These documents were sent to the Minister of Marine, who has handed them over to the Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres.

FOREIGN OFFICE, MAY 11.—The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint Francis Gerhard Myburgh, Esq., now Her Majesty's Consul at Nagasaki, to be Her Majesty's Consul at Kanagawa; Francis Howard Vyse, Esq., now Her Majesty's Consul at Hakodadi, to be Her Majesty's Consul at Nagasaki; and Abel A. J. Gower, Esq., to be Her Majesty's Consul at Hakodadi.

CURIOSITIES OF THE FAR EAST.—Chinese and Japanese objects of art continue to be in demand and to fetch good prices in Paris. A remarkable collection of artistic furniture and curiosities, the property of the late Prince de Beauveau, took place the other day. Amongst the former was a beautiful secretaire, presented by the unfortunate Marie Antoinette to one of the ladies of her court, which sold for 60,000 francs. At the same sale, two vases in old Japan porcelain, decorated with landscapes and figures, about two feet high, fetched 9,650 francs (£386), and two small vases in old China ware, 1,040 francs (£41. 12s.).

Literature.

Le Langage, son Histoire, ses Lois: Applications Utiles de ces Lois. Par le Comte D'ESCAYRAC DE LAUTURE. Paris: Librairie du Magasin Pittoresque. (Language, its History, its Laws: Useful Applications of those Laws. By Count D'Escayrac de Lauture.)—The origin and history of the languages of the earth belong to a class of subjects, more numerous than might be supposed, which experience has shown to possess a bewildering fascination for those that are once tempted to enter on their investigation. The vast mass of very curious information the inquirer is sure to accumulate, the singular coincidences and unexpected similarities that turn up, and the excitement constant on the expectation that the long sought for clue has at last been discovered, exercise such a power over the mind that hardly ever is the man who starts on this voyage of discovery

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contented to forego its prosecution so long as health and intellect are vigorous. The Count de Lauture admits that the subject has already occupied him several years, and all that he now professes to do is "to sum up the little that he has up to this time been able to comprehend, to mark a stage, and to formulate the principles that must guide him in his further researches." The more important of these principles are as follows :—There exists between certain ideas and certain sounds, or certain modifications of one same sound, an affinity that determines the choice of first words and first forms, and that never ceases to affect the language by its influence. To be understood, the primitive language must have been accompanied by gestures and intonations, and have multiplied the sounds representative of one same idea. Radical monosyllables may be the general types of certain classes of ideas, but there is nothing to prove that they were antecedent to longer words. In several languages, at least, they may be looked on as a relatively modern conception of the grammarians. The fundamental or instinctive portion of a language is, with slight differences, due to diversity of race, climate, and circumstances common to all mankind. The subsequent, or consequent and conventional, portion of the language is more special to each people. Each people possesses a stock of its own, more or less considerable as to quantity. The author continues :—

Tribes and peoples, in commingling, mingle their vocabularies and their grammatical forms, altering their aspect and their sense; sometimes one idiom is almost entirely substituted for another. The idiom of the strongest, the most numerous, and above all of the most civilised people dominates in the medley; but the grammatical processes will be adopted from the grammar that is most simple, and will be the more simplified the more idioms and the more peoples go to form the medley. Civilisation results from commerce and the commingling of men: hybrid and allied languages, therefore, characterise civilised peoples; the groups of them that may be formed will be more natural and more extended as belonging to those fractions of the human race most developed; every idiom, in short, is more simple and more analytical in proportion as its formation is more hybrid and its use more diffused. Language is a phenomenon of natural order, obeying simple laws, that govern the mind of man; different languages are merely the forms and phases of those laws; all allied in some common points, all separated by their peculiar features, mixed in variable proportions and without reference to any affinity of the races speaking them, their being grouped into families is convenient to the mind; true in a very general sense, it absolutely ceases to be so when we penetrate into detail, or are bent on clearly defining limits that nature has not laid down. In an exact and philosophic point of view, we are, therefore, not to regard languages as mothers, sisters, or daughters, the one of the other, but as allied, and more or less modified one by the other. The comparison and juxtaposition of idioms can furnish no conclusive proof of the parentage or birthplace of the people speaking them. The study of language shows how language is formed, and what laws it obeys; it does not demonstrate that all mankind descended from a single pair, nor any more does it demonstrate the contrary.

Count de Lauture is evidently satisfied to carry on his investigations in the old-fashioned way, collecting an immense mass of facts before any theory is ventured upon. "A Dr. Schmidt deduced the whole Latin language from a single vowel. There is no foolery to which some specious support might not be afforded; but criticism, always on the watch, ought to register facts only when they are constant, and to express itself only in general terms when the detail is inaccessible or not yet thoroughly investigated. This is particularly the case with etymologies—that is, with the relations that link our own vocabulary to more ancient ones. In a general acceptation, we must acknowledge that such relations exist; in each particular case, on the contrary, our first inclination should be to doubt." In this cautious spirit the author brings together the fruits of his travel and his inquiries. The Chinese language, as might be conjectured, from his residence in that country and the time and labour he has in former works devoted to "The Flowery Land," is continually appealed to for illustration and comparison. A specimen moreover is given of a new mode of writing Chinese, which is applicable to all languages, and would form a universal handwriting easily intelligible by comparatively illiterate persons. There is also given a plate of a system of telegraphy adapted to the Chinese language, which may be found serviceable some day when the wires stretch from India still onwards to the Far East. Meanwhile those who take an interest in the subject of this thin quarto will be delighted with the immense quantity of facts so clearly and ably placed at their service by the Count de Lauture.

Monetary and Commercial.

The duty on tea has been reduced to 6d., which was to take effect on the 6th inst., but owing to remonstrances from the trade the Chancellor of the Exchequer has agreed to defer it until the 1st June. This reduction has not improved the prices so much as anticipated, owing to the immense stocks. Shippers in China will do well to confine their purchases to the better qualities, not only to avoid loss, but to induce the Chinese to bestow more care in the manipulation of the leaf. It will be manifest that with the reduction of the duty the finer sorts will be more in demand than ever, and it is of the last importance that less of what is termed here by the trade as "rubbish" should be exported. The losses of the past two years should be sufficient warning for all operators.

The biddings for bills on India, which were offered to the usual extent of £300,000, took place at the Bank of England, but only £44,500 was taken, the proportions allotted being to Calcutta £32,500, and to Madras £12,000. The minimum price was as before—on Calcutta and Madras 1s. 11d., and on Bombay 1s. 11¼d. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at the minimum will receive in full. On Bombay all the tenders were below the minimum. This result, which shows a further rapid diminution in the demand for means of remittance to the East, is understood to have been anticipated, but it appears that, the India Council not requiring at present any additional funds, it was deemed unnecessary to lower the terms.

The following is from the report of the directors of the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China, to be submitted at the annual meeting on the 16th of May :—

After providing for all bad and doubtful debts, and defraying expense of management at all points, the net profit amounts to £126,082. 1s. 1d., to which has to be added a sum of £75,831. 11s. 2d. undivided profit brought forward from the preceding year, making a total of £201,913. 12s. 3d. Out of the above total £136,153. 5s. has been paid in two half-yearly dividends, making together 20 per cent. on the paid up capital of the bank. The unappropriated balance of £65,760. 7s. 3d. is carried forward to the profit and loss account of the current year. The last instalment of £12. 10s. per share, due 2nd of January last, upon the ten thousand new shares issued the 1st of December, 1863, has been paid. The Newera Ellia and Tuticorin agencies have been closed, the results not answering expectations, and for a similar reason the Mauritius branch will be closed at the end of the current year.

Mr. George Palmer Robinson and Mr. Thomas Stenhouse having resigned their seats in the direction of the bank, the shareholders will have to elect two new directors. Mr. James Murray Robertson, one of the auditors, and Mr. Ellis James Gilman, of the firm of Messrs. Ashton and Co., London, offer themselves as candidates for the vacant seats, and the court have much satisfaction in recommending them to the shareholders for election; an adjourned general meeting will be held for the purpose.

The shareholders will have to appoint auditors for the current year. Mr. James Joseph Mackenzie, late of the firm of Messrs. Dent and Co., China, having consented to act, the directors recommend him to you for appointment in conjunction with the present auditor, Mr. J. Smith, Mr. James Murray Robertson retiring, in consequence of his being a candidate for one of the vacancies in the direction.

At the meeting of the Asiatic Bank on the 4th inst., the report of the directors, which will be found in another column, recommending a dividend equal to 20 per cent. per annum, was agreed to, and a vote of thanks passed to the directors and officers of the bank.

A meeting of the creditors of Messrs. James Marshall and Sons, cotton spinners, of Stockport, has been held at Manchester, when the total liabilities were stated at £280,000, and the assets at £200,000. An offer of a composition of 12s. 6d. in the pound was submitted for consideration.

At the meeting of the shareholders of the Bank of Hindustan, to be held on the 15th (this day), the report to be presented states that—

The net profits of the year, after defraying all expenses and providing for losses, amount to £15,893. 12s. 11d., including a balance of £827. 11s. 1d. brought forward from the accounts of the previous year, out of which the sum of £14,746. 5s. has already been paid as an interim dividend on the 20th August last, leaving a balance of £1,147. 7s. 11d., which it is proposed to carry forward. The directors have to express their regret that the operations of this company during the past year have not exhibited a more profitable result; but taking into consideration the comparatively recent formation of the bank, and the gradual extension of the branches abroad, the peculiarly disorganised condition of commercial affairs in the latter part of the year 1864, and the existence of a state of things specially calculated to embarrass the successful working of the branches, it must be a source of satisfaction that the transactions of the year have resulted in a profit, that a solid footing has been acquired by the bank, and its business and connections further extended. The causes which acted prejudicially to the welfare of the bank were of a peculiar and exceptional character. They have now ceased to exist. The operations of the present year have shown decided progress and satisfactory results, and it is therefore evident that the temporary interruption to the successful operations of the bank was caused by circumstances which were beyond the control of the directors. The total amount of capital in this bank on the 31st December, 1864, was £586,237, and on the 29th ult it amounted to £720,444. The directors have the pleasure to report that notwithstanding a variety of adverse circumstances, the calls have, on the whole, been remarkably well met. The reserve fund of the bank amounts at present to £92,900. In July last the Colombo branch, with its sub-branches at Kandy and Point de Galle, were opened. The progress of the establishments, although extending over a period of

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scarcely six months, is satisfactory. The directors have also to announce that in February last a branch was opened at Yokohama.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Nyanza*, on the 4th inst., from Southampton, was:—In gold to Madras, £140. In silver, to Hong Kong, £19,943. Total, in gold, £140; in silver, £19,943.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices May 10.
£100	Agra and Masterman's	50	118 to 122	120 to 122
50	Do. New	25	59 to 61	59 to 61
50	Do. „	25	—	—
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	26 to 28	27 to 29
20	Do. New	All	—	—
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	49 to 51	50 to 52
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	33 to 35 xd.	33 to 35xd.
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (16 pd.)	All	—	—
20	Eastern Exchange	5	1⅛ to ¼ dis.	1⅛ to ¼ dis.
50	London Joint Stock	15	49 to 51	50 to 51
100	London and Westminster	20	95 to 96	95 to 96
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	52 to 54 xd.	52 to 54 xd.
50	Union of London	15	53 to 54	53 to 55
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	4 to 2 dis.	3 to 1 dis.
100	Do. Issued at 2 pm.	25	5 to 3 dis.	4 to 2 dis.
100	Do. New	15	5 to 3 dis.	4 to 2 dis.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	2⅛ to 1½ dis.	1⅛ to ½ dis.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	29 to 31	30 to 31
100	Bank of London	50	140 to 145	140 to 145
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	par to ¼ pm. xd	par to ¼ pm. xd
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3⅛ to 4⅛	3⅛ to 4⅛
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	84 to 86	84 to 86
50	Do. New	35	23 to 25 pm.	23 to 25 pm.
20	China Steamship & Labuan Coal Co.	5	—	—
5	Bombay Gas	All	5⅛ to 6¼	5⅛ to 6¼
10	Hong Kong Gas	All	2⅛ to 1½ dis.	2⅛ to 1½ dis.
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	10	3 to 2 dis.	3 to 2 dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	½ dis. to par	½ dis. to par.
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	19⅛ to 20½	19⅛ to 20½
1	Oriental Gas	All	1⅛ to 1⅛	1⅛ to 1⅛
1	Do. New	All	⅛ to ⅜ pm.	⅛ to ⅜ pm.
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2⅛ to 3⅛	2⅛ to 3⅛
100	West India Steam Company	60	101 to 104 xd.	97 to 99 xd.
20	Ceylon Company	7	2⅜ to 3⅛ pm.	2⅜ to 3⅛ pm.
20	International Finance Society	5	1 to 1½ pm	⅜ to 1 pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	1⅛ to 1⅛ pm.	1⅛ to 1⅜ pm.
50	London Financial Association	15	6⅜ to 7⅛ pm.	6⅛ to 7 pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	1⅛ to 1 dis.	1⅛ to ⅛ dis
20	Société Financière d'Egypte	10	4⅛ to 3⅛ dis.	3⅛ to 2⅛ dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	15⅜ to 15⅛	15⅛ to 15⅛
10	Upper Assam Tea	3⅛	3 to 4 pm.	2⅛ to 3⅛ pm.
10	Do.		17 to 20	17 to 20

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—The Tea market the past month has undergone various changes; during the first half a firm tone prevailed, with strengthening prices, aided by considerable purchases on speculation; on 27th ult. a statement appeared in a leader of the *Times* of the likelihood of a reduction in the duty, which, on the evening of that day, was confirmed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer giving a further impetus to the market, with an advance on most classes of Black to the extent of 1½d. to 2d. per lb. Within the past few days a reaction has set in and a portion of the late advance has been lost in the few sales made; but importers are firm, and, taking the position of the trade in all its bearings, there are good grounds for all medium to fine teas maintaining present if not advanced rates, as our supplies till next October will be much under our requirements, and mostly of low and undesirable kinds. There has been no export demand for the Continent, but some parcels of good common to fair Oolong and a few Greens have been sent to New York; to Canada demand has ceased. The deliveries for the month are 10,100,000 lbs., making—Home Consumption for London, from 1st January to 30th April, 1865, 18,464,000: for 1864, 19,167,000; export from do., 1865, 8,500,000; for 1864, 9,539,000; sent coastwise from do., 1865, 11,100,000; for 1864, 12,056,000; total for 1865, 38,064,000; for 1864, 40,762,000. Black: There have been but few transactions in the grades up to common, and prices do not show more than ½d. per lb. advance. The inferior to good flavory have commanded considerable attention and large sales have transpired at an advance of 1½d. to 2d. per lb., and there are now but few of clean quality under 11½d. per lb. Kaisow kinds have also been largely dealt in, closing at 1½d. per lb. above the rates of last month; medium to fine as well as finest Kaisow is scarce, particularly the former grade, and recourse is had to the imitation made from Tayshan leaf, medium qualities of which are 1d. per lb. better; common still remains out of favour and prices are quite nominal. In Amoy red leafs there has scarcely been a transaction during the late activity, but prices are nominally 1½d per lb. higher, there being few if any sellers under 1s. per lb. There has been a brisk trade in black leaf of the fair to good useful grades at an advance of 1½d. per lb.; medium to fine have also had their full share of attention, the latter grade selling at 2d. per lb. advance, as the supply is getting very limited; in finest only a few sales have been made at 1d. per lb. advance. In Souchong we do not hear of much having been done. Oolong of the good common grades have commanded more notice for shipment to New York. Scented Tea: both Canton Orange Pekoe and Caper have been almost neglected, and prices show no material change. Foo-Chow make of Orange Pekoe has been moderately dealt in at a slight advance for grades up to 2s. 2d. per lb. In Caper there is nothing new to advise. Green: There has been more inquiry, but the supply offering is very small, as no arrivals either of Fychow or Moyune have reached this; prices for good to fine young Hyson and Gunpowder are 1d. to 2d. per lb higher on last month's rates. Stock: Of black on 30th April, in London, 89,964 lbs.; Green, 11,342 lbs.; the total stock of the United Kingdom being about 112,000,000, against 105,000,000 in 1864.

SILK.—There is no improvement in the position or prospects of the Silk Trade. Reduced stocks and very small arrivals have led to a further rise in prices, but all else is unsatisfactory, and not the least so are the prospects for the coming season. It is too early to speak with confidence as to the probable result of the new crop in Europe, and it may be it will be less miserable than present feelings induce people to fear; but no one is sanguine enough to anticipate any material improvement upon last season. In the meantime consumption both here and on the Continent is accommodating itself to the exhausted character of the supply and the deliveries have fallen back to the lowest point of later years.

CHINA.	Usual Imports.	
	s. d.	s. d.
Tsatlee, No. 1 and 2	28 0 to	29 0
„ No. 3 and 4	25 6	27 6
„ No. 5	25 0	25 6
Ditto, Hang-Chow	24 6	25 6
Yu-un fa	17 0	24 6
Taysaam	19 0	23 6
Ditto, skeins	None.	
Ditto, long reel	21 0	22 0
Canton	None.	
Chinese Thrown	None.	
JAPAN.	Common and Ordinary.	
	s. d.	s. d.
Maibash, dyepot	27 6	28 6
Ida, bricks	26 6	28 9
Sodai „	25 0	26 6
Oshu, re-reeled	26 0	27 0
Koshu, Selé	25 0	26 0
Acchezan, slips	24 6	25 6
Mashtah „	24 6	25 6
Hatchojee, Tussah	14 0	17 6

STATE OF THE WAREHOUSES.

	Sold Stock.		Unsold Stock.		Delivered.	
	April 1, 1865.	April 1, 1864.	April 1, 1865.	April 1, 1864.	Jan. 1 to April 7, 1865.	Jan. 1 to April 8, 1864.
Bengal	2,380	1,198	2,032	5,512	2,760	1,208
China	5,769	7,247	2,788	9,885	8,499	7,237
Japan	2,667	3,720	2,053	4,644	3,416	4,725
Canton	30	264	30	987	338	779
Chinese Thrown	40	264	28	613	68	319

COTTON.—There was a fair demand on the spot throughout last week, from both Exporters and the Home trade, and some speculative inquiry for parcels to arrive. Quotations remained without change from the week previous. The London Cotton Broker's Association report the following sales of cotton from the Far East during the week ending Friday the 5th:—30 bales of China, fair, at 8¼d.; 570 bales Japan, barely fair to good fair at 8¾d. to 9½d. The stock of China and Japan in London on the 4th May was 14,449 bales, against 25,581 at same date last year; the total stock in London being 108,497 bales, against 87,938 last year. The principal excess is in Madras, of which there is in London 22,440 bales more than in 1864. Of China and Japan the stock afloat to London and Japan on the 5th May, was 23,446 bales China and 65 bales Japan, against 94,441 bales of the former, and 6,476 bales of the latter at the same date in 1864. At Liverpool, China and Japan continued in fair demand during the week ending the 5th, and generally full prices were paid. The total stock in Liverpool on the 5th of May was 537,000 bales, against 357,926 last year. Arrivals at Liverpool during the week, from Hong Kong, James Vinnicombe, 3,930 bales; from Shanghai, Ariadne, 5,400 bales, Coringa, 5,132, Ann Helen, 7,904 bales, Roodic, 4,149 bales. There was a good demand at Liverpool on Monday, the 8th, and Egyptians are quoted ¼d., Surats ¼d., and American ¼d. to ½d. per lb. dearer.

SUGAR.—The market has evinced less general animation since our last, but prices on the whole have been firmly supported, and in floating cargoes a large business has been done at advanced rates. At public sales were brought forward 3,372 bags Manila, about half superior yellow grainy, Muscovado sort, which were held firmly and brought in at 36s. 6d. to 37s. 6d., the rest being sold at and since, viz., low yellow Muscovado, 31s. 6d., and strong Brown Clayed, 30s. 6d. to 31s. By private contract 12,000 bags Clayed Manila went at 29s. 6d. to 30s. The market closed for the week with a quiet tone.

COFFEE.—General steadiness prevails in the Colonial market, and previous rates continue to be well sustained. Only a trifling quantity Plantation Ceylon has been offered by auction, which brought firm prices, and privately, several small parcels have been sold on similar terms. 240 casks, 1,115 bags Native were held for some advance, and only a small part was taken, small, 65s. 6d. to 66s., good ordinary, 68s. to 68s. 6d.

RICE.—The demand has been fairly maintained, and sales of 60,000 bags have been effected at fully last week's prices, Bassein 9s. to 9s. 6d., ordinary Nakrenzie and Moulmein 8s. 7½d. to 8s. 9d., Rangoon at 9s. 1½d to 9s. 3d. for ordinary, and 10s. 3d. for fine; also white Bengal at 12s. 6d. to 13s. 6d., and pinky Madras at 11s. to 11s. 9d. At public sale, 682 bags cargo Bengal were sold at full rates, middling to good 10s. to 11s. 6d.; 4,009 bags white were withdrawn above the value.

CARDAMOMS.—Firm: 10 cases Malabar at auction retired: and of 33 bags Madras, two sold at 3s. per lb. for middling lean: limited business privately at full prices.

CAMPHOR.—Again 2s. 6d. to 5s. per cwt. dearer, and business to a fair extent done privately up to £6. 10s. per cwt. for China; and the market remains firm, though quiet.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Is 2s. to 3s. per cwt. dearer, with improved trade demand; 209 boxes at auction sold at 79s. to 82s. per cwt. for second to 1st piles, of ordinary quality. Buds: Nothing of any consequence doing.

CINNAMON (CEYLON).—We quote 1st sort 1s. 4d. to 2s. 4d. per lb.; 2nd, 1s. 3d. to 2s. 2d.; 3rd, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 9d.; and 4th and Jungle 10d. to 1s. 4d. Market quiet.

COCOA NUT OIL.—This market has been steady, but quiet; no change in value, and transactions small. 40 casks Cochin, 204 casks Ceylon, and 37 casks Sydney at auction.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Continue flat, with little doing: 50 bags at auction retired. Dragon's Blood and Galangal Root: Nothing of any moment doing in either of those drugs. Rhubarb: Transactions—sales and re-sales—have been large, and prices are generally considerably

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higher; only 37 chests at auction, and but five sold, at 6s. 6d. to 6s. 8d. per lb. for fair round, and 3s. 9d. ordinary.

GUMS.—Benjamin: In Siam nothing doing: Sumatra quiet, and rather lower; and of 90 cases at auction. only a few sold at £13 per cwt. for good 2nd quality, false packed; £6. 15s. middling 3rd; and £2. 7s. 6d. ordinary 4th. Damer: Continues quiet, and without business of interest. Gamboge: Quiet, as before: 9 cases at auction, retired.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Very quiet, with little trade.

HEMP (MANILA).—This market shows improvement: very good business accomplished privately, and prices 10s. per ton higher: 662 bales damaged at auction, all sold at very full value.

HORNS.—Firm; auctions confined to 7 tons Madras Buffalo horns sold at 29s. 6d. to 30s. per cwt. for 2½ lbs. average.

INDIA RUBBER.—Market very quiet, with scarcely any trade; 174 packages Singapore at auction, all retired.

JAPAN WAX.—Quiet: 40 boxes at auction all retired.

OILS.—Anniseed:—Had advanced to 7s. 6d. per lb. with moderate operations, but has latterly become quiet, and receded to 7s. 3d. Cassia: Fair business has been done at the previous value of 8s. 3d. per lb., but recently the Oil has become quiet, with sellers rather than buyers at that price. Cinnamon, and Mace and Nutmegs: Nothing of any importance doing in either of these Oils.

SAGO.—Steady; 503 boxes at auction sold at 19s. to 19s. 6d. per cwt. for good small. Flour: Is rather dearer; moderate business having been done privately at 14s. 6d. to 14s. 9d. per cwt. for good.

SHELLAC.—Quiet, and prices generally in favour of the buyer; of 1,362 packages at auction about half sold: Orange at £5. 2s. 6d. to £5. 12s. 6d. per cwt.; Garnet, £5. 5s. to £5. 7s. 6d.; Liver, £4. 10s.; Button, £3. 17s. 6d. to £5. 10s.; Native, £4. 5s. to £4. 15s.; Block and Blocky, £3. 5s. to £4. 15s. Private business reduced.

SPICES.—Cloves: Not any change, in the absence of business of any interest. Mace: Steady; of 15 cases Penang at auction, two-thirds sold at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 6d. per lb. for middling to good reddish. Nutmegs; Firm; 59 cases Penang at auction sold at 3s. 4d. to 3s. 7d. per lb. for good to very good bold, and 1s. to 1s. 7d. middling small to fair medium.

PEPPER.—Black: Had been steady, but latterly has given way slightly in value. Of 685 bags Singapore at auction, one-third sold at 3⅞d. to 3¼d. per lb.; and of 3,274 bags Penang, two-thirds sold at 3d. to 3⅛d. White: Firm; of 246 bags Singapore, and 71 bags Penang at auction, half sold at 6d. to 6⅛d. per lb. for middling to good.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Steady; and of 6,281 bags at auction, two-thirds found buyers at 24s. 6d. to 25s. 6d. per cwt. for fair to good. Gambier: Firm, and geneally dearer, with good private trade, chiefly at 21s. 9d. to 23s. per cwt. on the spot, and 22s. to 22s. 6d. for arrival. 1,537 bales at auction, all retired.

TIN.—This market remained firm and active for some days subsequently to our last, and good business was done in Straits, including sales for arrival up to £98 per ton, but latterly the metal has become quiet, and the value of good Straits is £93 cash.

TOBACCO.—The Spanish Government, it is said, finding no buyers in Manila, are making heavy shipments to Lisbon, and this policy may eventually act favourably for holders; very few transactions to note. Manila Segars and Cheroots: Continental markets continue to supply the consumption of this country, we paying them the profit that ought by rights to go through the usual channels of commerce here; by latest advices 140 cases are in reality to be shipped direct to London. Java: A large sale has taken place on the continent of this growth, but nothing suitable for the English market could be obtained; there has been a fair demand for coloury lots, but at lower prices. Japan: Supplies are wanted, but it is doubtful if shippers will find it worth while to continue their operations in this growth at the present rates. Prices—Manila Cheroots and Segars, 8s. to 9s. 3d. per lb.; Manila Leaf, 7d. to 3s.; Japan, 4d. to 7d.; Java, 6d. to 1s. 0½d.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Galls: Nothing of importance doing in Turkey; China and Japan flat; the latter cheaper. 105 cases China at auction, retired at 70s. per cwt., and 54 cases Japan sold at 54s. to 54s. 6d. for fair. Musk: Remains scarce and firm. Rattans: In demand, and rather dearer; 10,925 bundles Singapore and 2,598 bundles Penang at auction sold at 3s. 4d. to 6s. per 100. Sapanwood: Not any business of consequence doing. Mother-o'-Pearl Shells: Steady; 50 cases Manila sold at auction at £5. 7s. 6d. to £5. 10s. per cwt. Soy: Remains firm, with inquiry, but very little trade. Star Anniseeds: Very scarce, and much wanted; nothing doing. Sticklac (Siam): Flat; of 465 cases at auction, very few sold at 46s. per cwt. for fair small. Tortoise-shell: Auctions have combined 19 chests Sydney, one-third sold at 9s. to 12s. 6d. per lb. for pickings to inferior in sorts; and 12 cases Singapore, one sold at 9s. 6d. per lb. Vermilion: Dull, and offering at a little less money.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 15s. to £8; nail rod, £8. 10s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10. 10s.; sheets, single, £10. 15s. to £11; Staffordshire bars, £8. 15s.; rails, £6. 12s. 6d. to £7.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £15.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £95 to £97 per ton; yellow metal, 7¾d. to 8¼d. per lb.

TIN.—97s. for block; 98s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C., 28s. to 29s.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £19. 15s. to £20; W.B., £21. 10s.; shot patent, £23; sheet, £20. 12s. 6d.; spelter, £20. 10s. to £20. 15s.; zinc, English sheet, £24. 10s.; quicksilver, £8.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£64,796
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£4,500
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£152,246
Singapore	£3,007	£196,020
Penang	—	£3,500
Yokohama	—	£2,000

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£57,966
Penang	—	£3 548
Hong Kong	—	£47,000
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£16,535
Yokohama	—	£3,000

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£56	—
To Saigon	—	£51,124
To Batavia	£2,132	—
To Hong Kong	—	£14 880
To Shanghai	—	£9,620

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4
Silver in Bars	0 5 0½
Mexican Dollars	0 4 11½

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Apr. 22	Off Folkestone	Sourabaya	Maria	Scotto.
— 21	Off Dungeness	Do.	Aristides	Jans.
— 22	Do.	Java	Thos. Mitchell	Kechnie.
— 22	Do.	Do.	Marie (Span. barq.)	
— 22	Do.	Do.	Jacob Roggeven	v. Marken.
—	Off Queenstown	Shanghai	Roodee	Shilford.
— 8	Fayal	Java	Telanak	Popken.
— 25	Liverpool	Manila	Alicia Annie	
— 28	Falmouth	Singapore	Susanne	Matthieson.
— 27	Off Falmouth	Yokohama	Medina	Le Brun.
— 28	Do.	China	Conrad Heinrich	
—	Off the Wight	Maulmain	Aristides	Kohlmann.
— 27	Off Mount's Bay	Macao	Juanpore	Wilson.
— 29	Queenstown	Singapore	Ocean Bride	Gifford.
— 15	New York	Shanghai	Catherina	Gram.
May 1	Falmouth	Colombo	Wynaud	Jones.
Apl. 8	Havana	Macao	David	Robert.
— 9	Do.	Do., &c.	Guadeloupe	Munoz.
— 30	Milford	Maulmain	John Watt	Winchell.
May 1	Off Falmouth	Manila	Lady Love	Towge.
— 3	Deal	Shanghai	Canadian	Russell.
— 3	Do.	China	Courier	Le Gros.
— 2	Liverpool	Philippine Isles	North	Brown.
—	Plymouth	Maulmain	Old England	Bulman.
— 3	London	Foo-chow-Foo	Star of the North	Patterson.
— 3	Do	Shanghai	Delhi	Sanderson.
— 2	Off Dartmouth	China	Bosworth	Nichols.
— 4	Off Falmouth	Maulmain	Elizabeth	Wyatt.
— 3	Liverpool	Shanghai	Ariadne	Burns.
— 3	Do.	Hong Kong	Jas. Vinnicombe	Bowell.
— 3	Do.	Shanghai	Anna Helen	Morris.
— 4	London	Colombo	Scoresby	Gronsund.
— 4	Liverpool	Shanghai	Nora Greame	Bake.
— 4	London	Yokohama	Alfred Hawley	Almond.
— 4	Do.	Shanghai	Anglo Saxon	Plummer.
— 4	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Violet	Wiseman.
— 4	Do.	Canton	Kirkland	Coiledge.
— 4	Do.	Shanghai	Spirit of the Deep	Hewitt.
— 4	Do.	Colombo	Frances	Higgs.
— 4	Do.	Do.	Clive	Fenwick.
— 4	Do.	Do.	Eliza Laing	Laing.
— 3	Falmouth	Zebu	China	Griefe.
— 4	Off Falmouth	Macao	Carl Ritter	von Holdt.
—	Penzance	Maulmain	Allan-a-Dale	Chivers.
— 4	Liverpool	Shanghai	Coringa	Hubbard.
— 4	Falmouth	Maulmain	Maria	Teulon.
— 5	Off Falmouth	Batavia	Johanna	Schiefe.
— 5	London	Yokohama	Pembrokeshire	Hemsworth.
— 5	Off Dungeness	Singapore	Maria Augusta	Broberg.
—	Off Torbay	Colombo	John Brewster	Lelean.
— 6	Liverpool	Singapore	Demetrio Fario	
— 4	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Hugo Grotius	mmerzeel.
— 5	London	Colombo, &c.	Indiana	Cooper.
— 6	Do.	Manila	O'Thyen	Addicks.
— 7	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Dilkhoosh	Purdy.
— 8	Deal	Colombo	Echunga	Cooper.
— 4	Off Dungeness	Sourabaya	Nordstern	Baetjer.
— 5	Off the Start	China	Bedfordshire	Pearce.
— 5	Texel	Banjoewangie	Azia	Molenaar.
— 6	Do.	Padang	Tjielingsie	Ouwehaud.
— 5	Do.	Banjoewangie	Hermann	v.d.Veen.
— 5	Do.	Do.	Constance	Kimmerer.
— 9	Deal	Colombo	Queen of the Avon	Jones.
— 8	Falmouth	Manila	Vectis	Caskell.
— 4	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Doelwyk	Hoefmann.
— 4	Do.	Padang	Jan Daniel	Yseudoorn.
— 4	Do.	Banjoewangie	Gertruida Maria	Legny.
— 4	Do.	Samarang	Oceanus	Dirksen.
— 9	Deal	Colombo	Snaresbrook	
— 8	Off Falmouth	Penang	Mangerton	Metcalfe.
— 6	Cuxhaven	Hong Kong	Conrad Henrich	Belendorp.
— 6	Do.	Singapore	Susanna	Matthiesen.
— 5	Off the Start	Hong Kong	Welf	Bahns.
— 6	Do.	Cheribon	Auguste	Nylen.
— 9	Falmouth	H. Kong & Manila	Carl	Heuer.
— 9	Do.	Samarang	Carl	Petersen.
— 7	Crookhaven	Rangoon	Ellen Maria	Hall.
— 4	Cadiz	Manila	San Luis	de Carranza.
—	New York	Yokohama	Velocidade	
— 7	Texel	Banjoewangie	Zwaan	Doeksen.
— 10	Deal	Colombo	Queen of Peace	Clark.
— 8	Off Portland	Java	A. R. Falck	v.d. Plas.
— 10	Falmouth	Rangoon	Baden	Stilphen.
— 7	Off Cape Clear	Shanghai	Yorick	More.
— 11	London	Singapore	Ocean Bride	Gifford.
— 12	Deal	Shanghai	James Russell	Griffith.
— 8	Off the Start	Penang	St. Thomas' Packet	Michelsen.
— 11	Falmouth	Singapore	Matilda	Goson.
— 8	Off the Lizard	Manila	Corneille David	
— 8	Do.	Hong Kong	Taffarette	Dereix.
— 12	Deal	Manila	Hampton Court	Filcombe.
— 12	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Birchgrove	Byron.
— 12	Do.	Colombo	Victoria	Forss.
— 13	Do.	Do.	Cambridge	Dennison.

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DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Apr. 23	Shields	Shanghai	Clothilda	
— 20	Hamburg	Hong Kong	Jupiter	Gatje.
— 20	Shields	Sourabaya	Twee Gezusters	Bernolt.
— 19	Rotterdam	Batavia	Prinses Amalia	Van Aikemade.
— 21	Shields	Shanghai	Mathilde	Munn.
— 24	Do.	Batavia	Pauline & Rasceindens	
— 21	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Oxus	Reed.
—	Copenhagen	River Amoor	Alerte	Humble.
— 17	Rotterdam	Batavia	Min. Francis v.d. Putte	Browning.
— 24	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Juanita	Atkinson.
— 24	Do.	Galle	Alexander	Lubere.
— 20	Cardiff	Manila	Mouzin	Ballantyne.
— 21	Shields	Batavia	Petronella	
—	Clyde	Singapore	Roslin Castle	
— 26	Sunderland	Galle	Robert & Alexander	Legros.
— 26	Rotterdam	Batavia	Lichtstraal	
— 29	Cardiff	Hong Kong	New Hampshire	Lord.
— 28	Sunderland	Shanghai	Robin Hood	Taylor.
— 24	Gibraltar	Galle	Speedwell	Cooper.
Mar. 27	St. Vincent	Manila	Fanny	Carlton.
— 22	Buenos Ayres	Galle	Speculator	Killam.
— 22	Do.	Do.	Charlemagne	Bellamy.
— 29	Rio Janeiro	Singapore	Fernande	Giles.
May 3	Shields	Aden & Hong Kong	Oliver Cromwell	
— 4	London	Yokohama	Castleton	Hill.
— 4	Do.	Cardiff & Shanghai	Langdale	Browne.
— 1	Amsterdam	Batavia	Maria Veronica	
— 4	Shields	Galle	Polly	
— 1	Sunderland	Do.	Elisabeth Ann	Hall.
— 5	Shields	Do.	Maggie Atkinson	
— 6	Do.	Do.	Northumberland	Small.
— 8	London	Yokohama	Muravi	Anderson.
— 8	Liverpool	Valpa & Hong Kong	Gentoo	Freeman.
— 8	Do.	Do.	Crusader	Hill.
— 8	Do.	Galle	Indian Chief	Smith.
— 2	Amsterdam	Batavia	Koning Willem II.	Besseling.
— 1	Do.	Do.	India Packet	Diepering.
— 9	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Mountain Ash	Credie.
— 8	Cardiff	Manila	Adriana	Brock.
— 8	Do.	Shanghai	John Stanton, Jun.	White.
— 8	Do.	Singapore	Geb. v.d. Beck	Walig.
— 8	Hartlepool	Bangkok	Ravensburn	Cooner.
— 6	Hamburg	Macassar	Galatea	Gerritz.
— 1	Newcastle	Batavia	Petronella	Leicher.
Apr. 28	Rotterdam	Do.	Dageraad	Duinker.
— 26	Amsterdam	Do.	Mentor	Butenuth.
May 8	Cardiff	Manila	Guurtje Maria	Flens.
— 10	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Cambodu	Wood.
— 10	Do.	Colombo	Avon	Edmond.
— 12	Liverpool	Manila	Olano	Larrinaga.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Medina. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Lord Raglan. For Shanghai: Assyrian, Patrician, Juanpore, Anglo Saxon, Dukhoosh. For Hong Kong and Canton: Canadian, Lady Love. For Hong Kong: Violet. For Singapore: Cosmos. For Batavia: William Simpson. For Madras and Penang: Southern Cross. For Colombo: Skimmer of the Waves, Wynaud. For Colombo, Cannanore, and Cochin: Star of Ceylon. For Galle: St. Paul.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Brilliant. For Shanghai: Petchelee. For Hong Kong and Canton: Corea. For Singapore: Therese. For Manila: Cinco Hermanos. For Manila, Iloilo, and Zebu: Feliz. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Cornelia. For Ceylon: Star of Devon.

At GLASGOW.—For Manila, Iloilo, and Zebu: Anastasia. For Singapore: Lochleven Castle. For Batavia and Singapore: Buston Vale. For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: Three Bells. For Cape of Good Hope, Singapore, and Hong Kong: Japan (s.).

At GREENOCK.—For Shanghai: Chinaman.

At BOSTON.—For Nagasaki: Matthew Luce.

SPOKEN.

THUSNELDE (Brem. barq.), Sund. to Singapore, 26 Mar., 2 N., 25 W.
HAMPTON COURT, for Bangkok, 11 N., 103 E.
JEAN MEYER (Belgian bq.), for Shanghai, March 6, 14 S., 31 W.
FEROZEPORE, London to Singapore, March 14, 2 N., 21 W.
FLORA (Fr. bq.), Swansea to Hg. Kong, Dec. 12, off Cape of Gd. Hope.
MILLBROOK, for Hong Kong, Jan. 13, 32 S., 105 E.
VOLUNTEER (barq.), New York to Shanghai, Jan. 30, 8 S., 125 E.
DUNKELD (barq.), Liverpool to Shanghai, Jan. 31, 4 S., 125 E.
ANDREAS, Bremen to Shanghai, Feb. 12, 1 N., 129 E.
EARL OF SOUTHESK Penang to Lon., 47 days out, Feb. 10, 32 S., 38 E.
JAN DANIEL, Padang to Rotterdam, March 3, 16 S., 6 W.
GERTRUIDA MARIA, Java to Dordrecht, April 15, 43 N., 24 W.
STAR OF THE NORTH, Foo-chow-Foo to Lon., March 15, 10 S., lon. 12.
VIGIL, for Singapore, 12 days out, April 14, 43 N., 15 W.
No. 8,273 (English ship), 3rd d.p., London to H. Kong, Feb. 24, 25 W.
CERES, of Hamburg for Singapore, April 24, 46 N., 11 W.
LUZITANO, Ceylon to London, April 27, 48 N., 21 W.
CAPELLA, Amsterdam to Sourabaya, March 20, 13 S., 35 W.
ANN DUNCAN (?), Manila to Liverpool, April 14, 45 N., 24 W.
VELOCIDADE, Japan to New York, April 5, 5 N., 24 W.
GYBN CASTLE, Liverpool to Singapore, April 4, 4 N., 23 W.
THETIS (ship), England to Ceylon, March 14, 1 S., 29 W.
RIFLEMAN, London to Nagasaki, March 12, 1 N., 26 W.
MARIANNE, of Bremen, N. York to Hong Kong, Mar. 15, 19 S., 25 W.
ERNEST AND MARIA, Trieste to Hong Kong, March 12, 12 S., 32 W.
WILHELMINA, Rottm. to Bat., 30 days out, March 15, 11 S., 32 W.
COMET, Japan to London, Jan. 18, in Straits of Sunda.
WM. MELHUISH, Singapore to L'pool, March 23, 4 N., 25 W.
MARGARETHA JOHANNA, Bat. to Bremen, Feb. 2, 14 S., 95 E.
FANNY, Sunderland to Shanghai, March 24, 16 S., 33 W.
PASSE PARTOUT, Sunderland to Japan, April 29, 45 N., 11 W.
STIRLINGSHIRE (barque), London to Shanghai.
BANIAN, London to Hong Kong, March 2, 20 S., 38 W.
COREA, New York to Shanghai, March 12, 21 S., 30 W.
JACQUELINE AND ELISE (brig), Amst. to Japan, Apl. 20, 45 N., 12 W.
JAN VAN BRAKEL (barq.), Java to Amsterdam, March 8, 23 S., 2 E.
DANISH EMPRESS (?) (ship), Japan to London, March 18, 18 S., 4 W.
LOUISA KOHN, Sourabaya to Amsterdam, April 3, 1 N., 25 W.
VICTORIA (barq.), Ceylon to London, April 4, 1 N., 25 W.
HAMPTON COURT (ship), Manila to London, April 22, 29 N., 41 W.
COUNTY OF LANARK, Java to Rotterdam, Mar. 5, off Cape Good Hope.
JOHN RITSON, Java to Amsterdam, March 7, 35 S., 16 E.
CARACTACUS, London to Hong Kong, March 5, 12 S., 32 W.
CHINA (s.), of Hamburg, Grimsby to Singapore, April 6, 40 N., 14 W.
DOELWYK, Sourabaya to Rotterdam, April 24, 45 N., 20 W.
ROSELIN (?), Shanghai to London, 112 days out, Apl. 23, 48 N., 21 W.
ANNAM, Bordeaux to Singapore, March 10, 15 S., 34 W.
GEZINA, Singapore to Montreal, March 1, 25 S., 66 E.
HENRIETTA GERTRUDE, Sourabaya to Amstm., April 26, 42 N., 38 W.
FLORA MARIA (Danish), Sngpre. to Copenhagen, Feb. 14, 3 S., 41 E.
BEANSBERG? (Dut. barq.), Bat. to Nieuwe Diep, Feb. 20, 34 S., 26 E.
COPERNICUS, Rotterdam to Batavia, 49 N., 7 W.
OTENTOSAMA (s.s.), Clyde to Japan, April 8, 1 N., 22 W.
GOLDEN SPUR, Swansea to Shanghai, Feb. 19, 41 S., 49 E.
MERSE, London to Amoy, March 8, 14 S., 28 W.
CAROLINE CHISHOLM, Liverpool to Singapore, March 9, 13 S., 29 W.
THETIS, Gothenburg to the Amoor, April 25, 48 N., 9 W.
SYDNEY EGGERS, Foo chow-Foo to London, March 12, 26 S., 5 E.
SANS REPOSE (?), Manila to London, 52 days out, Feb. 21, 35 S., 26 E.
CORUNNA (Brem. barq.), from Manila, Feb. 25.
CHARLOTTE JANE, Singapore to Falmouth, Jan. 29, 10 S., 102 E.
HELEN RICHARDS (barq.), Jap. to Lon., 32 days out, Feb. 6, 20 S., 82 E.
COMET, Japan to London, March 5, 35 S., 25 E.
COUNTY OF LANARK, Java to Rotterdam, March 13, 27 S., 6 E.
SYDNEY EGGERS, Foo-chow-Foo to London, March 22.
LADADRES HANNAH (?) (Dut. s.), Sour. to Ams. April 27, 44 N., 34 W.
MINA, of Hamburg, from the Philippines, April 20, 41 N., 35 W.
RIFLEMAN (barq.), London to Japan, March 18, 2 S., 29 W.
LOUISE KOHN, Sourabaya to Amsterdam, April 3, 1 N., 25 W.
ISIS, Amsterdam to Batavia, April 24, 44 N., 11 W.
PRINCESS AMELIA (Belg. ship), Rotdm. to Bat. April 25, 47 N., 9 W.
GERARD PIETER SERVATIUS (barq.), Amsterdam to Batavia, March 30.
ELISABETH (Dut. brig), Hamburg to the Amoor, April 9, 5 N., 27 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

The last few days have brought numerous vessels into port, and although it was expected that the numerous arrivals would cause outward freights to give way, yet, in consequence of the prospect of an early suspension of hostilities in America, rates have been fully maintained, and for the leading ports still show an upward tendency. In homeward charters but little change has taken place; some inquiry, however, has been made for a few ships from Manila at 55s. per ton for sugar, and 65s. for hemp; also for small first-class vessels from Colombo at 75s. In coal freights there is a fair demand for vessels to the Chinese ports and Manila, and rates are well supported.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 20s. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 30s. weight or measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £35 and £1. 10s. For Shanghai: £41 and £1. 16s. For Manila: £1. 12s. 6d. For Batavia: £23. For Singapore: £25 and £1. 1s. 0d. For Galle: £26 and £1. 5s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty having invited tenders for the conveyance of 142 tons naval stores and 800 hhds. porter from the River Thames to Hong Kong, have ordered the Violet to be surveyed for that purpose.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At ST. HELENA.—March 24, from Banjoewangie, Presto, Feckes, and sailed 25th for Amsterdam; 26, Franz and Elise, Niedfield, and sailed 27th for Amsterdam; 28, from Batavia, H. Liduina, Brink.

At TABLE BAY.—March 17, from Singapore; Edwin Fox, McLean.

At MAURITIUS.—March 18, Magnet, King, sailed for Singapore.

CASUALTIES.

The Guadaloupe (Spanish barque), Munoz, from Macao, &c., whilst entering the harbour at Havana, April 9, got into collision with the Minona (Swedish barque), bound thence for Falmouth. The latter vessel received some damage, and put back to be surveyed.

The Juanita, Atkinson, from Sunderland for Hong Kong, put into Falmouth, May 4, leaky.

The Kandanghauer (Dut. ship), Zeelt, from Nieuwe Diep for Batavia, ran aground on the Zuiderhaaks, May 1, but was got off and towed back to Nieuwe Diep, and would be surveyed.

The Fanny, of Hanover, Carlton, from Cardiff for Manila, was burnt previous to April 4, in lat. 1 N., 25 W., her coals having ignited; part of her crew were taken on board the Queen of the Bay, and the rest on board the Naval Brigade, which latter vessel reports that a portion are on board the Rosalie and the Lizzie Southard.

The Sharpshooter, from Singapore for Liverpool, put into Mauritius April — dismasted.

The Gentoo, from Liverpool for Valparaiso and Hong Kong, put into Queenstown May 11, leaky.

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FIRST REPORT OF THE ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL, £2,000,000.—PAID-UP CAPITAL, £500,000.

Head Office—No. 4, LOMBARD STREET.

Court of Directors.

Chairman—FRANCIS BOYKETT, Esq. (Messrs. Timothy Wiggin and Co.).
Deputy-Chairman—JOHN A. RUSSELL (Messrs. Grey and Coles, and Grey and Co., Bombay).
WM. MAITLAND, Esq. (Messrs. K'Killop, Stewart, and Co., Calcutta.
THOMAS CARDWELL, Esq. (Messrs. Thomas Cardwell and Co., and Cardwell, Parsons, and Co., Bombay).
CHARLES A. FEARON, Esq. (Messrs. Fearon and Co., late of Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co., China).

Auditors—J. E. COLEMAN, Esq., and H. E. BIRD, Esq., firm of Messrs. Coleman, Turquand, Youngs and CO.
General Manager.—ANTHONY MORRISON, Esq. | Acting Manager.—F. W. LAWRENCE, Esq.
Bankers.—THE BANK OF ENGLAND; THE LONDON JOINT-STOCK BANK.
Agents in Ireland.—THE NATIONAL BANK. | Agents in Scotland.—THE BRITISH LINEN COMPANY.
Brokers.—Messrs. FOSTER and BRAITHWAITE. | Solicitors—Messrs. FRESHFIELDS and NEWMAN.

FIRST REPORT OF THE COURT OF DIRECTORS TO THE SHAREHOLDERS.

The Court of Directors, in presenting their First Report and Balance-sheet, have great pleasure in congratulating their co-proprietors upon the position attained by the Bank during the brief period that has elapsed since the commencement of its operations.

The half-year for which the accounts are now rendered, and during which period a portion only of the existing branches of the Bank have been working, represents not only the least favourable season of the year in India, but has also been characterised by a severe monetary crisis in this country, which has necessitated the exercise of the utmost caution in conducting the business of the Bank, and a consequent restriction of its operations.

Notwithstanding these drawbacks, the net profits, after deducting all charges upon the current business of the Bank, and fully providing for all bad and doubtful debts, amount to £70,439. 4s. 8d.

This sum the Directors propose to distribute in the following manner, viz.:—

£37,500 0 0	by a Dividend at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum.
£12,500 0 0	by a Bonus of 10s. per Share, equal to 5 per cent. per annum, being together equal to 20 per cent. per annum on the paid-up capital on 31st December, to be paid to the proprietors free of income-tax.
£8,484 11 11	in liquidation of the whole of the Preliminary Expenses.
£5,500 0 0	to be added to the Reserve Fund, which, with the Premiums arising from the recent issue of new Shares, will then amount on 30th June next to £175,000; and the balance, say—
£6,454 12 9	they propose to carry to the credit of the Profit and Loss Account for the current year.

The Directors have further the pleasure to congratulate the shareholders upon the successful issue of the new Shares, both here and in India, which were all promptly taken up upon the terms specified in the circular addressed at the time to the original proprietors; the additional capital, though not required by any exigencies of the Bank, was deemed desirable to place it upon a footing suitable to its increasing business.

The Directors, whose term of office has now expired, being eligible for re-election, offer themselves accordingly, and they recommend the re-election of the present able professional auditors, and the election, in addition, of a non-professional auditor for the current year.

The Directors also recommend the Shareholders to authorise them to declare and pay such an interim Dividend half-yearly, for the current and future years, as they may deem desirable, pending the final adjustment of the accounts.

F. BOYKETT, Chairman.

4, Lombard-street, E.C., April 20, 1865.

ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.—GENERAL BALANCE' December 31, 1864.

Dr. LIABILITIES.			
To capital, 25,000 original shares at £20 each	£500,000		
Less calls in arrear	4,305		
		£495,695	0 0
To current and fixed deposits		3,383,547	6 4
To bills payable and other sums due to the public ...		1,727,329	15 10
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.			
To balance from June 30 to Dec. 31, 1864, after deduction of charges and making provision for bad debts		70,439	4 8
		£5,677,011	6 10

Cr. ASSETS.			
By coin and bullion		£363,995	11 3
By cash with bankers and money at call		1,026,357	8 5
By Government securities...		64,670	0 0
By bills receivable, loans, &c., due to the Corporation		4,213,503	15 3
By preliminary expenses		8,484,	11 11
		£5,677,011	6 10

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the HALF-YEAR ended Dec. 31, 1864.

To balance carried forward	£70,439	4 8
	£70,439	4 8
By net profit from 30th June to 31st December, 1864, subject to deduction for income-tax	£70,439	4 8
	£70,439	4 8
January 1st, 1865. By balance brought forward ...	£70,439	4 8

F. W. LAWRENCE, Acting General Manager.
A. O. DAVIS, Acting Accountant.
F. BOYKETT, Chairman.
J. A. RUSSELL, WILLIAM MAITLAND, } Directors.

London, April 13th, 1865.—We have examined the several statements transmitted from the Managers of the several Branches, and also the Books in London upon which the above accounts have been framed, and hereby certify to their correctness, according to such books and statements, to 31st December, 1864.

JAS. EDW. COLEMAN, H. E. BIRD, } Auditors.

MINUTES of the FIRST ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders, held at the Bank's Offices, No. 4, Lombard-street, on THURSDAY, the 4th day of May, 1865,

FRANCIS BOYKETT, Esq., in the Chair.

The Advertisements convening the Meeting and above Report of the Directors and General Balance-sheet, with Statement of the Profit and Loss Account, closed to the 31st December last, having been read, the following Resolutions were successively put, and carried unanimously, viz.:—

1. Proposed by the Chairman; seconded by J. A. Russell, Esq., "That the Report and Statement of Accounts now read be adopted."

2. Proposed by the Chairman; seconded by J. A. Russell, Esq., "That a dividend for the half-year ended 31st December last at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum, and an additional dividend by way of bonus of 5 per cent. per annum, be declared and paid accordingly, free of income-tax, and that the same be paid in London on and after the 6th instant."

3. Proposed by Gavin Steel, Esq.; seconded by F. Noad, Esq., "That the Directors be and are hereby empowered to declare and pay half-yearly such an interim dividend for the current and future years, as they may in their discretion see fit, pending the final adjustment of the accounts."

4. Proposed by Michael H. Scott, Esq.; seconded by John Cannon, Esq., "That the following gentlemen whose term of office has expired, be and they are hereby respectively re-elected Directors, viz.:—Francis Boykett, Esq., J. A. Russell, Esq., Thomas Cardwell, Esq., C. A. Fearon, Esq., William Maitland, Esq."

5. Proposed by T. H. Coles, Esq.; seconded by Jas. Parsons, Esq., "That J. E. Coleman and H. E. Bird, Esqrs., be respectively elected Auditors; that A. G. Milne, Esq., be elected an additional Auditor for the current year; and that the sum to be paid by way of remuneration to the Auditors for the past and current years shall be fixed and determined by the Court of Directors."

6. Proposed by John Parsons, Esq.; seconded by T. H. Coles, Esq., "That the cordial thanks of the Shareholders be rendered to the advisers and supporters of the Bank in Bombay, to whose zealous co-operation with the Directors and constant exertions on the Bank's behalf the success of the Bombay Agency is so greatly due."

7. Proposed by M. H. Scott, Esq.; seconded by Gavin Steel, Esq., "That the best thanks of the Shareholders be given to the Chairman and Directors for their able administration of the affairs of the Bank."

8. Proposed by the Chairman; seconded by J. A. Russell, Esq., "That the thanks of the Meeting be tendered to J. E. Coleman and H. E. Bird, Esqrs., for their able audit."

9. Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by J. A. Russell, Esq., "That the thanks of the Meeting be conveyed to the Agents, Managers, and other officers of the Bank, for their zealous services for the past half-year."

Extracted from the Minutes.

F. W. LAWRENCE, Acting General Manager.

, Lombard-street, E.C., May 4, 1865.

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ALBERT INSURANCE COMPANY.

(LIMITED.)

FIRE AND MARINE.

Directors.

WILLIAM BEATTIE, Esq.
OSWALD H. COLVEN, Esq.
E. T. GOURLEY, Esq.
WILLIAM KING, Esq.
G. GOLDSMITH KIRBY, Esq., Managing Director.
ANGUS M'KENZIE, Esq.
JOSEPH M'MASTER, Esq.
JAMES NICHOLS, Esq.
WM. PAGE T. PHILLIPS, Esq.
P. W. SPENCE, Esq.
T. STEVENSON, Esq., F.S.A.
CHARLES RUDD TATHAM, Esq.
C. P. VARSAMI, Esq.
ROBERT WHITWORTH, Esq.

Underwriter (Marine Department).
PHILIP SECRETAN, Esq.

Manager (Fire Department).
MORELL THEOBALD, Esq.

REPORT,

Presented to the First General Meeting of Shareholders, held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Thursday, the 20th day of April, 1865.

The Directors, in presenting the Statement of the Accounts to the 31st December, 1864, embracing the transactions of the Company from its commencement to that date (a period of eight months only), have much pleasure in congratulating the Shareholders on the satisfactory progress of the business of the Company.

The Accounts, which have been examined and certified by the Auditors, show that, after having paid office charges and other expenses, losses in the Fire Department, and all adjusted claims for losses, averages, and returns in the Marine Department, there is a balance on income account of £59,719. 16s. 6d. This sum, less 10 per cent. deducted as stated in the Balance-Sheet, will be carried forward to the account for 1865.

The Directors report with much satisfaction the acquisition of the business of the Oriental and General Marine Insurance Company, a Company which had attained a position of considerable importance in the City.

The Auditors, Messrs. Johnstone, Cooper, Wintle, and Co., and E. H. Galsworthy, Esq., retire from office in conformity with the Articles of Association, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The Shareholders will be called upon to determine the remuneration of the Auditors.

The Shareholders will also be called upon to alter the 5th and 14th Sections of the 96th Clause of the Company's Articles of Association, in order to prohibit the loan, advance, or investment of any part of the Company's funds, upon or in the Shares of the Company, and to alter the Articles of Association for the purpose of empowering the Directors, with the sanction of general meetings, to declare interim dividends from time to time.

In conclusion, the Directors would remind the Shareholders that they may, by their individual exertions, materially extend the operations of the Company, and trust that no opportunity for doing so will be lost by them.

The following is now the complete list of the Company's agents abroad:—

CALCUTTA	GRANT, SMITH, & Co.
BOMBAY	RITCHIE, STEUART, & Co.
MADRAS	BAINBRIDGE, BYARD, GAIR, & Co.
SINGAPORE	CUMMING, BEAVER, & Co.
HONG KONG	JOHNSON & Co.
SHANGHAI	JOHNSON & Co.
YOKOHAMA	DE CONINGH & Co.

By order,
JOHN SCOTT, Secretary.

ALBERT INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).

Balance-Sheet, 31st December, 1864.

Dr.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
To Capital, 10,000 Shares of £50 each, £500,000.		
Subscribed 6,976 Shares	£348,800	
Deduct not called up	313,920	
Call of £5 per Share on 6,976 Shares	£34,880	34,880 0 0
To Income and Expenditure Account, as per statement annexed ...		53,747 16 10
To Sundry Creditors		1,741 8 7
		£90,369 5 5

Cr.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
By Investments		5,220 0 0
By Cash at Bankers' on Deposit and Drawing Accounts		18,322 11 2
By Debtors (including £8,090 arrears on Shares, nearly all of which has been paid since 31st December)		15,577 7 2
By Agents' Balances and Current Premium and Interest		17,781 18 2
By Finch-lane Premises, Lease, and Furniture		13,000 0 0
By Oriental and General Marine Insurance Company, Acquirement of Business (including extra losses on Risks transferred, &c.). Balance of Account	£19,941 17 7	
Preliminary Expenses	6,095 5 0	
	£26,037 2 7	
Less written off as per Income and Expenditure Account	5,971 19 8	
		20,065 2 11
By Cash and Stamps in hand		402 12 0
		£90,369 5 5

Income and Expenditure Account, from 1st May, 1864, to 31st December, 1864.

Dr.	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
To Nett Premiums—Marine	90,552 16 4	
Fire...	4,014 2 6	
		94,566 18 10
To Interest		739 19 6
To Duty		769 9 4
		£96,076 7 8

Cr.		£. s. d.	£. s. d.
By Losses, Averages, Returns, and Re-insurances—	Marine ...	22,664 8 1	
	Fire ...	2,902 2 2	
			25,566 10 3
By Salaries	Marine ...	3,552 5 3	
	Fire ...	662 12 7	
			4,214 17 10
By Directors' Fees			1,500 0 0
By Law Charges			124 9 8
By Office Expenses, Advertising, Printing, Stationery, Travelling Expenses, Agents' Allowances, Postages, Parcels, and all Expenses of Establishing Agencies	Marine.	2,860 9 0	
	Fire ...	1,304 6 9	
	General.	16 8 4	
			4,181 4 1
By Duty		... ...	769 9 4
By Balance		59,719 16 6	59,719 16 6
Less amount written off cost of purchase of Oriental business and preliminary expenses, being 10 per cent. of above balance		5,971 19 8	
		£53,747 16 10	
			£96,076 7

We have examined the above Statements with the Company's books, vouchers, and securities, and have found the same correct,

London 13th April 1865

JOHNSTONE, COOPER, WINTLE, AND EVANS,
EDWIN H. GALSWORTHY,
} Auditors.

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ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.—Incorporated by Royal Charter. Authorised Capital, £2,000,000. Paid-up Capital, £500,000.

Head Office—No. 4, Lombard-street.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Melbourne.

The Corporation grant drafts and negotiate bills of exchange payable at the above places, issue letters of credit, and conduct every description of banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian securities, the receipt of dividends, &c., and undertake the safe custody of securities. They also receive deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of interest and exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England.

The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)

Branches and Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo, Kandy, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Point de Galle, Manila, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow, Nagasaki, and Kiu-kiang.

Deposits received at ten days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed period, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued and Bills negotiated payable in India China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government loan notes effected so that the interest may be paid in England. Every other description of Banking and Agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms. J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

THE AGRA and MASTERMAN'S BANK (Limited).

(Established in 1833.)

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up Capital, £1,500,000 (one million and a-half sterling).

Subscribed Capital, £3,000,000 (three millions sterling).

In 30,000 Shares of £100 each, and 20,000 Shares of £50 each.

Number of Shareholders, 908.

Reserved Fund, £500,000.

HEAD OFFICE.

Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

GEORGE GORDON MACPHERSON, Esq., Chairman.

Alderman THOMAS QUESTED FINNIS, Deputy-Chairman.

GENERAL MANAGER.
Mackintosh Balfour, Esq.

LONDON MANAGER.
William Shipman, Esq.

ASSISTANT MANAGER.
T. F. Robinson, Esq.

INSPECTOR OF BRANCHES.
Richard Barnes, Esq.

AUDITORS.
J. H. Williams, Esq., and William Farr, Esq., F.R.S.

SOLICITORS.
Messrs. Uptons, Johnson, and Upton, 20, Austinfriars.

EDINBURGH BRANCH.
17, St. Andrew-square.

DIRECTORS.
THOMAS RANKIN, Esq., 68, Queen-street, Chairman.
Daniel Ainslie, Esq., 48, Moray-place.
Benjamin Burt Esq., M.D., 31, Charlotte-square.
George Moir, Esq., Advocate, Sheriff of Stirlingshire, 14, Charlotte-square.

MANAGER.
Robert Hunter, Esq

Branches in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee' Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Sydney, Melbourne.

Current accounts of firms and individuals are kept at the head office, on the terms customary with London bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received at seven days' notice of withdrawal, at rates fluctuating with those of the Bank of England; and for longer periods at fixed rates, particulars of which may be obtained upon application.

Sales and purchases effected in British and foreign securities, in East India stock and loans, and army, navy, and civil pay and pensions realised.

Every other description of banking business and money agency, at home and abroad, transacted.

Letters of credit and circular notes issued, payable at the chief cities of Europe and Asia, and also at Cairo and Alexandria.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON, AND CHINA.

The SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS of the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China, will be held within the BANKING HOUSE, No. 53, Threadneedle-street, City, at One o'clock precisely, on TUESDAY, 16th proximo, in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Settlement.

By order of the Directors,

D. T. ROBERTSON, Chief Manager.

London, 27th April, 1865.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up capital, £750,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

Bombay. Colombo. Penang. Hong Kong. Yokohama
Calcutta. Kandy. Singapore. Shanghai. Mauritius
Madras. Galle. Hankow.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at the places above mentioned, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the Overland Route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

No. 52, Threadneedle-street, London, E.C.

DOCKS.

PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caissoon Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1864.

THE UNDERSIGNED LICENSED PILOTS FOR THE PORT OF SHANGHAI, CHINA,

BEG to inform SHIPMASTERS that their Schooners DANIEL WEBSTER and A. J. WESTEWELT will be found at the OUTSIDE PILOT STATION on the YANG-TZE-KEANG, with thoroughly qualified PILOTS on board. The schooners distinguishable by being painted white, and having the word Pilot on the mainsail.

To regular traders the undersigned are known to be among the oldest and best Pilots on the River:—

DANIEL MARTIN. JOSEPH SHERMAN.
ALEXANDER SMITH. JOSEPH CARGILL.
JOHN COATES. JOHN KURSH.
EDWARD BRAND.

A FULL ASSORTMENT of PATTERNS PRICES, and SAMPLES POST FREE TO ANY PART of the WORLD.

SILK DRESSES from 15s. 6d. to Twenty Guineas.
FINE ORGANDI MUSLINS from 6s. 9d. upwards.
RICH FRENCH MUSLINS from 10s. 6d. upwards.
RICH FLOUNCED BAREGE ROBES from 6s. 9d.
50,000 YARDS BAREGE ANGLAIS 6½d. per yard; a new texture, particularly adapted for hot climates.

THE BEST HOSIERY.
White Cotton Stockings from 5s. 6d. the half dozen
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN'S FRENCH KID GLOVES,
From 18s to 42s. per dozen
REAL CAMBRIC HANDKERCHIEFS,
From 5s. 6d. the dozen.
Hem Stitched ditto, from 6s. 9d. per dozen.
Patterns or Sample Handkerchiefs free.

LADIES OUTFITS AND BABY LINEN.
Detailed Price Lists sent Free.
MANTLES AND SHAWLS.
Three Show Rooms (en suite) for these Departments
Drawings (FREE ON APPLICATION)

PETER ROBINSON,
103, 104, 105, 106, 107, and 108, OXFORD-STREET AND
GREAT PORTLAND-STREET, LONDON.

BRIDGEWATER, JONES, and CO.,
WHOLESALE HABERDASHERS, HOSIERS, AND GLOVERS,
WAREHOUSEMEN AND MANUFACTURERS,
39, 40, AND 41, WOOD-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

List of Prices forwarded to Merchants and Traders on application. Remittances to be payable in London.

WHITWORTH RIFLES.

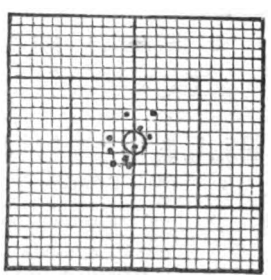
THE MANCHESTER ORDNANCE AND RIFLE COMPANY beg to give notice that WHITWORTH ORDNANCE RIFLES and AMMUNITION are manufactured by Mr. Whitworth's Patent Machinery only at their works in Sackville-street, Manchester.

Application may be made either at the above works, or at the Company's Office, 28, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

The Rifles and Ammunition may be also obtained through the agency of any respectable Gunmaker.

N.B.—In the International Match at Wimbledon in 1864 all the competitors used the Whitworth Rifles

AMMUNITION.



TARGET
12 FEET SQUARE
Represents average shooting at 500 yards with
ELEY'S BEST ENFIELD CARTRIDGES

ELEY'S AMMUNITION
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION FOR
SPORTING OR MILITARY PURPOSES.

Double Waterproof Central Fire Caps. Felt Waddings, to prevent the leading of Guns, Wire Cartridges, for Killing Game, &c., at long distances, Breech-Loading Cartridge Cases of superior quality, for Shot Guns and Rifles.

Jacob's Rifle Shell Tubes, Cartridges and Caps for Colt's, Adams', Deane's, Tranter's, and other Revolvers.

BALL CARTRIDGES

For Enfield, Whitworth, and Henry Rifles; also for Westley Richards', Terry's, Wilson's, Prince's, Deane's, and other Breech Loaders.

"Black Buck Shells," for 10, 12, and 16 Bore Breech Loaders.

The "Metford" Shel Bullet, for Enfield and Whitworth Bore Rifles.

Bullets of uniform eight made by compression from Soft Refined Lead.

ELEY BROTHERS, GRAY'S-INN-ROAD, LONDON, WC. or of Messrs. SMITH, ELDER, and CO., and their. Agents.

Wholesale Only.

PRIZE MEDAL
SODA-WATER MACHINERY.

THE Book for 1865, containing twenty-eight leaves of Illustrations descriptive of all the Machines now in use, with advice before purchasing, to be obtained of any of the Agents of this Paper, price 6d., and through whom Orders can be sent.

For Larger Advertisement see the LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS, 26th of each month.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

JOSEPH GILLOTT,
Metallic Pen Maker to the Queen,

BEGS to inform the Commercial World Scholastic Institutions, and the Public generally that, by a novel application of his unrivalled Machinery for making Steel Pens, he has introduced a NEW SERIES of his useful productions, which, for EXCELLENCE OF TEMPER, QUALITY OF MATERIAL, and above all, CHEAPNESS IN PRICE, must ensure universal approbation, and defy competition.

Each Pen bears the impress of his name as a guarantee of quality; they are put up in boxes containing one gross each, with label outside, and the fac-simile of his signature.

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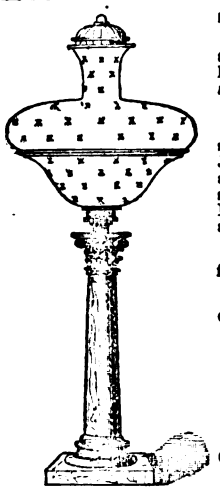

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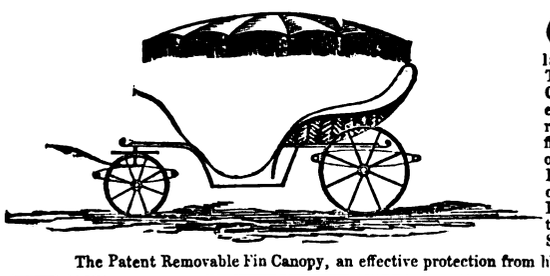

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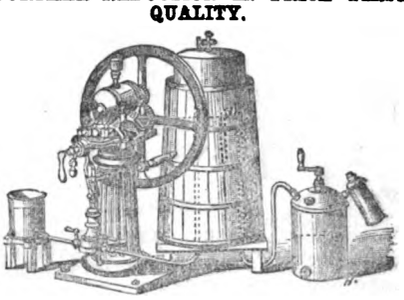

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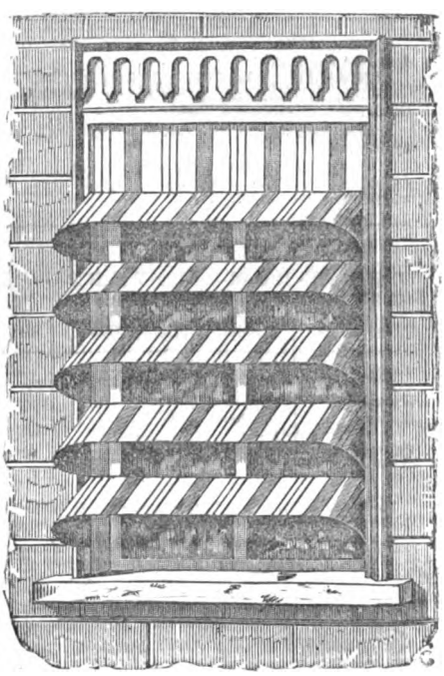

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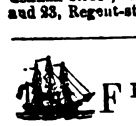

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Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 174.] LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Jan. 26	March 24	April 1
Nagasaki			March 30
Hakodadi			„ 8
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			„ 25
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			April 1
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai			„ 8
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 10
Swatow			
Hong Kong			„ 15
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	Feb. 10	March 29	„ 7
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			„ 12
SIAM— Bangkok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 16
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	March 10	April 13	„ 22
Penang	„ „	„ 11	„ 24

Telegrams have been received from Hong Kong, via Galle and Bombay, to the 28th April.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles per P. and O. Company's steamer Nyanza, arrived May 25.—From Shanghai: Messrs. J. F. Forbes, F. B. Forbes, Hannen, Mackenzie, and Atkins, Dr. Visscher, and one 2nd class passenger. From Hong Kong: Messrs. Elles, Duncanson, Toms, Rawling, Johnson, and Peacock, Don Menendez, Don Ramirez, Don Cervantes, Don Aranda, Don Fernandez, child and native servant, Dona Perez and infant, Rev. Mr. Laviaroni, Don Rovira, Don Echinque. Don Blanco, and one 2nd-class passenger. From Singapore: Mrs. and Miss Major, Mr. van Dolder, and native man-servant.

To Southampton per Ripon, expected to arrive May 31.—From Yokohama: Lieut. A. E. Kay. From Shanghai: One 2nd-class passenger. From Hong Kong: Messrs. John Lamont, A. Jamieson, E. G. Stead, and D. Birdwood, Mrs. Keep, infant, and European servant, Captains G. Rorie and W. Tom, and three 2nd-class passengers. From Singapore: Mr. N. Keep.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Syria, from Southampton May 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. Jas. Crossley and Mr. Eaton's native servant. To Hong Kong: Messrs. Turner, George, and A. G. da S. Feiles, and three second-class passengers. To Singapore: Three second-class passengers and one child. To Penang: One second-class passenger. To Ceylon: Miss Green, Miss Church, Mr. F. M. Mackwood, Mr. F. Cromyn, Mr. J. S. Allen, Capt. and Mrs. Bayley, infant, and servant, and two second class passengers. To Calcutta: Mr. and Mrs. Reid, Miss Walsh, Mr. T. Smith, and ten second-class passengers. To Madras: Mr. Saword, Mr. T. Allan, Mr. A. Gray, Lieut. E. Rendle, and six second-class passengers. To Suez: Commander C. Austin and six second-class passengers. To Alexandria: Five second-class passengers.

From Marseilles, May 28.—To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin, Mr. John Fraser. To Hong Kong: Capt. C. S. Forbes, Mr. Giffard. To Singapore: Mr. Erdmann. To Ceylon: Mr. Chapman. To Calcutta: Messrs. Jordan and Selbach. To Madras: Mr. and Mrs. Wedderburn, Miss Abdy. To Alexandria: Mr. H. A. Gwynne. From Suez.—To Shanghai: Sir E. Hornby. To Madras: Mr. E. Dawson.

Per P. and O. steamer Ellora, from Southampton, June 4.—To Hong Kong: Rev. E. G. Coar, Mr. G. M. Smith, Mr. Andrew Smith. To Singapore: Mr. J. Rigg.

From Marseilles, June 13.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Scheidt. To Ceylon: Dr. and Mrs. Charsley, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Morris. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. C. Arnemann.

Per P. and O. steamer from Marseilles, June 28.—To Singapore: Mr. John Ross.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Dates hence are to the 1st April. The London mail of the 26th January arrived out on the 24th March.

The attempt to form a Municipal Committee had again failed—the opposition coming (says the *Herald*) "from the very man from whom, of all others in the community (judging by his past invaluable services to it), we should have looked with the most perfect assurance for the heartiest and most consistent, as well as useful and intelligent aid—Mr. Von Brandt, the Prussian Consul." This gentleman abjured the plan given in the last issue of the *London and China Telegraph*, unless it was conceded that *one* Prussian subject should always be placed on the Executive Committee. This proposition was rejected by the land-renters, who came to the determination, "That the resolutions arrived at by the last meeting should be adhered to; and that the existing Sanitary Committee receive power to add to their number, and be requested to continue giving their services to the public as heretofore; and it is further resolved that the Consular Board be respectfully requested to pay over to the said committee the 20 per cent. arising from ground-rent, and that they are empowered to keep the streets in repair, to drain the settlement, and remove obstructions from the streets."

It is quite clear (remarks our contemporary) that both these resolutions cannot be carried out, and we imagine that the latter, being the less troublesome to the public, will be the first essayed. If this should be found impracticable, as we imagine it will, there will then be the other resolution—to follow the scheme unanimously agreed upon at the last meeting—to fall back upon. The way to give practical effect to this is to get all the Consuls who are willing to do so to invite their respective nationalities to return their delegates as agreed upon, who might then at once proceed to work. If the Prussian Consul should decline to do this, and it not being done should refuse to hand over the Prussian proportion of the 20 per cent. returned by the Japanese, the Council would then have to work without the assistance of the Prussian delegates, with some decrease of anticipated funds, but yet, we conceive, deprived of but little of the ability of well working which might at any time been looked for.

It was mentioned in our last number that a statement that the French Legation had been endeavouring to obtain a concession of the monopoly of the Silk trade, had been officially contradicted by the Consul-General. The *Japan Herald* gives the following as the result of its inquiries on the subject:—

"It appears that on the 9th of December last, M. A. Behic, the French Minister of Commerce, addressed to the Chamber of Commerce of Lyons a letter, the chief purport of which may be thus rendered:—

It appears that the splendour of their establishments and the amplitude of means displayed by the great English and American firms, who, so to speak, monopolise the trade of China, is not so much the result of a vain ostentation as of clever tactics to drive off competition. In the eyes of the natives, as well as of the foreign community, the commercial credit is measured by the magnitude of the expenditure. It follows that, under such difficult conditions of success, French merchants have been hitherto deterred from establishing themselves in that country. . . . But when individual endeavours prove unavailing, association, conceived and carried out upon a large scale, would be certain of success. Too heavy to be borne by one single firm, the expenditure might be reduced

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to inconsiderable proportions for the constituents of one vast establishment. . . . French importers of silk might agree upon the selection of a small number of agents, who instead of representing individual purchasers would receive and execute the orders of the silk trade of France. I am aware that such a scheme can receive no immediate realisation, but I attach the greatest importance to its being thoroughly examined in your department, and I shall be happy to be informed of the observations which shall have sprung from a discussion thereon.

"From the above it appears that the French Minister suggests a scheme to reconcile what seems to be abnormal, viz., the disproportion between the quantity of China and Japan silks actually consumed by, and that directly imported into, France. However, he acknowledges his information upon the subject to be imperfect, and he urges upon a competent body, the Chamber of Commerce of Lyons, the necessity of studying the question and of reporting to him. If, as is likely to be the case, the merchants composing the Chamber of Commerce of Lyons be well informed, their answer to the Minister cannot be doubtful. They will tell him that in China and in Japan silk is bought for cash, and that the importance of the business of any given firm depends, not on the luxury they display in the eyes of the natives, but on the amount of the capital placed at its disposal by its constituents at home. The French commerce in China and in Japan is established upon the same principles as the English or American commerce, and it will increase by the same means —free-trade, the development of institutions, credit at home, and time. It seems to us that the rumour of the strange monopoly of the export of silk, which we referred to at commencement, may have been an exaggeration of a well-known and open fact—the shipment made last year of a certain quantity of silk-worms' eggs by the French Legation to the Society of Acclimatisation of Paris; that an erroneous interpretation of the above document has contributed to accredit it, and that gossip has done the rest."

The men-of-war in harbour were—English: Severn, Conqueror, Rattler, Leopard, Barossa, Osprey, Bouncer, Havoc, Kestrel; French: Dupleix, Kien Chan; United States: Jamestown; Dutch: Metalen Kruis; Russian: Bongatyr.

Mr. A. A. Pearson, assistant paymaster of the *Leopard*, has deserted, he previously having forged the captain's endorsements, and it is feared his defalcations will amount to a considerable sum.

HAKODADI.

At a quarter to five in the afternoon of the 13th February the tranquillity of our community (writes a correspondent) was disturbed by the report of fire. This time the doomed building was the British Consulate. At first huge volumes of smoke were seen to ascend from the back premises, and then the flames broke out in such fury that, during the ten minutes that elapsed before any of the foreign community could reach the scene of disaster, the right wing, which is occupied by Mr. Enslie, H.B.M.'s Acting Consul, and situated upwards of seventy feet from the place where the fire originated, was in flames. No hopes of preserving the building could be at any moment entertained, and every effort was given to the saving of the archives. These efforts were successful, but all else fell a sacrifice to the flames. Every one now did his utmost to save the adjoining Russian Consulate, but, owing to a strong westerly wind which prevailed during the first part of the conflagration, the flames spread with such astounding rapidity as to render all efforts quite unavailing. The Russian Consul's house and those of Dr. Zalesky, Captain Kostereff, and Mr. Tswilkoff were entirely consumed. The three latter gentlemen succeeded in saving the greater part of their effects. The members of the British Consulate, and Mr. Goskavitch, H.I.R.M.'s Consul, were not so fortunate, almost the whole of their property being totally destroyed. Mr. Acting British Consul Enslie has endeavoured to collect both foreign and Japanese statements regarding the circumstances under which this fire took place. Mr. Goskavitch appears to have been the only foreigner present during the earlier part of the conflagration. When first seen by him it was raging in the court-yard verandah (Russian side). The Governor seems of opinion that it originated in a room occupied by one of Captain Vyse's servants. All must sympathise with those who have suffered by this deplorable affair. Mr. Goskavitch's loss, however, claims a particular regret. That gentleman has not only lost all his personal property, but also an extremely valuable Japanese and Chinese library, and a fine collection of shells, ferns, &c.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

The P. and O. mail of Feb. 10 arrived out on the 31st March, and the French mail of Feb. 17 on the 5th April: The dates are now down to the morning of Sunday, the 9th April. Telegrams from London up to March 4 had been received announcing the failure of Messrs. Fletcher and Co., and the depressed state of the tea and cotton markets. This caused very great depression throughout the settlement. The stoppage of Messrs. Lindsay and Co. is not recorded in the papers. Messrs. Wheelock and Co., auctioneers, stopped on the 6th April.

The British Consular Court has been occupied by two important cases, viz., the Queen *v.* Baynton (resistance offered to the Customs' authorities at Ningpo, and breach of treaty), in which the prisoner was on the first charge sentenced to six months' imprisonment, to date from the first day of his confinement; but with respect to the second no additional penalty was inflicted, in consideration of the five months' compulsory detention in Shanghai to which the prisoner had been subjected, over and above the aforesaid term of confinement; and that of the *Fire Dart v.* the *Emperor* (collision), the decision in which was given in favour of the defendants, with costs. The Court held that the master of the *Fire Dart* was in fault in porting his helm to avoid the *Emperor*, and that he should subsequently have stopped and reversed his engines, which he omitted to do.

An inquiry has been held before John Markham, Esq., H.B.M. Vice-Consul, into the circumstances attending the suicide of Daniel MacGregor, master mariner, captain of the British ship *Dunkeld*. The evidence of the chief officer, the steward, and the third mate of the *Dunkeld* was taken. From the depositions of these witnesses it appeared that the deceased was habitually a sober man, and that everything went on as usual until the arrival of the mail before last, when on receipt of his home letters he became unusually reserved, and seemed to have something weighing on his mind. On the 25th, at 8 A.M., he was found dead in his cabin, having committed suicide by firing a revolver through his head. The evidence of T. Barclay, Esq., M.D., was taken. He considered that the deceased inflicted with his own hand the wound which caused his death. He must have inserted the muzzle of the revolver into his mouth and fired it off. The finding of the Court was as follows:—

"The Court having weighed the foregoing evidence and viewed the body of the late Daniel McGregor, is of opinion that the deceased met with his death from a gun-shot wound inflicted by his own hand while he was in a state of temporary insanity."

The river has been under supervision since our last, and we are happy to say that the wreck of the *General Meslin* has been in a great measure removed. She is now completely smashed, and the only difficulty that remains to be overcome lies in the large quantity of coal which is covered with mud, and is nearly as solid as rock. Now that the weather has become somewhat milder, Chinese divers have set to work at it, and will after a few days clear away the last trace of the wreck.

On the 28th and 29th of March, the steamers and sailing vessels chartered by the Imperial Government for the transport of troops to Fukien province, left the river. Colonel Kirkham accompanied the head-quarters as military adviser, and will, it is to be hoped, organise a disciplined contingent, before the campaign in Fukien is opened. Indeed without foreign assistance the Imperialists will have no chance of making head against the efficient troops which the rebels possess, and which, under the active superintendence of efficient foreign officers, are every day becoming more perfect in European drill. The Chinese steamer *Confucius* is to be detached for service on the coast of Fukien.

CARRIAGE ROAD TO WOOSUNG.

A subscription list for the construction of a carriage-road to Woosung is being carried round to the different houses in Shanghai. There is little doubt that it will be quickly filled, and that the residents, persuaded of the advantages which Woosung presents as a summer sanitarium, will give their unanimous support to a project which will secure to them an easy mode of availing of that superfluous ozone which is now the undisputed property of the few foreigners who live at the mouth of the Wongpoo. At present the only means of gaining a whiff of the sea breeze is to undertake a tedious trip in a house-boat, or a still more tedious ride along bridle-paths through the paddy-fields. In the former case wind and tide must be consulted, and in the

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latter fine weather is indispensable to the comfort and safety of the equestrian. A good carriage road to Woosung would be a boon to every foreigner in Shanghai, for the rides and drives at present frequented are somewhat monotonous, and in wet weather occasionally impassable. Whether the railway scheme prove a success or not the road will certainly be eagerly availed of. Nor would one project interfere with the other, as the railway would be used principally for business purposes, and the road for pleasure. The direction in which the proposed new road should run is deserving of consideration. If carried along the river bank, it would be far longer than it need be if run straight across country via Kungwang. It would certainly be more picturesque, and (at high water) more pleasant, but the cost would exceed what need be expended if the more direct route were adopted. Besides the objection on the score of length, expense and necessary delay in the completion of such an undertaking, the inland route would be free from the annoyances which windy weather would cause on a road along the river bank. The drives which are taken now have this drawback, that they are generally objectless. But while Woosung would be brought within easy driving distance, everyone who undertook the trip would either have a house to put up at, or might if he so pleased rest and refresh himself at the hotel which will no doubt soon be established. The design itself requires no recommendation at our hands; the mode of carrying it out need alone concern us, and for the reasons stated above we would give our verdict in favour of the inland route, as combining cheapness with utility. While speaking of the means of conveyance between Shanghai and Woosung, we would refer to the railway scheme, which is at present under consideration in England. The difficulties which attend the opening of a line of rail in England have no place in China. No Act of Parliament is required, and we are at a loss to discover how, if the line passed through foreign property exclusively, the Chinese authorities could interfere to prevent its formation. If we are rightly informed, the left bank of the Wongpoo for some distance inland is, from Shanghai to Woosung, almost altogether owned by foreigners. Assuming this to be the case, the river bank might, for want of better, be chosen as the railway route, while the military road sketched out by Colonel Gordon would prove in every respect superior as an ordinary carriage-road.

The steamer *Lancefield*, which lately arrived at Shanghai from Japan, has been purchased by Messrs. Russell and Co. (price not named). She is under charter to convey Imperial troops to Amoy.

An inquest has been held on board the s.s. *Annette*, on the body of the chief engineer, who died of suffocation owing to his having slept in a small cabin with a coal stove. C. Alabaster, Esq., Acting Vice-Consul, presided, and a verdict was returned in accordance with the facts above mentioned.

Colonel Yonge, of H.M. 67th regiment, in the darkness of the night made a false step, and was precipitated into the channel of the river. The mud fortunately was soft, and a shaking was the only result.

The Australian company of Mr. Lewis have brought their season to a close. The entertainments have been excessively varied, and were produced with much spirit.

The Fychow Giant, who has been waiting to settle a dispute with his showmen, is now on his way to England, and will shortly arrive in the *Vanguard*. Rumour says a dwarf of 30 inches high may accompany him.

HANKOW.

A duel has been fought at this port which recalls the days of Midshipman Easy. Two foreigners of a class unfortunately too numerous in our settlements in China, had a quarrel, which it was agreed to settle in the manner usual among gentlemen in the last century. Fowling-pieces were the weapons selected, the distance ten paces; but the seconds with praiseworthy foresight substituted rags for bullets. Even under these favourable circumstances one of the combatants had his eye knocked out, and was further unfortunate in attracting the notice of of H.B.M. Consul, who deported him from Hankow.

KIU-KIANG.

A landrenters' meeting was held here on the 23rd March. We have now had a very large body of disorderly braves here, for nearly a week, *en route* to the scene of the Mahomedan rebellion (wherever that may be). These soldiers commenced by taking away nearly the whole of our grand stand and racing stables, wooden and mat erections. They have since amused themselves by breaking the glass in our lamp posts, smashing windows, &c., and they attempted to take away from the concession a cast-iron lamp-post in the middle of the day. Fortunately our police inspector came to the rescue and saved it. We have escaped so far without any serious disturbance. We hope these ruffians will soon leave. We cannot keep them out of the concession, as they have smashed our locks and bars to the gates. The gunboat *Hardy* is here, so that we feel there is some protection in case a row takes place.

NINGPO.

The correspondent of the *North China Mail* gives the following items:—

"On the evening of the 22nd March two coolies, carrying a large Ningpo basket, covered over at the top with some household effects, were escorted as far as the new bridge of boats by a foreigner, who, after looking very carefully around, bade them proceed and return homewards. The Chinese officials send spies about in all sorts of costumes, and following divers avocations. It was probably one of these who, being in the employ of the Inland Custom-house, had watched the foregoing, and with excited suspicions followed the coolies before referred to as far as the house of one Mou Sheng, a Fuh-kien opium broker. Into this house they entered and deposited their load, which, on examination by the Custom-house official, was found to consist of, amongst other things, a chest of opium. Bribery was resorted to, but the official firmly withstood it and seized the smuggled drug. On the 23rd a circular, of which I subjoin a translation, was sent to all the foreign hongs here on the subject. It emanates from the Yan-yan-dziu-dzao-dju:—

"The Inspectorate of Opium, Silk, and Tea issues a notification:—

2nd moon, 26th day (23rd March).

Yesterday evening a seizure was made of a large bamboo chest of opium marked with the Mou Sheng stamp. The owners of the chest are unknown. The head of the Yushun foreign hong with his compradore informed us of the fraud. The fine provided in these cases must certainly be imposed.

"It will be observed that the head of the Yushun hong (a name by-the-bye which does not figure in the latest edition of the *China Directory*) went to the yamun the same morning, together with his compradore, to vindicate the offence. The merchants of Ningpo had agreed to collect for H. E. the Taotai the inland duty on opium, for which they in turn were allowed the handsome commission of three taels per chest. They bound themselves, however, to pay a fine of one thousand taels of Canton sycee, if at any time they should be caught evading or trying to evade this duty; the opium was, furthermore, confiscated. It is stated in the enclosed circular that the old custom, namely, the fine just referred to, will be strictly enforced, and merchants are requested to take warning thereby. But there is another point I have yet to notice. Sellers evading this inland tax are enabled to, and do sometimes, render account-sales of opium to their constituents at a higher rate than that ruling in the market. Of course their business increases in consequence, and houses of longer standing and greater repectability, who are above such practices, are the sufferers. It is only natural that opium merchants at Hong Kong and Shanghai should send their drug to those who usually render them the highest prices for it, little suspecting perhaps the system which enables them to do so."

Admiral Kuper left Tinghae on the 26th of March. During his stay at Ningpo he inspected the Anglo-Chinese contingent, and expressed himself gratified with their efficiency.

Advices from Chinkeang, this riverine port, indicate the great activity on the part of the local authorities in the work of clearing the Grand Canal, which had become choked during the rebel occupation of the province. A large through traffic is anticipated, so soon as the work is completed.

W. H. Fittock, Esq., the Consul at this place, held an inquest on the 5th of April, on the body of George Henry Warland, a shipmaster, who was recently commander of the British schooner *Pearl*. It was proved in evidence that the unfortunate deceased had been a short time previously summarily dismissed from his ship for misconduct, and, this preying heavily upon his mind, he put an end to his life by blowing out his brains. The jury returned a verdict of "Temporary Insanity," and his remains were buried in the cemetery

HONG KONG.

The mail of 27th Feb. arrived out on the 10th April. The dates are down to the 15th.

The *Government Gazette* gives a copy of an ordinance for pre-

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serving neutrality with the American States. The revenue and expenditure of the colony are also published. The following were given as the Bank returns for April:—

Oriental Bank	$772,683
Chartered Mercantile Bank	788,054
Chartered Bank	580,787
Agra	437,709

St. Paul's College was burglarously entered on the 9th April, between 6 and 7 o'clock, when all the inmates were at service. The time was too well chosen to have been the result of chance, and affords an illustration of the correct information obtained by thieves. A pain of glass was cut out, and an entrance effected through the door, whence the burglar proceeded upstairs, and having ransacked the rooms, was descending, when he met a coolie, who, instead of grappling with him, merely shouted for aid. The rascal ran for his life, and managed to escape with his booty, with the exception of a dressing case which he dropped in his hurry. Among the valuables stolen are 30 dollars in money and a watch; nor has, as yet, any clue been discovered at all likely to lead to the recovery of the property, or the detection of the thief.

The following report is from the *Daily Press*:—

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on 30th March. The following members were present:—His Excellency the Acting Governor, the Hons. Acting Colonial Secretary, Chief Justice, Attorney General, Colonial Treasurer, Judge of Summary Jurisdiction, Auditor General, and Jas. Whittall, F. Chomley, and T. Sutherland, Esqrs.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed The Acting Governor then read a letter from the Right Rev. Bishop Smith, resigning his appointment of Bishop of Victoria, and thanking the Council for their liberality in granting him a pension.

His Excellency next read a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, enclosing a letter from Mr. Cleverly, resigning his post of Surveyor-General of Hong Kong, and applying for a pension. Mr. Cleverly stated in his letter that his health had greatly suffered from the effects of the climate, and constant exposure to the sun while fulfilling his arduous duties, which duties he stated had been faithfully performed; he had received very inadequate assistance in carrying out the various engineering works of the colony. In addition to this, he enclosed certificates from three eminent medical gentlemen, certifying that his health was so much impared by climate and exposure, that he must not resume his duties in Hong Kong.

Sir Hercules Robinson had received this despatch before leaving, and had endorsed it with a note to the effect that he was of opinion that Mr. Cleverly was not entitled to any extra consideration, indeed, he was doubtful whether he could receive a pension, as he had embarked in private practice. The Council ordered Mr. Cleverly's name to be put on the pension list.

Mr. Whittall's protest against the "Companies' Ordinance" was then read to the Council; it is as follows:—

PROTEST AGAINST THE LIMITED LIABILITY ORDINANCE.

In accordance with the powers conferred upon the members of the Legislative Council by the fifteenth rule of Council, I now protest on the following grounds against the re-introduction and enactment of the Ordinance for the incorporation, regulation, and winding-up of trading companies and other associations:—

1st. That the said ordinance having been negatived by a majority of the Council on the 2nd ultimo, its re-introduction on the 23rd idem was precluded by the twenty-fourth rule of Council.

2nd. That the said ordinance was with unnecessary haste passed through a second reading on the 23rd ultimo, in a manner opposed to the spirit of the rule of Council providing for the progress of ordinances.

3rd. That the Hon. Mr. Chomley, the Hon. the Attorney-General, and the Hon. Chief Justice, reversed on the 23rd ultimo the votes recorded by them on the 2nd idem, not on account of any belief upon their parts that the said ordinance will benefit this colony, but, as they stated, because of their disinclination not to comply with the expressed wish of a portion of its inhabitants that the principle of limited liability embodied in the said ordinance might become law.

4th. That the memorial in favour of the law of limited liability of shareholders in joint-stock companies enacted by the said ordinance, laid before his Excellency the Governor by the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, was not signed by all of the most important members of that body, so displaying a difference of opinion on the subject in the chamber. I would further point out that the memorial to the same effect also addressed to his Excellency the Governor by the residents of this colony was signed by but 293 individuals, of whom 110 are of Asiatic extraction, whereas the jury list comprises 553 names, of which not more than 19 are included in that category. These circumstances conclusively maintain, in my view, that the principle of limited liability is not universally desired in Hong Kong.

5th. That I believe the law of limited liability of shareholders in joint-stock companies enacted by the said ordinance, to be in no wise required in this colony, and to be calculated to injure instead of to promote its commercial interests. Hong Kong neither produces nor manufactures, and by reason of the nature of its soil, and of its expensive conditions of life is never likely to do either the one or the other; it is in fact no more than a mercantile depot. The advocates of the ordinance I am opposing do not even pretend it to have been enacted with a view to the development of any industrial enterprises whatever; and at the risk of being accused of begging the question, do I maintain it to be unnecessary to demonstrate how non-essential are its provisions to the construction of any undertakings partaking of the nature of public works. I protest against the said ordinance, therefore, because the powers and privileges of limited liability which it confers upon this community can find no other outlet than the encouragement of unsound speculation on the basis of schemes, which cannot be, for the most part, better than illusory, inasmuch as no legitimate scope for the combination of capital exists in this colony. That communities in this part of the world are not less ready than those elsewhere to plunge into reckless speculation, is a truth in evidence of which I adduce the occurrences which have taken place at Shanghai since the year 1859. Few will attempt to deny that since that date the legitimate commerce of that port has been at times hampered, and at times unduly inflated by the consequences of fallacious speculation in land, and other enterprises of an equally imaginative character, I protest against the "Companies Ordnance" because it can lead to no other results than the encouragement of speculation, as unhappy and disastrous as has for some years past prevailed in the North of China.

6th. That having regard to the situation and commercial conditions of Hong Kong, it is to be assumed that companies which may be formed under the ordinance would not confine their operations within the limits of the colony, but would mainly depend for success upon the other channels of trade. The question must therefore arise as to whether the liability of shareholders would be limited in respect of transactions entered into by the companies through their branches or agents at the open ports of China. If their liability should prove not to be limited in respect of such transactions, then the objects of the ordinance will be frustrated; but if the contrary should prove the case, then a wide door will be open for the perpetration of gigantic frauds by bubble companies upon native merchants in China utterly ignorant of the existence and effect of the ordinance, and out of reach of the means which it provides for ascertaining the financial condition of such companies. Those evil consequences are not unlikely to result looking at the experience of limited liability in England; they would soon shake the large confidence which native merchants have hitherto reposed in our commercial integrity; they would lead to interminable litigation in the mixed tribunals provided for the settlement of claims between the British and Chinese in the treaty ports, and possibly to diplomatic interference and embarrassments.

7th. That the privilege of limited liability might easily and expeditiously be conferred by special ordinances of the Colonial Legislature upon such companies as offer fair guarantees of respectibility and good faith; and the public of Hong Kong therefore may without the ordinance in question enjoy all the advantages which its advocates attribute to it and at the same time be protected from such schemes as have in England brought discredit on the name of limited liability.

These are the reasons which have prompted me to oppose the "Companies Ordinance;" and the same grounds induce me to protest against the putting of the said ordinance in force before its confirmation by the Home Government shall have been received in the colony.

Hong Kong 11th March, 1865.

Mr. Sutherland said that he did not see how Mr. Whittall could assert positively that those members of the Chamber of Commerce who had not signed the petition presented by that body, were opposed to the ordinance. It was not to say because there were many persons who had not signed the petition of the mercantile community that those persons were necessarily opposed to limited liability being legalised here. Nearly all the large firms had signed the petition in its favour, which showed that the mercantile community desired it.

Mr. Rennie thought that no member had a right to reflect on the votes of other members.

The Acting Governor said that the re-introduction of the measure was not during its discussion, and the reason it was re-introduced was to correct an error. There was no law in force in Shanghai having control over mercantile speculations, which showed how much an ordinance of this kind, the object of which was to control them here, was to be desired. He understood that Mr. Whittall's object was to have the protest read to the Council and then forwarded to the Home Government.

The Chief Justice said that, with regard to his having changed his vote, he could only say, as he had before explained to the Council, that he had deferred to the opinion of the members of the Chamber of Commerce as a fair exponent of the ideas of the mercantile community on the matter.

Mr. Whittall felt assured that if the community could be polled on the subject, it would be found that a very large proportion concurred in the opinions expressed in his protest. He held in his hand at that time a letter signed by some of the oldest firms in China thanking him for the steps he had taken in the matter. The protest was ordered to lie on the table.

His Excellency in moving the second reading of the "Supplementary Estimates for 1864" ordinance, said that the delay in their publication was occasioned by the Crown Agents' returns up to the 31st of December having to be first obtained. It appeared that the estimated expenditure for 1864 was $620,000,

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which sum was voted by the Council in July 1863, at which time the mint had not been determined on. The actual expenditure was found to have been $763,000, or $143,000 over the amount estimated.

His Excellency said that the treasurer's accounts had been received, and the revenue and expenditure for 1864 would be published.

The Judge of Summary Jurisdiction said that with regard to the two ordinances which were read a first time at a former meeting of the Council,—the first "An Ordinance to consolidate the Ordinances relating to Criminal Procedure,"—the second "An Ordinance to consolidate the Ordinances relating to offences against the person,"—he thought they should be treated in the same way as the Limited Liability Ordinance.

The Chief Justice: How, protested against? (Laughter.)

The Judge of Summary Jurisdiction: Oh dear no; I think they should be referred to a committee.—The Council agreed to this suggestion, and the Chief Justice, the Judge of Summary Jurisdiction, and the Acting Colonial Secretary were elected to form the committee. An amended "Neutrality Ordinance" was then read a first time, after which the Council adjourned *sine die*.

Among the departures by the mail steamer leaving for England is that of Mr. S. B. Rawling, of the Royal Engineers' Department. He has been seven years in the colony, during three of which his services have, by permission from the War-office, been given to the Colonial Government, in order that he might personally carry out the plans for supplying Hong Kong with water, for which work he had produced the most approved designs. During those years he has also established a very large and ever-increasing private practice as architect and surveyor, and has been immediately concerned in nearly all the extensive building improvements and works of public ultility in this colony. His departure will be felt as a temporary loss in business circles, where he was constantly appealed to and universally trusted in matters requiring arbitration. We should hope, however, there is some likelihood of Mr. Rawling returning to his present sphere of usefulness; nor will his absence for a year or two be quite a loss to the colony, as various important works and plans now on foot here will benefit by his personal attention to them in England, where we trust he will be warmly welcomed by all interested in the development of Hong Kong.

Mr. John Lamont, whose name has so long been well known in connection with the Aberdeen Docks, also leaves for England by the present mail steamer. He is one of the oldest residents in the East; and in the two fine dry granite docks at Aberdeen (8 miles from Victoria) he leaves behind him an enduring monument.

A steamer called the *Pootung* has been taken by the Chinese authorities, and will probably be confiscated, her offence being that of furnishing firearms to the rebels. The port at which such cargoes are landed is Tongsang, and one or two vessels have cleared themselves by these smuggling ventures, which are rather in favour at present among that class of ship captains who would rather smuggle than not. The *Pootung* left this port on the 19th March, with a cargo of sundries for Fuhchau, and was taken in the port of Amoy on the 25th on the charge of supplying the rebels. If we are rightly informed, the trade is rather better than blockade-running; and if the *Pootung* has made a few successful ventures, the owners may afford to let her go. It appears that she did not belong to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., by whom she was dispatched hence; she had been the property of Mr. Whittall, head-partner of that firm in Hong Kong, and by him sold to another firm here, but not transferred.

Several changes occur in the civil service, and may be briefly noted as follows. Mr. Alexander is appointed a Provisional Member of the Executive and Legislative Councils; and Mr. Masson, who retains his own duties likewise, is now Acting Registrar of the Supreme Court. The Hon. H. J. Ball acts as Attorney-General during the absence of the Hon. Mr. Smale; and Mr. Whyte, while continuing his own duties as well, is to act as Judge of the Court of Summary Jurisdiction. In the place of Lieutenant Williams, R.E., Lieutenant Lyster, of the same corps, has been appointed resident civil engineer at Kowloong. Two changes fall to be made from Mr. Power's departure on leave, viz., Mr. Chagas acts as First Clerk in the Surveyor-General's office, and Mr. Gerrard, of the Registrar-General's office, is appointed Marriage Registrar.

SIAM.

A gentleman who has been travelling in the district of Kyouk Aung, on the Burman frontiers, near the Three Pagodas, and adjoining the source of one of the tributaries to the Menam, thus describes the mineral wealth of that section of the country:—

"I was fortunate enough to discover several deposits of rich ore of antimony, and traced the existence of lead and sulphuret of copper. I ascertained that numerous sites of valuable metallic deposits are known to the Karens, who, until placed within the security of British protection, would not be induced to reveal their several localities."

The gold-fever, that periodical epidemic of this country, has again broken out, reports the *Siam Times*. To those who heretofore have been attacked with it, it has proved more fatal than the yellow fever, or Java. This is not said to discourage enterprise; on the contrary we would be happy to see the mineral wealth of this country more fully developed than at present. Gold, copper, tin, antimony and plumbago, exist in great abundance; but the mines can only be efficiently and securely worked by capitalists with proper machinery, and by Chinese, African, or Indian—not by European or American labourers. Of the various parties who at various times have set forth in search of the precious metal, the majority, we regret to say, have found but disease and death. Still, however, there is no insurmountable reason why foreign prospectors may not set forth to the supposed gold bearing districts in the dry season. Should these be successful they could return to Bangkok and secure a license to mine in the district or locality discovered by them, and the government would grant such license under the terms of the Prussian treaty. To carry on mining with safety, the jungle should be cleared for some distance around the seat of operations, and good houses built in which European overseers could reside in all seasons. To do all this would require a large capital; but there is no doubt that if a good lead or vein be discovered the requisite capital would soon be forthcoming, and the successful prospector be enabled to acquire much more wealth in the end, and at much less risk to his health, than by attempting to work his discovery by his own or hired muscular strength privately. The same remarks apply to copper or tin mining. There is abundant capital at present in China, Singapore, and Siam, to invest in good mining speculations. If, therefore, any should be taken off into the interior by the gold fever at present raging, should they be successful, their best plan will be to return to Bangkok immediately, and form a company for working their discovery. At the present moment, when merchants are seeking profitable outlets for their money, a *bona fide* discoverer of a paying mine will have no difficulty in obtaining the means of working it, in the most scientific mode, without any great risk to life or health.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are to the 22nd April. The London mail of the 10th March arrived out on the 13th April.

The present advices bring details of one of the most serious accidents that ever occurred in the settlement. Twenty-seven lives were lost by the explosion of the boiler of his Highness the Tumongong's steam ship *Gohore*. The following is the account of the matter given by the *Free Press*:—

For some days past preparations were being made on the above steamer to proceed round the Island of Singapore with the Governor and a party of gentlemen; and on Saturday last (April 15) the fires were lighted for the purpose of proceeding into the Roads, to wait until Monday morning. Steam was got up and began to roar off from the safety valve about half past two, when an attempt was made to start the engines. It would appear from all we have heard that there was only one European engineer on board; and while in the act of attempting to start the engines they got hot and destroyed the vacuum in the condenser, which rendered it extremely difficult to get the engines to go round. This appears to have occupied the engineer's sole attention for some considerable time, and various means seem to have been tried to cool the condenser and restore the vacuum. At this time a boat was lowered, and the engineer of the Dock Company, Mr. Bain, was sent for; and directly he got on board the explosion took place, hurling the unfortunate gentleman and the engineer of the steamer, Mr. Miller, on to the forward part of the port paddle-box, seriously injuring both. It is

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more than probable that while the engineer was looking after the engines, the native firemen continued feeding the fires, and no attention having been paid to the quantity of water in the boiler, there is every reason to believe that it was reduced, until the tubes which the flames pass through became bare. When the deficiency of water was discovered, the donkey-engine, we presume, was set to work to pump cold water into the boiler, which coming in contact with the red-hot tubes would almost instantaneously create a mixture of steam and gas, which would increase the internal pressure to such an extent as to cause the shell of the boiler to burst, as it did about half-past three in the afternoon. It would appear that the after part of the boiler gave way first and was thrown into the sea. At the same moment the principal part of the same turned a half summersault towards the engines, turning the furnace doors towards the bottom of the ship; and the outer shell of the boiler seems to have parted at the bottom and stretched out like a piece of paper over the engines, breaking and damaging them to a considerable extent, hurling the funnel and steam chest at the same time on to the port paddle-box. The shell of the boiler lay stretched out with one end leaning partly on the port paddle-box, and the other end against the foremast, which we should guess to be about 15 or 16 feet above the main deck. The whole of the multitubular tubes were displaced and scattered about the ship, with the exception of two, which still remained attached to the forward tube plate. All the internal stays of the boiler, which were about $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. square, were carried away in various ways; some pulled in two with an apparent straight tensional strain, others stripped their screws, and some gave way at their connection joints. This terrible destruction occupied the space perhaps of not more than a second of time.

The following is a list of the persons killed by the accident:—

No. 1. Capt. Cleghorn, who was captain of the Dock Company's small tug-boat; went on board just before the accident took place, and appears to have been on the bridge looking down into the engine-room below, when a portion of the boiler struck him on the left cheek, making a large hole in it. We have no idea how far the body was thrown into the air, or from the vessel, but it was not until the next forenoon that the divers found it in connection with a piece of the boiler in the middle of the stream, with his arms folded and his legs a little bent, just as if he never altered his position from the time he leant over the rail of the gang-way.

No. 2. John Young, the gunner, was found quite dead, jammed on the staircase a little a-head of the engine-room in an upright position, as though in the act of making a determined effort to extricate himself; the body was severely scalded.

No. 3. Henry Sanders, the Dock Company's boiler-maker, who went on board to execute some kind of work; the body was very much scalded from head to foot, but we have not been able to ascertain what part of the vessel he was found in. He was buried on Monday evening.

And twenty natives. Messrs. Miller and Bain were afterwards added to the list of the dead. The Tumungong's brother, Tunku Abdulrahman, had a narrow escape. He was standing on deck on the starboard side nearly over the boiler, when the explosion took place, and was thrown down uninjured with the exception of a slight scratch on the wrist. He jumped up and sprung overboard and was picked up; several men who stood near him were killed. Two French doctors belonging to a ship lying close by came to the aid of the wounded men immediately, and remained there until assistance arrived from town.

An eye-witness who was standing in the verandah of the house in the yard of the Dock Company heard a noise, and on looking towards the steamer, saw the funnel suddenly jump out of its place into the air, followed by a shower of materials of every description, which went far above the height of the mast. On the boiler being torn away from the sea cocks, water began to enter the hull of the vessel, and she was in consequence hauled up on the bank to keep her from sinking. The steamer was lying off the Patent Slip and Dock Company's works.

The feud between the Tans has subsided, but to make up for the lull in that quarter, the quarrel between the Ghi Hoks and Hong Kahs, or Chinese Roman Catholics, which has been smouldering for some time, has again burst forth and the town is much disturbed in consequence. A street fight occurred on the 11th of April between the latter factions, in which a member of each was so severely wounded that they are since dead. On the 16th a party of Ghi Hok men entered the plantation of some members of the Ghi Hin Kongsi on the Bukit Timah Road and murdered two of the latter, and wounded one, in retaliation, we suppose, for the death of the Ghi Hok man. A warrant has been issued for the arrest of four men who were identified by a brother of one of the deceased, as forming a part of the band of murderers. The heads of the above secret societies have been appointed special constables by the Commissioner of Police, and are obliged to patrol the town with the regular police to maintain order. It is supposed that these gentlemen are getting heartily tired of the work, and are doing their best to restore peace among their refractory brethren.

H.M's. steamer *Rifleman*, Captain Ward, from North Danjer, with dates to the 5th April, anchored in the Roads on the 14th, with her screw shaft broken. H.M.'s *Perseus*, from Malacca, with the Honourable the Resident Councillor and Mrs. Burn on board, arrived on the 17th April. On the same day H.M.'s steamer *Adventure*, Captain Waddilove, arrived from Point de Galle, with dates to the 8th April. H.M.'s steam-frigate *Princess Royal*, Captain W. Gore Jones, from Trincomalee, arrived on the 19th April, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral King. The Admiral came ashore about 6 P. M., when a salute of fifteen guns was fired.

The Spanish war steamer *Jorge Juan*, Captain Gonsales, arrived from Saigon on the 7th April to convey the Capitan General elect of the Philippines to Manila. His Excellency embarked on the 11th under a salute of seventeen guns.

PENANG.

On the 10th April the tenders for the excise farms were opened by Mr. Earl, acting for the Resident Councillor. For the opium farm there were two tenders, the highest, $6,550, offered by the present holder of the opium farm. For the spirit farm only one tender was made, $4,350; for the toddy and bhang farm there were five offers, the highest being $400. The successful tenders are the previous holders of the farms, so that there will be no change except a slightly increased rent. It was believed that a much higher rent might have been obtained had the Government followed its former course of putting these farms up to auction.

We have much pleasure (says the *Gazette*) in noting the great improvements which have lately been made in the roads in Province Wellesley under the able superintendence of Mr. Bennett, assisted by Mr. Baylis. In many places they contrast very favourably with our roads in Penang; and already, owing to the great facilities for transit along the road leading through Permatang Pow to the south, the traffic has been more than doubled. The bridges over small streams have also been repaired, and over larger streams new and more substantial ones are being erected. In the north of the Province, which district has hitherto been more destitute of good roads than other and more favoured localities, we are glad to learn that they are being as rapidly as possible put into a condition fitted for the increased traffic upon them, and now one can drive on a good road as far as the boundary pillar near the Muda. Such improvements as these will have the greatest effect in developing the resources of the Province.

We regret (says the same journal) to learn that the Mahomedan association under the leadership of Haji Ibrahim, of Tulo Ayer Tawar, to which we referred in our last issue, had been actually constituted at the time when we wrote. We are told that about 400 members were admitted last week, and that it was this society and not that at Tumbus which the Malays of Goar Kapa joined. We appear to have given offence to some of the Mahomedans by calling these associations "clubs," which they appear to identify with the Chinese word Kongsi. We used their own term *Jumaha* at the beginning of our article. We believe that it properly means "Congregation;" but Government very rightly objects to the formation of "congregations" numbering hundreds and even thousands, after the examples we have had of the manner in which associations, professedly religious, have been abused, and the tyranny which in one shape or another appears to be exercised by all Asiatic societies of the kind as soon as they become large and powerful.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

BUSH—On the 5th April, at Shanghai, the wife of Henry Edward Bush, of a son.

CAINE—On the 9th April, at Swatow, the wife of G. W. Caine, Esq., H.M. Consul, of a son.

CRAWFORD—On the 23rd May, at 2, Ladbroke-gardens, Notting-hill, the wife of Ninian Crawford, Esq., of Hong Kong, of a son.

MASON—On the 12th May, at Victoria-road, Kensington, the wife of D. K. Mason, Esq. late of Bangkok, of a daughter.

MONGAN—On the 20th March, at Tien-tsin, the wife of J. Mongan, Esq., H.B.M. Consul, of a son.

RYRIE—On the 4th April, at Hong Kong, the wife of P. Ryrie, Esq., of a daughter.

WATSON—On the 11th May, at Blackford House, Aberdeenshire, Mrs. J. P. Watson, of a son.

WULF—On the 17th May, at Walthamstow, Mrs. G. H. Wulf, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

LOUREIRO—WILDE.—On the 2nd April, at the Church of St. Saviour, Honque, by the Rev. C. H. Butcher, M.A., British Consular Chaplain, in the presence of H.M.F.M.'s Consul-General, Pedro Jose da Silva Loureiro, to Jessie, daughter of John Alfred, Wilde. No cards.

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PEACOCK—WORTHINGTON.—On the 13th March, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Rev. Thos. Stringer, Mr. Thomas Peacock, to Mary Johnston Worthington, only daughter of the late John Worthington, solicitor, Manchester, England.

DEATHS.

AITKEN—On the 30th March, at Hankow, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs James Aitken aged 8½ months.

AHRENHOLDT—On the 30th March, on board the Danish brig Georg Andreas, Peter Heinrich Ahrenholdt, master, native of Flensburg, aged 53 years, killed by pirates.

BOWKER—On the 27th Dec., on his passage from China, John T. F. Bowker, Esq., editor of the Shanghai Recorder, and only son of the late Captain John Bowker, R.N., of Greenwich Hospital, aged 46.

CALDWELL—On the 5th April, at Canton, William David Caldwell, in his 22nd year.

CORTANZE—On the 7th April, at Shanghai, Charles de Cortanze, agent of the Messageries Imperiales Company, aged 37 years.

JARVIE—On the 21st May, at Milheugh, Blantyre, Margaret Jane, only daughter of John Jarvie, Esq., of Glasgow, aged 3 years and 4 months.

KOCH—On the 19th May, at Frankfort-on-the-Maine, Christian Koch, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul, aged 29.

MARKOO—On the 13th April, at Hong Kong, Markoo, private Gun Lascar Company, aged 21 years and 8 months.

MACGREGOR—On the 26th March, at Shanghai, on board the ship Dunkeld, Daniel Macgregor, master.

SHELLEY—On the 14th May, aged 26, Harry Byam Shelley, late of the 31st Regt. M.L.I., second son of the late Adolphus E. Shelley, Esq., late of Hong Kong.

SCHARMBERG—On the 7th April, at Hong Kong, Carl Scharmberg, late captain of the Prussian schooner Volt Leur, aged 36 years.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—Notwithstanding the disastrous outturn of late shipments to England, the markets in China have been but little affected. The yield of Black teas is nearly exhausted, but late settlements by no means indicate the decline that might have been expected. Nor can it be said from present appearances that the opening of the markets for new teas will be much influenced by the heavy losses sustained of late by tea investments. The clipper ships are being got ready as usual—the banks seem to be replenishing their treasuries for the customary advances, and it is difficult to detect at present any symptoms of such a disinclination on the part of exporters to operate, as will bring the teamen to anything like reasonable terms. As for Green teas, a large business has been transacted during the fortnight, previous rates having been fully maintained.

CANTON.—Country Congou: Five chops Oonam have been settled during the fortnight at about same rates as those advised in the last, the stock, therefore, is now reduced to one chop. The new season Canton-made teas continued to be talked of, but it would be premature to report on any of the musters that have as yet been shown. The following are the settlements of the fortnight:—Country Congous, 5 chops, Oonam at tls., 17 to 19; Canton Congous, 1 chop, refined Congou at tls 16; Scented Orange Pekoe, none; Scented Caper, 235 boxes at tls. 24; Gunpowder, none; Young Hyson, none; Imperial, none; Hyson, none; Country Greens: Hyson, 393 half-chests at tls. 58 to 65.

FOOCHOW.—The only transactions in tea reported since the last report is: Congou: 240 half-chests at tls. 7 for leafy dust.

SHANGHAI.—Owing to the continued unsatisfactory advices received from the home market there has been no inducement to purchase Congous, and we have but little business to report. Two chops of common to fair black leaf have been taken at Tls. 15 to 20 (equal to 11d. to 1s. 2½d. per lb.), and the arrival of three chops from the river leaves us still with a stock of 3,500 chests. We quote, Ningchow and Oopacks: Medium to Good. None. Oonams: Medium to Good, Tls. 21 to 24. Fair Black leaf Tls. 16 to 20 per picul. Green Teas: There has again been a large business done for America at about previous rates; in some instances prices have been slightly easier, but the market closes firm, especially for fine kinds. The settlements have been chiefly composed of medium to good chops, and amount to 24,500 packages, say:—Common to fair Fychows at Tls. 21 to 29; and fair Moyunes, Tls. 30 to 37, proportion. Re-shipments have been 12,000 hf. chests, and the stock is estimated at 45,000 packages.

AMOY.—The previous small stock of Oolong has been further reduced to some 3,000 half-chests by settlements at about previous rates, while the same prices are asked for the small quantity remaining. No very reliable information has yet been received regarding the new crop teas, though the teamen confidently express little fear of interference in the transit through the country to this port. It is expected the first musters of Congou will arrive in five or six weeks hence, and that their quality will be better than last season, should the weather continue as favourable as at present.

HANKOW.—The tea season is closed, there being only one chop left in stock. Total settlements and shipments, 372,600 chests, or 37,337,300 lbs., against 362,200 chests, or 35,320,700 lbs., last year.

KIUKIANG.—Green Teas: Although 22,000 packages had been settled generally at former rates, and the Shanghai market has offered no higher inducement to shippers, the teamen have continued to transfer their stocks, upwards of 12,000 packages having gone forward during the fortnight on native account. Rates had remained the same. The presence in the port of large numbers of native troops had stopped all arrivals from the Poyang Lake, and the stock on the market was reduced to 83,000 packages. Quotations were:—Moyune: Fine to finest, Tls. 28 to 32; common to medium, Tls. 23 to 27 per picul. Fychow: Medium to fair, Tls. 23 to 25; Common, Tls. 21 to 22 per picul. Total settlements and shipments: 131,300 half-chests, or 7,671,500 lbs., against 208,600 half-chests, or 12,189,100 lbs. last year. Black Teas: In these there was again no business to report, and no change in quotations which remained. Ningchow: Common, Tls. 16. Hohow: Common, Tls. 12 per picul. Total settlements and shipments: 110,900 chests, or 9,675,800 lbs., against 111,200 chests, or 9,705,900 lbs. last year.

NAGASAKI.—The finer qualities are now beginning to get scarce, consequently holders are firm, at former high prices. About 7,000 bales of $8 to 18 per picul leaf have been purchased since the date of the last report, for shipment to Shanghai. New Season Tea expected to arrive in 60 days.

YOKOHAMA.—A fair business has been done during the past fortnight for the American markets, the high prices ruling prevent sales for shipment to England. Prices generally are easier, and for good medium to fine kinds a decline of half a dollar per picul may be noted. The settlements are about 1,600 piculs leaving a stock of about 2,000 as follows:—Common, 120 piculs; good do. 250; medium 850; good medium to fine 900; and finest 100 piculs. Quotations: Common, nominal $8,00 to 12,00; good, $14.50 to 17.00; medium, $19 to 23.00; good medium to fine $23.50 to 28.50; finest $33.00 to 38.00.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—There has been another very quiet fortnight, the transactions being estimated at not over 200 bales, chiefly comp sed of medium Tsatlee, say No. 3½ and 4½ at taels 468 to 480 per picul; and No. 2 and 3 Taysaam at taels 450 to 480 per picul. Prices are very firm, the absence of stock giving confidence to the dealers. The arrivals from the interior have again been very trifling, and the stock is now reduced to barely 100 to 200 bales, nearly all very inferior silks. The late advices from the Silk Country tend to prove the previous reports of the scarcity of this staple in the interior, and the very small arrivals may also be considered another proof of the truth of these accounts.

YOKOHAMA.—There has been a steady demand for all kinds of Silk since last report, and prices show a considerable advance on last quotations. It is not, however, expected that the extreme rates now ruling can long prevail, and must tend to check the demand. The settlements for the fortnight are 700 bales, making a total for the season of 12,650 bales, against 13,900 last year. Quotations are:—Mybash and Sinchu, best parcels offering, 740 to 752½; medium, 710 to 730; inferior, 680 to 690.

DRUGS (MACAO).—Cassia Lignea: Of 500 piculs, arrived during the fortnight, 300 piculs have been disposed of at $16.25. It seems that holders of the remaining stock are anxious to realise, as it is reported that a good many junks laden with this article are expected shortly. At present there are no orders of any importance in the market, and it is pretty certain that prices will be lower if larger supplies arrive. New crops Cassia is expected next month. Cassia Buds: Holders have submitted to a reduction in prices, in consequence of which 61 piculs found buyers at $46, leaving about 30 piculs on the market, which are held at $48, but as there is very little demand for the article holders no doubt have to yield. Cassia Oil: Is lower, and quoted $188, at which price 10 piculs changed hands. The stock is reported to be 50 piculs, which are offered at the rate named. Star Anniseed: A small supply of about 100 piculs new has come to market, of which 60 piculs found buyers for shipment North at the high price of $28. The remaining 50 piculs of the old crop are still offered at $24. Star Anniseed Oil: In consequence of more supplies, the rate for this article is somewhat easier, and settlements of 15 piculs for shipment to Manila are reported at £170. The stock is estimated at 35 piculs. China Galls: Still without stock, and nominal quotation $13.50 per picul. China Root: $2.60, and stock 1,800 piculs. Galangal: No change to notice; $1.75, with 2,000 piculs on the market. Vermilion: $34 per box of 900 packages, and $37 per box of 1,000 packages. Camphor (Hong Kong): No stock on hand; and no supplies arrived since the issue of last report.

RAW COTTON.

HONG KONG.—The stock is in few hands. The market after falling $2 to the depressing advices from England, rose $5 to 6 immediately after the departure of the last mail, to a good local demand. Second quality Shanghai was placed at $18—rates subsequently rose up to $24 to 25½ for Shanghai, $25 to 26 for Ningpo, and $27 to 28 for Japan, at which rates about 10,000 bags have been placed. The stock is estimated at 15,000 bags. Shipments to England have of course entirely ceased.

SHANGHAI.—The depressing advices brought by letters and telegrams, the latter advising a condition amounting almost to panic in Liverpool, have stopped all business in this staple. The progress of the Taiping rebels in the South has checked the local trade, and though holders are willing to accept Tls. 13 to 13.25 for fair Shanghai and Tls. 13.50 to 13.75 for good Kong-pek, buyers have been few and the trade done almost nil.

NINGPO.—The quotation is $28.40 per bale of 118 catties, at which there is no inquiry.

YOKOHAMA.—A few hundred bales of this staple have changed hands at from $28.50 to 29. Stock light.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN, &c.—The quotations for this article must be considered as purely nominal. There is no demand existing, and there have not been any sales effected during the past fortnight. Grey Shirtings: Prices of these goods remain pretty much as previously quoted, with sales during the fortnight to Chinese dealers of about 3,500 pieces. Some 5,000 pieces have also been reported as sold to foreign buyers. White Shirtings meet with hardly any inquiry, and the sales to be noted do not exceed 500 pieces; 150 pieces of damaged goods have also been moved off at auction. T-Cloths are in comparatively heavier stock at present than other goods of cotton manufacture, but the demand continues extremely limited, and the sales effected since the date of last circular amount to 1,500 pieces, exclusive of 400 pieces damaged disposed of by public sale. From Foochow we hear of sales of 1,200 pieces lbs. 7 goods at $3.40 per piece. The advices from Amoy show a slight improvement in that market for most of the staple articles of cotton manufacture imported. The following sales are advised:—Say 25 bales of Cotton Yarn, Nos. 16 to 24, at $237 per bale; 2,800 pieces Grey Shirting, at $4.55 to 5.78 for lbs. 7 to 8¼ goods; and about 300 pieces inferior Turkey Reds, at $3.50 to 3.60. American Drills: The market is quite bare of these goods, but another small sale of 325 pieces of English manufacture is reported at $6.20 per piece. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: The only sale reported during the past fortnight as having been effected in this colony consists of 50 pieces of damaged White Spots sold by auction. Damasks: There are not any sales of these goods to report. Chintzes have not been in any inquiry. Handkerchiefs: There have not been any sales of these goods reported.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: Without material alteration to notice in most descriptions of iron, the amount of business transacted during the

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fortnight has reached a moderate extent, and sales of all kinds are put at 2,500 piculs, while in Canton 900 piculs of Nail Rod have found buyers. Lead: Has met with but a trifling amount of inquiry in this colony, and prices remain unchanged, sales 550 piculs. In Canton the value of the article is slightly lower, with settlements of 2,000 piculs reported. Tin: 1,300 slabs have found buyers. Tin-Plates: 300 boxes have been purchased by Chinese, and 500 have been taken on foreign account. Steel: 160 tubs sold in Hong Kong, and 100 in Canton.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: Have been in but little request, and sales are limited to 150 pieces Spanish Stripes, while 120 pieces of similar manufacture are reported as sold in Canton. Long Ells: The price of Scarlet again shows a slight improvement, and the transactions of the past fortnight are put at 2,500 pieces. Camlets are unchanged in value, and have met with but little inquiry, the settlements are put at 210 pieces. Lastings: Without sales. Blankets: These goods have been in fair demand, and sales of 1,500 pairs are reported.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	6s. 2¼d. to 6s. 3d.	6s. 4d. to 6s. 5d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 5¼d.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.
At Singapore	6 ditto		
At Manila	6 ditto		

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. to per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 215 to 217 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, taels; at Hong Kong, . Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, discount.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From London, March 25, Dora.

At SHANGHAI.—From London, March 26, Garrawalt. From Newport, 25, Analysist. From Cardiff, 31, Abbotsford. From New York, April 4, Eva.

At HONG KONG.—From London, April 12, City of Aberdeen. From Newcastle, 11, Ettrick.

At MANILA.—From London, March 26, Tetuan. From Liverpool, 20, Maria y Vicenta.

At SINGAPORE.—From Liverpool, April 8, Harry Puddemsey. From Swansea, Earl Shaftesbury. From Boston, 13, Syren.

At BATAVIA.—From London, Skimmer of the Seas. From Glasgow, Mary Hamilton.

At BANGKOK.—From London, March 2, Costa Rica. From Cardiff, Hampton Court.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—None.

From SHANGHAI.—For Liverpool: March 27, Agamemmon; for New York: 27, Resolute; April 3, John Norman.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For Portsmouth: April 11, Sovereign of India.

From MACAO.—For London: March 28, Ocean; April 1, Philippine; for Falmouth: March 31, Richard.

From MANILA.—For Falmouth: April 2, Aline; for New York: March 12, Malay; 23, Marmion; for Boston: 15, California.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: April 11, Conference; 20, Silver Cloud.

From PENANG.—None.

From BANGKOK.—None.

VESSELS LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Mirage.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Antipodes, Vanguard, Cissy; for Liverpool: Lalla Rookh, Wm. Melhuish, Woosung; for New York: Canvass Buck, Egmont, Marion.

At FOOCHOW.—None.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Bunda, Pak-wan, Broadwater; for Liverpool: Vanda; for New York: Pudel.

At MANILA.—For London: Osprey, Indian Albis; for Liverpool: Tewkesbury; for New York: Young America, Bavaria; for Boston: Wild Rover, Hazard.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Elizabeth, Clarendon; for Liverpool: Veloz, Richard Cobden, William Dixon; for Bordeaux: Robur; for Bremen: Amazone.

At BATAVIA.—For Channel: Edward.

At PENANG.—For London: Britannia, Caroline.

At BANGKOK.—None.

FREIGHTS.

YOKOHAMA.—To London: Cotton and Tea, £3. to £3. 10s.; Silk £4. to £4. 10s. per ton of 50 cubic feet.

SHANGHAI.—The freight market continues dull, and no fresh charters have taken place. The vessels on the berth for London and Liverpool are loading at £2. 10s. to £2 15s. for Tea, and £2. 7s. 6d. to £2. 10s., for Cotton, and £2. 10s. for New York.

FOOCHOW.—No vessel loading.

HONG KONG and CANTON.—The circular of George Holmes gives the following settlements:—The Pak-wan, 795 tons, on the berth at Whampoa for London, £3 and £4 per ton, Burdwan 803 tons also on the berth at Whampoa; Pudel, 388, for New York at £2 per ton. Small vessels find ready employment for the north—for the southern ports no charters have been effected. Manila: Tonnage in harbour is plentiful. To London the rates are for unclayed sugar, £2. 15s.; Hemp, £3. 15s. To New York, $15

SINGAPORE.—Seeking vessels continue daily to arrive, and the demand for tonnage is but slight. Vessels are loading sugar at £1. 10s. per ton, and meast. goods at £2. 12s.

BATAVIA.—For the Continent a good deal of business has been done, but at low rates; an improvement is expected.

PENANG.—Nothing offering. The few vessels which have arrived, have left in ballast.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—March 24, Neville, Falmouth to Shanghai; 31, Mary Hamilton, Paradise, Newcastle to Hong Kong; April 1, Star of China, London to Shanghai; 2, Siam, Bremen (orders); 3, Laura, Hamburg to Singapore; Zanebar, Hamburg to Hong Kong; 4, Rudolph, Bremen to Hong Kong; William Chandler, Liverpool to Singapore; 5, Hollandia, Shields to Singapore; 6, Miranda, Antwerp to Hong Kong.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—March 30, Surprise, New York to Shanghai; April 1, Henry Harbeck, Philadelphia to Shanghai.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT, &c.—March 25, Orinoco, Singapore to London; 30, California, Manila to Cork; 31, Springwood, Singapore to Liverpool; Gabalvu, Yokohama to London; Jacoba, Batavia to Newcastle; April 2, Don Hermano, Manila to Cardiff; 4, John Nicholson, Shanghai to Liverpool; 6, Queensbury, Shanghai to Liverpool.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—April 10, Marmion, Manila to New York.

CASUALTIES.

SHANGHAI.

The ship Analyst, which arrived at Shanghai on the 25th March, left Newport on the 24th of May, 1864, in command of Mr. James Crosby, jun., of Sutherland. She arrived at Batavia after a tedious passage (during which the crew suffered a good deal) in October last, and sailed for Shanghai soon after. It appears that after leaving Batavia the Analyst encountered the monsoons, which were against her all the way, blowing heavily the whole time with fearful seas. The ship had her bulwarks washed away and other damage done, and the master and crew were completely exhausted on reaching Shanghai.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

In reference to the failure of Messrs. Lindsay and Co., in China, noticed in another column, we understand that Mr. H. H. Lindsay has not received a telegram to that effect.

The London Cotton Brokers' Association report—At the public sales to-day (the 25th), 1,247 bales were offered, of which about one-half sold at rather easier rates; 152 bales China were bought in at 8d.; of 176 bales Japan, 148 bales bought in at 9¼d., remainder sold at 8½d. to 8¾d. Latest quotations:—China, middling fair, 8d.; fair, 8½d.; good fair, 9d. Japan, middling fair, 8¾d.; fair, 9¼d. to 9½d.; good fair, 9¾d. At Liverpool, also, prices were yesterday slightly in favour of buyers.

There were sales of Penang rum yesterday at 1s. 6d. per gallon.

QUARANTINE NOTICE.—LISBON, MAY 18.—By an order of the Board of Health, of May 15, in "Diario" of 16th, the ports of Macao, Hong Kong, and all the other ports of China, are declared free from cholera morbus.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—May 23, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Constantia; 5, at Havana, from Macao, Emma; 24, off Dungeness, from Batavia, Hendrika; 26, at Falmouth, from Maulmain, Mersey; off Falmouth, from Singapore, Charlotte Jane.

DEPARTURES.—May 23, from Sunderland, for Hong Kong, Hadassa; 18, from Rotterdam for Samarang, Hendrika; 23, from Cardiff for Manila, Langdale; 24, from Shields for Galle, Kohuya.

SPOKEN.—Tresling (ship), for Galle, March 28; Peterborough, London to Shanghai, April 13, 1 S., 28 W.; Bessie Stanton, Cardiff to Shanghai, April 21, 6 S. (?), 25 W.; Finzel (barque), for Shanghai, April 7, 1 S., 26 W.; Ville de St. Louis (French barque), Bordeaux to Hong Kong, April 9, 1 N., 25 W.; Macao (Hamburg barque), Java to Falmouth, 109 days out, May 13, 43 N., 28 W.; Noack (Dutch ship), Amsterdam to Batavia, 49 N., 9 W.; Europa (Dutch ship), Java to Amsterdam, 49 N., 7 W.

CASUALTIES.—Greenock, May 23, the Three Bells (ship), from Glasgow for Batavia, &c., whilst at anchor; May 19, in Gouroch Bay, had her jibboom carried away by collision with the Kent (ship), which was coming up in tow.

THE NORTHERN ASSAM TEA COMPANY.

An evidence of the increased enterprise excited to the cultivation o tea in India appears in the announcement of the Northern Assam Tea Company (Limited) of an increase of its capital to £400,000, to be provided by the issue of 25,000 (B) shares of £10 each, these shares to be entitled to a preferential dividend, so far as accruing profits from estates acquired from the Assam Company allow, of 10 per cent per annum, any excess being divisible between the A and B shares. The Northern Assam Tea Company has the advantage of having already worked most successfully and profitably its estates, which lie contiguous to the new acquisitions, thus allowing of their being placed under the same efficient management, an economical consideration of great importance. The purchase includes fine old indigenous gardens, of which 1,000 acres are already in cultivation, and the crop of tea for this season being included, early returns may be looked for. It is an important feature that grants for 10,000 acres adjoining the tea gardens have been secured, so that tea cultivation may be vastly extended. The annual yield of the indigenous plants on the new estates is estimated at from 4,000 to 5,000 chests. A late valuation of the property has placed it far above the purchase money. The efficiency of the management of the company, the fact of the estates being in a district most favourable to the culture, together with the financial and business standing of the directors, both here and in India, offer good security to investors.

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INDIAN GRIEVANCES.—The plain truth about the grievances of Indian officers seems to have been told for the first time in the House of Lords on Monday evening. After the great Bengal Mutiny it was resolved to transfer the Administration of India to the Crown, and to convert the great armies of the old East India Company into armies of the Queen. At the same time a distinct and comprehensive promise was given that the officers of the Company's armies should be kept harmless as regarded their professional position, and should lose none of the advantages, allowances, or privileges to which they stood entitled. Now, the performance of that promise was almost an impossibility. Sir James Outram had predicted that the attempt to fulfil it would be vain, and that it would not be in the power of any Government to carry out effectually the scheme of amalgamation and yet keep faith with the officers of the Indian Army. This is precisely what has happened. The Indian officers declare themselves aggrieved, and bring their grievances before Parliament, appealing to the Parliamentary guarantee which they think has been violated. Ministers make the best defence they can, alleging, what is true enough, that they have endeavoured to satisfy everybody. But while Lord Dufferin could not really upset the case of the officers, Lord Cranworth and Lord Houghton hit the nail on the head by pointing out the impracticability of the promise. It was "enormous," said Lord Houghton; it was "most unfortunate," said Lord Cranworth. But, whatever it be, there it is. The pledge was given, and must now be observed. Besides, though this accounts for the difficulties of the case, we are at a loss to see how the embarrassment could have been avoided. It is all very well to say that Ministers should have left themselves "unfettered" in accomplishing so great a change without the offer of the guarantee now found so burdensome. Was it not simple justice to these Indian officers, who had done no wrong, to tell them that they should suffer no harm? Could any Minister have proposed to "subordinate private rights to a great public policy" without encountering immediate opposition? Was not the principle of compensation which we recognise in all cases peculiarly applicable to this case? After all, it is a question of compensation only, and, indeed, ultimately a question of money.

THE FRENCH TREATY WITH JAPAN.—The letter of a French correspondent at Yokohama states that the Japanese Government has resolved to give effect to one of the articles of the French Treaty, hitherto a dead letter, which provides for the formation, under Government auspices, of a corps of Japanese interpreters of the French language. By a recent decree the Japanese Ministry has directed Daimio Sakai-Hidano-Kami to choose a suitable site at Yokohama for the establishment of a French college, to be placed under the direction of M. l'Abbé Mermet de Cachon. Not only the Japanese officers who desire to be instructed in the French language and European science are to be admitted, but a certain number of the children of the Daimios are to be admitted as scholars. Among these is the son of the President of the Council of the Tycoon.

MR. E. H. POLLARD, barrister, Hong Kong, has been appointed a Q.C.

APPOINTMENTS.—Mr. H. P. M'Clatchie and Mr. M. J. O'Brien have been appointed Student Interpreters in China.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, May 15.

The Second Chamber has been for these four days debating the constitution for the West Indies. The discussion is very unimportant and tiresome, in consequence of the fact (Mr. Rochussen, M.P., avowed it himself) that none of the members knew much about these colonies. Without doubt the Bill will be voted with a large majority, so that the 650 electors of Surinam will soon have their Parliament and the full right of self-government. Some of the members were for the abandonment of these colonies, because they cost us every year several millions, and there is no chance that this state of things will improve. A large body of the members, however, rejected this idea.

Last Monday the Second Chamber voted (forty-four against six) the Bill fixing the sugar duties. Henceforward this article will furnish a revenue of 3,500,000f. (minimum) per year—1,500,000f. more than the present minimum. In 1840 sugar furnished only 46,000f. Is it to be wondered that the refiners are indignant? The Minister of the Finances would have preferred that no minimum was fixed, but an amendment was proposed, and voted by a majority of one member.

Mr. J. J. van Mulken was re-elected Member of Parliament for the district of Haarlem.

In a former letter I told you that the works of the canal from Amsterdam to the North Sea had been commenced. The company has had no great success. After their financial struggles they now have to contend with a strike. The thousand workmen refused to work unless they were paid at the rate of f.1.80 per day, instead of f.1.10. The managers were obliged to grant the demand.

Waterloo-day will be celebrated throughout our whole country with great festivities.

The beautiful collection of pictures of the late Baron van Brienen van de Groote Lindt, from the Hague, is now being sold in Paris. The sixty-four pictures sold in the two first days realised a sum of 1,394,660 francs.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The market remains firm, but the transactions are insignificant, the trade being occupied inspecting the parcels to be offered in the forthcoming sale of the Trading Company. Only 5,000 to 6,000 bags Java, and 1,800 bags Padang were sold at different prices. Good ordinary is quoted 44 c.

SUGAR.—In the first days of last week a parcel of 1,000 kr. was sold at Amsterdam at 1f. to 1¼f. above March prices. Since, the market became inactive, because buyers decline to pay that rate, and sellers refuse to operate without an advance.

TEA.—Business was confined to the execution of a few small orders for consumption. Prices are very firm.

RICE.—Without transactions.

SPICES.—There has been no speculative inquiry since our last report, and scarcely any demand for export. Nutmegs, No. 1, 70c. to 72c.; Mace D 64c. to 65c.; Cloves, No. 2, 25c. to 26c.; Cinnamon, No. 4, 91c. to 92c.

TOBACCO (Java Leaves).—Several parcels arrived, but are not yet in the market. There was some demand at former rates.

COTTON.—The last few days the market was duller, in consequence of the peaceful news from America. The transactions consisted in 350 b. Java and Japan sorts.

HIDES.—The market has become flat, and parcels are offered at lower rates. There were sold 1,910 E.I., per Robertus Hendricus; 1,590 do., per Sylphide; and 369 Buffalo (dam.), ex Gysbreecht Karel Graaf van Hogendorp, at 20c.

INDIGO (Java).—The market remains in a very firm condition; 60 chests were sold at full auction prices, likewise 26 chests Manila.

COCHINEAL.—Holders decline to operate without an advance. Good first quality is not to be had beneath 225c.

RATTANS.—The several parcels which were offered could not be sold at lower rates.

HEMP.—Manila 61f.

BANCA TIN.—Only some hundred blocks were sold at 59½f. to ¾.

COCOA NUT OIL.—Without stock; prices not quoted.

MONEY.—The stock market is in a very calm condition, the prices are, since my last report, not much altered. Int. Debt. Two-and-a-Half per Cents., 61½; Three per Cents., 72½; Four per Cents., 95¼; Handelmaatschappy, 144⅜; Dutch Railway Company, Four-and-a-Half per Cents., 99¾; Four per Cents., 91½; Rhenish Railway shares f.271; Central Railway, 39 per cent.; shares do., f.270 (in much demand); North Sea Canal Company, Three per Cents., 77; East Indian Bank, 88; Discount Bank, 3½ per cent. for bills; 4 per cent. for acceptances; open market 3½ to 4 per cent. 'Change: London, 3 months, f.11.73; 2 months, f.11.76; short, f.11.86; Paris, 3 months, f.46.52; 2 months, f.46.66; short, f.47.05; Hamburg, 3 months, f.31.95; 2 months, f.35; short, f.35.10; Italy, 2 months, f.46; St. Petersburg, f.151.

SHIPPING—ARRIVALS.—May 5, at Texel, from Banjoewangie, Constance; 7, at Texel, from Batavia, Zwaan; from Banjoewangie, Nordstern; 11, at Brouwershaven, from Capetown, Gondora (with a part of the cargo of the Johannes, Captain Rademaker, from Batavia); 10, at Texel, from Batavia, H.M.'s str. Heldin; 11, at Hellevoet, from Banjoewangie, Augusta; at Texel, from Batavia, Alfred the Great, Chryseis; 12, A. R. Falck; 13, at Zierikzee, from Banjoewangie, Bilderdyk.

DEPARTURES.—May 6, from Texel, for Padang, Pauline, Constance, Eleonore; 7, from Texel, for Batavia, Vier Gezusters, Kandanghauer; for Japan, Julie; 10, from Hellevoet, for Macassar, Macassar; from Texel, for Sourabaya, Petronella; from Brouwershaven, for Batavia, Kortenaer, Grootmeester Nationaal; for Sourabaya, Antonia Petronella.

The Trading Company chartered the following ships to convey produce from Java to one of our ports:—G. K. Graaf van Hogendorp, Capt. E. W. Fabritius; Hoek van Holland, J. Bakker; Krimpen a/d. Lek, W. G. Rotgans; Burgemeester Hoffman, L. E. Graafthuis; Nooch, A. Lupcke; Jacobus, J. van der Tas; Jacob and Anna, M. C. Bonger; Elisabeth and Marie, P. Flens Jzn.; Stad Dockum, H. B. R. Jaski; Admiraal de Ruyter, T. T. Mollinger; Marie Elise, T. D. van Deursen; Stad Leyden, J. C. van de Poll; Mentor, H. W. Butenuth; Stad Enschede, S. W. F. Kretschmer; Hercules, J. F. Deterding; Abel Tasman, J. R. Rijken; Prinses Amalia, L. W. v. Rhijn v. Alkemade; Delft, L. van Geelkerken; Landbow, A. Sissingh; Patriarch Samhiri, G. G. Lion; Joan, C. Laseur; Vijf Vrienden, C. Johan.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, May 23.

After the constitution for Curacao was passed by forty-eight votes against three, Parliament opened the debate upon the Bill to abolish the communal excises. I need not tell you that much has already been said about this question, and it may be foreseen that the debates will last some days. Mr. van Zuylen opened the discussion from the Opposition benches. His speech was a veritable philippic against the Cabinet, and in particular against Mr. Betz. It seems that the Conservatives intend to fight a decisive battle on this ground, and, if possible, to defeat the Cabinet and master the position.

It is difficult to predict what will be the fate of the Bill. So much seems certain, that, if passed, it will only be by a very

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small majority. If it should be rejected, the Minister Betz will be obliged to resign, as the measure—the first of his proposed financial reforms—was based upon the most prominent principle of his programme. But, even should this be the case, I do not see it inevitable that Mr. Thorbecke also would be obliged to resign, the rather that a Conservative Cabinet is an impossibility.

The First Chamber met on the 17th, and has till now been busy with an address of condolence to the King on the death of the Queen Dowager. To-morrow they will begin to discuss the medical laws.

The last mail brought us the news that the house of Césard and Co., at Batavia and Nantes, had suspended payment with very considerable liabilities. It is impossible to say the exact amount, because our papers maintain entire silence in regard to this rumour. The fact that foreign journals—and especially the Hamburg ones—named very exaggerated sums (forty to fifty million guilders) forced the *Handelsblad* to say that the house had been brought into difficulty, but that all was arranged, the firm having been formed into a company (limited). I give you the rumour as it is published here.

A concession has been granted to Messrs. Zwaan and van Heyningen for making a canal from Scheveningen—the well-known bathing-place, which is very much frequented in this tropical weather (therm. eighty-seven degrees Fahr.)—to the Hague. I think that the capital has been, or is to be, furnished by the English market.

To-morrow the great Government sugar auctions are to take place. A very large quantity of superior quality will be offered, as a good deal of what is to be sold falls within the standard types 19 and 20. The uncertainty in which our refiners and the trade are placed by the International Convention and the new Excise Bill, will cause them to hold back, as they fear they will not be able to refine and export such a large quantity of these high types.

Three of our Ministers, Betz, Fransen van de Putte, and Cremers, are made Commanders of the Order of the Netherlands Lion, in recompense for the sugar laws, voted, as I told you, some weeks ago.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The result of the auction of the Trading Company held on the 17th was very satisfactory, and made a very good impression upon the market. The demand was so animated, that for all sorts ½ to 1c. above valuation was paid, for some numbers 2c. to 3c. was paid above the last auction prices. The private transactions were accordingly very important, and consisted in 3.400 b. Padang ex Daniel, at 44½c. to 45c.; 1,000 b. do. ex ditto, at 45½c.; 1,473 b. Africa ex Afrika, at 40c. to 45c.; 2.000 b. Java ex Doelwyk, at 44½c.; 1,615 b. Java ex Hugo Grotius, 277 b.; Java triage ex Bernard and Agnes at different prices; 5,800 b. Java ex Thomas Mitchell, 800 b. ditto ex Constance; 600 b. ex Leaping Water; 300 b. ditto ex Den Elshout; 1.200 b. ditto ex Azia, and 2,600 b. Java ex Argo, at 46½c. The market closes very firm, and without doubt an advance will be paid in the coming week, on the actual quotation.

SUGAR.—According to the advanced prices, several parcels were brought on the market; the sellers, however, declined to operate at a lower rate. The transactions, however, were very limited; and so here, as at Amsterdam, only 4,000 kranjangs were sold at ½f. to ¾f. above the March quotation. The quotation also lowered 1½ f. compared with that of two or three weeks ago.

TEA.—The market is firm but without transactions, only for the Java sorts, bought in the last auction, an advance is paid.

SPICES.—Dull. For Nutmegs there was some demand for export. Cloves very calm. Cinnamon, No. 3, 98 to 99 ct.; No. 4, 90 ct. Pepper, 20 to 20½ ct., with a very small stock in the second hand.

RICE.—The market is very active. The transactions consisted in 2.500 b. Java, ex Duke of Newcastle; 3,836 b. Java, ex Regina Maris and Taree Gezusters, at 8½f.; 3,177 b. Sourabaya, ex Sophia Koningin der Nederlanden.

TOBACCO.—There has been no speculative inquiry since our last report, and scarcely any demand for consumption. The market remains dull and inactive. The losses in the Manila kinds have been very heavy.

COTTON.—There is a fair demand for East Indian sorts, especially for Scinda, but there is no stock. On the 30th the Trading Company will sell at auction 700 b. Comptah, good middling valued at 40c.; 212 b. Tinneveily fair, 46c.; 165 b. do., middling fair, 42c.; 140 b. East Indian fair, 33c.; 36 b. do. (Sawginned) middling fair, 30c.; 30 b. China, middling fair, 42c.; 26 b. do. low middling, 25c.; 800 b. Japan, good fair, 59c.

HIDES.—In the past week arrived 2.800 ps. The transactions remain limited, only 200 ps. Buffalo ex Jan Daniel, 2,859 do. ex Oceanus, and 1,000 Ox ex do. were sold.

JAVA INDIGO.—The market remains very active, there is a good demand for the parcels bought in auction. Notwithstanding an advance is willingly paid, holders decline to operate. The stock in first hands is unimportant, and the quantity now on sea is likewise of no importance. The 14 ch. arrived per Oceanus are brought into the market; an advance of 25 cents. on the last auction prices, is asked for them.

BANCA TIN.—The market is inactive, sellers at 59f.; but buyers decline to give more than 58¾f.

COCOA NUT-OIL.—Very firm. Quotation 27½f.

CHINA CAMPHOR.—Some parcels are offered at a lower rate.

GUM DAMAR.—Is paid with 25½ cents.

RATTANS.—At the lower quotations there is some demand. 2,800 bundles, ex Duke of Newcastle, and 3,636, ex Aristides, were sold.

ARAK.—The market is very firm, and there is a good demand in the second-hand for export. The 50 cases ex Victoria were sold at higher prices.

MONEY.—The market for foreign securities is very heavy; home stock firm, but very calm. Dutch, Two-and-a-Half per Cents., 61 15-16ths; Three per Cents., 73; Four per Cents., 95 15-16ths; Netherl. Bank, 236 (a dividend was announced for the past year of 197f.).; Handelsmaatschappy, 144½ per cent.; Rhenish Railway Shares, 238f.; Central Railway, 33; Central Railway Oblig., 121f.; Company of Exploration of the State Railways, 92 per cent.; Indian Bank, 88; Indian Railway Company, 90.

DISCOUNT (BANK).—For Bills, 3½ per cent.; for acceptances, 4; open market, 3½.

'CHANGES.—London: 3 mo., 11.73f.; 2 mo., 11.77½f.; short, 11.86f. Paris: 3 mo., 46.52f.; 2 mo., 46.66f.; short, 47f. Antwerp: 3 mo., 46.45f.; short, 46.85f. Hambro': 3 mo., 34.87f.; 2 mo., 34.95f.; short, 35.10f.; Italy, 46f.

EXPORTS TO INDIA FROM THE 30TH OF APRIL TILL THE 9TH OF MAY.—Geneva, 149,184 litres; wine, 57,993 litres; beer, 54,011 litres; brandy, 8,955 litres; vinegar, 9,160 litres; butter, 27,522 lb.; cheese; 4,768 lb.; ham, 9,316 lb.; pork (salted), 9,896 lb.; salted meat, 55.479 lb.; confectionery and preserved vegetables, 39,618 lb.; cakes, 8.188 lb.; flour, 22,680 lb.; drillings, 14.650f. and 32,800 yards; cotton (manuf.), 1,679.631 yards, 13,971 lb., and 37,250f.; sarongs, 10.980 yards; yarns, 6,839 lb.; calicoes, 49,530 yards; yute coffee bags, 76 600 pkgs.; guns, 4 pkgs.; types, 1,350 lb.; writing-paper, 7.200f., and 1,300 lb., and 144 ream; coals, 2,231,895 lb.; coal-tar, 274,400 lb.; petroleum, 28,760 litres; turpentine, 4,400 litres; rope, 12,995 lb.; lineoil, 1,760 lb.; sail-cloth, 3.750f.; earthenware, 26,070f., and 10,140 lb.; glasswork, 11,183f.; window-glass, 4,000 lb.; soap, 22,250 lb.; ammunition, 2,300 lb.; chemicals, 706 lb.; segars, 2,645 lb.; perfumery, 5,016f.; chocolate, 151 lb.; pitch, 2,630 lb.; tar, 13.990 lb.; umbrellas, 4.250f.; mercery, 8.078 lb.; candles, 1,179 lb.; iron-bars and hoops, 304.001 lb.; zinc, 9,740 lb.; copper leaves, 22,737 lbs.; copper nails, 660 lb.; machinery, 169,001 lb.; needles, 334,000 pkgs.; steam fire-engine, 6,175f.; box steel-pens, 166f.; wool (manuf.), 19,050f., and 4,499 yards; silk (manuf.), 8,080f.

SHIPPING.—DEPARTURES.—May 14, from Hellevoet for Batavia, Henriette Gerardina Susanna; from Texel for Singapore, Anna; May 15, from Texel for Bombay, Tinnevelly; May 17, from Brouwershaven for Batavia, Noach; May 19, from Hellevoet for Batavia, Hendrika; May 20, from Brouwershaven for Batavia, Onrust; from Texel for Padang, Brouwershaven; for Samarang, den Elshout; for Batavia, Krimpenerwaard.

ARRIVALS.—May 14, at Texel from Batavia, Hendrika Geertruida; May 15, at do. from Banjoewangie, Alblasserwaard; May 16, at Texel from Samarang, Carl; from Banjoewangie, Jan van Brakel; from Sourabaya, Louise Kohn.

LOADING AT AMSTERDAM.—For Batavia and Sourabaya: Nicolaas Witsen, Louise, Loevesteyn; for Kanagawa and Decima: Bantam, Batavia; for Padang: Excelsior, Anna and Jeannette; Helena; for Samarang: Mathilde; for Sourabaya: Quintet, Staatsraad van der Houven.

FREIGHTS.—Quotations of Messrs. Fauchey and de Vletter, shipbrokers, Rotterdam:—For Batavia: Kosmopoliet, 753 tons, G. K. Graaf van Hogendorp 754, Mary and Hillegonda 754, Ternate 747, Joan 688, Koffyboom 1,280—18f. to 20f. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Corigene 752 tons—18f. to 20f. for B., 25f. to 30f. for S. For Batavia and Samarang: Cornelis Anthonie, 644 tons, Philips van Marnix, 1.516—18f. to 20f. for B., 25f. for S. For Samarang: Landbouw, 725 tons, Onrust 808—25f. to 30f.; all per last of 2,000 ks., or 120 cubic feet Amsterdam and 15 per cent. For Melbourne (H.B): Kanagawa 1.216 tons, 40s. to 45s. and 5 per cent. For Singapore and Hong Kong: Sophia Amalia, 319 tons, Mary Goddard, 312—30s. for S. 40s. for H., and 15 per cent. For Singapore: Neerlands Vlag, 30s. to 35s. and 15 per cent.; all per ton of 1,000 ks., or 40 cubic feet English.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From Java: Per Bilderdyk, Captain Vieton, Messrs. de Corte, Westerberg, de Jonge Hr. B. Jansen, J. Janzen, and E. A. Klerks; per Alblas-erwaard, Captain Zack, Messrs. W. J. Suringa, C. W. van Oordt, and Miss C. A. van Meerten.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

To Batavia: Per Noach, Captain Lupcke, 1st Lieut. A. Bardok, E.I. Army, 2nd Lieuts. G. Tennissen and A. Hekmeyer, and 150 soldiers; per Krimpenerwaard, Captain Kluit, Messrs. H. F. Bleuge, J. W. Niftsz, F. J. Garman and H. C. Meyer.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MAY 14.

Dr. Carl von Scherzer, who circumnavigated the globe with the Austrian "Novarra" expedition, has laid before the Government a serious proposal, and therefore not in accordance with his name—*Scherzer* means literally a *joker*—for taking possession of the Nicobar Islands and transforming them into an Austrian penal settlement. In the meantime the question has been mooted whether Austria is justified in taking possession of that group of islands, as she certainly cannot claim the honour of having discovered them, and previous possession may be pleaded by other nations. In the year 1846, Captain (now Admiral) Steen Bille, when on his scientific expedition round the world in the Danish frigate *Galatea*, formally took possession of the Nicobar Islands, having an area of thirty-four square German miles, in the name of His Majesty the King o

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Denmark, and the natives were supplied with Danish flags, which they hoisted with great demonstrations of joy. But after a couple of years these flags were fetched away, and this act, it is argued, goes to prove that the Danes formally renounced all further claim to the possession of the group, and that it thus reverted to the Austrians, who, eighty-six years ago, had hoisted their flag there.

In the meantime the commission appointed to consider what stipulations ought to be inserted in the proposed treaties of commerce with China, Siam, and Japan, have been energetically diligent, and already sent into the Government projected drafts of the said treaties.

The Swiss Export Company has done such a good stroke of business last year through their agencies in China and Japan, that they are in a condition to declare a dividend of 22 per cent.; in addition to which, on the proposition of National Councillor Fierz and Director Ruegg-Blass, a donation of 50,000 frs. to the University of Zurich was unanimously agreed to by the shareholders at the late annual general meeting.

Letters from St. Petersburg state that telegrams in the French language may now be forwarded direct to Teheran at the rate of 5 roubles 96 copecks per twenty words. Telegrams may also be sent viâ Persia to any part of India, the charge to Calcutta being 19 roubles 65 copecks for twenty words, or as near as possible one rouble per word.

Major-General von Gerhard, who represented Russia at the late telegraph congress at Paris, is promoted to the rank of Lieut.-General, "in consideration of his distinguished services," and transferred from the Engineers to the newly created telegraph corps.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—There is no great alteration in this market to report. Inferior qualities are a trifle cheaper, and therefore much in request, whilst the better descriptions are getting rather scarce and command full values. Sales of the week, 17,000 bags.

SUGAR.—The improvement in Raw noticed last week continues with an active demand. Among the sales are 8,000 bags of brown Manila for delivery on arrival at 14 marks banco. Refined goods firmly held, with an average amount of sales.

RICE.—Clean grain is easily disposed of at steady prices. In rough nothing to report.

SPICES.—No sales by importers, and prices without alteration.

TEA.—Market calm, but remarkably firm. Among the sales of the week are 248 chests of Congou, per *Persia*, and 500 chests of Congou, Souchong, and Pecco, ex warehouse, as well as several small lots of green. Per *Conrad Henrich*, from Foochow direct, 5,350 chests of Congou, Kaisow Congou, Souchong, and Pecco, have just come to hand, but are not yet in the market.

SPELTER.—Considerable quantities having arrived from the interior, an animated business ensued at rising prices, and the following sales are reported:—

4,000	centners,	per May and June,	at 13	marks	12	Sch. Banco.
3,000	„	ex warehouse	13	„	11	„
500	„	W. H. loco	13	„	12	„
1,000	„	per June	13	„	12	„
4,000	„	per May and June	13	„	12	„
3,000	„	in loco	13	„	12	„
1,000	„	per June	13	„	13	„
1,000	„	per July and August	13	„	15	„
3,000	„	in loco	13	„	14	„
1,500	„	W.H., ex warehouse	14	„	—	„
5,000	„	in loco	14	„	—	„
2,000	„	do.	14	„	2	„
1,000	„	per July and August	14	„	4	„
3,000	„	afloat	14	„	4	„
1,500	„	ex warehouse	14	„	4	„
3,000	„	per June and July	14	„	5	„
3,000	„	afloat	14	„	6	„
1,000	„	per June and July	14	„	6	„

SHIPPING.—ARRIVED.—Conrad Henrich, from China; Susanne, from Singapore.

SAILED.—Bertha, to Hong Kong; Charlotte, to Singapore; Elisabea, to Shanghai.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MAY 23.

Complaints are heard that at the Leipzig great Easter fair just concluded, business on the whole was in a depressed state. One of the principal articles for which this fair is justly celebrated is woollen cloth, great quantities of which are usually bought for the United States. But at present that field is hermetically closed, nor is it expected that it will ever regain its former importance because during the war a great impetus has been given to the woollen trade, and numerous cloth manufactories have sprung up in the Northern States, which, though they make mostly worthless stuff out of shoddy, it will be difficult for the Germans to compete with successfully, especially as long as the present tariff of high war-duties is enforced, which partake more of the nature of prohibition than protection.

But, on the other hand, it is satisfactory to be able to report that the German cloth manufacturers are seriously turning their attention to finding other outlets for their produce, and especially in the Far East, for which great facilities are now opened by the Prussian commercial treaties with China, Siam, and Japan. From the energy displayed by them in pushing this branch of trade, it even looks as if they were attempting to monopolise the field for that very important article of manufacture. Hitherto the Germans could never be persuaded to alter their old-fashioned jog-trot ways and adapt their machinery so as to turn out produce suited to the wants and tastes of their customers; but of late a great improvement has taken place in that respect, and a healthy and energetic competition has sprung up among them, likely to lead to most favourable results. They now manufacture their cloth not only of greater width than formerly, but they pay more attention to the assortment of the colours, so as to suit the taste of buyers in the Eastern markets.

Furs are another important article of trade at the fair of Leipzig, and the enormous extent of the transactions is but little known out of Germany. The following particulars of the business done in peltries at this last fair will give your readers some idea of this extensive branch of commerce. Two millions of American Bison skins changed hands, for which the prices paid were from 15 to 20 per cent. higher than last year. A hundred thousand Beaver skins were sold, fetching last year's prices to 15 per cent. advance, and 40,000 Red Foxes realised last year's values. Of Russian Furs, enormous quantities have been sold, mostly at an advance. Ischinsky Ermines fetched 26 to 28 dollars per 40 skins, and Jakutzk do. 18 to 20 dollars. Squirrels were in great demand, and the following sales are officially reported:—

12,000	Kolinsky ..	at 45 to 52	dollars	per	40 skins.
450,000	Sakamouoy	„ 22 „ 25	„		„
800,000	Lenskoy ..	„ 13 „ 14	„		„
350,000	Jakoutzk ..	„ 19 „ 22	„		„
250,000	Podgorowno	„ 16 „ 18	„		„

The Prussian steam corvette *Gazelle* has at length arrived at Danzig after an absence of three years in the East, and anchored in the roads. On the following day Admiral H R.H. Prince Adalbert came down from Berlin to inspect her, after which she was paid off and put out of commission for the present, as she must go into dock and undergo extensive repairs and a thorough overhauling.

Mr. Ferdinand Nissen, merchant at Ningpo, has been appointed Vice-consul for the King of Sweden and Norway at that port, under the Consulate-General of Shanghai.

Mr. Meyer, of Singapore, has been awarded the Hamburg Zoological Society's silver medal for this year.

Since the arrival of the last overland mail alarming reports are in circulation here of a Hamburg vessel, the *Georg Andreas*, belonging to Mr. Knauer, having been attacked by pirates in the China seas, the captain killed, the mate wounded, and a large part of the cargo on board (rice) stolen. The arrival of the next mail from China is anxiously expected, as it will either bring a confirmation or refutation of the report.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The moderate stocks on hand and expected, together with the favourite result of the Dutch auction, have created more confidence and led to an animated business. As no doubt large shipments of this article will shortly be made to the United States from the producing countries, many of our large importers have withdrawn their samples from the market with the intention of looking on for a while. Sales of the week 12,000 bags.

SUGAR.—Raw market firm, and prices without alteration. Among the sales were 30,000 bags of clayed and unclayed Manila. In refined, the dealings were of limited extent at last week's currency.

RICE.—Cleaned descriptions continue in great demand, and a further advance is established. Nothing to say about rough grain.

SPICES.—Cassia Lignea is more in favour, and a fair amount of business has been done at full rates. Cardamoms attract more attention. The prices of Pepper are well supported.

TEA.—Market calm but very firm. Some hundred chests of Congo, Souchong, and Picco, have been taken for shipment to the north of Europe. Arrived per Welf from Canton, 700 packages of imperial and 300 ditto gunpowder.

SPELTER.—Still experiences an active demand at rising prices. Among the sales reported are 15,000 centners ex warehouse, at 14.2 to 14.8; 15.000 ditto afloat, at 14.4 to 14.8; 1,000 ditto per June and July, at 14.7; 7,000 ditto different periods of delivery, at 14.9; 2,000 ditto, W.H. in loco, 14.10; 1,000 ditto, afloat for arrival, 14.9.

DISCOUNT 3 per cent. Money plentiful.

SHIPPING.—Arrived: Carl Ritter from Canton; China from Zebu (Philippine Islands); Welf from Canton and Hong Kong; Carl from Singapore. Sailed: Picciola and Freya to Hong Kong.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, SATURDAY, MAY 27, 1865.

THE TYCOON'S LAST RESOLVE.

THE tidings that the TYCOON'S Government prefers paying a monied indemnity to granting further facilities to trade, can excite no surprise. Such an alternative should never have been presented, but, on the contrary, the requirements both on one side and the other should have been embodied in a positive and uncompromising demand. That we should have surrendered for so much silver, the opportunity of putting our trade on those waters on a more satisfactory basis, can now invoke only disappointment. What we demanded as an alternative was simply the practical concession of rights already guaranteed by treaty—the relief of a trade harassed by undue restrictions and Governmental exactions. This, rather than the mere acquisition of additional open ports, is what British merchants trading with Japan desire. Even as respects Hiogo, it is too apparent that the transfer thither of the Yokohama Custom House officials portends the establishment in its integrity of the same defensive and obstructive organisation elsewhere set up. It is even possible that Hiogo, from its vicinity to the great trading guilds, whose operations again are ruled by the Government of Yedo, would favour a yet more strict and harassing interference than that we now encounter; it being a prime political aim to control, not only the routes, but the supplies of trade. What is Hiogo to us unless we have free intercourse with the Western provinces, not only as buyers but sellers? In not compelling the fulfilment of at least the treaty rights in spirit as in letter, we have played with fatal facility into Japanese hands, thus appearing to endorse the plea that foreign trade, with rights given or promised to foreigners, really underlies present internal dissensions. We believe in nothing of the kind, although the foreign question has been made a watchword. There is presumptive evidence that the desire of more extended foreign intercourse which has taken root among the Daimios, capitalists, and merchants, is spreading downwards to meet and coalesce with the spirit of innovation. With the intrigues, rivalries, and jealousies of the Daimios, with combinations forming and re-forming among these feudal chieftains, with the constant interruption of those communications on which men have a right to reckon, and with production and prices artificially limite—dadded to a central despotism exercised by private will, not by external appeals—a tendency to disturbance must be considered the chronic condition of Japan. Why, then, seeing that this plea is a mere evasion—an endeavour to maintain official regulations that turn exchange into robbery—and that the changes brought about by foreign intercourse can do Japan no harm, neither working revolution nor destruction, has such deference been extended to the persistent violation of the rights of our own merchants, by an option given to keep or to withhold? With changes, political and industrial, ever present to the Japanese mind, why should our Government not set about, even now, and on treaty grounds, placing business on a more satisfactory footing? Present Japanese policy will be continued to the end unless resolutely opposed. Manifold and complicated political internal relations constitute no excuse for governmental oversight of mercantile interests. We have by the Simonoseki demonstration strengthened the power of a Government possessing no fixed determinate principles: is this power to be turned against us? No better occasion could have been presented for intervention, no more promising opportunity to set our own terms. The Foreign Office must now *make* its opportunity, taking its ground on treaty rights and the exigencies of trade. In liberating mercantile transactions from their present trammels, not only our own interests but those of Japan itself would be greatly advanced, and we should witness a further influx of foreign capital, or at least larger returns on that already invested. At present, so far as relates to foreign trade, the modes of exertion are impeded by so many obstacles of every kind that none of the resources of the country to this end can be depended upon beyond, given limits, designated by authority as efficient and certain. The dissatisfaction of the people, even of the trading and commercial Daimios, is easily explained, for the large investments of the Government itself in trade, seeking not only to control but to appropriate the profits in this foreign business, has a prejudicial effect upon quantity if not quality; whilst, so far as our merchants are concerned, profits are accompanied by disproportionate risks, and their calculations of supplies of indigenous products at paying prices arbitrarily overthrown. Silk is especially an article of growing demand, but the price even in Japan has hitherto augmented in proportion to the supply, showing that the rates ruling in Europe, and not local prices, constitute the measure of the demand. We trust the Gorogio will speedily discover that the present settlement does not foreclose mercantile claims. The choice made—the absence of even the slightest concession to trade—is calculated to increase mistrust. An incommensurate value is thus made to attach to the indemnity, and the new era which we had anticipated for trade with Japan indefinitely postponed. The Ministers of foreign Powers, our own amongst the number, manifestly erred in effecting the arrangements, and, as a consequence, mercantile interests have been sacrificed. A singularly clear light has thus been thrown on the merits of the much agitated question as to whether our Ambassadors should undertake commercial arrangements at all, or these be placed within the province of what is now the least efficient of our administrative offices—the Board of Trade—and not within the sphere of the Foreign Office.

SAN FRANCISCO AND CHINA TRADE.

The value of the trade between San Francisco and China may be stated at £32,000 per month, this sum not including a large amount of gold and silver bullion exported from San Francisco. Overstocked markets at that port frequently experience essential relief from this trade. The Sandwich Islands, too, are thus now beginning to find their account in the advantages of position they possess. Vessels put up for China are enabled to obtain full cargoes at San Francisco, as portions of these cargoes are landed at Honolulu, and there replaced by products commanding sale in China. As Honolulu is taken on the return voyage, a corresponding exchange is effected, the Sandwich Islands supplying sugar and other articles suitable for the Californian market. The bullion and coin shipped from California for China is not simply to redress any balance in trade, or make United States payments in the Far East, but is exported as an article of merchandise which will allow of a satisfactory profit on its disposal at current rates to banks, individual speculators and Chinese brokers. In many months the amount exported for this purpose exceeds nine times the value of the actual trade between San Francisco and Hong Kong; last month it reached £300,000.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON, AND CHINA.

The seventh ordinary annual meeting of the shareholders was held within the banking-house of the corporation, 52, Threadneedle-street, London, on Tuesday, the 16th of May, 1865. The meeting being constituted, the proceedings at the sixth ordinary annual meeting of the shareholders of the corporation were read, confirmed, and the following resolution, proposed by the CHAIRMAN, and seconded by D. LARNACH, Esq., agreed to:—

1. "That the record of the proceedings at the sixth annual meeting, as now read, be signed by the chairman and sealed with the seal of the corporation."

The directors' report and general balance-sheet for the year ended 31st December, 1864, copies of which had been in the hands of the shareholders eighteen days previous to the meeting, were considered as read.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report, said that, as compared with the same period last year, there was a total increase in the liabilities of £900,000, which was represented by the additional capital created, and the addition made to the reserve fund. In the current accounts and fixed deposits there was an increase of £700,000, which he thought was a satisfactory evidence of the progress of the bank. The

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bills payable stood nearly at the same amount as last year. On the other side of the account there was in the coin, bullion, cash at bankers', and money at call, an increase of a million and-a-half sterling, to the effect of which he would presently advert. He was sorry not to have a more satisfactory account to present, but it must be borne in mind that the period through which they had just passed had been one of great trouble, anxiety, and reverses. It would be idle to attempt to conceal the fact that they had had heavy losses; but they were of an exceptional character, and such as were not likely to occur again. They must not, therefore, draw from the results of the past half-year any conclusions unfavourable to the future. They had had, during the same period, to contend with heavy mercantile failures, from some of which they had suffered; and besides, there had been the difficulty of the continuous high rate of money, which bore very heavily on this bank; and, again, there was the necessity of increasing their reserves at all points. He had adverted to the increase of a million and a-half in bullion, cash at bankers', and money at call; that had arisen from the necessity which arose, in August last, when they saw the mischief that was threatening, to be prepared in time, and, accordingly, they determined to increase their reserve at all points, and this, by causing the withdrawal of a large portion of the working capital, diminished the profits. During the greater part of the half-year they had never less than from £700,000 to £800,000 in cash here, to meet any emergency that might happen. The locking up of so large an amount necessarily made the latter part of the year very unproductive. As regarded the losses that were likely to occur in 1865, the position of the bank, he was happy to say, was very satisfactory. In the present account all losses known at the time of the audit to have been made up to the December 31st were included. In this way the loss arising from the failure of Buchanan, Hamilton, and Co., was provided for. Of the total estimated amount of that loss, amounting to £14 000, £4,000 had been already written off in last year's account, and, including the balance and other losses, it was believed that a sum of £16.000 would cover all likely to be incurred in 1865, which, considering the times they were passing through was, he submitted, exceedingly moderate. The directors had to make the selection between safety and profit, and he had no doubt the proprietors would concur in the conclusion to which they arrived, that safety was to be considered first, and profit upwards. (Hear, hear.) But the result of their decision was that the diminished profit was compensated by the absence of heavy loss. In the current year he hoped the result would be more favourable, and that a fair average profit would be earned. As would be observed from the report, the directors had determined upon closing the Mauritius branch. This had been an unsatisfactory branch from first to last. They had persevered in trying to make it profitable, but had found that the gain was not in proportion to the risk incurred, and had therefore decided upon closing the branch at the end of the year. As was also stated in the report, the board had decided upon closing the branches at Newera Ellia, and Tuticorin, which had only been opened as experiments, but they found could not be worked profitably. Two of the directors, Messrs. Robinson and Stenhouse, having retired, the board had great pleasure in recommending Mr. J. M. Robertson, one of the auditors, and Mr. E. J. Gilman, of the firm of Ashton and Co., of London, to fill the vacancies. Both of these gentlemen were eminently qualified by their experience in the commerce of the East, and by the high position they held in the city of London, to represent the shareholders on this board. Following the usual practice, they had taken their seats at the board provisionally, but at an adjourned meeting for the purpose their election would have to be confirmed by the proprietors. An auditor would have to be appointed in place of Mr. Robertson, and for this office the board recommended Mr. J. J. Mackenzie, late of the firm of Dent and Co., of China. The meeting would be asked to vote an increased allowance to the chairman, whose almost entire time was required to be given to the duties of the office. The allowance proposed to the chairman was £1,000 a year. In conclusion he moved—

2. "That the report of the directors, balance-sheet, and auditors' report now presented to the meeting, be received, approved and adopted."

Mr. D. LARNACH seconded the resolution.—Mr. BROUGHAM asked what dividend it was proposed to pay in July next?—The CHAIRMAN was not in a position to say positively, but everything was going on satisfactorily, and he had no doubt they would be satisfied with the dividend that would be paid in July.—The motion was put and carried unanimously.

The following resolutions were proposed by the CHAIRMAN, seconded Mr. D. LARNACH, and carried unanimously:—

3. "That Sir Frederick James Halliday, K.C.B., the director retiring from the board in rotation, be, and he is hereby, re-elected a director of this bank."

4. "That Mr. John Smith, the present auditor, and Mr. James Joseph Mackenzie, late of the firm of Dent and Co., China, be, and they are hereby severally, appointed auditors of the company, and that their remuneration be £100 sterling per annum."

5. "That Messrs. Coleman, Turquand, Youngs and Co., public accountants, be employed to audit the accounts during the ensuing year, in conjunction with the auditors already appointed."

6. "That having regard to the report of the directors submitted to this meeting, and with a view to increase the chairman's allowance to the sum of £1,000 per annum, the further sum of £500 per annum be and the same is hereby granted, such allowance to take effect as from the first day of January last."

7. "That this meeting do adjourn until Tuesday, the twenty-third day of May inst., at one o'clock in the afternoon precisely, for the purpose of electing two new directors in the place of Mr. George Palmer Robinson and Mr. Thomas Stenhouse, who have resigned their seats as directors."

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. HENRY WRIGHT, seconded by Lieut.-Col. PENLEY, and carried unanimously:—

8. "That the thanks of this meeting are due and are hereby tendered to the chairman, the court of directors, and managers, for their attention to the interests of the corporation, as exhibited in the accounts now before the meeting."

At the adjourned meeting, held on the 23rd, Mr. James Murray Robertson and Mr. Ellis James Gilman were unanimously elected directors in the room of Mr. G. P. Robinson and Mr. Thomas Stenhouse, resigned. The Chairman availed himself of the opportunity to state, for the satisfaction of the meeting, that the failure of Messrs B. H. Cama and Co., of which intelligence had that morning been received, would only cause a very trifling loss to the bank, owing to the precautions taken, and the timely warnings and orders sent to Bombay some months since, that the greatest caution was observed there and at other branches, and that neither by the failure of Messrs. Lindsay and Co., in China, nor by Messrs. Wilson, Ritchie, and Co., Ceylon, would the bank be sufferers; nor, indeed were they affected by any failures which had taken place since that of Buchanan, Hamilton, and Co. The Chairman further intimated that it was the intention of the board to prevent hereafter a re-transfer of shares from the London to the Bombay register, it having been found from experience that this facility, which was not sanctioned by the deed of settlement, opened a door to abuses, and led to speculative operations and fluctuations in the value of shares which the board was anxious to prevent as far as they could.

THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

On the 22nd inst. the annual meeting was held, Sir R. MURCHISON in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the toast of the evening—"The Royal Geographical Society," connecting with it the names of Captain Montgomery, R.E., and Mr. Samuel Baker, to whom the gold medals of the society for the year had been awarded. He next gave "Sir Rutherford Alcock," dwelling upon the great public services he had rendered in the Empire of Japan, and upon his having the true interests of geographical discovery at heart.

Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, replying to the compliment, observed that to some there might seem little affinity between the diplomatic service and geographical discovery, but to his cost he found there was a close affinity, for it was geographers who found out new lands and diplomatists who occupied them. His destiny now took him to China, and any fellow geographer who might visit him at Peking would always find a hearty welcome.

The remaining toasts were "the Lord Mayor of London," given in complimentary terms from the chair; "the Chairman," proposed by Lord Houghton; and "The Travellers in Distant Regions," with which the names of Dr. Livingstone, Mr. M'Dougal Stuart, Mr. Palgrave, and Vambery were connected.

Amongst other remarks the CHAIRMAN said: In the huge empire of China and its dependencies what numerous journeys must yet be made to test the value of the recitals of Klaproth and other Chinese scholars respecting regions not visited by Europeans since the days of Marco Polo, except in certain lines by Huc and Gabet, whose works, however interesting in other respects, have failed in affording us sound geographical knowledge. Among the undescribed tracts dependent upon China is, for example, the great peninsula of the Korea lying between China proper and Japan. Twice conquered by the Japanese, the Koreans are now tributary to China; ingots, furs, and other articles being annually sent as tribute to Peking, with which capital they also keep up a trade in carts, which travel round the head of the great gulf of Leotung. With regard to other parts of Asia, I may first point to New Guinea, and here express my thanks to Sir Charles Nicholson for having specially called our attention to the importance of extending a survey of the accessible parts of this vast but little known land, lying within a few hours' sail of the eastern promontory of Australia. The next neglected country to which I would call your attention is the small group of the Philippines, consisting, according to Spanish estimate, of 400 inhabited islands, one of which is one-half larger than Ireland, and the whole containing (exclusive of mountain negroes) a population of the Malayan race, amounting to 5,000,000, very tolerably civilised and converted to Christianity. Concerning this mighty archipelago of the Philippines, which is within a couple of days' steaming of China, of five days' steaming of our own settlements, and with which, exclusive of the Indian trade, we carry on a direct commerce of the annual value of above £2,500,000 there is not a single paper in our records. Finally, the empire of Japan remains for exploration, with its computed 30,000,000 of people, the most ingenious and industrious of all the nations of Asia next to the Chinese.

THE SUEZ CANAL.

The undersigned, delegates of the Chambers of Commerce to the Canal of Suez, after having examined the works already done, and taken into consideration the possibility of the enterprise, report:—

"We started on the 7th inst. from Alexandria by railway for Cairo, where we remained until the morning of the 9th. We then proceeded by railway to Zagazig, where we embarked at nine o'clock A.M. in boats drawn bay mules and cmels on the fresh-water canal made by Mehemet Ali, and arrived the same day at Telel-Kebir, a station of the company.

"On the 10th, in the morning, we continued our journey in the same manner, and at noon we entered upon the fresh-water canal made by the company. At five o'clock P.M. we arrived at Ismailia, the central station on the Suez Canal.

'The 11th we remained at Ismailia to examine the works there, as well as those of Serapium, the most elevated points of the isthmus.

"The 12th we started from Ismailia by the sea canal in boats of small draught drawn by mules and camels. We arrived at Kantara at 4 o'clock P.M., having visited the important workshops and works of El Guiser and El Terdan. From this point, in many places, and for a length altogether of 60 kilometres (about 36 miles), the canal is already excavated to its full width. The portion previously traversed was only about one-third of the width proposed.

"The 13th we left Kantara in the same way for Port Said. Twenty kilometres (12 miles) before reaching this place we found five small steamboats, which brought us to the Mediterranean. There we examined the piers in course of construction.

"The 14th we remained at Port Said to visit the important buildings, workshops, and materials which the company possess in that town.

"The 15th we returned by boat to Ismailia; and the 16th, in the morning, we started for Suez by the fresh-water canal in boats drawn by mules and camels, arriving at Suez in the evening. The two locks in-

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tended to connect the sea canal with the fresh-water canal, in course of construction at Ismailia, are not yet finished, and a transhipment here is now necessary.

"Our passage from the Mediterranean to the Red Sea was accomplished in twenty-seven hours, as follows:—Eleven hours from Port Said to Ismailia, and sixteen hours thence to Suez.

"A telegraphic wire extends the whole length of the canal, communicating with the wires of Cairo, Alexandria, and Suez.

"During our voyage we had opportunity to observe the excavators and other machines used for digging the canal. All the works belonging to the company appeared to us built and equipped in a solid and permanent manner. In our opinion the construction of a ship-canal across the Isthmus is only a question of time and money.

"We are informed that the company has already made contracts with various contractors for the completion of the ship canal by the 1st July, 1868, without exceeding the actual capital, including therein the indemnity due by the Egyptian Government under the award of the Emperor Napoleon III.

"During the whole of our trip we received the greatest hospitality from M. de Lesseps and the engineers of the company, and these gentlemen answered freely all the questions which we put to them.

"Cairo, April 17, 1865." (Signed by the Delegates.)

BULLION TABLES.

A tabulated statement of the prices of Bullion in London, with amount shipped, and the Bank rates of discount at the date of the outward mails to the Far East throughout 1864, together with the corresponding prices of bar dollars, and rate of exchange on London six months at Shanghai and Hong Kong at the date of the departure of the return mails in that period, has been issued by Mr. F. M. Page. From this document it appears that bar silver ruled highest on January 19th and 26th, the quotation being 5s. 2d. to 5s. 2¼d., and lowest on October 19th and 26th, when the price was 5s. 0⅞d. to 5s. 0⅜d.; whilst, for Mexican dollars, these ruled highest on July 3rd and 10th, when the rate was 5s. 4d. to 5s. 4½d., and lowest on November 3rd and 10th, when the price was 4s. 11½d. to 5s. 0⅜d. The highest price of dollars by the return mail from Shanghai was on March 8th, when they ruled 76¾, and of bar silver on April 22nd, when it was quoted at 111; the lowest quotation for the former occurring on July 4th, and for the latter, March 25th. The exhibit of the rates of exchange in the comparative form, as here presented, both as to time and place, is highly suggestive, connected, as these figures are, with the various influences affecting the London Money Market and the India and China trade. This table appears remarkably accurate, and will prove eminently serviceable to all engaged in China and India business.

THE DUKE DE MORNY'S ORIENTAL COLLECTION.

The Paris mansion of Louis Napoleon's late most intimate friend and lieutenant, Monsieur De Morny, is just now the scene of much interest. The Duke was a great amateur of pictures of the German, Flemish, Dutch, and French schools, and his gallery contains a hundred and twenty-eight paintings, nearly all of which are first-rate of their kind. Amongst others deserving special mention are—a magnificent portrait by Rembrandt, a glorious landscape with watermill by Hobbema, and charming works by Cuyp, Gerard Dow, Maas, Metyn, Mieris, Ostade Ruysdael, Jean Steen, Teniers, Terburg, Van de Velde, and Wouvermans.

The old French school is well represented by Boucher, Chardin, Greuze, Prudhon, and Watteau—that of the present day by Bonheur, Calame, Comte, Decamps, Dray, Frere, Roehn, Ziem, and, above all, by Meissonier, six of whose finest works are in the De Morny gallery.

But the especial taste of the late Duke was for what are called here *chimoiserie*, and those who desire to know to what an extent the love of Oriental works of art and curiosity is cultivated in Paris, should not miss an opportunity of paying a visit to the collection in question before it is dispersed by the auctioneer. The private views of the gallery take place on the 25th, 26th, and 27th of the present month, and the public exhibitions on the 28th and 29th. The sale commences on the 31st with the modern pictures; the works of the old school are to be sold on the three following days; and the objects of art and curiosity are to be disposed of during the week following the 5th of June.

The latter portion comprises nearly five hundred and fifty items, and includes some remarkably fine objects. Many of them were described in the *Gazette des Beaux Arts* of November, 1863, and January, 1864, under the title of "Collection d'Objects d'Art de M. le Duc de Morny," by M. Albert Jacquemart, author of a well-known work on porcelain, beautifully illustrated by means of etchings by his son. M. Jules Jacquemart, who is now engaged in producing, for the administration of the Louvre, a series of marvellous representations of the principal works in rock crystal, agate, gold, and other metals in that museum.

The Duke's *cloisonnes* enamelled works alone amount to about forty, and some of them are remarkably fine and of large size. Amongst the most choice are several large perfume burners and vases of great beauty; a pair of remarkable pictures in coloured enamels, representing land and water scenery, with pagodas and junks, each three feet wide by more than two feet in height; a model junk of about the same dimensions, executed in ironwood with incrustations of jade, bronze, and enamels. There are eight objects of Chinese workmanship in rock crystal, four of which are of large size and rare execution. The collection includes more than sixty objects in jade, some few of which are Persian and Indian, but by far the greater number apparently Chinese, vases, screens, chimeras, or carved monsters, sceptres, cups, boxes, and ornaments. The porcelain consists of upwards of sixty lots, principally of old Chinese manufacture. Amongst the most remarkable items in this class are two magnificent covered vases, which were formerly in the Palace of the Escurial, each more than fifty-one inches high. The specimens of celadon and crackling china are numerous and fine. There are about fifty bronzes, more than half of which are Chinese, the rest Japanese, some very ancient and fine, two large vases of the latter kind, with ornamental handles, are encrusted with silver.

In addition to these, there are about a hundred pieces of lacquered ware, including some handsome cabinets and cheffoniers; a mandarin's necklace, with heads of lapis-lazuli and coral, and pendants in rock crystal, mounted in gold; an amulet in carved cornelian, with emerald green jade rings and large pearls; several albums and rolls containing Chinese paintings on silk and paper, and a mass of miscellaneous articles.

The taste for Chinese wares has been somewhat satiated in London, but in Paris it reigns at present in full force.

CARVINGS IN JADE, CHINESE ENAMELS, &c.—The very choice collection of carvings in jade, Chinese enamels, and ornamental objects formed by Duncan Fletcher, Esq., late of China, was disposed of on the 22nd inst. at the rooms of Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods, King-street, St. James's. Among the more valuable objects were the subjoined:—Lot 96. A beautiful Parisian clock, in case of ormolu and Sèvres, surrounded by a vase jewelled in colours on white and turquoise ground; and a pair of candelabra, for four lights each, *en suite*—40 guineas (Vokins). Chinese enamels.—101. A pair of magnificent two-handled incense-burners, on tripods of the finest old Chinese enamel, with flowers and ornaments in lapis-lazuli and colours on turquoise ground, on carved wood stands 21½ inches high—90 guineas (Durlacher), 102. A pair of very fine oviform two-handled vases of the finest old Chinese enamel, with flowers and foliage in lapis-lazuli and colours on turquoise ground, on carved wood stands 21½ inches high—£165 (Van Cuyck). 103. A pair of magnificent large two-handled vases, of Chinese porcelain, with large subjects of figures in colours, in medallions, flowers, and buds, 54 inches high—72 guineas (Agnew). 105. A splendid globular incense-burner and cover of the finest ancient Chinese enamel, with upright handles, and on three feet, covered with plants, flowers, and ornaments in colours, on turquoise ground, on carved wood stand, 36 inches high—140 guineas (Agnew). Carvings in Jade.—119. A beautiful basin, on feet, carved with dragons and ornaments—£36. (Durlacher). 120. A flat cup, the handles formed as children, and a child with a bird in the centre; a beautiful carving in white jade—£47 (Addington). 121. A beautiful white jade basin, carved with figures in relief, of the most exquisite workmanship—80 guineas (Durlacher). 122. A fine large oval bowl, of white jade, with handles and border of carved openwork foliage—£44 (Lewis). 123. A very fine oval bowl, of white jade, elaborately carved with dragons in high relief—60 guineas (ditto). 124. A magnificent octagonal bowl, with four ring handles carved with ornaments—£35 (ditto). 125. A very large and magnificent white jade incense-burner, the handles formed of animals, with rings attached, the surface carved with ornaments—130 guineas (Durlacher). 129. A very large green jade cylindrical match-pot, pierced and carved all over with landscapes and figures—30 guineas (Lewis). 138. A pair of beautiful white jade basins and covers, on carved wood stands—26 guineas (Bourne). 139. A pair of beautiful pale green jade basins, on richly carved and pierced stands—40 guineas (Enright). Enamels.—149. A pair of very fine altar candlesticks, on square-shaped feet—28 guineas (Russell). 151. A magnificent incense-burner, with flowers in colours, on gilt feet, set with stones; the handles of carved jade; the wood-cover elaborately carved and enriched with jade and other stones—30 guineas (Marshall). 156. A magnificent square-shaped vase, with butterfly and ring handles, covered with ornaments in lapis-lazuli and white, on turquoise ground—£47 (Thomson).

THE NEW COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN INDIA.—The greatest military command in the British Empire has been assumed by Sir William Mansfield, and Sir Hugh Rose, after a career which would have entitled a Roman general to a triumph, has just landed in this country. It seems but yesterday that the victorious march of Rose's column restored the glory of our arms in Central India, and yet nearly seven years have elapsed since that campaign was crowned by the capture of Gwalior, and nearly five since Sir Hugh succeeded Lord Clyde as Commander-in-Chief. Lord Canning has been followed by Lord Elgin, and Lord Elgin by Sir John Lawrence during this last interval, which only appears uneventful when compared with the desperate crisis through which our Indian Empire had then but just passed. It has often been pointed out, and yet we are apt to forget, that the entire annals of that marvellous Government are comprised within a single century. There are, possibly, those now living who were born before Lord Clive's return to Calcutta with supreme power, and whose lifetime covers all that grand series of events from the battle of Plassey to the pacification of India after the great mutiny. Hyder Ali and Tippoo Sultan, Holkar and Scindia, the Mahrattas and the Pindarrees, Akbar Khan and Nana Sahib, the splendid catalogue of our Indian victories, the noble muster-roll of our Indian generals, all belong to the same age, and all will be hereafter blended together by the foreshortening effect of time, until they seem almost contemporary. Nine years' active and eminent service in India fills no small space in such a history, and although Sir Hugh Rose, whose return we welcome to-day, may be eclipsed in fame by some whose brilliant genius founded our dominion, he must always hold a foremost place among those whose valour and conduct preserved it.

THE LATE LADY AMHERST.—Probate of the will of the Right Hon. Mary, Dowager Countess of Amherst, formerly of Knole-park, Sevenoaks, Kent, but late of Bournemouth, near Christchurch, Hants, was proved in Her Majesty's Court, on the 12th ult., and the personalty sworn under £140,000; the executors being her nephew, the Right Hon. Mortimer Sackville West (the third surviving son of Earl and Countess Delawarr), and Mr. Frederick Flud Nicholl. The trustees are the Earl of Verulam and Mr. Bernard Hale, of Holly-hill, Tunbridge-wells. The testatrix was the eldest daughter and co-heir of the third Duke of Dorset (title now extinct), and was twice married—first, in 1811, to Other Archer, sixth Earl of Plymouth, who died in 1833 (title now extinct); and secondly, in 1839, to William Pitt, first Earl Amherst, P.C., G.C.H., who had been Ambassador to China, and Governor-General of India, and died in 1857. Her ladyship's will is dated 1860, and there are two codicils, executed in February and May, 1864. Her Majesty having been graciously pleased to grant the dignity of Baroness to the testatrix's sister, Elizabeth, Countess Delawarr, by the title of Baroness of Buckhurst, with remainder of dignity of Baron Buckhurst to her sister's second surviving son (the testatrix's nephew), the Hon. and Rev. Reginald Windsor Sackville West, Rector of Whittingham, and Chaplain in

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Ordinary to the Queen, the testatrix, by a codicil, has conveyed her estates in the counties of Kent, Warwick, Glocester, and Sussex, and all other estates, together with the statues, pictures, furniture, and effects about the mansion of Knole, in trust, in a course of entail, to correspond as nearly as may be with the title of the Barony of Buckhurst. Her jewels and ornaments of the person she leaves to her niece, Lady Arabella Diana Sackville West. All wines and consumable stores her ladyship has bequeathed to her sister Countess Delawarr, whom she has appointed residuary legatee. There are a few legacies to personal friends, and to each of the executors and trustees £500.

THE DANUBIAN PROVINCES AND SILKWORMS.—The Government of the Danubian provinces, in order to prevent the propagation of unsound silkworms, has adopted measures to prevent the import of seed which has not been carefully examined, in order that the Government may guarantee the quality to purchasers. The same Government has moreover purchased a large quantity of Japanese seed in France, which was imported by the Zoological Society of Paris. This seed is sold by the Director of Public Works at Bucharest, and at the town-house of each district in the departments. The price is fixed at 6 piastres the drachma, being the cost price, exclusive of the charges of import. The Minister further apprises the public that the persons whose names are published in the official journal are the only ones authorised by the Government to sell Japanese seed, of which they are the sole proprietors. It is to M. Drouyn de Lhuys, President of the Zoological Society, that the Government of the Danubian Provinces are indebted for a favour calculated to produce such great advantages to the silk producers in that country.

A NEW AMERICAN SILKWORM.—It appears, from *Silliman's Journal*, that, after numerous experiments, Mr. L. Trouvelot, of Medford, Mass., has succeeded in rearing successfully, and in great numbers, *Attacus Polyphemus* Linn., and in preparing from its cocoon an excellent quality of silk, possessing great lustre and strength, and pronounced superior to Japanese and all other silks, except the best Chinese, by competent judges. The silk is unwound by a simple process perfected by Mr. Trouvelot, each cocoon yielding about 1,500 yards. This insect is very hardy, being found throughout the Northern States and Canada; and, as it feeds upon the leaves of oak, maple, willow, and other common forest trees, may be reared easily in any part of the country. Mr. Trouvelot has gradually increased his stock from year to year by raising young from the eggs of the few individuals first captured, until he has at present seven waggon-loads of cocoons, the entire progeny of which he proposes to raise during the coming season. The first public notice of his experiments with this insect was given by Mr. Trouvelot at a meeting of the Institute of Technology, at Boston, about a year ago, when he exhibited specimens of silk manufactured from it, both natural-coloured and dyed.

THE FLEET OF STEAMTUGS FOR CALCUTTA.—The trial of the *Bombay*, the property of native Parsee, Armenian, and Mahomedan merchants of Calcutta, took place on the 16th, and after running the measured mile, the ship made the round of the *Great Eastern* in the Medway. The *Bombay* is the second of a fleet of the most powerful steam tugs ever built; the great power being necessary, first, in towing heavy ships against the monsoon, and, second, in towing against the heavy gales and rapid tides of the River Hooghly at certain seasons. The first steamer of the company arrived at Calcutta some months since; the *Bombay* will follow immediately, and a third will be shortly launched. Those three steamers have been constructed for, and built and equipped by Mr. Charles Lungley, of Deptford-green Dockyard—the dockyard which has since become the property of the Millwall Iron Works, with Mr. Charles Lungley as the manager of the combined establishments. Other steamers are at present in construction at Newcastle and on the Clyde for the same service.

THE LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—The 71st annual meeting of this society has been held in Exeter-hall, under the presidency of Arthur Kinnaird, M.P. Among the numerous body of clergy and laity present were Mr. Hadfield, M.P., Mr. Barnes, M.P., Mr. E. Baines, M.P., Dr. Edmonds, D. Morton Brown, Dr. Vaughan, and Mr. Samuel Morley. After the meeting had commenced Dr. Livingstone, the well-known African traveller, was recognised among the audience at the back of the platform, and on coming forward he was accorded a most enthusiastic reception. The annual report was read by Dr. Tidman, an operation which occupied upwards of an hour. This document entered at length into the details of the missionary work carried on by the society in different parts of the world, and announced the fact that the income of the society for last year was higher than in any previous year. The income for ordinary purposes was stated to be £61,069. 12s. 8d., and with the fund for special objects, as for the extension of missions in India, China, and Madagascar, and for the new missionary ship to replace the John Williams, a total income of £91,041. 10s. 1d. was shown. The expenditure had amounted to £99,156. 8s. 2d., and to meet the deficiency sums had been drawn from the special funds put aside for extending the missions in India, China, and Madagascar. The Chairman touched upon several of the topics mentioned in the report, and called attention to the importance of obtaining the assistance of native agents. The Rev. J. Guinness Rogers moved the adoption of the report, with a resolution gratefully acknowledging the "encouraging aspect presented in the varied and extended operations of the society in Polynesia, the West Indies, South Africa, China, India, and Madagascar," nevertheless deploring "the deadly influence of Paganism, which prevails over hundreds of millions of our fellow men, natives of those several countries." The rev. gentleman urged the need of foreign missions, and expressed his warm admiration for the work carried out by the society. The Rev. R. Roberts seconded the resolution, which was supported by Dr. Livingstone, who on rising to speak was loudly cheered. He said he knew a very great deal of the converts to Christianity and the missionaries in both South and West Africa, and he arrived at the opinion, from what he had seen, that those who talked about the missionaries and converts as unworthy persons knew nothing at all about them. A gentleman, he said, whom he knew, went into a certain town in Africa, and was astonished because he saw no missionaries; but when he got into the middle of the town he found a black man preaching to the inhabitants, and that gentleman, having made personal inquiries as to the work carried on by the missionaries, now freely acknowleuged the value of their work. The labours of the missionary in South Africa were such, being carried on in spite of the most deadly disease and the greatest perils, that they only wanted an air of antiquity to be thrown around them to make them equal to those of the saints and apostles of old. It had come to his knowledge that some persons talked about the advance of Mahomedanism, and he had been looking out for that wave which was to spread over Africa; but he had never met with any Mahomedans until two years since, when he came across a couple of Arab slave traders, and the result of the particular inquiries which he made was that those who had been with them for some years knew nothing about the faith, beyond that it was wrong to eat of an animal the throat of which had not been cut. He went on to show that the converts made great sacrifices in order to support the Church of their faith, and he expressed his conviction that the influence of the missionaries was more widely felt than was known, and that the fruit of this influence would be felt in time to come. The resolution was then put and carried. The Rev. Mr. Minton proposed the second resolution, which expressed gratitude to the British Government for services rendered to the society's agents labouring in the Loyalty Islands, and especial thanks to the Emperor of the French for assurance of protection and liberty to all Christian missionaries labouring for the instruction and civilisation of heathen tribes. This was also carried, and, after other resolutions had been passed, the proceedings, which were somewhat prolonged, came to a close in the usual manner.

FRAUD ON THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN.—A curious case of alleged fraud has been brought before the Lord Mayor, in which a Mr. Speltz, a merchant of Liverpool, was charged with having defrauded the Bank of Hindostan of the sum of £1,673, which they had advanced him on the collateral security of invoices of six cases of quinine, valued at nearly £2,000. The complaint was that these cases instead of having 1,000 ounces of quinine each, only held 250 ounces. The matter was complicated by the failure of a foreign house, of which the prisoner, it was admitted, was an agent. The Lord Mayor remanded the case; but the prisoner, who had not an opportunity of entering on his defence, was allowed to find bail.

CHINESE FUNERAL.—A cart, containing the mortal remains of a Chinaman enclosed in a very handsome coffin, passed through Talbot on Thursday, preceded by a European undertaker and a Chinaman, who scattered small slips of perforated paper along the road at every few yards. About 40 Chinamen followed. On arriving at the cemetery where the grave had been prepared a little delay was caused, as the friends of the deceased considered it necessary that his body should lie so as to face the west, and the excavation had to be altered accordingly. After the coffin had been lowered Mr. Gore read the funeral service according to the form of the Protestant Church, deceased having been converted to Christianity. The grave having been filled in, deceased's friends broke food and scattered it on the ground and also spilt liquor. A live cock was brought to the ground by the mourners, and it was no doubt sacrificed at some ceremony on their return to the Chinese camp, where a great feast had been prepared during the day. One of the most noticeable features was a huge porker roasted whole, the method being peculiar to the Chinese, who for this purpose build a high circular oven of stones and clay open at the top, in which, after it had been heated, the pig is suspended. The aperture is then closely covered, and in the course of time the pig is done to a turn. No ceremony is considered complete by Chinamen without pork and crackers.—*Ararat* (Australia) *Advertiser.*

Naval and Military.

A letter from Hong Kong, dated March 31, relates the serious injustice which is contemplated against officers on that station by the withdrawal of Indian allowances. The writer says:—"Nearly all the Indian troops have left, and things remain as they were; and the hopes of those interested begin a little to revive. They trust that the authorities have seen in time the injustice of the step; that they have taken into consideration that China is the most unhealthy, as well as the most expensive, station in the world; and that it would be cruel to throw men on their private resources (which may be very small, or may be *nil*) when they have come so far and to such a climate under a different impression. But they cannot live on their pay here if it is put on the same footing as in Ceylon, as seems to have been proposed. Civilians residing in China are astounded at the idea. The salaries of clerks in mercantile and banking houses here have been raised lately with the prices of necessaries, while the unfortunate British subaltern does not even now receive nearly as much as these very clerks, who have neither board nor lodging to pay for. Should the reduction actually take place, it is hard to say what will be the result. One thing is certain, the junior ranks can barely live on their pay now, much less take the position to which by birth, education, and military rank they are entitled among civilians, whose supply of dollars is almost unlimited. Neither can they afford those comforts which are positively necessary to health in this part of the world."

The Scout, 21, screw steam corvette, which was commissioned on Monday last by Capt. Charles H. May, late of the Canopus, was taken out of dock to her moorings in Sheerness harbour, after having had her screw-propeller and valves examined, and the bottom of the vessel cleaned. Several of the officers have been appointed, and are joining the ship. She is intended for service on the Pacific station, and will have a complement of 275 men.

General Cameron, at New Zealand, has asked for 2000 men from England as reinforcements. The Secretary for War not only peremptorily declines to send them, but repeats his instructions for the withdrawal of five regiments. The Colonial Government has asked permission to enlist 1,500 men from the troops now in New Zealand as a local force, and the Government is willing to accede to their request. But whether the local corps is to be on the footing of militia, or a colonial regiment like the Canadian Rifles, does not appear.

Captain Keith Fraser, of the 1st Life Guards, has been appointed aide-de-camp to Major-General Lord George Paget, Inspector of Cavalry. Captain Fraser will also discharge the duties of brigade major, a post which has been substituted for that of assistant adjutant-general of cavalry.

It is rumoured that in the event of Lord Clarence Paget being success-

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ully opposed at Sandwich, his lordship will succeed Sir Robert Smart in command of the Mediterranean station.

The Miranda, 15, screw steam-corvette, 1,039 tons, 250 horse-power, Captain Robert Jenkins, C.B., arrived at Sheerness from New Zealand, to be paid out of commission, and saluted the flag of Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Talbot, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief at Sheerness. The Miranda was commissioned at Sheerness, in October, 1860, by Captain Henry C. Glyn, for service on the Australian station, and has been employed in the late war in New Zealand.

The following flag promotions, dated the 5th inst., have been made in consequence of the death of Admiral Sir Edward Harvey, G.C.B., on the 4th inst. :—

Vice-Admiral Sir John Burnet Dundas, Bart., on the Reserved List, to be Admiral on the same list.

Vice-Admiral Sir Robert Lambert Baynes, K.C.B., to be Admiral in Her Majesty's Fleet.

Rear-Admiral Richard Laird Warren to be Vice-Admiral in Her Majesty's Fleet.

Capt. Wallace Houston to be Rear-Admiral in Her Majesty's Fleet.

The Edgar, 71, screw line-of-battle ship, Capt. G. T. P. Hornby, carrying the flag of the Commander-in-Chief of the Channel fleet, Rear-Admiral Sydney Colpoys Dacres, K.C.B., anchored at Spithead on the the 13th inst., with the Earl of Sefton and suite on board on their return to England from his special mission to Lisbon. Soon after the Edgar arrived his lordship and his suite disembarked, and, landing at the dockyard, proceeded by rail to London. The Hector parted company westward and went into Plymouth Sound. The Achilles and Prince Consort have gone into Portland Roads.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

SINGAPORE.

(May 17th.) Mr. MITCHELL asked the Secretary of State for India whether, in the event of the transfer of Singapore from his department to that of the Colonies, full provision would be made for the continued employment of naval officers holding command under him in the Straits of Malacca.—Sir C. WOOD was sorry to say that he did not understand the purport of the question. No naval officer, that he was aware of, held command at Singapore under the Government of India.—Mr. MITCHELL said the purport of his question was this: There were certain officers commanding vessels under the control of the Indian department at this moment in the Straits of Malacca, and their impression was that in the event of the transfer of Singapore to the Colonial department, their services would be altogether dispensed with, and they would be replaced by the Royal Navy. —Sir C. WOOD promised to make inquiries, and reply at a later period.

Monetary and Commercial.

The rumours alluded to in our last of extensive failures in Bombay have been confirmed, and at the same time the suspension of Messrs. Lindsay and Co., of Shanghai; Messrs. Dirom, Davidson, and Co., Liverpool; Messrs. Rimington, Cartwright, and Co., London; and Messrs. Wilson, Ritchie, and Co., Ceylon. Of course there are rumours of others to follow. The money market becomes more easy, owing to the extreme caution adopted by bankers and others in discount operations. The Bank of England official minimum remains at 4½ per cent.

The reportsof the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, and the Bank of Hindustan, presented at their meetings on the 15th and 16th inst. and alluded to in our last, are now published in extenso.

The half-yearly report of the Scinde, Punjab and Delhi Bank Corporation, to be presented on the 30th inst., shows a profit balance of £3,707, but, owing to the late failures in the Indian trade, this, together with the reserve fund of £24,674, will be absorbed by losses, and a further sum of £5,238 will remain to be provided for.

The annexed circular has been issued, announcing the suspension of Mr. Byramjee Hormusjee Cama, of Bombay, and of his house in London, Byramjee Cama and Son. The particulars of the extent and causes of the disaster cannot be fully received till toward the end of next month, but it is apprehended that the liabilities will be found to approach to nearly £3,000,000. The liabilities on bills held in this country are stated to reach £1,100,000, and the amount to which they may be provided for by consignments of cotton, &c., now on their way, seems uncertain :—

"We regret to inform you that we have received a telegram from Bombay, dated the 17th inst., announcing the suspension of Mr. B. H. Cama (the only partner in the firm of Byramjee Cama and Son, of this city and of Liverpool), and desiring us to suspend payment and call a meeting of creditors. We beg, therefore, to announce our suspension, and that we have placed our books in the hands of Messrs. Coleman, Turquand, Youngs and Co., with instructions to prepare a statement to lay before the creditors."

Bank shares have fallen £1 since our list was made up.

A general meeting of the British India Steam Navigation Company (Limited) is called for the 31st inst., when a dividend is to be declared.

The directors of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company announce that the dividend for the six months ending the 31st of March, to be recommended at the half-yearly meeting of the company on the 1st proximo, is 3½ per cent. without a bonus. Considering the heavy falling off in bullion and silk freights this is not to be surprised at.

At the biddings for bills on India at the Bank of England, the proportions allotted were—to Calcutta £289,000, and to Bombay £55,000. The *minimum* price was fixed at 1s. 10¼d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 10⅛d. on Bombay, being 2 per cent. lower than on the last occasion; and all tenders on Calcutta and Bombay at and above 1s. 10⅜d. will receive in full. There were no tenders on Madras.

The firm of Messrs. Brown, Buckley, and Co., produce brokers, who suspended on the 14th of October last, but whose difficulties it was believed would prove but temporary, have now, as was anticipated would be the case, paid their creditors in full with interest.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Syria*, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was :—In gold, to Galle, £1,500; to Mauritius, £15,000; to Madras, £250. In silver, to Alexandria, £200; to Yokohama, £165. Total, in gold, £16,750; in silver, £365.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Purchases very limited. Red and black leaf, fine Congous have advanced the last ten days 1d. per lb. and there are now but few Kaisows in first hands. The inquiry for export to New York has continued mostly for Green Teas, and to Russia a few transactions have taken place of good flavoury kinds. The sales of red leaf have been chiefly in the better classes; good Kaisow kinds from 1s. 5d. to 1s. 7d., being rather dearer; medium Kaisows 1d. to 1½d. higher, and for which there continues a very good inquiry at from 1s. 9d. to 2s. per lb.; fine and finest have also taken at a similar advance. The imitation made from Taysham leaf has continued in request, and some new season's have realised extreme rates. In Amoy kinds there are buyers at 11d. to 11½d. per lb. In black leaf of the grades up to medium there is no change to notice, but fine qualities from 1s. 9d. to 2s. per lb. are scarce and wanted, finest from 2s. 1d. to 2s. 4d. per lb. have taken more freely. In Oolongs some sales of fine have been made at 1s. 9d. to 1s. 11d. per lb. for home purposes, and good common has changed from 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per lb. for export. Souchongs of finest quality only have been dealt in. The inquiry for Scented teas, both of Canton and Foochow make, has not been large, but prices rule steady. Green: The market is firm, and prices are well supported. Young Hysons have been taken for export at a further advance for good common to fair descriptions, and the trade have taken good to fine Gunpowders at fully previous rates. Shipments of tea continue to arrive in Canada from England, the London market being the cheapest for all kinds except fine Moyune Young Hysons, Hysons, and Gunpowders. There is an increasing demand for Hysons throughout the West. Japans are in good supply, and demand steady. The New York market continues to exhibit much animation, and Green teas of all kinds are wanted, while transactions are reported at advanced rates.

SILK.—We have had another fortnight of active business in silk, with a further considerable advance in prices. In China Silk there has been a brisk demand for all ordinary descriptions, and Tsatlees are much dearer; common Taysaams, on the other hand, appear almost unsaleable. Japan silk has been more current than ever, and anything really good fetches fabulously high prices. Accounts of the European crop are generally bad. Deliveries from 1st to 23rd inclusive :—China, 1,702 bales; Japan, 770 bales; total, 2,472 bales. The quotations are :—Tsatlee, No. 3, 28s. 6d. to 29s.; Taysaam, Key-ing, No. 1, 26s. 6d.; Mibash, No. 1, 32s. to 33s. At the sales of raw silk and cocoons at Marseilles on the 20th inst., 12 coils of Japanese silk were disposed of at 63 francs. The *Courier de la Drome* gives some information as to the progress of silkworm breeding in that department and the Ardèche. Much anxiety prevails amongst the silk breeders in those departments with respect to the forthcoming crop. The silkworms bred from Japanese seed give great hopes, but the others produced from foreign seed cause some uneasiness. Owing to the want of sufficient seed, the number of silkworms is much less than usual, and there is a vast quantity of mulberry leaves, for which it is feared there will be no demand.

COTTON.—The sales in the London market during the business week ending the 19th inst. were—of China, 50 bales of good fair at 8¼d., and 740 bales of Japan, fair to good fair, 8½d. to 9¼d. The stock of China and Japan in London on the 18th was 12,298 bales, against 31,319 last year. The quantity afloat to Europe on the 19th was, of China, 28,661 bales, against 76,376 last year, and of Japan, 531 bales, against 8,487 in 1864. The total stock in London on the 18th was 102,551 bales, against 92,843 bales in 1864; and the stock in Liverpool on the 19th was 506,430 bales, against 351,446 last year. The market was steady in London on the 20th, with sales of 30 bales China, middling fair, at 8d., and 40 of Japan, good fair, at 9¼d. On Monday, the 22nd, in consequence of the American news, a strong demand was experienced, and 3,230 bales were sold at a general advance of ¼d. per lb. Among them were 100 bales China, 8d. to 8¼d. middling fair, and 10 bales Japan, 9½d. fair. On Tuesday, the sales amounted to 3,190 bales on the spot at full prices of the day before, and in some instances at ¼d. per lb. in favour of the sellers. 50 bales of China went at 8d., middling fair, and 390 bales Japan, 8½d. to 10d., middling fair to good. On Wednesday, the 24th, the market was quiet, with sales of only 800 bales at about previous rates; among them 50 bales Japan, good fair at 9½d. At Liverpool, in the early part of the week ending the 19th, China and Japan fell about ¼d. per lb, which induced large operations, and prices recovered about ¼d. per lb. On the 22nd the market opened exceedingly

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strong, and a large business was concluded at a further ¼d. to ½d. advance, and the increased quotation has been fully maintained.

SUGAR.—Extensive transactions have taken place at generally stiffer prices, and an advance of 6d. per cwt. has been established. On the 23rd, 605 bags Siam were partly sold at 33s. 6d. to 35s. 6d. On the 24th, at auction, 6,300 bags Manila were in part disposed of at 25s. to 26s. 6d. for unclayed, the clayed being bought in at 29s. to 31s. 6d. per cwt.

COFFEE.—The public sales of plantation Ceylon during the week ending the 19th, amounted to 1,060 casks, 333 barrels and bags, and at a decline of about 1s. per cwt., on the prices obtained in the recent small transactions by private contract, the whole was taken off, latterly with a more spirited competition, viz., fine ordinary to low middling 78s. to 81s. 6d.; middling and good middling 82s. 6d. to 84s.; colory, 85s. to 94s. 514 casks, 1,148 bags native, were principally disposed of at a similar reduction; good ordinary, 66s. to 67s.; fine ordinary, 68s. 6d. to 69s.; superior, 70s. to 70s. 6d.: privately, 100 casks have been sold at 66s. to 69s. 6d. During the present week, the supplies brought forward continue to find ready buyers at the extreme of late rates. At auction 230 casks, 476 bags, native Ceylon, at 66s. to 69s.; 295 casks, 173 tierces, 70 barrels, and 130 bags plantation, mid. to good, 81s. to 88s.; fine ord. to low mid., 78s. 6d. to 80s. 6d.

RICE.—Prices are well maintained. The total sales last week amounted to about 60,000 bags, at the previous value, very ordinary old Nakrenzie 8s. middling to fine 9s. 3d. to 10s. 3d., Rangoon 8s. 9d. to 9s. 9d., Bassein 9s. 3d. to 9s. 6d., and white Bengal at from 12s. 9d. for middling, up to 14s. 7½d. for good, a few siftings 11s. 6d. The only parcel in auction was 7,423 bags Moulmein, of which the damaged (3,210 bags) found free buyers at 8s. to 9s., the rest, sound, being bought in.

CARDAMOMS.—Steady, but quiet, with increasing supply; 10 cases Malabar at auction retired, and 2 bags Aleppy, sold at 5s. 2d. per lb. for good.

CAMPHOR.—Subsequently to our last prices fell rapidly to 105s. per cwt. for China in tin, lead commanding very little more money; recently demand has improved; considerable business has been done, and prices have rallied to 117s. 6d. for lead.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Very firm; and of 1,195 boxes at auction two-thirds sold at 82s. to 87s. per cwt. for second to first quality: moderate business privately. Buds: Flat; three cases at auction retired.

CINNAMON (CEYLON).—We quote first sort 1s. 4d. to 2s. 4d. per lb.; second, 1s. 3d. to 2s. 2d.; third, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 9d.; and fourth and Jungle, 10d. to 1s. 4d.; fair business accomplished privately at a slight advance upon the currency of the late sales.

COCOA-NUT OIL.—This market has undergone a marked change for the better; business very large on the spot and for arrival up to our advanced and highest quotations, 362 casks Cochin, 561 casks Ceylon, 66 casks Sydney, 149 casks Manila, and 22 casks Madras at auction.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Continues flat, with nothing of any importance doing. Dragon's Blood: Steady, 3 cases sold at auction at £8. 5s. to £9 per cwt. for good lump. Galangal Root: Neglected, 90 bags at auction retired. Rubarb: Has become very quiet, and a decline of 3d. to 6d. per lb. accepted. Of 130 cases at auction, half sold at 5s. 6d. per lb. for middling flat; 4s. to 4s. 1d. good ordinary flat and round.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Siam dearer; and of 9 cases at auction, 4 sold at £36 to £36. 5s. per cwt. for 3rd size drop, in block: Sumatra steady, and of 60 cases brought forward, half sold at £12. 10s. to £12. 15s. for false packed 2nd quality, and £6. 10s. middling 3rd. Damar: Continues quiet; 100 cases at auction retired. Gamboge: Rather lower, and of 26 cases at auction two-thirds sold at £9. 10s. to £9. 12s. 6d. per cwt. for fair pipe.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Very quiet, with little trade; 2 tons at auction retired.

HEMP (MANILA).—This market has been very firm, but with little demand till quite recently; during the last few days a fair quantity has changed hands at £28. 5s. to £29. 15s. per ton for fair to good roping, and £30 to £31 for fair to fine Sorsogon. Of 4,271 bales at auction, about one-third was placed within these terms.

HORNS.—Steady; auctions confined to 9 tons Madras Buffalo Horns, sold at 30s. 6d. to 31s. 6d. per cwt. for 2 lbs. average, and 10 tons Ceylon Deer sold at 55s. to 60s. for 1⅛ to 1¼, being higher.

INDIA RUBBER.—Some inquiry for fine; moderate business privately upon previous terms; 204 packages Assam sold at auction at 7¼d. to 10¾d. per lb. for ordinary to very good.

JAPAN WAX.—Quiet, and nothing of any importance doing.

OILS.—Anniseed: Has advanced to 7s. 9d. per lb., good business accompanying the improvement, and the market remains firm: sales reported for arrival at 7s. 6d. Cassia: Very flat, with scarcely any transactions. Cinnamon: Steady, 4 cases sold at auction at 2s. to 2s. 5d. per oz. for fair quality.

PEPPER.—Black: Has receded nearly ⅛d. per lb., and market very quiet; of 4,486 bags Singapore at auction, about half sold at 3⅛d. to 3⅜d., and of 3,431 bags Penang, one-third sold at 3d. to 3⅛d. White: An unusually large quantity has been brought upon the market, which has produced a fall of fully ½d. per lb.; and of 3,669 bags Singapore, and 445 bags Penang at auction, about half sold at 5⅞d. to 6¼d. for middling to very good.

SHELLAC.—Has suffered a further and general fall of 2s. 6d. to 5s. per cwt., and of 1,240 packages at auction about half sold: Orange at £4. 12s. 6s. to £5. 7s. 6.; Garnet £4. 10s. to £5. 5s.; Button £3. 15s. to £4. 2s. 6d.; Native £4. 10s. to £4. 12s. 6d.; Block and Blocky £3. 10s. to £4. 7s. 6d. Private business very limited.

SAGO.—Firm, and occasionally rather dearer; 1,715 boxes at auction mostly sold at 20s. to 22s. 6d. per cwt. for fair to good large; and 18s. 6d. to 20s. 6d. middling to fine small. Flour: Steady, and of 364 bags at auction one-third sold at 14s. 6d. per cwt. Tapioca: At auction, 50 boxes Pearl were bought in at 26s.; likewise 237 bags Penang at 2¾d. to 3¼d.

SPICES.—Cloves: Quiet; Only 68 bags Zanzibar offered at auction, and those retired. Mace: Steady; of 13 cases Penang at auction, half sold at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per lb. for fair reddish. Nutmegs: Nothing of any consequence doing.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Very quiet, but 568 bags and 47 tons loose at auction mostly sold at 19s. 6d. to 20s. per cwt. for very low drossy. Private transactions nearly nil. Gambier: Very quiet, with limited business. 800 bags at auction all retired.

TIN.—This market has been steady, but without animation; fair business done in Straits mainly at £93 to £93. 10s. per ton cash, and up to £95 for arrival; trifling trade in Banca within our quotations of £99 to £101 per ton.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Galls: Flat, and generally rather lower; 48 cases China sold at auction at 62s. 6d. per cwt. for good, and 37 cases Japan at 53s. to 53s. 6d. Musk: Dearer; 25 caddies Tonquin sold at auction at 29s. to 34s. per oz. for good to fine, and 24s. to 24s. 6d. good pickings: of 8 tins grain, one sold at 44s. for middling. Rattans: Steady; 3,944 bundles Calcutta sold at auction at 4s. to 5s. per 100. Sapanwood: Of 15 tons Manila at auction, two-thirds sold at £10 per ton, being very full value, and 22 tons Cochin retired. Mother-o'-Pearl Shells: Firm; and 110 cases Singapore at auction sold at £7. 5s. to £7. 10s. per cwt. for good; and of 145 cases Manila, half sold at £5. 7s. 6d.; similar prices realised privately. Soy: Sales to some extent made at the lower quotation of 3s. 6d. per gallon. Star Anniseeds: Very scarce, and much wanted; £7. 10s. per cwt. demanded. Sticklac (Siam): Remains flat; 108 cases at auction all retired. Tortoise-shell: Auctions limited to 3 whests Sydney, sold at 11s. per lb. for pickings, and 4s. to 5s. hoof; and 2 cases Mauritius sold at 14s. per lb. for good; 17s. to 19s. fine hoof. Vermilion: Steady, with moderate business at 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d.; 20 boxes at auction retired.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 10s. to £7. 15s.; nail rod, £8. 10s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10. 5s; sheets, single, £10. 10s. to £11; Staffordshire bars, £8. 15s. to £9; rails, £7.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £15.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £94 to £95 per ton; yellow metal, 7¾d. to 8d. per lb.

TIN.—97s. for block; 98s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 28s. to 29s. 6d.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £19. 10s. to £19. 15s.; W.B., £21. 5s.; shot patent, £23; sheet, £20. 10s.; spelter, £21. 10s. to £22; zinc English sheet, £26. 10s.; quicksilver, £8.

The market continues very quiet, and any alterations in quotations are, in favour of buyers.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£64,796
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£4,500
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£152,246
Singapore	£3,007	£196,020
Penang	—	£3,500
Yokohama	—	£2,165

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£57,966
Penang	—	£4 508
Hong Kong	—	£47,000
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£17,551
Yokohama	—	£3,000

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£56	—
To Saigon	—	£54,484
To Batavia	£2,132	—
To Hong Kong	—	£14,880
To Shanghai	£80	£9,620

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0	to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4	
Silver in Bars	0 5 0¼	
Mexican Dollars	0 4 11½	

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
May 13	Falmouth	Maulmain	King of the Seas	Hennessy.
— 7	Cadiz	Manila	Elisa	Rivero.
— 13	London	Foo-chow-Foo	Sydney Laggers	Richards.
— 14	Do.	Colombo	Calphurnia	Davidson.
Apr 18	Demerara	Ceylon	Queen of the East	Ankers.
— 10	Callao	Macao	Providencia	Mattini.
May 11	Off the Eddystone	Sourabaya	Louise Kohn	Voss.
— 11	Helvoet	Banjoewangie	Augusta	Nielsen.
— 5	Corunna	Manila	Ercilla	Vicente.
—	Clyde	Maulmain	Old England	
— 12	Zierikzee	Banjoewangie	Bilderdyk	Victor.
— 16	Liverpool	Maulmain	Superb	Bournier.
— 14	Texel	Banjoewangie	Henr. Geertruider	Coller.
— 15	Do.	Do.	Alblasserwaard	Zack.
— 14	Off Dungeness	Java	Jan van Brakel	De Roever.
Apr 25	Havana	Macao	Auguste & Gustave	Benassit.
May 20	Falmouth	Java	Fata Morgana	Stjernberg.
— 20	Liverpool	Sarawak	Mercator	Wolder.
— 17	Copenhagen	Singapore	Maria Augusta	Broberg.
— 6	Boston	Rangoon	Jessianna	Harvey.
—	Off Torbay	Sourabaya	Boni	Moller.
— 22	Falmouth	Java	A. E. Vidal	Rehse.
— 19	Off Tuskar	Singapore	Leander	
— 16	Cadiz	Manila	General Echague	Collado.
— 11	Quebec	Shanghai	Eastern Chief	

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DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
May 8	Newcastle	Java	Maria Elise	v. Deursen.
— 11	Cardiff	Manila	Johannes Lodewyk	v. der Delft.
— 10	Shields	Batavia	Batavia	
— 12	Cardiff	Manila	Vriendschap	Brugen.
— 13	Liverpool	Galle	Forest Queen	Doy.
Apr 10	Callao	China	Cote d'Or	Monnier.
— 18	Do.	Do.	Glenaros	Buckeram.
Apr 23	Valparaiso	Do.	Greyhound	Lusher.
May 15	London	Colombo	Skimmer of the Waves	Hammond.
— 10	Amsterdam	Java	Petronella	Strootnam.
— 10	Do.	Do.	Kortenaar	Sugard.
— 10	Rotterdam	Macassar	Macassar	Coulon.
— 14	Shields	Batavia	Sola	
— 13	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Tynedale	Johnston.
— 16	London	Galle	St. Paul	Martin.
— 6	Amsterdam	Batavia	Kandanghauer	Zeelt.
— 14	Rotterdam	Do.	Grootmeester Nationl.	Giese.
— 15	Shields	Galle	St. Bede	
— 15	Sunderland	Singapore	Naples	Pipke.
— 11	Rotterdam	Sourabaya	Antonia Petronella	Voorendyk.
—	Amsterdam	Batavia	Gezusters	Otto.
— 16	Sunderland	Singapore	Zoe	Cochrane.
— 11	Lisbon	Ceylon	Ione	Husband.
— 19	London	Shanghai	Assyrian	Mearns.
— 19	Liverpool	Singapore	Therese	Denicke.
— 18	Sunderland	Galle	Queen Bee	White.
Apr 9	Rio Janeiro	River Amoor	Alma	Reimers.
— 15	Do.	Shanghai	Christian Mathias	Lord.
May 22	London	Colombo, Cannanore	Star of Ceylon	Mathew.
— 19	Amsterdam	Batavia	Krimpenerwaard	Kluit.
— 12	Rotterdam	Samarang	Hen. Gerard. Susanna	Dam.
— 17	Amsterdam	Singapore	Anna	Bok.
— 16	Newcastle	Batavia	Elizabeth	Storm.
— 22	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Corea	Garry.
— 22	Clyde	Batavia, &c.	Three Bells	
— 6	Boston	Nagasaki	Matthew Luce	Hardy.

(*See Commerccial Postsript.*)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Medina. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Lord Raglan. For Shanghai: Patrician, Juanpore, Anglo Saxon, Dilkhoosh, Spirit of the Deep. For Hong Kong and Canton: Canadian, Lady Love, James Russell. For Hong Kong: Violet. For Singapore: Cosmos. For Singapore and Bangkok: May Queen. For Batavia: William Simpson. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Zeenymph. For Madras and Penang: Southern Cross. For Colombo: Wynaud, Crixea. For Colombo and Cochin: Eaglet.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Brilliant. For Shanghai: Petchelee, Chinaman, Aerolite. For Manila: Cinco Hermanos. For Manila, Iloilo, and Zebu: Feliz. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Cornelia. For Ceylon: Star of Devon.

At GLASGOW.—For Manila, Iloilo, and Zebu: Anastasia. For Singapore: Lochleven Castle. For Batavia and Singapore: Buston Vale. For Cape of Good Hope, Singapore, and Hong Kong: Japan (s.).

At NEW YORK.—For Shanghai: Horatio.

SPOKEN.

KOOPHANDEL, Rotterdam to Batavia, March 4, 39 S., 69 E.
SIRENE (barque), Bremen to Penang, February 24, 39 S., 65 E.
GOLDEN SPUR, Swansea to Shanghai, February 25, 37 S., 68 E.
KURRACHEE (ship), Colombo to London, February 28.
MARIA (Dutch barque), Amsterdam to Japan, February 24.
MARIA Y VICENTA, Liverpool to Manila, March 3.
ABBOTSFORD (barque), Cardiff to Shanghai, March 3.
ERA (barque), New York to Shanghai, 125 days out.
TETUAN (Spanish barque), London to Manila, Feb. 16, 9 S. 124 E.
STRATA FLORIDA (barque), Colombo to London, April 17, 19 S., 2 W.
STIRLINGSHIRE, London to Shanghai, March 16, 9 S., 32 W.
RIFLEMAN, London to Japan, 32 days out, March 17, 8 S., 31 W.
CORAL NYMPH (ship), for Hong Kong, February 12, 18 N., 19 W.
LEVANT, Liverpool to Galle, February 22, 4 N., 21 W.
HURRICANE (ship), Cardiff to Shanghai, March 25.
WM. CHANDLER, Liverpool to Singapore, Jan. 2, 32 N., 18 W.
LORD COLLINGWOOD, Shields to Shanghai, Jan, 30.
JAN HENDRIK, Banjoewangie to Amsterdam, April 13, 6 N., 25 W.
PRINCESS AMALIA, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 25, 47 N., 9 W.
NELLY (barque), Colombo to London, April 16, 22 S., 4 E.
TOLLENS, Java to Rotterdam, March 31, off Ascension.
JEDDO, Shields to Batavia, March 13, 15 S.
ELISE MARY, Sourabaya to Rotterdam, 60 days out, March 26, 30 S. 11 E.
ZUID HOLLAND (Dut. ship), Bali to Rotterdam, April 11, 2 S., 21 W.
PLEID (?) (3 masted sch.), Sing. to Mon., 70 days out, April 12, 1 N., 23 W.
IDA ELIZABETH, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 7, 45 N., 9 W.
GEO. AVERY, London to Singapore, April 9, 5 S., 29 W.
ESPERANZA, London to Hong Kong, May 11, 35 N., 17 W.
BELEORA (?) (barq.), Liverpool to China, Feb. 19, 42 S., 49 E.
CHALLENGE (ship), London to Shanghai, Feb. 11, 45 S., 31 E.
MARIA VERONICA, Amsterdam to Samarang, 49 N., 6 W.
SALES, Liverpool to Manila, April, 16, 20 S., 32 W.
AGENORIA (ship), Liverpool to Singapore, Feb. 2, 35 S., 18 W.
PARADISE (ship), Cape Negris to Hong Kong, Feb. 16, 39 S., 27 E.
CISRA (?) (ship), Liverpool to Singapore, March 4, 22 S., 66 E.
COMET, Japan to London, off Cape Good Hope.
FRANZ AND ELISE, Batavia to Amsterdam, April 1, 10 S., 13 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Notwithstanding the large amount of tonnage now offering at London for the different ports in China, the improvement in outward freights, noticed in our last impression, has been well supported. Homewards, a few inquiries have been made for ships from Manila, Java, and Colombo, and in some instances business has been done. Coal freights continue firm, rates being slightly in excess of our last quotations.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 35s. weight or measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £35 to £36 and 31s. to 32s. For Shanghai: £41 and £1. 17s. 6d. For Manila: £1. 12s. 6d. For Batavia: £23. For Singapore: £25 and £1. 3s. For Galle: £27 and £1. 5s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty having invited tenders for the conveyance of 128 tons naval stores, including a few combustibles, from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Grootmeester Nationaal, Giese, from Rotterdam for Batavia, put into Dartmouth, May 17, with loss of bulwarks, stanchions, rigging, &c., having been in collision the previous night off the Start.

The City of Quebec, from London for Shanghai, put into Table Bay, April 1, for repairs, having been in collision in lat. 35 S., lon. 11 E., with the Glencoe (ship) bound from the Clyde to Shanghai. The City of Quebec is reported to have sustained considerable damage. (Another account states that the City of Quebec had received damage to her foremast, bowsprit, &c., and that the collision took place three weeks previously.)

On the evening of May 17 a fire broke out on board the Tanjore (ship), of Nantes, Dufourneau, loading at Marseilles for China. It was however quickly extinguished, but not until the cargo (coal and spirits) as well as the vessel, had received very considerable damage.

MISCELLANEOUS.

AT ST. HELENA.—March 29, from Singapore, Maury, Harms, and sailed, 30, for London; 30, from Banjoewangie, Constantia, Overgaauw, and sailed, April 1, for Rotterdam; 31, from Singapore, Zizine, Priest, and sailed, April 1, for Montreal; April 14, from Sarawak, Moldavian, Ward, and sailed, 15, for London; 20, from Penang, Avalanche, Stott, and sailed, 22, for London; 21, from Colombo, Ethereal, Anderson, and sailed, 22, for London; 23, from Batavia, Zeenimph, Roggen, from Sourabaya, Cossipore, Halbert; 24, from Foo-chow-Foo, Laurel, Moodie, and sailed for London.

Off ASCENSION.—April 7, from Manila, Monarchy, for Falmouth; from Bali, Silentium, for Rotterdam.

At TABLE BAY.—March 19, from Sourabaya, Elise, Mary, Koster, April 1, from London, for Shanghai, City of Quebec (with damage); 13, from Manila, Asuncion, de Olano.

Off RECIFE LIGHT.—April 5, from Shanghai, Naomi, for London.

Off EAST LONDON.—April 4, from Hong Kong, Hindostan, for Portsmouth.

At MAURITIUS.—March, Ange Gardien, Boju, sailed for Singapore.

The Ione, Husband, from the Clyde, for Colombo, put into Lisb on 5th May, her chronometer having stopped.

DOCKS.
PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caisson Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1864

AGENTS WANTED THROUGHOUT the WORLD for the sale of BUTCHER'S PATENT PENNY "CIGAR NIPPERS," invaluable to every Smoker, and will find a ready sale among Tobacconists, Stationers, Publicans, &c. Apply by letter, enclosing stamped envelope, to H. C. BUTCHER, 354, Strand, London, W.C.

MESSRS. LENNY & CO.

CROYDON, AND 9, PARK-LANE LONDON.

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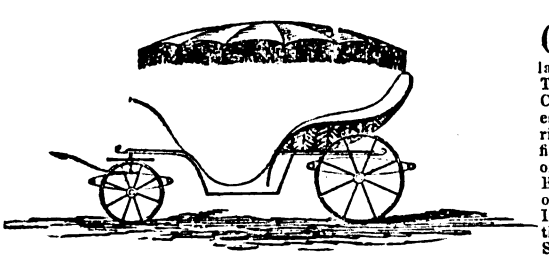

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CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON, AND CHINA.

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.)

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COURT OF DIRECTORS TO THE SHAREHOLDERS.

The Directors have the pleasure of presenting to the Shareholders the Audited Balance-sheet and Profit and Loss Account of the Bank, for the year ended 31st December last.

After providing for all bad and doubtful debts, and defraying expense of management at all points, the net profit amounts to £126,082. 1s. 1d., to which has to be added a sum of £75,831. 11s. 2d. undivided profit brought forward from the preceding year, making a total of £201,913. 12s. 3d.

Out of the above total £136,153. 5s. has been paid in two half-yearly dividends, making together 20 per cent. on the paid-up capital of the bank. The unappropriated balance of £65,760. 7s. 3d. is carried forward to the profit and loss account of the current year.

The last instalment of £12. 10s. per share, due 2nd January last, upon the ten thousand new shares issued 1st December, 1863, has been paid.

The Newera Ellia and Tuticorin Agencies have been closed, the results not answering expectations, and for a similar reason the Mauritius Branch will be closed at the end of the current year.

The Director retiring from the board in rotation is Sir Frederick James Halliday, K.C.B., who, being eligible, offers himself for re-election, and the Court recommend him accordingly.

Mr. George Palmer Robinson and Mr. Thomas Stenhouse having resigned their seats in the direction of the bank, the shareholders will have to elect two new directors.

Mr. James Murray Robertson, one of the auditors, and Mr. Ellis James Gilman, of the firm of Messrs. Ashton and Co., London, offer themselves as candidates for the vacant seats, and the Court have much satisfaction in recommending them to the shareholders for election; an adjourned General Meeting will be held for the purpose.

The Court recommend an increased allowance being made to the Chairman, and a resolution in terms of clause 113 of the Deed of Settlement will be brought forward accordingly.

The shareholders will have to appoint auditors for the current year. Mr. James Joseph Mackenzie, late of the firm of Messrs. Dent and Co., China, having consented to act, the Directors recommend him to you for appointment in conjunction with the present auditor, Mr. J. Smith, Mr. James Murray Robertson retiring, in consequence of his being a candidate for one of the vacancies in the direction.

52, Threadneedle-street, 27th April, 1865.

GEO. G. NICOL, Chairman.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON, AND CHINA.

General Balance for the Year ended 31st December, 1864.

LIABILITIES. Dr.				ASSETS. Cr.			
Capital paid up on original shares	£500,000	0	0	Coin and bullion	£2,178,027	3	2
Do. new shares in course of payment	227,900	0	0	Cash with bankers and money at call	1,213,917	10	2
Current and fixed deposits	3,304,619	2	5	Government securities	131,176	18	7
Bills payable, notes in circulation, and other sums due to the public	5,707,545	13	6	Reserve fund investment account	101,541	13	10
Reserve fund	250,000	0	0	Landed and house property at head office and branches	147,990	10	0
Profit and Loss Account:—				Bills receivable, loans and other debts due to the Corporation	6,355,835	2	5
Balance for the year ended 31st December, 1864, after deduction of charges, income-tax for year to date, and bad and doubtful debts £201,913 12 3							
Less dividend paid for half-year ended 30th June, 1864 63,489 10 0	138,424	2	3				
	£10,128,488	18	2		£10,128,488	18	2

Profit and Loss Account.

To dividend for half-year ended 30th June, 1864	£63,489	10	0	By balance of undivided profit from 31st December, 1863	£75,831	11	2
" " " 31st December, 1864	72,663	15	0	By net profit for the year ended 31st December, 1864	126,082	1	1
To balance carried forward	65,760	7	3		£201,913	12	3
	£201,913	12	3	1865, January 1. By balance brought forward	£65,760	7	3

Reserve Fund.

To balance	£250,000	0	0	By balance on 31st December, 1863	£231,140	0	0
				By balance of premium of £10 per share on new shares, received since 31st December, 1863	18,860	0	0
	£250,000	0	0		£250,000	0	0
				1865, January 1. By balance brought forward	£250,000	0	0

D. T. ROBERTSON, Chief Manager.
J. M. REID, Chief Accountant.

GEO. G. NICOL, Chairman.
D. LARNACH, GEORGE MAY, } Directors.

LONDON, 27TH APRIL, 1865.—We have examined the several Statements transmitted from the Managers of the several Branches, and also the Books in London, upon which the above accounts have been framed, and hereby certify to their correctness, according to such Books and Statements to 31st December, 1864.

COLEMAN, TURQUAND, YOUNGS, and CO.,
Public Accountants, 16, Tokenhouse-yard, E.C.

LONDON, 27TH APRIL, 1865.—We have examined the Bills of Exchange, Local Bills discounted, and other securities held by the Bank against Loans, &c., and we are satisfied that they are available, and that sufficient deductions have been made from the Profits of the year ended 31st December, 1864, for all bad and doubtful debts according to the Statements received from the several Branches in India and China.

J. SMITH,
J. MURRAY ROBERTSON, } Auditors.

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THIRD REPORT OF THE

BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, AND JAPAN

(LIMITED).

1, BANK-BUILDINGS, LOTHBURY, LONDON.

CAPITAL £4,000,000; PAID AND CALLED UP £1,000,000.

Directors.

CHAIRMAN—JAMES NUGENT DANIELL, Esq.
DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN—RICHARD SPOONER, Esq.
WILLIAM FREDERICK BARING, Esq.
THOMAS COTTERELL, Esq.
PHILIP SHORE FLETCHER, Esq.
Lieutenant-Colonel FRENCH.
WILLIAM HARRISON, Esq.
JAMES LEVICK, Esq.
J. MACKRILL SMITH, Esq.
Hon. J. F. H. STUART WORTLEY.
SASSOON DAVID SASSOON, Esq.
HENRY YOUNG, Esq.

General Manager—JOHN OUSELEY, Esq. | **Secretary**—R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Esq.

Bankers—The BANK OF ENGLAND; The NATIONAL BANK; The ALLIANCE BANK.

Solicitors—Messrs. FLUX and ARGLES; Messrs. NEWBON, EVANS, and CO.

Branches and Agencies—Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo, Kandy, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Point de Galle, Manila, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow, Nagasaki, Kiu-kiang.

THIRD REPORT of the Directors, presented to the Shareholders at the ANNUAL MEETING held at the LONDON TAVERN on the 15th May, 1865.

The Directors beg to submit to the shareholders a general statement of the affairs of the company for the year ending 31st December, 1864.

The net profits of the year, after defraying all expenses and providing for losses, amount to £15,893. 12s. 11d., including a balance of £827. 11s. 1d. brought forward from the accounts of the previous year, out of which the sum of £14,746. 5s. has already been paid as an interim dividend on the 20th August last, leaving a balance of £1,147. 7s. 11d., which it is proposed to carry forward.

The Directors have to express their regret that the operations of this company during the past year have not exhibited a more profitable result; but taking into consideration the comparatively recent formation of the bank, and the gradual extension of the branches abroad, the peculiarly disorganised condition of commercial affairs in the latter part or the year 1864, and the existence of a state of things specially calculated to embarrass the successful working of the branches, it must be a source of satisfaction that the transactions of the year have resulted in a profit, that a solid footing has been acquired by the bank, and its business and connections further extended.

The causes which acted prejudicially to the welfare of the bank were of a peculiar and exceptional character. They have now ceased to exist. The operations of the present year have shown decided progress and satisfactory results, and it is therefore evident that the temporary interruption to the successful operations of the bank was caused by circumstances which were beyond the control of the Directors.

The meeting which confirmed the amalgamation with the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan (Limited) took place on the 12th of September last, and on and after the 12th October the names of the shareholders in that institution (with the exception of those who expressed their dissent within the specified time) were transferred to the register of shareholders of this bank.

The number of shares unallotted in the Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan (Limited) was 1,310, and the number of shares refused by shareholders in that bank expressing dissent was 58. Thus, of the 20,000 shares of the new issue by this bank 1,368 may be considered as unallotted.

The total amount of capital in this bank on the 31st December, 1864, was £586,237, and on the 29th ult., it amounted to £720,444.

The Directors have the pleasure to report that, notwithstanding a variety of adverse circumstances, the calls have, on the whole, been remarkably well met.

The reserve fund of the bank amounts at present to £92,900.

In July last the Colombo Branch, with its sub-branches at Kandy and Point de Galle, were opened. The progress of these establishments, although extending over a period of scarcely six months, is satisfactory. The Directors have also to announce that in February last a branch was opened at Yokohama.

The Directors have with regret to report that a vacancy occurred in the board during the past year, by the death of Mr. J. H. R. de Castro; and, acting in accordance with the powers conferred upon them by the articles, of association, they have elected Mr. Sassoon David Sassoon to fill the vacant seat, which election they have no doubt will meet with the approval of the shareholders.

The Directors who retire by rotation are—James Nugent Daniell, Esq. Deane J. Hoare, Esq., and Henry Young, Esq., who, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election; and the auditors, James Goodson, Esq., and Frederick Wm. Spooner, Esq., also retire, and, being likewise eligible, they offer themselves for re-election.

J. N. DANIELL, Chairman.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, AND JAPAN (LIMITED).

Balance-Sheet, December 31, 1864.

Dr.				Cr.		
To capital paid up			£586,237 0 0	By cash on hand and with bankers		£506,603 9 5
To amount due to the public on current and deposit accounts, bills payable, endorsements, circular notes, letters of credit, &c.			6,357,256 15 0	By bullion on hand and in transitu		60,999 2 9
To reserved fund		£1,000 0 0		By Government securities		378,116 7 9
To premium on second issue of 10,000 shares at £2 per share	£20,000			By bills receivable, loans, bills discounted, &c.		5,989,495 16 2
Less 215 shares unallotted	430			By bank premises in London		29,337 14 5
		19,570 0 0		By miscellaneous, including furniture at head office and branches, stamps, insurance, &c.		13,070 12 5
To premium on account of third issue of 20,000 shares		19,412 0 0		By preliminary expenses	£7,458 18 0	
			39,982 0 0	Less amount written off	458 18 0	7,000 0 0
To balance as per profit and loss account			1,147 7 11			
			£6,984,623 2 11			£6,984,623 2 11

Profit and Loss Account.

Dr.			Cr.		
To charges at head office and branches for salaries, direction, travelling expenses, stamps, rent, taxes, income-tax, advertisements, &c.		£43,185 5 5	By undivided profit on 31st December, 1863		£827 11 1
To interim dividend paid 20th August, 1864, at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum		14,746 5 0	By amount at credit of profit and loss for year ending 31st December, 1864, after allowing for rebate on bills outstanding and providing for losses	£78,170 14 8	
To balance carried to profit and loss, new account		1,147 7 11	Less interest paid on current and deposit accounts	19,919 7 5	58,251 7 3
		£59,078 18 4			£59,078 18 4

Reserve Fund.

Dr.		Cr.		
To balance	£39,982 0 0	By balance on 31st December, 1863		£1,000 0 0
		By amount since transferred		38,982 0 0
	£39,982 0 0			£39,982 0 0

We have examined the books and vouchers at the head office, and the various accounts transmitted from the branches, and certify to the correctness of the foregoing statements compiled therefrom.
May 11th, 1865.
JAMES GOODSON, } Auditors.
F. W. SPOONER, }

The Secretary having read the advertisement convening the meeting the seal of the company was affixed to the registrar of transfers.

The report was taken as read.

The following resolutions were moved, seconded, and carried unanimously:—

1. That the report and statement of accounts of the directors be received and adopted.
2. That James Nugent Daniell, Esq., and Henry Young, Esq., be re-elected directors, and
3. That Mr. Sassoon David Sassoon's appointment by the board be confirmed.
4. That Frederick Maynard, Esq., and Frederick William Spooner, Esq., be elected auditors.
5. That the thanks of the meeting be given to the chairman for his able conduct in the chair.
6. That the thanks of the meeting be given to the general manager.

Extracted from the minutes.

(Signed) J. N. DANIELL, Chairman.
R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

1, Bank-buildings, May 15, 1865.

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THE NORTHERN ASSAM TEA COMPANY
(LIMITED).

REGISTERED UNDER THE COMPANY'S ACT, 1862, ON 22ND OCTOBER, 1864.

INCREASE OF CAPITAL TO £400,000.

By the Issue of 25,000 (B) Shares of £10 each.

£2 PAYABLE ON APPLICATION, AND £1 ON THE 10TH JULY NEXT.

WHERE NO ALLOTMENT IS MADE THE DEPOSIT WILL BE RETURNED IN FULL.

Until the 1st July, 1868, the B Shares will be entitled to a Preferential Dividend (so far as the profits from the Estates purchased from the Assam Company will admit) of 10 per cent. per annum.

Any excess of profits over 10 per cent. being divisible rateably between the A and B Shares respectively.

Directors.

E. W. WINGROVE, Esq., Chairman (late Mackenzie, Lyall, and Co., Calcutta), Director of the National Bank of India.
PERCIVAL BATTISCOMBE, Esq., Sevenoaks, Kent.
E. H. HIGGS, Esq., Instow, North Devon, late of Dibrooghur, Assam.
H. STAVELY KING, Esq., 39, Brook-street, Grosvenor-square.
J. W. MITCHELL, Esq. (Messrs. Mitchell and Aspinall), 8, Great Tower-street, E.C.
COLONEL T. H. SISSMORE, Bengal Artillery, Haughton Lodge, Stockbridge.
J. H. YOUNG, Esq., B.C.S., late Commissioner Burdwan Division, Bengal

Calcutta Agents.—Messrs. THOMSON, SHAW, and Co.

Bankers.—THE LONDON AND COUNTY BANK, Lombard-street; THE CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON AND CHINA, Calcutta.

Solicitors.—Messrs. HAMBER and HARRISON, 20, Kings Arms-Yard, Moorgate-street, E.C.

Brokers.—Messrs. LOWNDES, SURGEY, and WOOLLEY, 7, Finch-lane, E.C.

Secretary.
Mr. C. H. FIELDER.

Offices.
35, BUCCLERSBURY, LONDON, E.C.

The Assam Company, the first established for the cultivation of tea in India, being desirous of concentrating and confining their operations to the southern division of Upper Assam, and thus centralizing the management of their extensive properties, have determined on selling to the Northern Assam Tea Company (Limited), whose estates are contiguous, the whole of the northern and eastern division of their property in Assam, instead of adopting the alternative of promoting a new company to carry them on, or placing them under separate management.

The present extension of capital, therefore, is for the purpose of purchasing direct from the Assam Company the whole of their out-lying estates in the neighbourhood of the Tingrie and Dehing rivers in Upper Assam, forming their northern and eastern division, and consisting of the following gardens:—

The Tingrie Mookh, Hoogrie Jaun, Kehung, Naholia, Cato, Tippum, Hookan Joorie, Towrock.

These comprise some of the fine old indigenous gardens, respecting which so much has been written, and which only require opening out to ensure their profitable extension. They are at present producing the finest tea and tea seed in Assam—the latter in sufficient quantity to enable the purchasers to plant out any extent of new land without further cost on this head.

The area at present under cultivation is about 1,000 acres, of which over 500 are in full bearing. The gardens are surrounded by lands, for which grants have been obtained to the extent of 10,000 acres, all of which is very superior and suitable for the growth of tea.

The Assam Company's right to the whole of this property, together with all buildings, plant, implements, tools, boats, and live stock, will be handed over to the Northern Assam Tea Company for the sum of £100,000, to be paid as follows:

8th June.	1865	£30,000
15th July,	,,	20,000
15th August,	,,	20,000
15th November,	,,	30,000
		£100,000

The crop of tea of this season, and any further grants of land that the superintendent or agents of the Assam Company may have acquired up to the date of completion of this sale, together with all cultivation commenced during the current season, commencing November 1, 1864, has also been contracted to be transferred to this Company, on payment of the sums actually disbursed since that date.

No commissions or promotion money have been paid or allowed.

In the allotment of shares a preference will be given to shareholders in the Northern Assam Tea Company and the Assam Company.

The Assam Company in 1863 disposed of their outlying estates in the district of Cachar, for the purchase of which a Company was formed in Calcutta, called "The Central Cachar Company," the shares of which Company are readily saleable at 25 per cent. premium. Those of the Assam Company are at above 150 per cent. premium.

The success of tea growing in Assam is now thoroughly established. Indian teas are rapidly increasing in favour and value, owing to their great strength and pungency. Further it may be stated, that the recent reduction of the duty has already caused a considerable advance in prices here, and the supply is still inadequate to the demand.

In reference to the quality and capabilities of the lands proposed to be purchased, the following extracts are taken from the last reports.

The resident secretary in India of the Assam Company, in his report on the property contracted for, says:—

'The lands in this part of the province are the finest for tea cultivation in Assam. The soil is not only the very best, but the forests contain the most splendid timber, inexhaustible in extent, which is not the case is the southern division. It needs no foresight to predict that the property the Company holds in this part of the country, may be made within the next ten years equal, if not superior, to that which they will be in possession of at that time in the southern division.

The following are also extracts from a report made to the directors of the Assam Company by their chief superintendent in January last, when he visited the property:—

"That the land is first rate, there is no question or doubt, but to effect such an object (that is, work it to full advantage) it must be divided into a distinct field, and the management given to the person residing on the spot.

"I have now got the Deputy Commissioner to accept three applications near Tingrie, for probably an area of about 7,000 acres, including the land between Tingrie, Hoogrie Jaun, and Kehung, along the banks of the Tingrie river; and this, with what we have already secured in other quarters between the Dehing and the Tingrie, will bring the Company's holding up to at least 10 or 12,000 acres; and I would recommend the extending in this quarter for the reason that the land is very superior, and the position likely to be much more healthy than any other portion of the Northern and Eastern division.

"The present gardens, if worked up to their capabilities, would yield 2,000 maunds of tea.

"The plants in the nurseries, which were put down last year for the purpose of planting out, have come up very well, some of them eighteen inches and others two feet high."

The estates have been frequently visited by the managing Director of the Northern Assam Tea Company during the last thirteen years, and as lately as March last. He fully confirms the favourable views above expressed, and is of opinion that, with comparatively small outlay, the indigenous plants alone can be worked up to an annual yield of 4,000 to 5,000 chests of tea.

Since the contract for the purchase has been concluded, the Assam Company have received from their managing director in India, and from a large shareholder in both Companies now visiting Assam, valuations of the property greatly in excess of the price agreed to be paid.

On the above grounds, therefore, the acquisition of these estates will render the Northern Assam Tea Company one of the most influential and profitable in India.

Applications for shares to be made by holders of A shares on or before Wednesday, the 31st May, and by the general public on or before the 3rd of June proximo.

London, May 23, 1865.

No.....

APPLICATION FOR B SHARES.

To the Directors of the Northern Assam Tea Company (Limited).

Gentlemen,—Having paid to your Bankers the sum of £ , being the deposit of £2 per share, I request you to allot to me B shares of £10 each in the above Company, and I hereby agree to accept such shares, or any less number that may be allotted to me, to pay the further sum of £1 per share on 10th July next, and the calls as made, and to sign the Articles of Association of the Company when required. And I request you to enter my name on the register of the Company for the number allotted.

Name in full .....
Profession or description .....
Residence in full .....
Date .....

N.B.—This portion to be retained by Bankers.

THE NORTHERN ASSAM TEA COMPANY (LIMITED).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that NO APPLICATION for NEW ISSUE B SHARES will be received from holders of A Shares claiming allotment under Articles of Association AFTER WEDNESDAY, the 31st instant. The General List will be Closed on Saturday, the 3rd June proximo.—By order of the Board,

C. H. FIELDER, Secretary.

Offices, 35, Bucklersbury, London, E.C., Friday, May 26, 1865.

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ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.—

Incorporated by Royal Charter. Authorised Capital, £2,000,000. Paid-up Capital, £500,000.

Head Office—No. 4, Lombard-street.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Melbourne.

The Corporation grant drafts and negotiate bills of exchange payable at the above places, issue letters of credit, and conduct every description of banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian securities, the receipt of dividends, &c., and undertake the safe custody of securities. They also receive deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of interest and exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England.

The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)

Branches and Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo Kandy, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Point de Galle, Manila, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow, Nagasaki, and Kiu-kiang.

Deposits received at ten days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed period, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued and Bills negotiated payable in India China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government loan notes effected so that the interest may be paid in England. Every other description of Banking and Agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms. J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

THE AGRA and MASTERMAN'S BANK

(Limited).

(Established in 1833.)

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up Capital, £1,500,000 (one million and a-half sterling).

Subscribed Capital, £3,000,000 (three millions sterling).

In 20,000 Shares of £100 each, and 20,000 Shares of £50 each.

Number of Shareholders, 903.

Reserved Fund, £500,000.

HEAD OFFICE.

Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

GEORGE GORDON MACPHERSON, Esq., Chairman.

Alderman THOMAS QUESTED FINNIS, Deputy Chairman.

GENERAL MANAGER.
Mackintosh Balfour, Esq.

LONDON MANAGER.
William Shipman, Esq.

ASSISTANT MANAGER.
T. F. Robinson, Esq.

INSPECTOR OF BRANCHES.
Richard Barnes, Esq.

AUDITORS.
J. H. Williams, Esq., and William Farr, Esq., F.R.S.

SOLICITORS.
Messrs. Uptons, Johnson, and Upton, 20, Austinfriars.

EDINBURGH BRANCH.
17, St. Andrew-square.

DIRECTORS.

THOMAS RANKIN, Esq., 68, Queen-street, Chairman.
Daniel Ainslie, Esq., 48, Moray-place.
Benjamin Burt Esq., M.D., 31, Charlotte-square.
George Moir, Esq., Advocate, Sheriff of Stirlingshire, 14, Charlotte-square.

MANAGER.
Robert Hunter, Esq

Branches in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee' Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Sydney, Melbourne.

Current accounts of firms and individuals are kept at the head office, on the terms customary with London bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received at seven days' notice of withdrawal, at rates fluctuating with those of the Bank of England; and for longer periods at fixed rates, particulars of which may be obtained upon application.

Sales and purchases effected in British and foreign securities, in East India stock and loans, and army, navy and civil pay and pensions realised.

Every other description of banking business and money agency, at home and abroad, transacted.

Letters of credit and circular notes issued, payable at the chief cities of Europe and Asia, and also at Cairo and Alexandria.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON, AND CHINA.

The SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS of the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China, will be held within the BANKING HOUSE, No. 52, Threadneedle-street, City, at One o'clock precisely, on TUESDAY, 16th proximo, in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Settlement.

By order of the Directors,

D. T. ROBERTSON, Chief Manager.

London, 27th April, 1865.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up capital, £750,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

Bombay. Colombo. Penang. Hong Kong. Yokohama
Calcutta. Kandy. Singapore. Shanghai. Mauritius
Madras. Galle. Hankow.

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at the places above mentioned, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the Overland Route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

No. 52, Threadneedle-street, London, E.C.

WE, the Undersigned, have Established ourselves as Wine Merchants under the name of G. MULLER AND CO., in Winkel, on the Rhine, near Johannesberg, May 1, 1865.

G. MULLER.
H. SCHAEFFER, late of China.

G. MULLER AND CO., Proprietors, and Wine Merchants at Winkel, on the Rhine, beg to offer their extensive stock of Choice Hock and Moselle Wines, of the Celebrated Vintages of 1857, 1858, 1859, 1861, and 1862, at the following prices:—

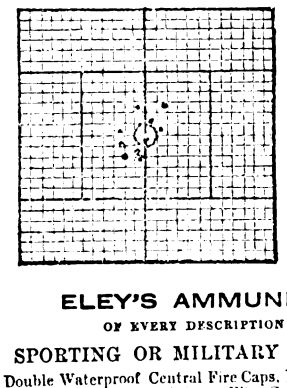
HOCK.	Per Doz.
Niersteiner, Deidesheimer, Forster Geisenheimer, Erbacher	18s. to 30s.
Winkler, Hochheimer, Rauenthaler, Rudesheimer, Scharlachberger	25s. to 40s.
Marcobrunner, Steinberger, Johannesberg	40s. to 120s
Engelheimer Assmannshauser, Red ...	24s. & 26s.

MOSELLE WINES.	Per Doz.
Zeltinger Pisporter Brauneberger	18s. to 30s.
Josephshofer Cardhauser Hofberger Scharzhof, Berger	24s. to 60s.

Delivered in London Free of all Charges.

The above Wines can also be had in Wood at proportionate rates. Sparkling Hock and Moselle in quarts and pints of Superior Qualities.

AMMUNITION.



TARGET
12 FEET SQUARE

Represents average shooting at 500 yards with

ELEY'S
BEST
ENFIELD
CARTRIDGES

ELEY'S AMMUNITION

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION FOR

SPORTING OR MILITARY PURPOSES.

Double Waterproof Central Fire Caps, Felt Waddings, to prevent the leading of Guns, Wire Cartridges, for Killing Game, &c., at long distances, Breech-Loading Cartridge Cases of superior quality, for Shot Guns and Rifles.

Jacob's Rifle Shell Tubes, Cartridges and Caps for Colt's, Adams', Deane's, Tranter's, and other Revolvers.

BALL CARTRIDGES

For Enfield, Whitworth, and Henry Rifles; also for Westley Richards', Terry's, Wilson's, Prince's, Deane's, and other Breech Loaders.

"Black Buck Shells," for 10, 12, and 16 Bore Breech Loaders.

The "Metford" Shell Bullet, for Enfield and Whitworth Bore Rifles.

Bullets of uniform weight made by compression from Soft Refined Lead.

LEY BROTHERS, GRAY'S-INN-ROAD, LONDON, WC. or of Messrs. SMITH, ELDER, and CO., and their Agents.

Wholesale Only.

THE CREDIT FONCIER and MOBILIER of ENGLAND (Limited).

Authorised capital	...	£4,000,000
Capital subscribed	...	2,000,000
Capital paid-up	...	500,000
Reserved Fund	...	200,000
Dividend Reserve Fund	...	70,000

DIRECTORS.

The Right Hon. JAMES STUART WORTLEY, Governor.
JAMES LEVICK, Esq., Merchant, King's Arms-yard. } Deputy
JAMES NUGENT DANIELL Esq., Chairman of the Alliance Bank (Limited). } Governors.
James Childs, Esq., London.
Alexander Dunbar, Esq., Old Broad-street, London.
Charles Ellis, Esq., Lloyd's.
Adolphe Hakim, Esq. (Messrs. Pinto, Hakim Brothers, and Co.), London.
The Hon. T. C. Haliburton, M.P., Chairman of the Canada Agency Association, London.
William Harrison, Esq. (Messrs. Young, Harrison, and Bevan), Director of the Thames and Mersey Insurance Company.
Richard Stuart Lane, Esq. (Messrs. Lane, Hankey, and Co.), London.
Charles E. Newbon, Esq., London.
Henry Pownall Esq., J.P., Russell-square, London.
Joseph Mackrill Smith, Esq (J. Mackrill Smith and Co.), Old Broad-street, London.
Edward Warner, Esq., M.P., London.
John Westmorcland, Esq. (Director of the Royal Insurance Company), London.
Albert Grant, Esq., Managing Director.

BANKERS.

The Agra and Masterman's Bank (Limited).
Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Smiths
The National Bank, London, Dublin, and its Branches in Ireland.
The Alliance Bank (Limited), London, Liverpool, and Manchester.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Newbon, Evans, and Co., Nicholas-lane, E.C.
SECRETARY—Alfred Lowe, Esq.
OFFICES—17 and 18, Cornhill London.

THE CREDIT FONCIER and MOBILIER of ENGLAND (Limited).

ISSUE OF DEBENTURES WITH INTEREST PAYABLE QUARTERLY.

The Directors have decided to issue Debenture Bonds of the Company for the amounts, and bearing interest as under, viz.:—

In sums of £10, £20, £50, £100, £250, £500, and £1,000, with Coupons attached.

INTEREST.

For 3 years ... ... 6 per cent. per annum.
For 5 years ... ... 6½ ,, ,,
For 7 years ... ... 7 ,, ,,

Interest payable quarterly, viz., on the 30th March, 30th June 30th September, and 30th December in each year, payable at the Company's Bankers.

The first payment will be made on the 30th June next. It will be seen that the Directors, with a view to afford the means of investing smaller amounts in securities of this description than is ordinarily obtainable have decided to issue Debenture Bonds in sums of £10, £20, and £50, on the same terms as those for larger amounts.

Forms of application can be obtained of the Secretary, to whom all communications must be addressed.

By order of the Court,
ALFRED LOWE, Secretary.

London, 17 and 18 Cornhill, May 4, 1865.

THE CREDIT FONCIER and MOBILIER of ENGLAND (Limited).

RATES FOR MONEY ON DEPOSIT.

This Company receives Money on Deposit in sums of £10 and upwards on the following terms until further notice, viz.:—

At 14 days' notice ... ... 4½ per cent. per annum.
For fixed periods of
Not less than two months ... 5½ per cent. per annum.
Beyond two and up to four months 5½ per cent. per annum.
Beyond four and up to six months 5½ per cent. per annum.
Any period beyond six months 6 per cent. per annum.

Forms can be obtained of the Secretary, to whom all communications must be addressed.—By order of the Court.

ALFRED LOWE, Secretary.

London, 17 and 18, Cornhill, 4th May, 1865.

THE CREDIT FONCIER AND MOBILIER OF ENGLAND (Limited).

At a MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS of this Company, held on THURSDAY, April 20, 1865, at One o'clock P.M., the Right Honourable JAMES STUART WORTLEY, Governor, in the Chair,

It was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously—"That the Balance-sheet and Report be and are hereby approved, confirmed, and adopted."

It was also proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously,—

"That the best thanks of this meeting are due, and are hereby given, to the Governor, Deputy-Governors, and Directors, for the care and attention they have given to the interests of the shareholders, and for the extremely satisfactory results which have arisen therefrom."

It was also proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously,—

"That the cordial thanks of this Meeting are due and are hereby offered to Albert Grant, Esq., the Managing Director, for the talent and untiring energy displayed by him in the administration of the affairs of the company."

It was further proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously,—

"That the thanks of this Meeting be given to Alfred Lowe, Esq., Secretary, for his unvarying courtesy and attention, and to him and the other Officers of the Company, for their industry and zeal during the past half-year." By order of the Court of Directors,

J. STUART WORTLEY, Governor.
ALFRED LOWE, Secretary.

17 and 18, Cornhill, London,
April 20, 1865.

Copies of the Balance-sheet and Report may be had on application at the Offices.

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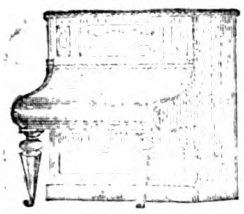
TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND INDIA.



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(FOURTEEN YEARS WITH COLLARD AND COLLARD)

PATENT PIANOFORTE MAKERS,

PIANOFORTES, WITH ALL THE LATEST IMPROVEMENTS EXPRESSLY FOR EXPORTATION.

13, STORE-STREET, TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD, W,

FACTORY, LITTLE STORE-STREET.

ILLUSTRATED LISTS FORWARDED FREE ON APPLICATION

MPORTANT TO RESIDENTS, MILITARY MESSES, &c., IN INDIA, CHINA, &c.

TUCKER AND SON'S

IMPROVED

ENAMELLED PUNKAH TABLE LAMPS.

THE celebrity which TUCKER AND SON'S LAMPS have acquired in the East for burning *steadily* under the Punkah or in side draughts, and *brilliantly* with any of the *coarse native oils*, renders eulogy unnecessary; but having been enabled, by increased facilities of manufacture, very considerably to *reduce the prices* of the above favourite (but hitherto expensive) description of their lamps, . and Son beg to notify the fact to the Eastern public.

They are elegant and durable, are finished in exact imitation of many beautiful stones and marbles, such as Malachite, Lapis Lazuli, Serpentine, Sienna, Brocatella, Jasper, &c., and are not affected by heat, damp, friction, or insects; oil, spirits, or acids accidentally spilled. The enamel surface is so inseparable from the base (block slate, proverbial for its strength) that it cannot be removed except by an edged tool. It *requires* simply *dusting*, but if rubbed hard, it only adds a gloss to its appearance—at all times cool and agreeable.

After ten years' constant use and handling, these lamps are none the worse for wear.

Malachite (green), Serpentine (brown), or Lapis Lazuli (blue), are most re commended.

Table Lamp complete, with engraved glasses, as sketch, 72s.

A Plainer Lamp, without the Corinthian capital, 50s. complete.

Either pattern, with plain frosted glasses, 7s. 6d. each less.

*** *The above Lamps are supplied to burn Petroleum or Rock Oil also.*

Orders can be sent through any merchant or Agent, or, if accompanied y a remittance, direct to

TUCKER AND SON,

ARUNDEL LAMP WORKS, ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C

ESTABLISHED 1818.

GARDNERS' £2 2s. DINNER SERVICES.

CUT WINES, 3s. 6d. per dozen; CUT QUART DECANTERS, 7s. 6d. per pair

Regimental Messes supplied at the lowest possible prices. Engravings free by post.

INDIAN LAMPS ON AN IMPROVED PRINCIPLE.

MAKERS OF THE

PATENT ENAMEL GREAT CLOCK DIALS AT THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY. ESTABLISHED 109 YEARS.

453, STRAND, CHARING-CROSS; AND 5 AND 6, DUNCANNON-STREET, ADJOINNIG.

JUST PUBLISHED. CHAPMAN AND HALL.

THE BOOK OF PERFUMES,

BY EUGENE RIMMEL.

With upwards of 250 Illustrations by Thomas, Bourdelin, etc.

Bound in cloth, gilt edges, 5s. (free by post for 68 stamps). Drawing Room Edition, 10s. 6d. (free by post for 140 stamps).

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"A very ably written volume, full of anecdote and instruction."—*Court Journal.*

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"Not only an elegant, but a really instructive volume."—*Observer.*

EUGENE RIMMEL,

Perfumer by Appointment to Their Majesties the Emperor of the French, the Queen of Spain, and the King of Portugal, and to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales.

96, STRAND. 24, CORNHILL

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Calcutta ...	Monarch ...	1230	AA 1 ...	„
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Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE SEVENTH Volume of this JOURNAL commenced on the 3rd of January, 1865. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 175.] LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Jan. 26	March 24	April 3
Nagasaki			„ 14
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			March 30
Tien-tsin			
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai			April 20
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong			„ 26
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila			
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			„ 30
SIAM— Bangkok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 28
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	March 27	April 30	May 4
Penang			

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Ellora, from Southampton June 4.—To Shanghai: One second-class passenger. To Hong Kong: Messrs. E. G. Coar, G. M. Smith, A. Smith, and I. Hardie, and one second-class passenger. To Singapore: Mr. J. Rigg and two second-class passengers. To Calcutta: Capt. A. Fergusson, Mrs. Wilson and infant, Messrs. John Saunders, B. W. Blood, R. Blood, and thirteen second-class passengers. To Madras: Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Bird, Mr. Rendle, Mr. and Mrs. J. Roberts, five second-class passengers, and three children. To Ceylon: Mr. Pinchard, two Misses Dodsworth, and six second-class passengers. To Aden: Capt. and Mrs. Valentine. To Suez: Five second-class passengers. To Alexandria: Thirteen second-class passengers. From Marseilles, June 12.—To Shanghai: Mr. Wm. Hargreaves. To Hong Kong: Messrs. C. Arnemann, Scheidt, H. Grauert, and A. Stewart. To Calcutta: Messrs. F. D. Brooks, H. M. Aitken, and Thos. Riseley, Mr. and Mrs. F. Sheppard, Capt. J. Watson, Lieut. and Mrs. Ricketts, Mr. and Mrs. Cable. To Ceylon: Dr. and Mrs. Charsley, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Morris, Mrs. Freckleton, Mr. Dawes. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Julius Peltzer and one second-class passenger.

Per P. and O. steamer Poonah, from Southampton, June 20.—To Hong Kong: Asst.-surgeons A. W. Whitley, R.N., J. A. Gawen, R.N., and E. Hudson, R.N., Mr. C. Cumming, Mrs. Gannett and daughter. To Singapore: Miss Rough. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Gow, Mr. W. M. Gow, Mr. A. T. Johnston. From Marseilles, June 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. C. Bradley. To Singapore: Mr. John Ross.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, July 4.—To Ceylon: Mr. W. Syme. To Singapore: Mr. Skinner.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

We have received no newspapers by this mail. The steamer *Union* arrived at Shanghai on the 10th April, having left Yokohama on the 3rd, only two days later than our last advices. There had been several arrivals at Shanghai, from Nagasaki, the last, a barque, having left that port on the 14th April. As we find nothing relating to Japan in the Shanghai papers, but the following little bit, it is but fair to conclude that the arrivals referred to brought no intelligence worth reprinting.

At one of the last meetings of the Gorogio, it was decided that the treaties made with foreign Powers should be henceforth laws of the empire, and that the States which have not as yet entered into treaty relations shall be informed that the Japanese Government is willing to open negotiations to that end, provided they are willing to respond to this overture. This decision was adopted in consequence of the representations of Daimio Sakkai-Hidano-Kami, who demonstrated to the members of the Council the advisability of admitting as a principle that all foreigners should be admitted to trade; that, in the interests of Japanese commerce, the greatest possible number of nations should have access to the ports. The same Daimio, who is indentified with the party of progress, has determined that Yedo, the residence of the Tycoon, shall be connected by electric telegraph with Miako, the residence of the Spiritual Sovereign, so as to maintain a continual and instantaneous relation between them, and the prompt dispatch of all joint affairs.

NAGASAKI.

Messrs. Glover and Co. have imported a small locomotive carriage, which they run up and down the bund occasionally, to the intense delight and astonishment of the Japanese. The officials take especial pleasure in crowding into it, and finding themselves whisked from one end of the settlement to the other in four or five minutes.

CHINA.

PEKING.

The following is a sketch of the result of the Spring Races held at Peking on the 25th March. Our correspondent gives us no particulars as to the weather at the time, or as to the congregation of youth, beauty and fashion (foreign and native) which no doubt assembled on the race-course.

1. PEKING DERBY.—Mr. Butzoff's Molodetz, 1; Mr. Glinka's Hapoon, 2.
2. KAMBALU CUP.—Mr. Allen's Wildfire, 1; Mr. Honig's Sharik, 2.
3. WANGHALON STAKES.—Mr. Huber's Longue Haleine, 1; Mr. Honig's Sharik, 2.
4. SCRAMBLE.—Mr. Cartwright's Fei-yun, 1; Mr. Bowra's Wu-ta-tang, 2.
5. CONSOLATION.—Mr. Olarowsky's Tim Whiffler.

On the 8th and 9th March his Imperial Majesty held a general review of the Tartar Life Guards. The avenues through the Imperial city at Peking were for the time closed against foreigners. Prizes were awarded to such of the soldiers as distinguished themselves in the national exercises of archery (horse and foot), wrestling, swordsmanship, &c., but no list of successful candidates has as yet been published.

SHANGHAI.

The P. and O. mail of the 27th February arrived out on the 15th April. The dates are now down to the 20th. The items of news are very scanty. A somewhat better feeling in mercantile matters prevailed, but only to be succeeded, it was feared, by despondency, as the accounts arrived from this side. The British Consular Court pronounced judgment in the case of the *Fire Dart v. The Emperor*. The decision was in favour of the defendants with costs. The Court held that the master of the *Fire Dart* was in fault in porting his helm to avoid the *Emperor*, and that he should subsequently have stopped and reversed his engines, which he omitted to do. An appeal will, of course, be laid before the Supreme Court of Hong Kong.

The Fychow giant has positively left in the *Vanguard* for London, accompanied by a dwarf of only two feet high.

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A dividend of 25 per cent. has been paid on the estate of Alexander Cock.

The following gentlemen have declined to serve on the Municipal Council:—Messrs. W. Keswick, E. F. Duncanson, R. R. Westall, H. S. Grew, W. S. Wetmore, R. Jarvie, T. Hanbury, and L. G. Dunlop. Messrs. Hogg and Probst have also been asked whether they would allow themselves to be placed in nomination; no reply has been received from the former, and the latter, whilst accepting the nomination, expresses inability to attend the board meetings regularly. We understand that none of the retiring Council offer themselves for re-election.

The Times' correspondent writes, under date 19th April:—The opportune departure of the French mail this afternoon enables me to transmit at once the intelligence, which arrived this morning from Peking, of the disgrace of Prince Kung. I hope to be able to send you by the English mail, which will leave four days later, a translation of the edict conveying the sentence. General arrogance, cupidity, and favouritism are indicated as the principal grounds of this important step. The Empress Dowager and the Prince have long been opponents, and it is to her principally that the disgrace which has overtaken him is believed to be attributable. His Highness appears to have counted too far on the security of his position, and to have omitted to pay to the Emperor the respect to which his rank entitles him, notwithstanding his tender years. At a recent review especially his behaviour is said to have been so arrogant towards both his Majesty and the Empress Dowager, that it brought the growing feud to a climax, and promoted the decree which has stripped the Prince of all his appointments and honours, and confined him a prisoner to his palace, to enable him to meditate on and repent his misconduct. Four of his brothers are appointed to fulfil in turn various ceremonial offices hitherto performed by the Prince; and Wen-siange, a mandarin, believed to be well-disposed towards foreigners, succeeds him in the Presidency of the Foreign Board; so it does not as yet appear that foreign interests are likely to be injuriously affected by the change.

AMOY.

The *China Mail* announces the news from Amoy as interesting. The Imperialists are gathering so steadily and closely around Changchow-foo that the Taiping insurgents there besieged are getting desperate. The last fight was on the occasion of a sally made by the rebels against the left wing of the besieging army, which was under Kaou's command. The latter officer was making very good practice with a couple of nine-pounder guns, and the Shi Wong determined to disable them.

For this purpose he came down personally and proceeded to view the firing off of certain shells prepared by an old assistant of Macartney's, named Mike. Shi had just received a wound from the explosion of a shell, and was in rather a dangerous mood. Rhody, it is reported, was taking orders from the Shi Wong, and attempting to silence the Imperialist 9-pounders. Owing, however, to imperfection either in the manufacture of the shells or the length of the fuse, little progress was made, some of the shells dropping at a few yards' distance and some exploding too soon. Exasperated at this and fretting from his wound, Shi had the heads of the two foreigners taken off at once by his own command.

The execution of the Irishmen, Mike and Rhody, will do more than the Queen's Orders in Council to prevent foreigners joining the rebels. We hear that Colonel Kirkman is at the head of the Imperialist army, and is much deferred to by the mandarins. We wish the colonel well; he is a good, modest soldier, and deserves more praise than we can give him. Such men are destined to be heard of in China yet.

HONG KONG.

The P. and O. mail of 10th March arrived out on the 22nd April. The dates are now down, by this mail (French), to the 26th. The P. and O. mail to follow was appointed to leave on the 29th April.

A rumour was circulated on the arrival of the mail steamer that Sir Hercules Robinson died suddenly on arrival at Colombo. We are happy to state that there is no truth in the report.

We hear that the Consuls at Canton are communicating with the Chinese authorities on the subject of the great decrease in the importation of foreign rice. It is astonishing to learn that since the Treaty of Tientsin was signed, the importation by foreign vessels has fallen from 850,000 piculs to 71,000 piculs; consequently rice has risen to the present high price. The cause of this decrease is, we think, owing to a stipulation in the present tariff rules, by which foreign vessels carrying a cargo of grain, although it be duty free, are rendered liable to the payment of tonnage dues. Now, before the Tientsin Treaty came into force, all foreign vessels going to Canton with a full cargo of rice and leaving in ballast, were exempt from tonnage dues; and a vessel bringing a part cargo of rice and part general cargo paid only half tonnage dues. If they took a full cargo out, then of course they paid full tonnage dues.

The following items are from the daily edition of the *China Mail*:—

"The new Union Chapel has been opened for public worship. As our readers are aware, the chapel is built on the site formerly occupied by the St. Andrew's School. The exterior of the building is very good and effective. The chapel is oblong, with a tower at the west end. The style of architecture partakes chiefly of the Norman school, the arches, mouldings, and decorations being after that mode. The difficulty of adapting this or any other style of church architecture to the requirements of a tropical climate has been quite surmounted in the present case. The interior of the chapel is light and airy, and the ornamentation very tasteful and appropriate. The pulpit is on one side of the building, and faces the north; opposite to it is a gallery for the choir; at either end is a gallery fitted with three rows of pews; the pews in the area of the church are spacious and comfortable. The whole arrangements are of such a nature that we may sincerely congratulate the congregation upon the very fine edifice they have obtained. Mr. John Studd, of the Royal Engineers' Department, drew the plans and superintended the work, which reflects decided credit on his ability and taste as an architect. It cannot but be gratifying to the Rev. Dr. Legge to see this new chapel completed so far, and opened free from debt. The tower will soon be finished, and it is to be hoped that the committee will be able to furnish it with a small peal of bells, for which provision has been made in the interior structure."

The two companies of the Hong Kong Volunteer Corps marched out to Pokfolum, starting from Government House at about 8 a.m. The morning was warm with a good breeze when the corps set out, headed by the band, the Artillery leading and the Rifles bringing up the rear. On reaching Pokfolum the corps halted at Mr. Nissen's bungalow, where breakfast, &c., was provided. After breakfast, twenty rounds of ammunition were served out, and rifle practice at 300 yards commenced. The firing was good, and again in favour of the Rifle Company. After tiffin (during which the band played several airs in capital style) the Volunteers amused themselves in various ways, as is their wont on such occasions; and when the afternoon began to cool, a bathing parade was ordered to the pool of fresh water in the adjacent ravine. Two or three photographic views of the corps, grouped in front of the bungalow, were taken, and they came out well. The march home commenced shortly after five, and the head-quarters were reached before seven. The whole line of march, from near the Sailors' Home to Icehouse-lane, was crowded with Chinamen, who seemed to take a lively interest in the re-appearance of the Volunteer Corps, which seems decidedly in favour among the native population; a fact that promises well for the influence of the corps, should there at any time be a disturbance of the peace which it was desired to allay without going to extremities. The officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates, are all known, more or less, to the respectable part of the native community, and as they are not paid for preserving order but give their services for mere goodwill, it is natural that great respect should be shown to them when they appear as peace-makers. There are plenty of ruffians in Hong Kong; and should they ever coalesce for mischief on a large scale, the Volunteers would very soon give an account of them.

The *Pootung* case has had much attention, but there appears to be so much scandal on the subject that we refrain from noticing it.

The P. and O. steamer *Benares*, in leaving the harbour on the 15th April, got aground opposite the Harbour-master's office, but got off and proceeded the next morning.

A private of the Royal Engineers committed suicide by suspending himself. He was formerly a lance-corporal, but had been reduced and sent to confinement for some misbehaviour.

Seventeen piratical Chinese, brought to Hong Kong by the

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gunboat that went in search of the *Georg Andreas* pirates, were handed over to the Canton authorities. They were taken, we may say, red-handed, in the act of plundering a junk recently captured. When brought to Hong Kong, it became a question whether an indictment against them would stand good, as the crime occurred in the inland navigation of China rather than upon the high seas. There being no doubt of their guilt, however, it was a serious consideration that such men should have the slightest chance of escaping the punishment due to their crimes; and the Acting Governor, on the matter being represented to him, and on persual of the depositions taken at the Police Magistrate's Court, wisely resolved to send the men to Canton, with a copy of the charges against them and the evidence in support thereof. When they first learned that they were to be sent to Canton, several of them said "Then we'll surely die." The captain is believed to be among the number, and he offered liberal cumshaws to be allowed to remain within our jurisdiction, the air of Canton not agreeing with his constitution. We are sure that such a step as this on the part of Mr. Mercer was dictated by a deep regard for justice, and a due respect for the best interests of this colony. We can only regret that in cases of piracy on the high seas, the same course is not pursued. Not only are we at the trouble and expense of apprehending pirates in these waters, but the whole machinery of our Supreme Court is kept in constant operation in trying the cases furnished by our activity in bringing such scoundrels to justice. It would be well if some arrangement were made by which the Chinese Government would do half the work. Article 53 of the Tientsin Treaty says:—"In consideration of the injury sustained by native and foreign commerce from the prevalence of piracy in the seas of China, the high contracting parties agree to concert measures for its suppression."

On the Baron de Meritens the *Daily Press* has the following:—

"The Baron de Meritens appears to be under neither control nor advise. He has, as we previously remarked, entirely stepped out of his sphere as Commissioner of Customs, and has assumed the entire direction of affairs. To say that he has clothed himself with the functions of the Emperor would be to understate the fact, for whilst every Emperor has a council, the Baron has none. To say that he has usurped the powers of a Commander-in-Chief would also be to describe his assumed functions very imperfectly; for who ever heard of a Commander-in-Chief being Commissioner of Customs and Minister of Foreign Affairs, as the Baron undoubtedly is? His assumption of authority is totally unauthorised and spontaneous. It must prove injurious to the customs establishments, and we think detrimental to Imperial interests. The incessant spasmodic interference prolongs that baneful idea in the minds of the Mandarins, that foreign intervention is always at hand to avert their downfall. Their salvation is in their own hands; if they choose to arouse themselves, to eschew apathy, corruption and fatalism, they could sweep the Taipings from the face of the earth in six months. They have the money and the means—there is no obstacle except Mandarin impracticability and obstructiveness. They can never learn this until left to their own resources, and until there is an end of this burlesque of foreign neutrality."

CANTON.

The Amateurs at Canton gave their sixth and last performance to subscribers on the evening of Tuesday, the 18th, when they were honoured by the presence of Admiral Sir A. L. Kuper, K.C.B., and staff. The pieces selected for the occasion were, "The Fearful Tragedy in Seven Dials," and "Sent to the Tower." The various characters were sustained with great spirit, and it would be difficult to judge to whom the palm should be awarded; suffice it to say the whole was very successful.

SIAM.

On the 17th April (reports the *Siam Times* of the 20th), Captain Aubaret, Consul for France, accompanied by the officers of the *Mitraille*, attended at the Palace of his Excellency, the Prime Minister, for the purpose of witnessing the anulling of the Siamese treaty with Cambodia. Also, for signing a supplementary article to the treaty between France and Siam respecting Cambodia. This article stipulates that the King of Cambodia *shall* no longer pay tribute to Siam, but *allows* him to make presents, if he so pleases. This article will have to be sent home to be ratified by the French Government. It absolves Cambodia altogether from any allegiance to Siam. The article which we copy from the *London and China Express** to-day is almost prophetic, though we have reason to believe that no treaty has yet been made by France, with the viceroy of Laos there is every reason to think that it will soon be made. These little bloodless conquests must be very gratifying to France, and as long as the parties most interested in checking them remain oblivious to their own interests, no one else has any right to complain. With reference to this Cambodian business we may remark that Consul Aubaret received his instructions by the *Chow Phya* prior to the arrival of the *Mitraille*. The Siamese authorities had yielded the point prior to her arrival. When it was known in Bangkok that she had arrived at the Bar, instructions were sent from the Foreign Office at Bangkok by express to Paknam, to permit her to pass up at once without dropping her anchor. There was no breach of etiquette committed. But as the Siam authorities took the initiative in civilities on this occasion, the *Mitraille* waited till she got to Bangkok to respond to them.

The *Siam Times* has also the following "leader" on the above:—

"The events of the week have been interesting, if not painfully so, to Siam. One of her dependencies has been wrested from her sway by the Consul of one western nation just at the very moment that her sovereign was granting his first audience and Exequatur to the Consul of another. All this, while the Consul of a third, more deeply interested in Siamese affairs than either of the other two, was enjoying himself on the seaboard, seemingly caring little for events, which, if apparently trivial at present, must have important consequences in the future. It might be even yet time, did the British Consul act, or did he sufficiently possess the confidence of the Siamese Government to induce them to request him to act, (their request giving weight to his remonstrance at home,) to have such influence brought to bear upon the French Cabinet as to prevent the ratification of the Supplementary Treaty which was concluded between H.I.M.'s Consul and the Siamese Government, on the 17th instant. But we fear the Siamese authorities are too proud to ask assistance from such a quarter, even were he willing and ready to afford it. Still, it does seem strange that the representative of one of the oldest allies of Siam should be absent at such a crisis. We wonder if Her Britannic Majesty's representative in China would be so apathetic were the French to make demands on the Peking Government similar to those they have made on that of Siam? We think not. However, it is not to us nor to any public opinion here, that officials must answer for omissions of duty. They are responsible solely to the Governments which send them here, and we have no doubt but that H.B.M.'s Consul will be quite prepared to account for his conduct to those who have a right to demand it."

On Monday, the 17th April, Mr. P. Lessler, the recently appointed Consul for Prussia and the German States, attended at the Royal Palace, for the purpose of receiving from His Majesty in person his exequatur as Consul. We are informed that His Majesty had ordered the reception to be of a most imposing character, as a mark of his esteem for and friendship with the Prussian nation. At the royal landing sedan chairs had been provided to convey the Consul and his friends to the palace, at the gates of which some pieces of ordnance had been placed. Inside the gates the troops were drawn up in line, and presented arms. The Royal Ushers then conducted the party to an ante-chamber, where they were furnished with refreshments, and after waiting five minutes they were ushered into the presence. His Majesty, seated on the throne, and surrounded by the princes and nobles, then called on Mr. Lessler to advance and receive his exequatur, which had been written by the Royal hand. The document having been presented with the usual compliments, the party adjourned to the dining saloon, where a most elegant repast had been provided, His Majesty joining the party, and wishing success to Prussia and her representative in Siam. The dinner over, the consul and party were escorted out with the same honour as at entering.

COCHIN CHINA.

SAIGON.

We learn from the *Courrier du Saigon* that Governor Rear-Admiral de la Girondier has left for France, where he has been summoned by the Minister of Marine and the Colonies. On

* "French Encroachments on Siam," in the *London and China Express* of Feb. 17, and the *London and China Telegraph* of Feb. 20.

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leaving, the Admiral made over the government to Rear-Admiral Roze, Commander-in-Chief of the naval division in China and Japan. The definite refusal of the Treaty proposed by the Court of Hue has placed the French in Cochin China (remarks the *Courrier*) in a novel position. The work of conquest and the pacification of the country is finished. The uncertainty of its future, which at one time caused anxiety, disappears with the prospect of reconveyance, and limited occupation abolished by the rejection of the treaty; and the colony must now advance towards the destiny prepared for it by the recent decision of the Emperor. The moment has now arrived seriously to study the numerous questions that, under this new condition of things, present themselves, and to adopt in the first place, for the direction of affairs, a certain line of conduct, and to perfect the schemes of organisation which are at present only in outline. For this reason the minister has called Admiral Girondier to him, and as he seeks advice, whom could he consult with more profit than the honest man who with a calm and intelligent spirit has directed during two consecutive years, with moderation, firmness, and success, the affairs of the colony? But it is not only by his profound knowledge of the country that Admiral Girondier will be able to serve Cochin China fully in the Councils of the Emperor. He will also serve her by his sincere attachment to the colony. As he himself said, on leaving, to the Expeditionary Corps, "The Minister has called me in order to have near him a voice devoted to Cochin China." Until the return of the Governor, Admiral Roze will consider it his duty to continue the work begun. The principles that will guide him in the accomplishment of his taskhave been explained by himself in the proclamation which he published on the day he assumed his functions.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are to the 4th May. The English mail of the 27th March arrived on the morning of the 30th April.

Colonel Man, Resident Councillor at Penang, has been forced to come to Singapore for change of air, his health having been in a precarious state for some time past.

The feud between the Ghi Hok Kongsi on the one side, and the Ghi Hin Kongsi and Chinese Christians on the other, has at length been patched up. A treaty of peace has been signed and sealed by the elders of each society, and so, for a short time, perhaps, the streets of Singapore will be free of the disgraceful scenes that too frequently disturb them.

The Coroner has concluded by his inquiry into the cause of the death of Henry Sanders, boiler-maker, killed by the explosion on board the *Johore*, when Messrs. Binns and Cooke, engineers of H.M.S. *Rifleman* and *Perseus*, were examined. These gentlemen were of opinion that the boiler burst by over-pressure of steam, but how occasioned they could not say. They also considered that one engineer was not sufficient, even with European stokers, to manage the machinery and boilers, and that there should have been at least two engineers and one European, or skilled native stoker, for thesafety and proper working of the ship. The verdict of the jury was "Accidental Death," and they further recorded: "The jury are of opinion, from the evidence laid before them, that in all probability the explosion of the *Johore* might have been avoided had the ship been manned with the necessary staff of engineers usual on board ships of the same size."

A man named Samuel Smith has been committed for trial at the next Criminal Sessions, for stealing the gold watch and chain lost by Tunku Abdulrahman at the explosion of the *Johore*. Smith states he was in the Royal navy for several years as a seaman, and has two medals and several clasps. He did not attempt to deny the charge. It is believed the prisoner came to Singapore from Swan River, and is most likely a ticket-of-leave man. On the same day another European, named Edwards, who also professes to have been in the Royal navy, was committed to the House of Correction for obtaining a dollar by false pretences.

The races took place on the 25th and 27th of April. Mr. Ferguson's English horse Caledon, by Ellington out of Lady Vernon, a six-year-old, appears to be the crack of the Settlement, having won the Governor's Cup, the Foreigners' Cup the Singapore Cup, the Club Cup (walking over), and the Celestial Plate. Caledon gave his horses a stone or more. Mr. Duclos' Cape horse Mus was the victor for the Johore Plate, given by his Highness the Tumongong.

A thunderstorm burst over Singapore on the 28th April, with a copious downpour of rain, which proved most refreshing after the sultry weather experienced for the preceding four months.

Two Chinese were executed on the 29th April for the murder of one of their countrymen, committed while the late feud was raging between the two hostile sections of that community.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

BAKER.—On the 23rd April, at Hong Kong, the wife of S. W. Baker, Esq., of a son.
GUIMARAENS—On the 28th May, at 10, Mecklenburgh-street, Mecklenburgh-square, the wife of M. F. Guimaraens, Esq., of a daughter.
HILL—On the 31st May, the wife of Albert Hill, Esq., of Tottenham, of a son.
MACTAGGART—On the 4th June, a Blackheath-park, the wife of William Mactaggart, Esq., of a son.
MURROW.—On Sunday, the 16th April, in Wyndham-street, Hong Kong, the wife of Y. J. Murrow, Esq., of a son.
PICKWOAD—On the 7th June, at 8, Great Cumberland-street, Hyde-park, the wife of Edwin Pickwoad, Esq., of a daughter.
RUTTER—On the 3rd June, at Glebelands, Mitcham, the wife of Isaac Campbell Rutter, Esq., of a daughter.
WILSON.—On the 19th April, at Hong Kong, the wife of Wilberforce Wilson, Esq., Acting Surveyor-General, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

ARTHUR—BRAE.—On the 18th April, at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, D.D., Colonial Chaplain, Edward Arthur, only son of E. R. Arthur, of North Shields, Northumberland, to Sarah Brae, of Beisoye Park, Hampstead, youngest daughter of the late Thomas Brae, of Jessore, India.
SMITH—ANDERSON.—On the 17th April, at Union Chapel, Hong Kong, by the Rev. Dr. Legge, T. W. Smith, Inspector of Water Works, to Miss Anderson.
STOPFORD—HORNBY.—On the 1st June, at Compton, Sussex, by the Rev. James John Hornby, Rear-Admiral Robert Fanshawe Stopford, to Lucy Hester, fourth daughter of Admiral Sir Phipps Hornby, G.C.B., of Littlegreen, Sussex.
TOWNEND—WOOD.—On the 29th May, at St. Mary's Church, Lewisham, by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Brisbane, assisted by the Hon. and Rev. Henry Legge, vicar of Lewisham, Edward Townend, Esq., of Hankow, China, son of William Townend, Esq., of Blackheath, Kent, to Emily Sarah, youngest daughter of Henry Wood, Esq., of Brooklands, Lewisham, Kent. No cards.

DEATHS.

BURN—On the 5th April, at Malacca, of cholera, Christina, the only and beloved daugh ter and on the 11th idem, of diarrhœa, Edward, the only and beloved son, of Cap tain James Burn, Bengal Staff Corps, and Resident Councillor, Malacca.
DICKENSON.—On the 15th April, at Hong Kong, James Dickenson, Private, 2nd Battalion 9th Regiment, aged twenty-five years.
FENWICK—On the 25th Jan., of dysentery, on board the Monarchy, on his passage home, seven days after leaving Manila, Thomas Henry Fenwick, the dearly-loved son of Mrs. Fenwick, of Whitechapel-road, aged 28 years, having survived his only brother 18 months.
HASKELL.—On April 21st, at Canton, very suddenly, of cholera, Bessie, daughter of Francis H., and Elizabeth R. Haskell, aged five years and six months.
KELLY.—On the 18th April, at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, Edward J. Kelly, seaman.
MAGRATH—On the 9th April, on board H.M.S. Sovereign, in which he was returning home in charge of invalids, Ffolliott Charles Magrath, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon H.M.S. Hesper, Hong Kong, eldest son of the late C. K. Magrath, Esq., of Tralee.
VROOMAN.—On the 23rd of April, at Macao, by scalding, at the age of three-and-a-half years, Grace Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Rev. D. and Maria W. Vrooman, of the A.B.C.F. Mission, Canton.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.		6s. 2¼d. to 6s. 3d.	6s. 3d. to 6s. 4d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 5¼d.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.
At Singapore	6	ditto		
At Manila	6	ditto		

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 299 to 300 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 214 to 215 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, taels; at Hong Kong, . Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 28 discount.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1864-65.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to March 31, 1865	1994623	57192019	45410956	453017	9398850	114449465	29397
Corresponding period last season	2160943	45863601	51907604	2257092	13243039	115432279	39085

SHIPMENTS IN APRIL.

Ship	From		
Ottawa (mail str.)	Shanghai, &c.	645	
Philippine	Canton	259,900	

TO UNITED STATES.

							Piculs.
From June 1 to March 31, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	12210733	73½
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	683613	539

SHIPMENTS IN APRIL.

John Norman	Shanghai	574,710

TO THE CONTINENT.

							Bales.
From June 1 to March 31, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	968924	...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

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TO SAN FRANCISCO.

						Tea pkgs	Boxes.
From June 1 to March 31, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	35118	...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	468286	...

TO AUSTRALIA.

From 1st June to 28th Feb., 1865 ... ... 2,719,154 lbs.
Corresponding period last year ... ... 9,849,260 „

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	...	...	...	51,022,600	...
„ 1845 to 1846	...	...	...	57,334,200	19,60
„ 1850 to 1851	...	...	...	63,972,060	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854	...	...	...	77,327,800	61,280
„ 1855 to 1856	...	...	...	92,240,300	50,480
„ 1857 to 1858	...	...	...	76,990,255	68,31
„ 1858 to 1859	...	...	...	65,789,793	83,13
„ 1859 to 1860	...	...	...	35,560,452	64,16
„ 1860 to 1861	...	...	...	90,066,160	70,644
„ 1861 to 1862	...	...	...	109,854,040	79,199
„ 1862 to 1863	...	...	...	121,273,580	72,848
„ 1863 to 1864	...	...	...	117,463,586	46,605

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to March 31, 1865	345112	154	1793	7802	119	189

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to March 31, 1865	7662	—	—	720	325	1145

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to March 31, 1865	12000	1800	—	285	—	—

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to March 31, 1865	1422	20011	71796	3228	4030	215980

SHIPMENTS IN APRIL.

Elvira	6225				
Helios	192	4165	1000		9,000

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to March 31, 1865	—	1171	7412	6607	12240	—

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

A prospectus has been issued of the Blakely Ordinance Company, capital £750,000. Captain Blakely is to act as managing director, with his present staff, consisting of Mr. Vavasseur, C.E., as resident engineer; Mr. Campbell, late of the Royal Laboratory, Woolwich, as superintendent of Laboratory and Shell Factory; and Colonel Burnaby, of the Royal Artillery, as proofmaster. Mr. John Dent is one of the directors. The excellence of the gun and the demand for it in China and Japan are too well known to require any recommendation. It is the most healthy company that has appeared of late.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—June 6, off Dungeness, from Java, Electra; May, at Montreal, from Singapore, Zizine; 24, from Shanghai, Prince of Wales; 7, off Scilly, from Penang, Avalanche; 8, at Liverpool, from China, Spes.

DEPARTURES.—June 4, from Rotterdam for Java, Joan; 9, from Liverpool for Yokohama, Brilliant.

SPOKEN.—Eliza Thornton, Lon. to Singapore, May 1, 13 (?) N., 21 W; Helen Douglas, Newport to Shanghai, April 29, 18 (?) N., 21 W.; Johanna Maria, Newport to Singapore, May 31, 49 N., 8 W.

AT ST. HELENA.—April 26, from Shanghai, Belle, and sailed 26 to London; 27, from Singapore, Indiaman, and sailed 29 for Liverpool; 28, from Shanghai, Constance, and sailed May 2 for Liverpool; from Sourabaya, Reflect, and sailed May 2 for Amsterdam; from Ceylon, City of Manchester, and sailed 29 for London; May 2, from Macao, Lochnagar, and sailed 3 for London; 3, from Hong Kong, Hindostan, and sailed 3 for Portsmouth; from Macao, Queen of England, and sailed 4 for Havana; 10, from Manila, Madura; from Macao, Light of the Age.

LAID ON: At Glasgow: For Singapore and Penang, Foam.

NEW K.C.B.s, &c.—The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment of Robert Gilmour Colquhoun, Esq., C.B., Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General in Egypt, to be an Ordinary Member of the Civil Division of the Second Class, or Knights Commanders of the Most Hon. Order of the Bath; and of Surgeon-Major William Munro, M.D., 93rd Regiment, and Surgeon-Major Henry Bruges Buckle, 1st Punjaub Regiment of Infantry, to be Ordinary Members of the Military Division of the Third Class, or Companions of the said Most Hon. Order.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—At the meeting on Monday next, at Burlington House, Sir R. I. Murchison, K.C.B., President, in the chair, the following papers will be read: 1. Journey to Wahabee Capital, Interior of Arabia, by Colonel Lewis Pelly. 2. On the Korea, by Captain Allen Young.

MR. R. C. WOODS, Jun., has been duly admitted as a Barrister at Grays Inn, and proceeds to Singapore by next mail.

MR. SUTHERLAND has been gazetted Member of the Legislative Council of Hong Kong.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, June 8.

Contrary to my supposition, the second Chamber of the States-General approved, by 47 against 25 votes, the important economical measure to abolish the Communal Excises, after having passed the new constitution for Surinam and Curacao. The tropical temperature now prevailing seems to induce the Members to pass the several Bills of the Government as quick as possible. In the first Chamber the four Medical Laws were voted in two sittings, in spite of the large number of petitioners. The International Sugar Convention was likewise approved with unanimity, and the Bill relative to the sugar duties confirmed by 16 against 12 votes. The First Chamber took a recess.

In a former letter I mentioned the rumour that the sugar-trade intended to protest against the sugar-laws by not buying the high numbers in the Government sugar auction. This manœuvre, however, has no results. The prices paid at auction for the white qualities were from 1 to 1½ florins higher than those paid in March last.

The Second Chamber has commenced the discussion on the Indian tariff. I told you before that this was a Bill founded upon the system of the *juste milien*, which caused the opposition to come from the Conservative as well as from the Liberal benches. The former were of opinion that the Bill was not protective enough to the manufacturer; while the others said the Bill was illiberal, because our manufacture was too much protected. The majority of the Second Chamber, however, supports the measure of the Minister of the Colonial Department. The amendments (both of the Radical and Conservative side) were rejected, so that the Bill will be voted by a large majority.

The King will start on the 1st of July for Lucerne; while Her Majesty will make a trip to England on the war-steamer *Cycloop*. There are some rumours in circulation that a marriage for the Prince of Orange will be the object of this visit; but I cannot warrant them, and prefer to wait till I have more information. Her Majesty will stay in London about three weeks.

Yesterday the University at Leyden commemorated an existence of 290 years by an historical masquerade, representing the entering of Zierikzee by the Dutch, in 1304, under the command of Younker William, Earl of Oostervant. A larger number of strangers was never seen in the town than was present at this quinquennial festival.

On the 25th another great festival will take place in the same town. The Government offers on that day a dinner to all the old soldiers of 1813-1815. More than 1,500 men have presented themselves. A silver cross will be conferred on these old veterans.

Messrs. Swaan and van Heyningen, the concessionaires for the construction of the harbour of Scheveningen, have contracted with a London financial corporation to furnish the capital wanted, and have laid their contract before the Minister of the Home Department.

I have to mention the death of J. B. J. Sutherland, General-Major of the East India Army, who died at Haarlem. He was one of the bravest officers of that army.

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Parliamentary Intelligence.

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HOUSE OF COMMONS.

LIGHTHOUSE ON THE BASSES ROCKS, CEYLON.

(June 1st.) Mr. B. COCHRANE asked for an explanation of the extraordinary and extravagant expenditure on the lighthouse on the Basses Rocks, at Ceylon. He read an account of the sums voted year after year for several years, amounting to £80,000 or £90,000, for this lighthouse; yet there was no lighthouse at all on the rocks, and he wished to know what had become of the money.—Mr. MILNER GIBSON said attempts had been made to erect this lighthouse, but the great difficulties attending the undertaking had been underrated. In short, the money spent had been thrown away. A lightship had been moored off the reef, and would prove an economical substitute.

CHINA.

(2nd.) Colonel SYKES asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether information had been received of the dismissal of Prince Kung from his office of President of the Board of Foreign Affairs at Peking, and as to who had been appointed his successor; and whether official reports had been received from the diplomatic and consular authorities in China of the progress of the insurrection in several provinces as affecting the export and import trade of the country.—Mr. LAYARD could inform his hon. friend that Prince Kung had been appointed his own successor. The Government had received a telegram stating that he had been reinstated in all his offices and was again Prime Minister.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

The forty-ninth half-yearly meeting was held on the 1st of June, at the offices of the company in Leadenhall-street; ARTHUR ANDERSON, Esq., in the chair. The following report was read by Mr. C. W. HOWELL, the secretary:—

"The *Bengal*, which had been driven on shore at Calcutta by the cyclone, was dug out and floated on the 30th of December, and, as she had not received any injury to hull or machinery, she was able at once to resume her place on the Calcutta and Suez line. This, and other operations and repairs resulting from the cyclone, although attended with considerable expense, have not proved so costly as was at first anticipated. The *Mongolia* was launched on the 1st of March, and the *Tanjore* on the 13th of April, and due progress is being made with the other ship on the stocks—the *Surat*. The *China* has been brought to London to receive new engines and boilers and a thorough overhaul and refit. The *Nubia* is undergoing a complete repair at Bombay, and the *Granada* at Hong Kong. The steam-tug *Mazagon* has been sold at Bombay. Notice was given by the Postmaster-General, in December last, that it was the intention of the Government to terminate the existing contract for the Australian mail service on the date of its expiration—namely, the 12th of February, 1866; and in January last advertisements appeared inviting tenders for this service, to be sent in on the 10th of April. The directors accordingly submitted their terms for a new contract, embracing either a monthly service, a semi-monthly service, or a service under which, whether monthly or semi-monthly, the mails will be despatched on a fixed day of the week. The terms for a monthly service, carried on as at present, were £120,000 per annum; for a semi-monthly service, £170,000 per annum; and as the despatch of the mails on a fixed day of the week would involve the annual performance of thirteen instead of twelve voyages each way, it was stipulated that the subsidy should be increased by one-twelfth in the event of that system being adopted. A reply has been received since this report was in type accepting the company's terms generally, but on the understanding that, for the present, the service is to continue a monthly one, under the existing regulations as regards the dates of despatching the mails. In consequence of the desire expressed by the commercial communities both of this country and Western India for a more frequent postal communication to and from Bombay, and for the establishment of a fixed day of the week for the despatch of the mails, the directors have it in contemplation to make some additional trips with extra ships between Bombay and Suez during the next busy passenger season, commencing in October, with a view to ascertain the lowest terms on which they might be able to undertake a permanent weekly service with that place, should such a measure be decided upon by Her Majesty's Government. The company's operations since the termination of the last financial year, namely, September 30, 1864, have been considerably affected by the prevailing stagnation of business in India and China; and the falling off of silk freight homewards, coupled with the almost total cessation of specie shipments outwards, as compared with those of the two preceding years, will of necessity lead to a diminution in the balance of the revenue account at the end of the year. It should always be borne in mind by the shareholders that when adverse circumstances may temporarily reduce the commercial traffic by the company's steamers, the exigencies of the mail service deprive the directors of the power of contracting their operations in proportion, and thereby diminishing expenditure until trade may revive. They have reason to hope, however, that the worst of the dull period may have passed, and that the company's business in the freight department may shortly become more satisfactory. In the face of the circumstances referred to, the directors are not, on this occasion, enabled to follow the course adopted at the half-yearly meetings in 1863 and 1864 of supplementing the dividend with an additional payment, and they accordingly recommend only the usual half-yearly dividend of 3½ per cent., free of income-tax. The warrants for the half-year ending 31st March will be payable on the 23rd of June, and the proprietors of new shares are requested to take notice that the dividend will be calculated on £30 for the three months between 1st of October and 31st of December, 1864, and on £35 for the three months between the 1st of January and the 31st of March, 1865.

The CHAIRMAN said that the information given in the report was so full upon every important point that it was scarcely necessary for him to say anything in moving its adoption.

Mr. HADOW, deputy-chairman, seconded the motion.

A SHAREHOLDER asked what had been the cost of digging out the *Bengal* (which, it may be remembered, was driven on shore at Calcutta by the cyclone last autumn).

The CHAIRMAN could not say exactly, but it was considerably less than had been anticipated. The contract for digging her out was £11,000, but there would be other expenses in addition. At all events, the cost would be less than at the last meeting was expected.

Mr. JONES referred to the scheme of the Government to establish a transport fleet for the conveyance of troops to and from India, which he thought must militate against the interests of the Peninsular and Oriental Company. The proposal was, he understood, to raise a million of money for the purpose of carrying out that project; but it appeared to him that, by using an inferior class of vessels, the Peninsular and Oriental Company could perform the service on terms which it would be worth the while of the Government to accept, and thus avoid an unnecessary outlay of capital. Referring to an invention for making ladies' dresses uninflammable, he suggested that all the woodwork of the company's fleet should be coated with the preparation as an additional security against fire. He also wished to know whether the competition of the French company did not operate injuriously against them in diminishing the freights of specie.

The CHAIRMAN, in reply, said that the question of carrying troops was one entirely with Her Majesty's Government, and not with the board of directors. The board had been guilty of no neglect in the matter, and when the subject was first mooted they had made a proposal to the Government to undertake the service, to which, however, they had not received any answer. The project of the Government was, he believed, to put five vessels, at a cost of £200,000 each, to carry on the service between Suez and India, the Government itself undertaking the transport between this country and Alexandria. It was obvious that the Peninsular and Oriental could not have undertaken the conveyance of troops as proposed without building new vessels, and consequently incurring a large outlay of capital, and the first point to be considered was whether the terms that could be obtained from the Government would repay that outlay. With regard to painting the woodwork of the ships with a patent uninflammable wash, the directors had had many inventions submitted to them for covering ships' bottoms, and other things, and they had adopted all such improvements as upon full investigation they thought would benefit the company; but with all respect to Mr. Jones, he might be allowed to suggest that a composition which might do very well for ladies' bulk heads was not necessarily the best thing that could be applied to a ship. (A laugh.) No doubt the French company did take more specie, but it was chiefly to Egypt, and at a very low rate of freight, but the deficiency adverted to in the report arose chiefly from the stagnation of trade. At the next meeting he hoped they would be able to report an improvement in this respect, and generally a larger profit; but he hoped that in the meantime the shareholders would adopt the recommendation of the directors of making no payments in the shape of dividends, except out of profits actually realised.

The motion was then put and adopted unanimously, and the dividend recommended—viz., 3½ per cent. for the half-year, free of income-tax, payable on and after the 23rd inst.—having been confirmed, a vote of thanks to the chairman and directors concluded the proceedings.

THE NEW ORDER IN COUNCIL FOR CHINA AND JAPAN.

(THE TIMES.)

The Church of Rome undertakes to exercise a special superintendence over the disciples of her own faith *in partibus infidelium*; and even Mr. John Stuart Mill, in his popular "Essay upon Liberty," excepts "barbarians" from the general right of free thought, and word, and will. The exception might seem to be detrimental to the general argument, since it would leave to Mr. Mill, or to the dogmatist who for the moment might stand in his shoes, the power of determining who are barbarians, and consequently who are persons entitled to liberty. But, in truth, this question, who is a barbarian? is a real, practical, everyday difficulty. When English subjects go abroad among civilized nations we surrender them to the protection and restraint of the laws of those nations, and if they happen to be hanged, *secundum legem terræ*, we take no thought about it. But if they go among "barbarians," where it may happen that they are scalped, impaled, or cut to pieces upon crosses for no crime known to Christendom, then we consider it necessary to follow the errant Briton all through the barbarian territory with the protection of British law, and also to restrain him by the terror of civilised punishments. This is both in theory and in practice a matter of great difficulty. In the first place, we have no right, according to the ordinary law of nations, to claim any special exemption for an Englishman from the laws of the natives with whom he voluntarily dwells, among whom he has perhaps intruded himself; and, secondly, we have very imperfect means of following the occasionally eccentric course of those of our countrymen who do go among barbarians, and, indeed, we are very likely not to see their offences, and not to be in a position to punish their crimes. Our law has dealt with this subject in a vague and tentative manner. It does not declare that Queen Victoria shall have jurisdiction to set up courts and punish offences in the Empire of China, or the territory of Abyssinia, or in the Empire of Turkey, for we have no more right to claim such a jurisdiction, except so far as we have extorted it by treaty, than we have to claim it in France or Spain. But our British Parliaments, like ancient Popes, have given our Queen a *quasi* right of conquest over all barbarians. Parliament has enacted that "it shall be lawful for Her Majesty to hold, exercise, and enjoy any power or jurisdiction which Her Majesty has or may have in any country or place out of Her Majesty's dominions, in as ample a manner as if Her Majesty had acquired such power by the cession or conquest of territory." For the purpose, therefore, of exercising judicial authority over her own subjects in China and Japan Queen Victoria is by our law in precisely the same position as if she had conquered those two Empires.

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This explanation may, perhaps, be necessary to some persons before they are able to comprehend the purpose of a very long and closely printed Order in Council, recently published. By this Order the Queen of England establishes a Supreme Court, with a Judge, an Assistant-Judge, and a Law Secretary, in a suburb of the Emperor of China's city of Shanghai, and also establishes a series of Provincial Courts throughout the two Empires of China and Japan. Queen Victoria is, in fact, doing in the Empires of China and Japan, and in a judicial way, precisely what the Pope and Cardinal Wiseman did some time since in an ecclesiastical way in this benighted land of England. We, who are an excitable people, were very angry and called it Papal Aggression; the Chinese, who are not an excitable but a remarkably practical people, are not likely to be at all angry. Neither step was perhaps very complimentary, either to us as heretics, or to the Chinese as barbarians; but as our Supreme Court obtains the power to try capital offences, the possible spectacle of a man hanged by a Court of English jurisdiction within a dependency upon the Imperial city of Shanghai will be a more startling exercise of foreign jurisdiction than any which was likely to be offered by an Archbishop of Westminster. We have tested, by an instance familiar to ourselves, this exercise of English prerogative in two foreign States in order that our readers may more easily comprehend its very exceptional nature, and by no means for any purpose of unfavourable criticism. It is a measure which has become absolutely necessary for the preservation of peace and for the protection of our own good name in China and Japan. It is what we have been ourselves urging forward upon every recurring occasion of some unpunished outrage committed by an European upon Chinese victims. Henceforward we may hope that there will be some real protection for the native Chinese against the predatory violence of the European adventurers who make marauding incursions into the country, and even against the more respectable European traveller who fires off his shotted guns to frighten the market-boats out of his way. Henceforward every Consular Court is to be a Provincial Court armed with power to try civil cases up to a moderate amount, and to take cognisance of misdemeanours, and punish, with or without assessors or jurymen, to the extent of twelve months' imprisonment. In addition to this, as we read the Order, every Provincial Court may, in case of a grave offence coming before it, be rendered for the occasion a branch of the Supreme Court—the Judge or Assistant-Judge attending to preside at the trial. If we are right in this interpretation, it is a very important alteration of the old system; for if it had been necessary to try every grave offence at Shanghai, a murder at Nagasaki would have been as unpunishable under the new as it was under the old system. We fear, however, that the Order in Council has been somewhat loosely drawn in this respect, and that the absolute right of a rehearing before the Judge of the Supreme Court after any decision by the Assistant-Judge may tend to create complications under which great criminals may still escape punishment. It is satisfactory to know, however, that so far as British subjects are concerned, a written Code has now been put forth, to which the Chinese and Japanese authorities may appeal when crimes they are not allowed to punish are committed. Crimes which are capital in England are capital also before the Supreme Court of Shanghai, and other crimes and offences which have their punishment here are to be visited with a like punishment there—subject, of course, to the Royal prerogative of mercy, and in cases of death to a confirmation by the Crown, acting by its Minister resident in the country.

There are, however, certain special offences introduced into the jurisdiction of the Supreme and Provincial British Courts of China and Japan which do not obtain in England, but are especially required by the circumstances of these countries. The punishments affixed to these offences cannot be too soon known to the persons whom they are likely to concern. Acts of individuals, which have been most fruitful in contentions and little hostilities, and even great wars in the Chinese and Japanese waters, have been outrages on persons or property; contraventions, commonly with violence, of the Customs' regulations of the Chinese; forcing trade at forbidden ports in Japan; and insults offered to the ceremonies and religion of the people. Outrages on persons and property are now sufficiently provided for. Contraventions of Customs' regulations are still left unpunished, and it is an omission in the new scheme that the Provincial Court is not directed to protect the Chinese officers of Customs in the execution of their duty. The framers of this order seem determined, however, to avoid future disputes with Japan, since they give power to punish with two years' imprisonment and 10,000 dollars' fine, and seizure of his vessel, any British subject attempting to force trade with Japan at other than the treaty ports. Another very important provision enables the Minister resident in China to frame regulations for the government of British subjects in China, and impose fine and three months' imprisonment as the penalty of disobedience. This is the most doubtful part of the Order. It is true that these regulations are supposed to be referred home to receive the assent of the Secretary of State; but as there is an exception in cases of exigency there is reason to fear that the power will afford too wide a scope for the too active meddling of diplomacy, and bring us periodical crops of mercantile grievances from the East. Some such power is undoubtedly necessary to exist, but it will be contrary to all experience if in this form it be found to work well. A much more certainly expedient provision is that which denounces against any British subject who shall take service either with or against the Emperor of China, two years' imprisonment, 5,000 dollars fine, and perpetual deportation. One other special enactment requires to be noted. It is that which ordains that any British subject publicly deriding, mocking, or insulting any religious ceremony, service, or feast in China or Japan, shall be liable to summary sentence, to imprisonment with or without hard labour for any period not exceeding two years. It is a useful and a necessary threat; but it is strange that perpetual deportation, which would be a remedy as well as a punishment, is in this case omitted.

Upon the whole, this very comprehensive scheme of judicature has been well drawn up, and the great and multifarious subjects it comprehends have been treated with much ability. We have indicated some particulars in which we think it might be improved, and in which it will be found faulty in working. The great necessity, however, is that it should be supplemented by some arrangement for combined action among the Treaty Powers. The immediate effect of the promulgation of this Order at Shanghai will be that the "rowdies" of the East will declare themselves Americans, or Portuguese, or Germans, according to circumstances, but will always declare, notwithstanding the registry, that they are not British subjects. The new Order is an important step; but to render the object certain and the remedy complete we must go further. If one Treaty Power can erect this complete judicial hierarchy in the territories of independent States, all others may do so. Is it not possible for all the Treaty Powers to combine to have one Supreme Court and one set of Provincial Courts, whereof there may be different Judges, if they please, and different laws administered to different suitors, according to their nationalities, but whereof the jurisdiction as a Court might be universal over all foreigners claiming exemption from Chinese and Japanese tribunals? This Court would spread a net large enough to catch all the European vagabonds; but now, while each nation makes its separate cast, the worst fish of prey escape between the little independent nets. No doubt, however, there are difficulties in the way of such an arrangement as this. We can only hope that some general scheme may ultimately be perfected, and, meanwhile, thank our own Government for the step now taken to clear our national conscience before the face of our barbarian allies.

THE CHINESE CUSTOMS' ESTABLISHMENT.

(THE TIMES.)

A report, which has been prepared by Mr. Hart, Inspector General of Maritime Customs in China, gives an interesting account of the origin and progress of a foreign customs' establishment in China. The manner in which native officials have been wont to transact customs business at the Chinese ports is this:—Chinese vessels are licensed for the coasting trade, and the tariffs generally amount to about 10 per cent., the customs' duties of a port would be assigned to a person holding some other Government office in the locality, and so farmed as to hold him responsible for the collection of a specific amount, with liberty to retain any surplus; in the absence of a strict supervision, or under an established official laxity, each subordinate having to pay for his place, lies to his superior, and makes as good a purse as he can for himself. The merchants have to make the best bargain they can with the officials, and the Government do not get half the duties really paid. Now in 1854, when Shanghai seemed virtually lost to the Imperial Government, inextricable confusion arose in relation to the customs, and, in fact, the collection of duties passed from the hands of the Chinese for a time. Spasmodic attempts were once or twice made by an office that was very insufficiently recognised, but ships constantly left the port without paying a farthing of duties, the Consuls taking from the merchants bonds, which were considered of questionable validity. Eventually it was arranged that the office of customs should be re-opened under its proper chief, the Taoutae, but that it should be placed under the inspection of foreigners representing the three treaty Powers—England, France, and the United States. This inspectorate was in the first instance a foreign Governmental measure, which relieved Consuls from the necessity of undertaking responsibilities in regard to the clearance of foreign ships, and protected honest merchants from the uncontrolled acts of bad men, at the same time securing the revenue for the Imperial Government. It became more and more a Chinese institution, and when the treaties of Tien-tsin were concluded in 1858, it was arranged, in order to insure uniformity of treatment for the merchants at all the ports, to extend the scheme to all the places opened to trade. Accordingly, the foreign inspectorate is now represented at 14 ports, and employs in various capacities some 400 foreigners and about 1,000 Chinese. It met with much hostility from the old Executive, who saw in it an invincible obstacle to the "doctoring" of accounts, and it was not altogether welcomed by many who had grown accustomed to compounding for duties and nocturnal "running" of cargoes; but opposition has gradually died away. The inspectorate has an establishment at Peking, where juniors on first appointment study Chinese, in preparation for work at the ports; and it is now very generally treated as a branch of the Chinese public service, and regarded as naturally growing out of the new relations in which China finds herself through the treaties entered into with foreign Powers. At each office there is one inspector, or commissioner of customs, representing the three treaty Powers, with assistants under him of various nationalities; at the head is an inspector-general, appointed by the Chinese Foreign-office. This inspectorate has secured for the State funds never dreamt of before and substituted for corrupt and inefficient offices an honest and effective revenue administration, placing all and every trader upon the same footing. It has also assisted the Chinese in fulfilling with advantage to themselves the obligations into which they entered by treaty; with trade at more than a dozen ports, and firms numbered by the hundred, an interdependency of obligations has grown up which could only be met by the operation of such a uniform and efficient system as the inspectorate. In fact, without it the only resource would have been to do away with import and export duties altogether, and then allow the officials in the interior full swing for local taxation; and how that would have answered is easily guessed. The more intimate nature of the relations into which the members of the inspectorate have been brought with Chinese officials conduces not a little to lead those officials to understand foreigners better, and to clear away much of the suspicion and dislike with which they regarded them; and thus the tendency is to remove the position of foreigners from the support on which it has hitherto been based—force and might, and to place it on one that promises better for the future, and which, though at first nothing more than a mere assent to the existing state of affairs, may in time change into an appreciation of, if not a welcome to the foreigner. The juxtaposition of an honest administration is making itself felt; and through the inspectorate, more perhaps than through any other means, does there appear to be an opening for the introduction of sundry reforms and useful ideas. It is gradually leading the Chinese mind in the direction of properly salaried official establishments; and any step in that direction will go far to do away with the canker that preys on the very vitals of the country, and the multitudinous sufferings and malpractices that are its concomitants. The inspectorate will have finished its work when it shall have produced a native administration as honest and efficient to replace it.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1865.

BRITISH JURISDICTION IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

HER MAJESTY'S Order in Council for the exercise of jurisdiction in China and Japan is now published, and proves to be a document of much more importance to British subjects in those countries than the extension merely of judicial courts to the open ports. It contains twenty-three articles, divided into one hundred and sixty-five clauses, treating in detail upon every judicial, political, and social relation affecting our fellow-countrymen in the Far East—it is, in fact, a *vade mecum* for the guidance of Englishmen, whether resident or non-resident, who venture to trade, or otherwise come into contact with the Chinese and Japanese, and which no man so doing should be without. In the concise form of forty-two small octavo pages, it comprises all the important clauses of previous Orders in Council—eleven on China, and four on Japan, besides five Hong Kong ordinances—*all of which are repealed* from the commencement of this Order. Henceforth these troublesome, and in many respects contradictory ordinances are null and void, and their objectionable clauses wiped out. If for no other cause than the abrogation of the "Neutrality" ordinance, passed by the Legislature of Hong Kong in January, 1855, this Order in Council is of the greatest importance, as that Act stultified the operations of Her MAJESTY'S forces during the Taiping rebellion. By this Order, Article VI., if any British subject aid or abets any person carrying on war, insurrection, or rebellion against the Emperor of CHINA, or takes part in any operation of war in his service (without the QUEEN'S license), is liable to be punished to the extent of two years' imprisonment, with or without a fine not exceeding 5,000 dollars. But the chief feature in this Imperial manifesto is the withdrawal of judicial power from the colony of Hong Kong, as a court of appeal to the consular courts in China and Japan, and its transfer to the settlement of Shanghai. While we see on the one hand a British colony with its gubernatorial, executive, legislative, judicial and civil functionaries, with their courts, departments, and paraphernalia, shorn of the chief power that gave it *status* in China; on the other hand we find a mere *settlement*, occupied by land-renters from the native authorities, raised to the supreme centre of legal power, not only in China but Japan. This is the greatest blow that could be levelled at the supremacy of Hong Kong; and foreshadows the probability of what is called the "English Concession" at Shanghai, becoming at no distant date a *bona fide* British possession, with its governor and councils, instead of its present hermaphrodite municipal administration. Be that as it may, the Supreme Court of Hong is doomed to dwindle down to a very limited jurisdiction, and its remunerative business to be henceforth greatly curtailed. It may take cognizance of offences committed by British subjects at Macao, or civil cases which have originated there, but it has no power to issue warrant or writ beyond its rocky shore, and its former jurisdiction in the ports of China and Japan, as emphatically stated in Clause 16C, shall, "from the commencement "of this Order, absolutely cease." In future the Supreme Court for China and Japan will sit at Shanghai; and its judicial power will alone determine all civil and criminal matters between British subjects themselves, or when they come into collision with the native inhabitants or the citizens and subjects of other foreign nations. Of course the law of England will be maintained intact, but it is specially mentioned in the XVII. Art. that "Rules affecting the conduct of civil suits shall be so framed "as to secure, as far as may be, that cases shall be decided on "their merits according to substantial justice, without excessive "regard to technicalities of pleading or procedure and without "unnecessary delay." It is to be hoped that his honour Sir EDMUND HORNBY will give especial effect to this clause, as the Supreme Court at Hong Kong was notorious as an arena for legal quibbles to frustrate the ends of justice; especially if a Chinaman was in the case, so that in the eyes of the natives it was considered not much better than their own courts, and they are dens of intimidation and corruption. According to this Order, not only may these and other foreigners institute an action against British subjects, but they can demand their compulsory attendance, to give evidence in other tribunals, under a penalty not exceeding $500, or imprisonment for one month. This is a step in the right direction, and if carried out with vigour and impartiality will tend greatly to raise our character for even-handed justice in the eyes of these oppressed people. In the same spirit the XI. Art. provides for the punishment of offences against religion, or insults to religious institutions and their professors; or even committing any act which tends to bring such into hatred, ridicule, or contempt, and thereby provoke a breach of the public peace, under a penalty of imprisonment not exceeding two years, with or without hard labour, and a fine of five hundred dollars, at the discretion of the court. This may be considered by some an unusually stringent provision in the Order, but it is only just towards the sacred feelings of the people among whom we have thrust ourselves unwillingly; and it is to be hoped that it will curb the conduct of those young men who wantonly treat the inoffensive Chinese and their temples as if they were dogs and kennels. It is not necessary that offenders in the outlying ports should be sent to the Supreme Court for such petty offences, but they may be apprehended, tried, and punished in the provincial courts. These will be presided over by the consuls or vice-consuls at the open ports, who will be empowered to hold such courts by the Supreme Judge at Shanghai; in whom is centred all discretionary power as to the appointment or regulation of the duties of his subordinates. His coadjutor, the Assistant-Judge, only acts in cases that are submitted to him by his superior, while the judge has power to attach any consul or officer of a consulate to his court. At the same time he has no power to remove the Assistant-Judge or Law Secretary, who, like himself, are appointed by Her MAJESTY under her Royal sign manual. The chief duty of the last-mentioned officer is to act as registrar of the court; but he may hear and determine cases of summary jurisdiction. As to the powers of the court and its functionaries, these extend to every class of civil and criminal cases. It is a court of law, equity, bankruptcy, admiralty, coroner, lunacy, matrimonial causes, probate and administration, while its jurisdiction extends a hundred miles out at sea, where offenders may be captured in British, Chinese, or Japanese vessels, and tried as if the crimes they committed had been done on shore. A regular jury list will be made up at Shanghai, restricted to persons having an income of $250 a-year, except civil, military, and naval officers, clergymen, lawyers, and doctors. A jury will consist of five jurors, who must be unanimous in their verdict. Assessors, as at present, will act in this capacity at the provincial courts. Capital crimes, however, can only be tried by jury; and sentence of death must be endorsed by the British Minister at Peking, who has power to commute that sentence to any other punishment he may deem sufficient. To complete this comprehensive jurisdiction of the Supreme Court at Shanghai, the "finisher of the law," will be Her MAJESTY'S Consul; who will have all the powers and authorities of the sheriff of a county in England, with all the privileges and immunities of the office. Thus has great Britain established on the unceded territory of the EMPEROR of CHINA, a complete epitome of the laws that rule her glorious constitution; and it is to be hoped that, in the administration of those laws, the judges of the court will show to the native authorities the high integrity of principle as well as honour that guides our ministers of justice, as hitherto has been displayed by our plenipotentiaries, generals and admirals, in the prosecution of our belligerent rights. There are other points in this notable Order in Council, which are worthy of remark, touching specially on Japan, and the registration of British subjects, which we reserve to another opportunity. Meanwhile it must be considered that the Japanese courts come under

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the same denomination as the provincial courts in China; only in capital convictions the prerogative of mercy lies with the Minister at Yedo instead of Peking.

THE GOVERNORSHIP OF HONG KONG.

No announcement has been officially made of a successor to Sir HERCULES ROBINSON. It is understood, however, that the appointment will not be conferred upon Mr. MERCER, the Colonial Secretary, who is at present administering the Government on the united half-pays of Governor and Colonial Secretary.

Literature.

Colonial Office List for 1865, by ARTHUR N. BIRCH and WILLIAM ROBINSON, of the Colonial Office. Harrison, Pall Mall. —This is the fourth publication, to be continued annually, of a collection of information of the most useful and indeed invaluable kind to all persons connected with the British colonies either by official, commercial, residential, or natal ties. The title-page tells us that it contains "historical and statistical information respecting the colonial dependencies of Great Britain, with an account of the services of the principal officers of the several colonial Governments." When we say that this hand-book extends to 228 octavo pages, a majority of them printed in double columns, some opinion may be formed of the vast amount of intelligence comprised in the volume, which, as may be judged from the position of its authors, is compiled under the sanction of the Secretary of State for the Colonies. After two or three preliminary pages devoted to the constitution of the Colonial Office, we come to the colonies themselves, arranged alphabetically, with a brief narrative of the history of each, a short account of its climate and productions, and a condensed analysis of its political constitution; for as the majority of these dependencies are ours by treaty, and retain their old laws as the basis of their administration, the number of forms of Government belonging to them is almost equal to the number of the Governments themselves. Each colony presents us with a list of its governors from its first settlement or conquest, going back, in the case of the Bermudas, to the year 1612; then a list of the present officers on its civil, military, judicial, and financial establishments, with the salary attached to the office; and lastly, a statement of the Imports and Exports, and Revenue and Expenditure, since the year 1856. These particulars, many of them to be obtained, we fancy, in no other political or statistical collection, are followed by "the Rules and Regulations for Her Majesty's Colonial Service, compiled by the Secretary of State's directions in 1856;" and last of all there is "a statement of the services of those persons now living who have held, or are now holding, any important office under the Secretary of State for the Colonies." Three names, from a column chosen at haphazard, will show the way in which this part of the task is performed:—

Meller, H. J.—Barrister of the Middle Temple, 1840; member of Home Circuit; appointed Resident Magistrate of Durban, Natal, 1850, to whose court increased civil jurisdiction was given 1852, extending to £100, and trial by jury; was Acting Crown Inspector from October, 1855, to December, 1856; Acting Puisne Judge Supreme Court from July, 1861, for twelve months, and is Colonial Commandant of Durban Rifle Guard Volunteers; Acting Second Puisne Judge 1864.

Melliss, John.—Surveyor and Colonial Engineer, St. Helena; appointed 1859; joined the Colonial Service in the Engineer Department of that island in 1851.

Mercer, W. T.—Graduated at Exeter College, Oxford, B.A., 1843, M.A., 1851; entered the Middle Temple 1842, but has not been called to the Bar; is Colonial Secretary of Hong Kong, and a member of both Councils; entered the Colonial Service as Private Secretary to Sir J. Davis, Governor of Hong Kong, 1844; appointed Acting Colonial Treasurer 1845; confirmed 1847; administered the government of Hong Kong from July to September, 1861, and again from July, 1862, to February, 1864.

The fullness and minuteness of this catalogue of officials is proved by an entry that catches the eye in the same column with Mr. Mercer's services, recording those of an individual whose career, however useful, runs in a far more humble groove—"Millar, W. — Appointed engineer of the harbour steam-tug, Natal, 1860."

Nothing more need be added to signalise the valuable service that has been rendered to the colonies, and the public at large, by the two gentlemen whose names authenticate the compilation before us. It is one of those books, the value of which will be better established by five minutes' reference to its contents than by five columns of commendation. All that it wants is more care on the part of the "printer's reader" in the next republication. The notice of Sir J. S. Pakington, for instance, is made mere hotch-potch by half-a-dozen lines being tacked on to it that are "a double" of some lines that appear also in their proper place, under "George Palmer," the name next in alphabetical order. The following from the account of the Falkland Islands is a specimen of contradictory jumble:—

The wild cattle, horses, and pigs are very numerous; sheep have been introduced, and found to do well in parts, but the land is generally too wet for them—in the Islands—so much so that the diseases common among these animals elsewhere, such as scab and rot in the feet, are almost unknown, while the wool exported realizes a high price in the London markets.

A book partaking so much of the nature of a dictionary of names of men and places demands the closest supervision in the editorial department, and it would be easy to multiply proofs that the Colonial Office List will be all the better for more vigilance in correction. We are not sure, too, but that the geographical notices might not be changed for the better in some instances. We should as soon have expected to find Great Britain described as an island lying off the North Sea as to be told that Jamaica is "an island lying off the Bay of Honduras." All these, however, are trifling points, easily rectified, while the value of the design, and the labour entailed by its execution, entitle Messrs. Birch and Robinson to rank high in the list of those indefatigable compilers whose usefulness the world repays by making their names household words.

Naval and Military.

The Charybdis, 21, screw corvette, Capt. Edward W. Turnour, arrived at Spithead from the Pacific, and on entering the roadstead saluted the flag of the Port-Admiral and Naval Commander-in-Chief, Sir Michael Seymour, G.C.B., which was returned by the three-decked training ship St. Vincent, flag ship *pro tem.*, during the refit of the Victory, the permanent flag ship of the port. The Charybdis sailed from Vancouver on the 14th of December, from Valparaiso on the 2nd of March, and from Rio de Janeiro on the 11th of April, and has brought to England two warrant officers, one naval engineer, 80 naval supernumeraries, and five prisoners from Her Majesty's fleets on the Pacific and Brazil stations. The Charybdis made the passage round Cape Horn, the weather being unfavourable for going through the Straits of Magellan.

Major-General Studholme J. Hodgson has been appointed to the command of the troops in Ceylon in the room of Major-General O'Brien, whose state of health, though somewhat improved, yet obliges him to return home. Although not actively employed of late years, Major General Hodgson has always shown a soldierlike anxiety for service in the field. During a regimental career of nearly 26 years, he served in most parts of the world, and was with the 45th Regiment in the Burmese war.

By the death of General Sir James Shaw Kennedy, Colonel of the 47th Regiment, the following promotions take place:—Lieutenant-General R. B. Coles, Colonel of the 65th Regiment to be General; Major-General Sir Thomas Simpson Pratt, K.C.B., Colonel of the 37th Regiment, to be Lieutenant-General; and Colonel Sir T M. Biddulph, K.C.B., to be Major-General in the Army.

As soon as intelligence had spread about the harbour of Cork that Parliament had decided in favour of a dockyard in the port, preparations were made for public rejoicing. The night of Her Majesty's birthday was chosen for a display of bonfires, tar barrels, and rockets which were fired as soon it was dark on every headland facing the waters, while thousands of young people, accompanied by temperance bands and torches, surrounded the blazing lights.

Captain the Hon. E. R. Bourke, of the Inniskilling Dragoons, has been appointed Aide-de-Camp and Private Secretary to Sir H. R. Robinson, the new Governor of Ceylon.

The ironclad, Lord Warden, which has been before noticed in our columns, has been launched from the Chatham dockyard. The keel of another similar vessel is shortly to be laid.

The Orestes, 21, screw corvette, Captain Alan H. Gardener, arrived at Spithead from the Cape of Good Hope, on the completion of her term of foreign service, and will proceed round to Sheerness to dismantle and pay out of commission.

SCINDE, PUNJAUB, AND DELHI BANK (LIMITED).

The fourth half-yearly meeting of shareholders was held on the 30th May, at the London Tavern; W. P. ANDREW, Esq., in the chair. The report, which will be found in another column, was taken as read.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving its adoption, said that although it was not so gratifying as they could wish, the directors could not have exercised more energy or caution than they had done in conducting the business, and it might be some slight consolation to know that the losses they had incurred were not by any means so large as those which other Eastern banks had suffered; in short, all the bills they had in suspense put together were not equal in amount to the suspense bills held by one of the other banks upon one house. He desired to conceal nothing from the proprietors; on the contrary, he wished to lay before them the full extent of the losses; at the same time he must be allowed to say that their misfortunes had arisen from causes over which they had no control, and he had no doubt if their confidence in the directors was continued that they would be enabled to retrieve the past, and make the bank a most successful and flourishing institution. There were proposals under consideration for strengthening the bank, enlarging the scope of its operations, and giving to it what it had not yet had—a proper and efficient local manage-

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ment. He was not himself a banker, nor was he acquainted with all the details of banking business, but he possessed a competent knowledge of commercial affairs in the East generally, and was able to speak with confidence of the future prospects of the institution, provided they had efficient local managers to work out the details on the spot on the principles which the board here laid down. Such was the high character of the bank that, notwithstanding the losses they had incurred, offers had been made to them for an arrangement or amalgamation with other institutions of a similar character, of a nature which, if the negotiations were successful, must necessarily add to the stability and ensure the prosperity of the Scinde Bank. They sent out positive instructions to the managers of the several branches to curtail their operations, and if those instructions had been attended to, the total of their losses would not have exceeded £5,000. But they were not—the managers in India said, "We must do as the other banks do," and when they were reprimanded for it they resigned, and at once obtained appointments in other financial establishments at largely increased salaries, those who had been paid in this bank £1,000 or £1,200 a year obtaining £2,000 or £2,500. As he had said, the total losses ascertained up to the end of the year were included in the present account, but since that period other large losses had occurred, by no means, however, equal to the depreciation which had taken place in the value of the shares. The directors had narrowly scrutinised all the transactions of the bank, and the result was that instead of there being a loss of £3 or £4 per share, as the depreciation would lead them to suppose, it was not more than £1 a share at the outside upon the entire capital.—Mr. F. W. RUSSELL, M.P., seconded the motion.—Mr. MACKINNON, a director, offered some further explanations, showing that he had such confidence in the concern that he had recently purchased shares, and had given his broker instruction to buy more if they should be in the market. The rate of profit, he admitted, had hitherto been totally inadequate to the risk run. The directors retiring by rotation were re-elected, and a cordial vote of thanks to the chairman and the other directors terminated the business.

Major-General Sir C. T. Van Straubenzee, K.C.B., is appointed Colonel of the 47th Regiment of Foot, vice General Sir J. S. Kennedy, K.C.B., deceased.

Monetary and Commercial.

There have been no important failures since the last mail, but the alarming telegrams from India of failures, and even of Bank failures, keep the City in a constant ferment. The reduction of the duty on tea came into operation on the 1st, and the clearances from bond on that day amounted to nearly five million pounds, giving a more pleasant tone to the market. The deliveries for the month will most probably reach twenty millions. With the present low rates, the consumption amongst the poorer classes must largely increase—that is, when the grocers in the country give them the benefit—and on this point much remains to be done. It is lamentable that so much chicanery can exist in the retailing of this great boon. Notwithstanding the low rates that have ruled during the past six months, to the ruin of the importers, the great mass of the population have been paying the old prices. There is a most unaccountable freemasonry existing amongst the shopkeepers, utterly inconsistent with the healthy competition which pervades all business in this country. The man who would establish a depot in every town for the sale of tea, only, would do more to benefit the trade and the population generally than any efforts in Mincing-lane. Not only is a gross overcharge inflicted, but the article is itself handled so badly (to say nothing of adulteration) that one-half the virtue is lost to the consumer. For instance, the most popular method is for the grocer to empty his original package into a compartment of his shop-window, there to swelter in company with other commodities.

The meeting of the Scinde, Punjaub, and Delhi Bank Corporation took place the 30th May, when the directors' report, which will be found in another column, was adopted.

Mr. William James Youell, of the Commercial Bank Corporation of India and the East, has been appointed General Manager of "The London and Bombay Bank and General Financial and Insurance Agency Corporation (Limited)."

The suspension has been announced of Messrs. Woodhouse, Kerrich, and Co., and, resulting therefrom, of Messrs. Fulcher, Cooper, and Co., in the East India trade. The liabilities are not large.

The last batch of bills on India for thirty lacs rupees were offered by Government on the 7th. The allotments were—Rs. 19.57.747 on Calcutta, 9.15.000 on Bombay, and 25.000 on Madras. The Government minimum was fixed at 1s. 10½d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 10¾d. on Bombay.

The Bill introduced by the Government to amend the law of partnership has just been printed, as amended in committee, and the following is a condensation of its clauses:—

"1. The advance of money by way of loan to a person in any trade upon a contract in writing that the lender shall receive a rate of interest varying with the profits, or shall receive a share of the profits, shall not, of itself, constitute the lender a partner, or render him responsible as such.

"2. No contract for the remuneration of a servant or agent of any person engaged in any undertaking by a share of the profits shall, of itself, render such servant or agent responsible as a partner, nor give him the rights of a partner.

"3. No person being the widow or child of the deceased partner of a trader, and receiving by way of annuity a portion of the profits made by such trader in his business, shall, by reason only of such receipt, be deemed to be a partner or subject to any liabilities.

"4. No person receiving by way of annuity or otherwise a portion of the profits of any business, in consideration of the sale by him of the goodwill of such business, shall, by reason only of such receipt, be deemed to be a partner or subject to liabilities.

"5. In the event of any such trader being adjudged a bankrupt, or entering into an arrangement to pay his creditors less than twenty shillings in the pound, or dying insolvent, the lender of any such loan shall not be entitled to recover any portion of his principal, or of the profits or interest payable in respect of such loan, nor shall any such servant or agent, or such widow or child, or such vendor of a goodwill, as aforesaid, be entitled to recover any such profits as aforesaid until the claims of other creditors for valuable consideration in money or money's worth have been satisfied."

The Board of Trade Returns for the month and four months ended the 30th April show a rather considerable decline in the value of exports, which is to be attributed chiefly to the falling off in wool and woollen manufactures, but as regards other articles the changes are not of much importance. The total declared value of exports for the month last past was £12,071,111, against £13,225,039 in 1864, and £11,897,177 in 1863, being a decrease on the first-named period of £1,153,928, but an increase over the latter of £173,934. For the four months of the present year the total was £47,706,818; for 1864, £49,892,420; and for 1863, £39,458,381, showing a decline of £2,185,602 as compared with 1864, but an increase of £8,248,437 as contrasted with 1863. The chief variations as regards exports have been an increase in beer and ale, coals and culm, cotton manufactures, haberdashery and millinery, linen manufactures, machinery and seed oil; but a decrease in alkali, cotton yarn, earthenware, linen yarn, metals, silk manufactures, spirits, wool, woollen and worsted yarn, and woollen manufactures. As respects imports, an increase is exhibited in clocks and watches, guano, raw silk, tallow, wool, woollen manufactures, tea, and tobacco. On the other hand, there has been a falling off in raw cotton, flax and hemp, leather manufactures, flax seed and linseed, cocoa, coffee, spirits, sugar, timber, and wine. Our commerce with the Far East, as far as distinctively returned, is represented by the figures following:—

EXPORTS TO CHINA AND HONG KONG.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
For the Month ended 30th April.			
Cotton yarn	51,060	87,800	45,000 lbs.
Cotton manufactures	2,778,951	5,126,790	13,738,050 yds.
Worsted stuffs	308,267	662,384	2,433,988 ,,
Woollen and worsted cloths	201,157	127,094	159,942 ,,
Lead	963	479	180 tons
Value for the Four Months ended 30th April.			
Cotton yarn	£25,265	£67,524	£57,675
Cotton manufactures	232,167	517,664	844,028
Worsted stuffs	154,228	241,666	426,105
Woollen and worsted cloths.	102,317	88,498	94,155
Lead	112,531	44,101	19,012

The Cotton Manufactures exported to other ports and countries in the Far East were in quantity for the month, and in value, for the four months, as follows:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity for the Month ended 30th April.			
Ceylon	869,064	397,598	181,923 yds.
Singapore	2,121,309	3,932,323	2,677,297 ,,
Java	—	2,211,958	— ,,
Philippine Islands	1,555,604	—	— ,,
Value for the Four Months ended 30th April.			
Ceylon	£52,499	£172,516	£80,196
Singapore	109,663	375,964	373,945
Java	32,444	231,101	149,981
Philippine Islands	77,242	162,159	189,201

Of Cotton Yarn, 169,670 lbs. were forwarded to Singapore in the month of April, while the export to Ceylon was *nil*. The value of the export to Singapore for the four months ended 30th April was £61,742, against £51,426 in 1864, and £37,785 in the year preceding.

IMPORTS.

Of Raw Cotton the quantity imported for the month exhibits a remarkable decrease in comparison with the two preceding years; but the import from all countries for the four months shows an augmentation:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity for the month ended 30th April.			
British India	264,666	316,339	230,900 cwts.
China	9,912	104,642	36,672 ,,
Quantity for the Four Months ended 30th April.			
British India	652,367	775,367	635,510 cwts.
China	36,863	210,118	142,818 ,,
From all countries	1,203,626	1,759,420	2,025,369 ,,

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	Value for the Three Months ended 31st March.		
British India.. ..	£2,882,063 ..	£4,317,131 ..	£2,362,135
China	182,368 ..	939,637 ..	538,048
From all countries ..	6,622,336 ..	12,124,375 ..	10,819,439

Of Unrefined Sugar, the quantity imported from Java and the Philippine Islands during the month of April was 963 cwt. of the 2nd quality; 25,519 cwt. 3rd quality; and 81,662 cwt. of the 4th. The quantity for the four months and value for three months is represented by the figures following:—

	Quantity for the Four Months ended 30th April. 1863.	1864.	1865.
Of all qualities (cwts.)	358,498 ..	29,330 ..	322,024
	Value for the Three Months ended 31st March.		
Of all qualities	£253,802 ..	£33,066 ..	£219,853

Of Hemp the import from the Philippine Island in the month of April was 5,742 cwt., and the comparative quantity and value for the three years is thus given:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity to 30th April (cwts.) ..	66,945 ..	44,735 ..	75,825
Value to 31st March	£75,250 ..	£5,264 ..	£95,597

Of Raw Coffee, the quantity imported from Ceylon during the month of April was 5,796,814 lbs., and the quantity and value for the three years as follows:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity to 30th April (lbs.) ..	15,575,923 ..	16,338,659 ..	15,350,315
Value to 31st March	£400,539 ..	£276,642 ..	£329,913

The present Returns furnish us with the Value of the Imports and Exports (the latter, of British and Irish produce) for the first three months of the year. The trade with the Far East exhibits the following amounts:—

To	Exports for the Three Months ended 31st March. 1863.	1864.	1865.
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)..	£455,219 ..	£637,865 ..	£774,416
Hong Kong	268,403 ..	382,047 ..	352,794
Singapore and the Eastern Straits .	172,673 ..	429,366 ..	480,232
Ceylon	114,747 ..	277,162 ..	159,469
Netherlands India	61,597 ..	244,503 ..	200,944
Philippine Islands	64,465 ..	213,587 ..	280,365
Japan	31,255 ..	79,111 ..	319,721
From	Imports for the Three Months ended 31st March.		
China (exclusive of Hong Kong).	£4,526,327 .	£3,344,248 ..	£2,040,838
Hong Kong	212,759 ..	355,541 ..	315,661
Singapore	312,091 ..	273,252 ..	411,406
Ceylon	583,378 ..	428,538 ..	447,215
Netherlands India	3,041 ..	8,279 ..	—
Philippine Islands	344,615 ..	44,743 ..	484,089
Native Territories—Borneo ..	— ..	6,626 ..	7,613
Siam	16,778 ..	— ..	2,098
Japan	385,566 ..	80,732 ..	128,842

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Ellora*, from Southampton on the 4th inst., was:—In gold, to Madras, £331. In silver, to Foo-chow-Foo, £1,000; to Shanghai, £9,823. Total, in gold, £331; in silver, £10,823.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices May 26.
£100	Agra and Masterman's	50	110 to 113	113 to 116
50	Do. New	25	55 to 57	56 to 58
50	Do. „	25	—	—
40	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	22½ to 23½	23 to 25
20	Do. New	All	—	—
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	44 to 46	46 to 47
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	29 to 32	29 to 32
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (10 pd.)	All	—	—
20	Eastern Exchange	5	1¼ to ½ dis.	1¼ to ½ dis.
50	London Joint Stock	15	49 to 50	49 to 50
100	London and Westminster	20	95 to 97	95 to 96
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	46 to 47	50 to 52
50	Union of London	15	52 to 53	52 to 54
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	7 to 5 dis.	8 to 6 dis.
100	Do. Issued at 2 pm.	25	7 to 5 dis.	8 to 6 dis.
100	Do. New	15	7 to 5 dis.	8 to 6 dis.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	4 to 3 dis.	4 to 3 dis.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	30 to 31	30 to 31
100	Bank of London	50	140 to 143	140 to 145
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	par to ¼ pm.	par to ¼ pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3½ to 4½	3½ to 4½
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	74 to 76	83 to 85
50	Do. New	35	17 to 19 pm.	22 to 24 pm.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—There has been a satisfactory though moderate business transacted, most of the trade having held aloof from purchasing under the impression that importers would give way in their demands; but as China advices and the certainty of large deliveries under the reduced duty read favourable for the future, the market has continued to strengthen, and for fine Kaisows extreme rates have been paid, small parcels realising 2s. 9d. per lb., a few of the Kum Chune chop 2s. 10¼d. per lb. Export orders for immediate shipment to New York were completed early in the month, and a few purchases have latterly been made mostly in Japan uncolored sorts for Canada. The deliveries do not compare favourably with former statements, having been delayed until 1st inst., when the new duty of 6d. per lb., came into operation, since which time the clearances have been very heavy, reaching to date 7,100,000 lbs. Black: There have been no transactions worthy of note in the grades up to leafy, but a good inquiry for the inferior flavory kinds up to 1s. 1d. per lb., which are getting much reduced in quantity. Good flavoury to medium Kaisow kinds are also in smaller supply, but the demand has quieted down. Good Kaisow kinds and medium Kaisow are 1d. per lb. dearer, and the stock in first hands well nigh exhausted, as also fine and finest Kaisows. Some parcels of Amoy kinds with Souchong flavour, of old import, have been sold at 11½d. per lb. The trade in imitation Kaisow, made from Tayshan leaf, has been curtailed, most parcels offering wanting character and strength. In black leaf there is some inquiry for common at 11½d. to 1s. per lb., but for fair to good at 1s. 1d. to 1s. 3d. per lb., the sales have been few; medium qualities with strength are firmer, and several chops have changed hands at 1s. 4d. and 1s. 7d. per lb.; the greatest reaction, however, since the announcement of the reduction of the duty has been in the good medium and fine qualities; several chops that had been forced off previous to the news have been resold at 3d. to 4d. per lb. profit; and in one or two instances, as much as 6d. per lb. Finest is dearer by 1d. per lb. on last quotations, but the sales are not large. Souchong, owing to the scarcity of fine Kaisow, is more inquired for, and a few sales of fine have transpired up to 2s. 3d. per lb. For Oolongs a few recent of import of fine quality have been taken at 1s. 9d. to 1s. 11d. per lb.; for common the inquiry has ceased. Scented Tea: Canton Orange Pekoe is scarce, but the demand is inactive, as also for Caper. Foochow Orange Pekoe is occasionally asked for at about previous rates. Green: There is little to remark upon, as the supply offering is limited. Moyune kinds are wanted, both by the trade and exporters, and first arrivals will meet with ready sale. In Japan kinds some considerable sales of uncoloured are reported at 1s. per lb. for common leafy kinds, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. for good common to fair, and 1s. 3d. to 1s. 5d. for medium; 1s. 6d. to 1s. 7d. per lb. for fine. The quantity afloat is about 9 million pounds, against about 5 last year; the stock being 106, against 99 in 1864.

SILK.—The sudden termination of the American war coupled with bad accounts of the European racolta, led to a very active demand for Silk during May, and prices of all descriptions have advanced considerably. China Silk: Tsatlees have been most in request, and owing to the extreme scarcity of good Silk, 29s. has been paid for classic thirds; fair and medium Taysaams also sell freely at improved rates, but there is still no demand for inferior descriptions, prices of which are rather lower than otherwise. Japan Silk has been eagerly sought after, and the quotations for Mibash are extravagantly high. The deliveries for the month mark the effect of high prices, being only 2,164 bales of China, and 1,009 bales of Japan. Bengal Silk has been in good demand during the past month, and fully participated in the general improvement. Italian Silk has not been much inquired for, manufacturers here being generally well supplied, but prices continue to creep up. Accounts of the European crop are as usual somewhat conflicting, Japan seed of this year's importation does well everywhere, and especially in Lombardy, where the quantity was large, but the reproduced seed of last season is not so successful, and of all other descriptions there are more or less complaints; altogether, the result is scarcely expected to equal that of last year.

COTTON.—The market, after a brief pause, the consequence of a fall of 10 per cent. in the New York market, which is now the barometer, speedily recovered its tone, when it was seen by the succeeding mail that no further decline had taken place, middling Uplands being steady at 50 cents—a price still beyond that ruling on this side. A good business has been done this week, exporters and the home trade buying freely, and we close with a general advance of ¼d. to ½d. per lb. Sales of 120 bales of China this week at 7¾d. to 8d. for middling fair, and 790 bales of Japan at 9¼d. to 10¼d. for fair to good fair. Stock of China and Japan in London, on the 8th inst., 9,768 bales, against 27,176 bales last year. Afloat to Europe on the 9th June, 32,541 bales China, against 60,682 bales last year; and 531 bales Japan, against 6,218 bales last year. Total stock in London on the 8th June, 84,676 bales, against 82,521 bales last year. Total stock in Liverpool on 9th June, 406,500 bales, against 297,484 last year.

SUGAR.—Continued heaviness has characterised the market, and business has been limited at about 6d. decline. The only transactions reported on the spot by private treaty are 3,900 bags Muscovado Manila at 26s. 6d., and 300 bags clayed at 29s. 9d.

COFFEE.—Colonial descriptions continue to meet a tolerably good demand, and most of the supplies brought forward have been cleared off at prices on the whole equal to those of last week. Ceylon: The public sales of Plantation have comprised 900 casks, 780 barrels and bags, which were taken readily at fully previous rates, fine fine ordinary to low middling 79s. to 83s. 6d., middling to good middling colory 84s. 6d. to 90s. 402 casks, 7,400 bags Native, mostly found buyers at about the former value, common good ordinary to real good ordinary 65s. 6d. to 67s. 6d., fine ordinary 68s. to 70s., superior bold up to 74s. 6d. Mocha: 786 packages at auction, were sold at steady prices, good clean garbled 98s. to 102s., fair long berry 91s. to 92s.

RICE.—The market has been extremely quiet for landed parcels since our last; nothing has been brought to auction, and by private contract, little of consequence has been done. Late last week, two floating cargoes Bassein were reported sold, one, 1,860 tons for Liverpool, at 10s. 9d., and the other, 1,200 tons, at 10s. 6d. for the Continent, or 11s. for the United Kingdom.

SAGO.—Floor: In public sale, 2,743 bags middling quality were nearly all withdrawn at 14s. 6d.

SPICES.—Cloves: Continue quiet. Only 48 bags Zanzibar offered at auction, and those retired; and of 29 cases Penang, a few only sold at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per lb. Mace: Only 22 cases Penang brought to auction, and two-thirds sold at 2s. 5d. to 2s. 6d. per lb. for good palish, and 10d. to 1s. 1d. inferior dull red to fair reddish, being the previous value. Nutmegs: Firm; and 162 cases Penang at auction all sold at 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. per lb. for good bold, 2s. 2d. to 2s. 10d. middling, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d. medium, and 9d. to 1s. 2d. ordinary small and shrivelled to good small.

TAPIOCA.—Of 560 bags Penang, only one-half found buyers; good white, 3½d., ordinary, 2d. to 2½d.

CARDAMOMS.—Malabar comparatively scarce and firm, but little doing. Ceylon firm; 22 barrels sold at auction at 3s. 5d. to 3s. 6d. per lb. for good.

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CAMPHOR.—Business since our last has been very restricted, and the market remains firm, but very quiet at the quotations of £5. 15s. £6 for China, and £6 to £6. 2s. 6d. for Japan.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Rather cheaper; and of 1,287 cases at auction less than one-fourth found buyers at 81s. per cwt. for ordinary 1st quality, and 78s. to 79s. ordinary 2nd ditto. Buds: Quiet; 5 cases at auction retired.

CINNAMON (CEYLON).—We quote 1st sort 1s. 4d. to 2s. 4d. per lb.; 2nd, 1s. 3d. to 2s. 2d.; 3rd, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 9d.; and 4th Jungle .d 1s. 4d.; 120 bales have been offered at auction, and half sold rat her improved prices; 1st, 1s. 9d. to 1s. 10d.; 2nd, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 7d.; 3rd, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d.; 4th, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d.

COCOA-NUT OIL.—Is again dearer, with large business up to £44. 10s. per ton for Cochin, and £43 Ceylon: 161 casks Cochin, and 571 casks Ceylon at auction.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Transactions purely retail. 55 bags at auction retired. Galangal Root: Steady: 110 bags at auction mostly sold at 16s. to 16s. 6d. per cwt. for good. Rhubarb: Quiet, but scarcely any present inquiry: only 4 cases at auction, and those retired.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Steady; of 114 cases Sumatra at auction, half sold at £6. 10s. to £6. 15s. per cwt. for middling thirds, and £2. 5s. to £2. 6s. fourths. Damar: Quiet; 20 cases at auction retired. Gamboge: Steady, but quiet; no auctions.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Continues very quiet; of 23 tons at auction, a small proportion only sold at 11d. to 1s. per lb. for ordinary genuine, and 5d. to 5½d. inferior reboiled.

HEMP (MANILA).—Steady, with moderate business on former terms; 3,000 to 4,000 bales, current quality, reported at £29. 10s. per ton, and some little Sorsogon at £30 to £31. No auctions.

HIDES.—At the sales on the 8th there was a good demand for East India, both for export and consumption, and nearly the whole found buyers generally at last sale prices, but occasionally at ¼d. per lb. decline. Of 1,868 Singapore Cow Hides offered, 1,545 sold; Light, 7d. to 7½d. per lb.; Heavy, 5d. to 6d. per lb.; Small, 7¼d. per lb.; Thirds, 5½d. per lb. 1,503 Singapore and Penang Buffalo Hides offered and sold at 5¼d. to 6d. per lb. for best; Seconds, 4¾d. to 5¼d.; Light, 4¾d. 1,184 Java Bufflalo Hides offered, 808 sold at 4¾d. to 5d. per lb.

HORNS.—Buffalo: Steady; of 26 tons Madras, 11 tons Calcutta, 8 tons Bombay, and 1 ton Ceylon at auction, the greater part sold at 24s. 6d. to 31s. per cwt. for 1¼ lbs. to 2 lbs. average; 11 tons Calcutta tips sold at 28s. to 29s. per cwt. Deer: Firm; and 5 tons Ceylon, and 1½ tons Madras at auction, sold at 51s. per cwt. for 1½ lbs. average.

INDIA RUBBER.—Very quiet; 161 bags Java, and 51 baskets Penang at auction retired, and of 110 baskets Assam half sold at 7½d. to 8¼d. for ordinary to middling.

JAPAN WAX.—Steady, with some inquiry for good block. No auctions.

OILS.—Anniseed: Further business to a moderate extent has been done up to 7s. 9d. per lb., but the market has become quiet, and there are now sellers at 7s. 7d. per lb., with few buyers over 7s. 6d. Cassia: Very flat, with no buyers at the quotation of 8s. 3d. per lb. Cinnamon: Quiet, 4 cases at auction retired.

PEPPER.—Black: Quiet and drooping; 917 bags Singapore and 1,170 bags Penang brought to auction; 700 bags of the former sold at 3¼d. per lb., and about 300 bags of the latter at 3d. Small sales privately upon similar terms. White: Fair business privately on former terms.

SHELLAC.—Very flat, and again rather lower for all descriptions; of 882 cases at auction, only a small proportion sold. Orange, £4. 13s. to £4. 14s. per cwt.; and Native, £4 to £4. 5s. Private transactions very limited.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Continues flat, with very limited business; only 20 tons at auction, and those retired. Gambier: Steady, with moderate business privately on former terms: 604 bales cubes at auction sold at 27s. 6d. to 27s. 9d. per cwt.

TIN (BANCA AND STRAITS).—This market has become very lifeless: prices have receded fully £2 per ton, and transactions have been most limited.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Galls: Market for all descriptions flat, and 181 cases China and 7 cases Japan at auction all retired. Arrivals of Japan. Musk: Tonquin is 2s. to 3s. per oz. cheaper; 46 caddies sold at auction at 24s. to 27s. 6d. per cwt. for middling to fair; but 26 caddies China Cabardine sold at 16s. to 17s. per oz., being very extreme rates. Rattans meet with good demand; and 7,141 bundles Singapore, and 4,557 bundles Penang at auction, all sold at 3s. to 7s. 9d. per 100. Sapanwood: Quiet, and without any business of consequence. Mcther-o'-Pearl Shells: Inquired for; private sales to a fair extent effected upon fully former terms. Soy: Held firmly, but little doing. Star Anniseeds: Continue scarce, and very high prices are asked. Sticklac (Siam): Steady; of 426 cases at auction, about one-third sold at 45s. to 54s. per cwt. for good small to very good bold clean; 22s. 6d. ordinary woody; and 17s. siftings. Turmeric: No China offering; only 80 bags Java at auction sold at 11s. per cwt. for common. Vermilion: Nothing of consequence doing.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
May 23	Bronwershaven	Banjoewangie	Constantia	Overgaauw.
— 5	Havana	Macao	Emma	Figueira.
— 24	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Hendrika	Stuifry.
— 26	Falmouth	Maulmain	Mersey	Banks.
— 27	Do.	Singapore	Charlotte Jane	Lobbett.
— 27	Do.	Banjoewangie	Wanja	Soderberg.
— 28	Off Falmouth	Java	Silentium	
— 25	Off the Lizard	Batavia	Europa	Lupke.
— 29	London	Nagasaki	Comet	Wright.
— 25	Torbay	Banjoewangie	Frans and Elise	Neufeld.

ARRIVALS—*continued.*

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain
— 24	Off the Lizard	Batavia	H. Luduina	Brink.
— 25	Do.	Sourabaya	Figaro	Rickleffs.
— 29	London	Singapore	Maury	Harms.
— 27	Off Dungeness	Batavia	Tollens	Verhagen.
— 27	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Zind Holland	Breuning.
Apr. 23	Callao	Macao	Clotilde	Bollo.
May 6	Havana	Do.	Lombard	Brousmiche.
— 30	London	Colombo, &c.	Bride	Gibson.
— 30	Do.	Do.	Kurrachee	McMillan.
— 29	Helvoet	Sourabaya	County of Lanark	
— 13	Montreal	Shanghai	Eastern Chief	Fraser.
— 31	London	Ceylon	Florence Louisa	Walters.
— 25	Off the Start	Java	Margaretha Simonetta	Hoffman.
— 29	Texel	Banjoewangie	John Ritson	Gibson.
— 29	Do.	Do.	Johann Kepler	Rahe.
— 29	Do.	Do.	Presto	Teekes.
— 29	Do.	Do. & Simon's Bay	Jan Hendrik	Lelyvelt.
— 19	Quebec	Singapore	Zirine	Priest.
— 31	Zierikzee	Banjoewangie	Catharina Maria	Oomkens.
June 3	Falmouth	Manila	Monarchy	Day.
— 3	Deal	Batavia	Johanna Christina	Leclercq.
— 2	Off Scilly	Do.	Zeenimph	Roggers.
May 21	Quebec	Shanghai	Princess of Wales	Barron.
June 7	London	China	Naomi	Sayers.
— 7	Do.	Sarawak	Moldavian	Ward.
— 7	Deal	China	Jubilee	Grant.
— 7	Liverpool	Singapore	Lady Bowen	Livingstone.
May 18	Havana	Macao	Fort Durand	Dubois.
June 5	Off the Lizard	China	Laurel	
— 8	Deal	Singapore	Edwin Fox	McLean.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
May 23	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Hadassah	Dickson.
— 18	Rotterdam	Samarang	Hendrika	v.d. Valk.
— 23	Cardiff	Manila	Laugdale	Brown.
— 24	Shields	Galle	Kohinya	
— 21	Hamburg	Hong Kong	Piccola	Kroll.
— 25	Falmouth	River Amoor	Charlotte of Derby	Langmead.
— 27	London	Shanghai	Juanopore	Wilson.
— 26	Newport	Singapore	Johanna Maria	Klemenberg.
— 29	London	Newport & Galle	Annie Boylston	Peterson.
— 26	Cardiff	Manila	Coms. d. Kgs. v.d. Hm.	Moerkerken.
— 26	Do.	Do.	Cornelis Smit	Wiedeman.
— 27	Shields	Shanghai	Express	
— 30	London	Sunderland & H. Kong	Moravia	Patten.
— 31	Do.	Singapore	Cosmos	Finley.
— 31	Do.	Sunderland & H. Kong	Clara Morse	Laurence.
— 22	Amsterdam	Java	Elshout	Akkermann.
— 31	Liverpool	Shanghai	Cinnaman	Downie.
June 2	London	Do.	Patrician	Pain.
May 31	Shields	Anjer	Zes Gezusters	Rutgers.
—	Newcastle	Java	Elisabeth	Muller.
June 3	Shields	China	Monkchester	Glover.
May 2	Rio Janeiro	Colombo	Cruiser	Kirby.
Jun —	Hamburg	Manila	Voladora	Villabaso.
—	Amsterdam	Samarang	Maria Regina	Ouwehand.
—	Do.	Sourabaya	Staatsrad v.d. Houven	Heymericks.
May 31	Shields	Batavia	Kinderdyk	
June 4	Liverpool	Philippine Isles	Herbert	Bell.
— 3	Do.	Manila	Feliz	Urrulia.
— 8	London	Yokohama & Nagasaki	Lord Raglan	Pope.
— 8	Liverpool	Batavia & Sourabaya	Cornelia	Croese.
— 8	Do.	Shanghai	Petchelee	Foster.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Medina; Chanticleer. For Shanghai: Anglo Saxon, Dilkhoosh, Spirit of the Deep. For Hong Kong and Canton: Canadian, Lady Love, James Russell, Sydney Eggers. For Hong Kong: Violet. For Singapore and Penang: Bride. For Singapore and Bankok: May Queen. For Manila: Manila. For Batavia: William Simpson. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Zeenymph. For Madras and Penang: Southern Cross. For Colombo: Wynaud, Crixea. For Colombo and Cochin: Eaglet, Star of the Mersey.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Brilliant. For Shanghai: Aerolite. For Singapore: Norah Greame. For Manila: Cinco Hermanos. For Penang: Avery. For Ceylon: Star of Devon.

AT GLASGOW.—For Manila, Iloilo, and Zebu: Anastasia. For Singapore: Lochleven Castle. For Cape of Good Hope, Singapore, and Hong Kong: Japan (s.). For Ceylon and Madras; Thomas Mitchell, Queen of Trumps.

At NEW YORK.—For Shanghai: Horatio. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Annie Kimball.

SPOKEN.

FINZEL (barque), for Shanghai, April 7, 1 S., 26 W.
VILLE DE ST. LOUIS (F. bq.), Bordeaux to H. Kong, Ap. 9, 1 N., 25 W.
MACAO (H. bq.), Java to Falmouth, 109 days out, May 13, 43 N., 28 W.
NOACH (Dutch ship), Amsterdam to Batavia, 49 N., 9 W.
EUROPA (Dutch ship), Java to Amsterdam, 49 N., 7 W.
MATHEW LUCE, Boston to Nagaski, May 19, 33 N., 38 W.
SOUBURG, Newcastle to Batavia, May 30, 49 N., 4 W.
DELFT (Dut. barq.), Rotterdam to Bat., April 14, on the line, 22 W.
JASON, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 26, 4 S., 30 W.
HENRIETTA GERARDINA SUSANNA, Rot. to Smrng., My. 28, 48 N., 12 W.
SPES, China to Liverpool, April 4, 36 S. 22 E.
WHAMPOA, of & from Rottm. for Bat., 44 days out, 21 S., 26 W.
WINLOW, from Colombo, 2 S., 80 E.
BELLA MARIA (ship), H. Kong to L'pool, Apl. 27, 4 (?) S., 25 W.
PAULINE CONSTANCE ELEONORE, Amstm. to Pdng., May 17, 48 N., 8 W.
PRINCESS ROYAL (barq.), Shanghai to Montreal, April 12, 9 S., 21 W.
QUEEN OF THE EAST (ship), Cntn. to Demerara, 75 days out, 24 S., 4 E.
AVALANCHE (ship), Penang to London, April 16, 21 S., 1 E.
NEVADA (ship), London to Ceylon, May 9, 9 N., 27 W.
SWIFT (?) (Norw. brig), Cntn. to Flmth., 92 days out, Apl. 25, 2 N., 32 W.

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NELLY (barq.), Colombo to London, April 24, 13 S., 10 W.
MACASSAR, Rotterdam to Macassar, May 20, 50 N., 7 W.
COSLIPORE (barq.), Sourabaya to Rotterdam, April 2, 34 S., 27 E.
STORM KING (ship), Clyde to Galle, March 20, 11 S., 31 W.
CHIEF, Birkenhead to Galle, May 22, 46 N., 11 W.
MOZAMBIQUE, Hamburg to Batavia, May 1, in the Channel.
KENILWORTH, Swansea to Singapore, March 8, 25 S., 27 W.
PETRONELLA, Amsterdam to Sourabaya, March 22, 49 N., 5 W.
STRAATSRAAD' V. EWYCK, Amstdm. to Batavia, May 9, 38 N., 16 W.
CAMILLA, Cardiff to Shanghai, April 24, 1 N., 22 W.
BLANCHE MOORE, Liverpool to Galle, April 28, 6 N., 25 W.
ANNA, Amsterdam to Singapore, May 24, 48 N., 11 W.
MARIA MAGDALENA (Dut. barq.), Rot. to Bat., March 15, 1 N., 29 W.
SARAH SCOTT, Liverpool to Shanghai, April 9, 3 N., 24 W.
CATHERINA WILHELMINA, Rotdm. to Batavia, April 9, 2 N., 22 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Outward freights are steady, and for going ships high rates are obtained. In homeward charters we have no improvement to report.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 35s. weight or measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £36 and 32s. 6d. For Shanghai: £41 and £1. 17s. 6d. For Manila: £1. 12s. 6d. For Batavia: 24s. to 26s. For Singapore: £25 and £1. 2s. 6d. For Galle: £29 and £1. 5s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 20 tons naval stores, principally combustibles, from the River Thames to Colombo.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Off CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—April 15, from China, for Portsmouth, Hindostan.

Off MAURITIUS.—April 18, Ange Garden, Bogre, sailed for Singapore; May 4, H.M.S. Tamar, sailed for Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Kew Kee, Fuller, from Liverpool for Shanghai, put into Rio Janeiro, April 30, leaky and was obliged to discharge.

The Maravi, Anderson, from London to Yokohama, put into Falmouth, May 29, to stop a leak. She has since been surveyed and ordered to discharge.

LAUNCHES FOR THE CHINA TRADE.

Messrs. Hedderwick and Co., of Govan, launched a screw-steamer of about 600 tons and 85-horse power, named the Japan, which is intended for the China and Japan trade.

A fine clipper ship, the property of John Dryden, Esq., of North Shields, was launched on the 27th of May, from Mr. Alcock's building-yard, at Sunderland, to be named the Prudhoe, after the late Duke of Northumberland. She is intended for the China trade, and is classed 13 years A 1 at Lloyd's. She is 140 feet 6 inches in length of keel; extreme breadth 30 feet 8 inches; 19 feet 6 inches in depth; and 666 tons register. Sh will be under command of Captain Reid, late master of the Maid of Tyne of Shields.

Messrs. W. H. Potter and Co., of Liverpool, have launched a very handsome screw-steamer, which has been built for the King of Siam. This vessel, which is a beautiful model, is 156 feet length, 22 feet beam, 13 feet depth of hold, and 400 tons burthen. The Siam was launched with her masts and rigging complete, her screw propeller and shaft having also been previously fixed. She was at once taken into the Sandon Dock, where she will receive her engines, which are of 90-horse power, manufactured by Messrs. George Forrester and Co., of the Vauxhall Foundry, of Liverpool. She will be despatched in about three weeks.

The screw building for Messrs. Robertson and Co., and others to replace the Sea King, will be ready for launching in August.

FOURTH REPORT of the SCINDE, PUNJAUB, and DELHI BANK CORPORATION (Limited).

Head Office.

No. 80, KING WILLIAM-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Branches at Bombay, Calcutta, Kurrachee, Lahore, and Umritsur.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL £927,780 0 0
PAID-UP CAPITAL 392,778 0 0

DIRECTORS.

Chairman—WILLIAM PATRICK ANDREW, Esq.
Deputy-Chairman—FRANCIS WILLIAM RUSSELL, Esq., M.P.
Harry Borrodaile, Esq. | William Mackinnon, Esq.
William Dent, jun., Esq. | Sir Charles Nicholson, Bart.
Sir Stuart A. Donaldson. | Thomas Williams, Esq.

AUDITORS.

William Dent, Esq. | J. Edmund Anderdon, Esq.
Messrs. Coleman, Turquand, Youngs, and Co.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England.
The Union Bank of London.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Thomas and Hollams.

MANAGER.

T. G. Craig, Esq.

BRANCHES IN INDIA.

Bombay—T. G. Young, Esq., Manager.
Kurrachee—R. E. K. Wilkinson, Esq., Manager.
Lahore—W. J. Oliver, Esq., Acting Manager.
Umritsur—Edwin Morton, Esq., Manager.
Calcutta—Henry Lathbury, Esq., Manager.

AGENTS.

Madras—The Oriental Bank Corporation.
Hong Kong—Messrs. Dent and Co.
Ceylon—Messrs. Armitage Brothers.
Sydney—The Commercial Banking Company of Sydney; and Messrs. Macdonald, Smith, and Co.

At the FOURTH HALF-YEARLY MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS in this COMPANY held at the LONDON TAVERN, Bishopsgate-street, on TUESDAY, the 30th May, 1865, W. P. ANDREW, Esq., in the Chair,

The Manager having read the Advertisement convening the Meeting, the Minutes of the previous Meeting, and the Report and Statement of Accounts having been taken as read,

The following Resolutions were duly moved, seconded, and carried unanimously:—

"That the Report and Statement of Accounts of the Directors be received and adopted."

"That the retiring Directors, Mr. W. P. Andrew, Mr. Harry Borradaile, and Mr. W. Dent, jun., be re-elected Directors of the Corporation."

"That the Auditors who retire, Mr. W. Dent and Mr J. E. Anderdon, be re-elected Auditors of the Corporation."

"That the cordial thanks of the Meeting be tendered to W. P. Andrew, Esq., for his able and courteous conduct in the Chair this day."

(Signed) W. P. ANDREW, Chairman.

Extracted from the Minutes.
T. G. CRAIG, Manager.

TO MERCHANTS AND SHIPPERS OF HARDWARE, MACHINERY, &C.

GEORGE PETTIT & SON,

COMMISSION MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS & GENERAL AGENTS,

97 AND 98, SUFFOLK-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

ESTABLISHED 1820.

DOCKS.

PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

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EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1864.

THE AGRA and MASTERMAN'S BANK (Limited).

(Established in 1833.)

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up Capi 1,£1,500,000 (one million and a-half sterling).

Subscribed Capital, £3,000,000 (three millions sterling).

In 20,000 Shares of £100 each, and 20,000 Shares of £50 each,

Number of Shareholders, 908.

Reserved Fund, £500,000.

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The Corporation grant drafts and negotiate bills of exchange payable at the above places, issue letters of credit, and conduct every description of banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian securities, the receipt of dividends, &c., and undertake the safe custody of securities. They also receive deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of interest and exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

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1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

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The Bank of England.

The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)

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CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up capital, £750,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

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Calcutta. Kandy. Singapore. Shanghai. Mauritius
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The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at the places above mentioned, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the Overland Route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

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THE BLAKELY ORDNANCE COMPANY

(LIMITED).

INCORPORATED UNDER THE COMPANIES' ACT, 1862.

CAPITAL, £750,000, IN 30,000 SHARES OF £25 EACH.

DEPOSIT ON APPLICATION £1 PER SHARE, AND £4 ON ALLOTMENT.

FIRST ISSUE OF 20,000 SHARES.

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(With power to add to their number.)

Bankers.

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JAMES SHEPHERD, Esq., Throgmorton Street, London, E.C.

Secretary (pro tem.).—JOHN HEALY, Esq.

Temporary Offices—1, Royal Exchange Buildings, London, E.C.

PROSPECTUS.

The manufacture of Ordnance upon the principle patented by Captain Blakely, has for upwards of five years been carried on by private enterprise. The demand for this class of Ordnance has, however, so largely increased, that the Works established at Southwark by the present Blakely Ordnance Company have proved altogether inadequate, and it has been found necessary to establish a Manufactory on a much larger scale. Extensive Works are in course of construction at Greenwich, to which it is proposed to transfer the operations of the Company.

Both in Europe and America, as well as at home, the Blakely Ordnance is daily coming into more extensive use, and during the last six years large orders have been executed for Russia, Portugal, Italy, Egypt, Sweden, China and Japan, Morocco, Turkey, and several important States in North and South America, including the Confederate Government.

As an evidence of the remunerative character of this description of manufacture, it may be stated that the nett profits in the current year amount to nearly £60,000.

With the view of providing the increased capital which is requisite to carry on the manufacture on so large a scale, it is proposed to form a Limited Company, to be called "The Blakely Ordnance Company (Limited)." The services of Captain Blakely have been retained as Managing Director. The present efficient staff will also continue in office, as follows:—Josiah Vavasseur, Esq., C.E., Resident Engineer; Mr. Campbell (late of the Royal Laboratory, Woolwich), Superintendent of Laboratory and Shell Factory; Colonel Burnaby, Royal Artillery, Proof-master.

The Directors have entered into an agreement for the purchase of the existing leases, plant, premises, and goodwill for the sum of £225,000, payable by instalments over two years, and £150,000 in Debentures bearing £6 per cent. interest. In forming their estimate of the value of the plant, leases, fixtures, machinery, stock, and goodwill, the Directors have been guided by a valuation of the same by a competent engineer. The goodwill has been rated at two and a half years' purchase.

As an evidence of their confidence in the undertaking, the vendors have agreed to guarantee that the profits of the undertaking shall amount to a sum sufficient to pay a minimum dividend at the rate of £15 per cent. per annum for three years, on the paid-up Capital for the time being of the present issue of Shares.

As it has been considered impossible to estimate equitably the value of the patents, it has been agreed that they shall be transferred to the Company, the present Proprietor receiving £20 per cent. of the nett profits for the next seven years.

The Company will enter into possession of the Works in Southwark and Greenwich on the 30th of June instant, but will be entitled to the benefit of all contracts executed, and profits made, since the 30th June, 1864. The Vendors reserve to themselves the right of subscribing for one-third of the present issue of Shares.

A copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association can be inspected at the Offices of the Solicitors, 43, Chancery-lane.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application for Shares can be obtained at the Offices of the Brokers of the Company, and of the Solicitors.

As some applicants may desire to take full advantage of the guaranteed dividend, by paying up their Shares in full, two Forms of Application are annexed, one for Ordinary Shares, and the other for Fully Paid-up Shares.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To the Directors of the BLAKELY ORDNANCE COMPANY (Limited).

Gentlemen,—Having paid to the Agra and Masterman's Bank the sum of £ , being £1 per Share on Shares, I request you to allot me Shares in the above Company, in conformity with the Prospectus issued by you, and I hereby agree to accept such Shares, or any less number that may be allotted to me, and to pay the further sum of £4 per Share due on allotment thereof, and the calls when due, and I request you to place my name on the Register of Shareholders for the Shares allotted to me.—I am, Gentleman, your obedient servant,

Name in full .....
Usual Signature .....
Address in full .....
Trade or Profession .....
Date ..... 1865.

APPLICATION FOR FULLY PAID-UP SHARES.

To the Directors of the BLAKELY ORDNANCE COMPANY (Limited).

Gentlemen,—Having paid to the Agra and Masterman's Bank the sum of £ , being £1 per Share on Shares, I request you to allot me fully paid-up Shares, in conformity with the Prospectus issued by you, and I hereby agree to accept such Shares, or any less number that may be allotted to me, and to pay the further sum of £24 per Share due on allotment thereof.—I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

Name in Full .....
Usual Signature .....
Address in full .....
Trade or Profession .....
Date ..... 1865.

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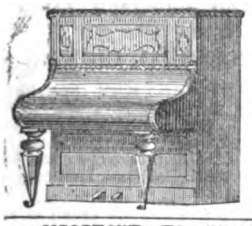
TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND INDIA.



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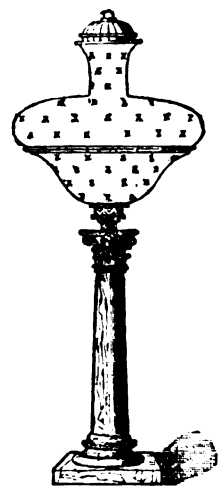

THE celebrity which TUCKER AND SON'S LAMPS have acquired in the East for burning *steadily* under the Punkah or in side draughts, and *brilliantly* with any of the *coarse native oils*, renders eulogy unnecessary; but having been enabled, by increased facilities of manufacture, very considerably to *reduce the prices* of the above favourite (but hitherto expensive) description of their lamps, and Son beg to notify the fact to the Eastern public.

They are elegant and durable, are finished in exact imitation of many beautiful stones and marbles, such as Malachite, Lapis Lazuli, Serpentine, Sienna, Brocatella, Jasper, &c., and are not affected by heat, damp, friction, or insects; oil, spirits, or acids accidentally spilled. The enamel surface is so inseparable from the base (block slate, proverbial for its strength) that it cannot be removed except by an edged tool. It *requires* simply *dusting*, but if rubbed hard, it only adds a gloss to its appearance—at all times cool and agreeable.

After ten years' constant use and handling, these lamps are none the worse for wear.

Malachite (green), Serpentine (brown), or Lapis Lazuli (blue), are most re commended.

Table Lamp complete, with engraved glasses, as sketch, 72s.

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Either pattern, with plain frosted glasses, 7s. 6d. each less.

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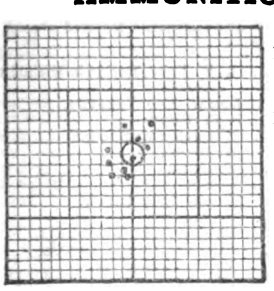

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Capital subscribed	... ...	2,000,000
Capital paid-up	... ...	500,000
Reserved Fund	... ...	200,000
Dividend Reserve Fund	...	70,000

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Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 176.] LONDON, FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Feb. 10	April 6	April 13
Nagasaki			„ 14
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			„ 12
Tien-tsin			„ 15
Chefoo			„ 16
New-chwang			
Hankow			„ 18
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	„ 27	„ 15	„ 23
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	March 10	„ 22	„ 29
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	Feb. 27	„ 15	„ 21
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			„ 30
SIAM— Bangkok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			May 1
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	March 27	„ 30	„ 6
Penang	„ 27	„ 28	„ 8

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail to Marseilles, per P. and O. Company's steamer Syria, arrived June 14.—The company's list has not arrived; the following are from the *China Mail*:—For Marseilles: Messrs. Rahn, J. A. Sitwell, J. A. Shaw, G. Hughes.

To Southampton, per Massilia, expected to arrive June 20.—From Shanghai: Messrs. Jameson, Spiers, Barnes, and King. From Hong Kong: Mr. Thwaites, J. Stewart, R. Anderson, J. Popplewell, Capt. Cuthbert. From Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Martin, three children, and European female servant, Mr. Boyce. From Penang: Captain Kestring. From Galle: Hon. F. Saunders, Col. and Mrs. Muter.

Per French mail to Marseilles, June 8.—From Shanghai: Messrs. Gandambert, Selth, Mercier, Lachaizette. From Hong Kong: Messrs. Sola, Azolia, Soeurs Victorine, Bruno, Penalda, Oliver, Franco, Ferral, Enriquez, Vires and three children, Uzquierdo, Martin, Ferrand and Son, Annette, Cornellana, de Orbeta, Ponzoa, Prat, Lutz, Mr. and Mrs. Rangel, Mr. and Mrs. de la Pena. From Saigon: Messrs. Larrieu, de la Lour de Pin, Rondean. From Singapore: Messrs. Metrier, Courtand and family. From Batavia: Messrs. Bosher, family, and two servants, Lenwen and family and two servants, Kerkstra, David-on, Aristerman, Gimberg and Son, Fitz and family, Clarkson, Gens and family and servant, de Bourg, Spruyz.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Poonah, from Southampton, June 20.—To Hong Kong: Asst.-surgeons A. W. Whitley, R.N., J. A. Gowen, R.N. and E. Hudson, R.N., Mrs. Gannett and daughter. To Singapore: Miss Rough, Miss Page. To Ceylon: Mr. A. Macartney, Mr. T. Powrie, Mr. and Mrs. Gow, Mr. W. M. Gow, Mr. A. T. Johnston. From Marseilles, June 28.—To Hong Kong: Capt. D. Sinclair, Mr. and Mrs. C Bradley, Mr. John Pitman. To Singapore: Mr. John Ross. From Suez.—To Singapore: Capt. and Mrs. Dana.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, July 4.—To Ceylon: Mr. W. Syme. To Singapore: Mr. Skinner.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Dates are to the 13th April. The London mail of the 10th February arrived out on the 6th April, but telegrams had been received bearing so late a date as March 4.

The Japanese Ministers for Foreign Affairs have addressed a protest to the representatives of the Treaty Powers, against allowing "subjects of non-Treaty Powers, such as Danes Chinese, Germans, Italians, and others," to reside on their property at the open ports. It would be the wish of the Japanese, they said, to send away individuals so established, if such a step would cause no difficulty in their relation with the Treaty representatives; but it was hoped that the latter would deliberate on the best method of solving the difficulty. The British Chargé d'Affaires, in reply, disclaimed power to deal with such a question, which he considered could only be decided by reference to the respective Governments; but he suggested that, in the meantime, foreigners so circumstanced who might be guilty of any offence, should be amenable to a Japanese tribunal, at which one or more Consuls should sit as assessors. Semi-official information had been received from the Japanese authorities of the arrest of a *samurai*, believed to be the second assassin of Major Baldwin and Lieut. Bird, of the 20th Regt., in November last. This person was captured along with others of a gang inimical to foreigners, who were undergoing examination before the Governor of Yedo.

The battery of the Royal Artillery which has been posted at Yokohama since August last, left on the 30th March in Her Majesty's steamer *Leopard*, carrying with them the good wishes of the community, which has had every reason to appreciate the excellent conduct of the men during their short sojourn, and with whom Lieut. Wood was a universal favourite. A half battery of artillery has been manned by a selection of the men of the 20th Regt., who have been for some time in training. They are under the command of Lieut. Barlow, and are esteemed to be well up to their new duty.

A considerable amount of excitement has been caused by the re-publication here of a very extraordinary letter written by the Hon. R. H. Pruyn, United States Minister Resident, and first published in the (New York) *Missionary Record*, which has come out mainly in consequence of the acquisition by that official of a most valuable piece of land in the settlement for "an American church" (whatever that may be), or for the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, professed only by a very small portion of even American residents; and by further allegations of the "squeezing" by himself and the United States Consul of some enormous sums of extra exchanges as the expenses of their removal respectively from Yedo and Kanagawa. The *Japan Herald* stated that it was prepared with the proof of these allegations, and undertook to produce them if their truthfulness was challenged—but up to this time no attempt has been made to call them in question. We subjoin our contemporary's observations, which tell the whole story:—

The very extraordinary letter of the Hon. R. H. Pruyn, Minister of the United States of America, resident in this country, which we reproduced from the (New York) *Missionary Record* in our issue of the 18th ultimo, will, we doubt not, ere long attain a world-wide notoriety. We should feel fairly open to a charge of shirking a manifest duty were we to be ourselves entirely silent upon the subject, and shall therefore (acknowledging that we approach the task as a disagreeable one to be avoided as much as possible), touch lightly upon those heads of it which most prominently call for remark. We may first put ourselves right on one point. It has, we are aware, been asserted by the hon. gentleman that this letter was not written for publication. Finding that the New York *Missionary Record* has done him a disservice by the publication of it, he first gives that pious journal an unkind kick, saying he believes it is defunct; and then attributes any mischief which may be done, or any offence which may be given to anyone, by its publicity, to the fact that the *Japan Herald* has got hold of it and put it in print. This may be true enough, but there are two things herewith connected which are worthy of observation before he should endeavour to accuse us of mischief making. The *Missionary Record* is the avowed organ in New York of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church, the interest of which, and the honour of the

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members of which, are so much cared for by the proprietors of the paper, that it is removed from out of the danger of all influence from the predilition and bias of a poor erring editor, and, as it tells us in large letters under the title, it is "Published by the Board of Publication of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church." Surely with such guarantee for caution and wisdom, nothing should be said against the good faith with which it may propagate the intelligence or communications it receives, and no fault could fairly be laid to our charge for gathering a sip from such a fountain after such filtration. Again, the hon. gentleman must know that, whether erroneous or not, a general impression holds that, so attached are diplomatists to the principle of non-committal, and so careful, therefore, never to put in black and white anything which may thereafter be inconveniently quoted against them, that it is generally very difficult to unravel the knots with which they will fasten the red tape around their most ordinary notes or correspondence; and that, therefore, when one does find the name of a Minister accredited to a foreign Court attached to a published document, that document is not only fair food for criticism, but its matter fitly accepted as statements or opinions, as the case may be, thrown out for the purpose of discussion. However, further talk on this is of no avail; the letters are published and republished, and, as we have said above, are now fairly on the high road to celebrity—or notoriety.

There is one remark made by the Hon. General Pruyn to which we must give our most unequivocal adherence:—

"Dissenters, and American Dissenters, would probably at this early stage of the movement be regarded as impertinent intruders on British ships of war, where the Church service is regularly read each Sabbath morning, and ample means of grace therefore duly provided by law."

And long may it be so, say we, for it would be but a sorry day for England's honour, or the world's peace, when any canting, hypocritical, superannuated field-preacher who could raise a suit of musty black, a white neck-tie, and a sanctimonious countenance, on ascending the side of a British man-of-war to show the Jacks his notions of how they should be saved, should be received in any other character than that of an "impertinent intruder"—or receive any other hospitality than a seat in the slush bucket, or any further entertainment than a game of "keel-hauling," in which he should be the principal performer. The very mischievous statement in the latter part of the paragraph commencing "Will not you and your people remember these seamen in your prayers" (which for motives of policy that will be understood we do not reprint conspicuously again here, should be now before the other Ministers Resident and Chargés d'Affaires in Japan; if it does not engage their attention, it certainly will not escape that of the Ministers of the countries having, and determined to maintain, amicable relations with Japan.

We then come to a paragraph which we think contains about as shameful a piece of libellous back biting as it was ever our ill-fortune to hear or read of. When we recollect that it comes from the pen of an Honourable Minister—accredited to a foreign country diplomatically to represent one of the noblest nations of the world—that he is a man of arms—high in rank—a General,—and that he levels his remarks at a man of peace, a minister ordained to service in a Christian Church, our indignation is with difficulty kept within bounds. Here is the precious morsel. (The italics here also are our own.)

"Mr. Richards had been here four months confined most of his time on shipboard, and a stranger. Though desirous of Christian intercourse and fellowship, he knew not where to go. He knew nothing of the presence of our Missionaries. *Though there is an Episcopal Chapel here, there was no one there by whom he could be benefited, or with whom he could associate.*"

Those who would stigmatise this further than we have done, and with another word still more unpleasant (which we have not added here, but yet is in our mind) will recollect that the only excuse which has been made for this effusion is, that it was never thought it would be published and reprinted here! We make it a rule never to enter upon any matters which may lead us into theological discussion; and are still more careful never to be drawn into any expressions as to the merits or demerits of those exercising ministerial functions in any section of the Church, and it is not for us to vindicate the British consular chaplain against the imputations conveyed in the above sentence. We presume, as he holds his office by appointment (and partly under pay) from the Foreign Office, it will be necessary for him, now that he is thus challenged by the United States Minister Resident, to show that to write and publish a statement that there is no one here connected with the Episcopal Church by whom spiritual benefit could be rendered to, or association held with, by a gunner on board one of H.B.M.'s gunboats, is an unfounded libel.

Throughout the former part of this letter there runs a tone of assumed humility and self-denial which strangely puzzles us when compared with the last paragraph, which seems to be—like the P.S. of a lady's letter—the whole gist of it.

"We have been favoured also as to temporalities. I succeeded on Monday in procuring from the Japanese Government the best lot in the place, 184 x 115, adjoining the Government warehouse, and first from the Hatoba or wharf, instead of one on the hill long promised but persistently withheld. The lot now granted is part of Commodore Perry's treaty ground and would sell to-day for $30,000. The Central Bank of Western India wishes to lease part of it. Should business continue as now, we can reserve enough for Church and parsonage, and support the entire Mission to Japan from the rent received for the balance."

Now, we should like to have one or two doubts which arise to our mind on reading these paragraphs set at rest. Who are the "we" who have been thus favoured as to "temporalities"—as they have been in "spiritualities?" Is it "these men among whom God's Spirit is now moving"—the Jacks of H.B.M's. Navy, the "two warrant officers and three seamen of the fleet," who have been connected in the chamber of the United States Minister, who have received this further manifestation of grace in the shape of "the best lot in the place, 184 x 115," which would sell for $30,000, and upon which the Central Bank has cast (as is said, but we doubt it) its avaricious eye? Fair play is a jewel all the world over, and if, as it turns out, and as we predicted when this land was first grasped, this is another application of the old Quaker's theory of land-titles—"The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof:—The Lord hath given his earth to his saints:—We are his saints:—Ergo—The land is ours." In this case, we say, the now satisfied British gunner, the two British warrant officers, and the three British seamen, upon the principle held up in the Parable of the Labourers in the Vineyard, although they have come late in the day, have clearly as much right, title and interest in every inch of the 184 x 115, as their fellow-saints who have borne the heat and burthen of the day;—and we only wish they may get it.

But we said at the time the obtaining of this piece of ground seemed very like a job, and a gross one: the letters of General Pruyn and the Rev. Mr. Brown, now published, certainly do not convince us of error in that opinion. But there are other views in which this should be regarded, besides the question of any jobbery, or even the interest of the American branch of the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church: How will the Japanese feel when they learn that they have been induced by a foreign Minister to give up, for the purpose of the erection of a building for a small sectarian body, "the best lot in the place," "which would sell to-day for $30,000," "a part only of which is required for a church and manse, the remainder of which might be used for stores and godowns, and which will rent at very high rates, on account of the excellence of the locality?" We hope they will accept the assurance of the American Minister and the Rev. Mr. Brown that they have (under error as they can show) granted, or agreed to grant, more land than required for the alleged purpose, and insist upon the recession of the balance, which they certainly never intended to grant for the purpose of being let to support a sectarian foreign religion in their own country.

Before quite concluding on this subject of jobberies, following the example of the American Minister, we will lift the veil which hitherto covered an abuse scarcely less vicious than the sale of foreign liquors to British tars; and expose a dark corner which will be none the worse for ventilation. We have before us as we write, a curious document which lets us into a few secrets as to how these operations are worked.

"EXCHANGES.

"For the year 1863, exchange of American Minister, $28 000—in this sum $18.000 for 6 months, from 7th month till 11th month, $3,000 for a M." $10,000 extra exchange on the Japanese month 8th, as the expense at the time when he removed from Yedo to this place."

"Exchange of American Consul." "$27.000, in above sum $12,000 from 1st Japanese month till 12th for 12 months ($1,000 per month), and $3,000 extra exchange as expense on the month of 6th, when he removed from Kanagawa to this place, and $12,000 for the same as above on the Japanese 7th month."

So it appears that the American Minister, residing privately, having no Legation building to keep up, and his whole staff consisting of a Secretary and Interpreter in one person, receives a monthly exchange of $3,000, at the rate of 300 itzibus for $100, which he can put in the market and sell at an average rate of say 240 per $100, and thus clear the tidy monthly income of say $750. This seems pretty handsome, and we should have imagined would have sufficed to have supported a Foreign Minister in Japan, who had no staff and no Legation to keep up, even supposing his own Government made him no

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allowance; and that out of the accumulations of the profit of this he would be able to pay his ordinary personal expenses. But it appears not to be so in this case, for such was the condition of the American Minister in "Japanese month 8th," that he absolutely received from them the expenses of his removal from Yedo to this place, a boon which placed in his pocket another tidy sum of $2,500, more or less.; But not to be selfish, he secured a like advantage for his subordinate and friend, Colonel Geo. S. Fisher, the United States Consul, and besides the exchange of $1,000 per month (probably equivalent to a profit of $275 or $300), "on the month of the 6th," he obtained for him an amount of exchange which put, say, $750 more—and in the Japanese month, 7th, another exchange, which put another $3,000 in his pocket. And on what pretences were these grants obtained? As expenses for removal from Yedo and Kanagawa. We would undertake to find a man to remove the whole traps moved by the American Minister from Yedo to Kanagawa, for which he received from the Japanese Government an equivalent of $2,500, back to the spot from whence he transported them, for $50; and those of the United States Consul, from Kanagawa to Yokohama, for which he received say $3,750, for a like sum of $50, and that he would pocket a handsome profit by the transaction.

These statements will not be readily credited, but we hazard none such without proofs. Let those who dare, deny them, and challenge the proofs—they shall be produced.

We say emphatically it is time that this system of squeezing money, land, and everything else out of the Japanese should be stopped, or they will look upon foreigners, from the highest official down to the lowest "vendor of foreign liquors of every colour and mixture of adulteration," as a horde of insatiable interlopers. It is to men high in office—especially to those who profess to be "unco guid," that we should look for example against this rapacious thirst after the land and gold which is not ours, until we have fairly earned and honourably acquired it.

CHINA.

TIEN-TSIN.

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.)

As the Imperial Edicts of importance are forwarded at the rate of 200 miles a-day to the great cities of Central and Southern China, and the steamers that ply between Tien-tsin and Shanghai do not leave this port with the primary view of catching the earliest mail for Europe, or conveying the latest intelligence hence, you will probably have already heard from southern sources of the *coup d'etat* at Peking, which resulted in the degradation of Prince Kung, and the appointment of a commission, with Wansiang at its head, to undertake the duties which had previously devolved upon his Imperial Highness.

The charges brought against the Prince are detailed in an Edict of the 3rd April, and are of a very sweeping and general character. He is accused of "partiality, avarice, extortion, overbearing insolence, and ambitious usurpation in the discharge of his public duties, to such an extent as to be generally talked about." The Edict proceeds to say that though these grave charges cannot be proved satisfactorily, still, as they had been so publicly discussed, there must have been something in them; and whilst any deep scrutiny into the case is prohibited, the Prince is degraded from his position, and forbidden to take part in public affairs, with the intention of preventing his involving himself in greater trouble.

The promulgation of this Edict took us all by surprise here, and the removal of Prince Kung was looked upon as a triumph of the reactionary and anti-foreign party. And such it probably was, but the triumph has been shortlived, for news has reached us this evening of his reinstatement, and the excitement which has prevailed at Peking for the last fortnight has again subsided.

The present season at Tien-tsin, judging at least from the number of steamers that have arrived since the river opened last month, promises to be a busy one, though the trade is passing very much from the hands of foreigners, great quantities of goods being sent up here to Chinese merchants direct from their constituents in the South. The steamers that have come up the river, and anchored off the Foreign Settlement, since the 11th of last month when the season opened, are the "*Yuentzefei*" (twice), *Gerard*, *Sir Harry Parkes*, *Yeddo* (twice), *Vulcan*, *Kinlin*, *Island Queen*, *Promise* (three times), *City of Nantes*, *Yesso*, *Nanzing* (twice), and *Confuscius*. This last-named steamer belongs to the Chinese Government, and came up with a portion of the tribute rice, the conveyance of which will bring a large number of junks to Tien-tsin this year.

We have had a daring robbery perpetrated some days since, between this and Taku, by armed and mounted brigands, who looted a large pawnshop in one of the towns; seventeen of the robbers have been captured, and are now in the district magistrate's hands. They are all, I believe, to be beheaded, and their heads exposed near the spot where the crime was committed. In the south of this province also, the *Nien fei*, or local banditti, are again troublesome, and are in such strong force near the city of Taming-fu, that a large body of European-drilled Chinese soldiers has been sent against them. The *Nien fei* are now an institution in the provinces of Shantung and Chili, and their annual re-appearance in armed hordes is only one of the many symptons of the weakness and corruption of the Manchu Tartar Government. Many people think that if our troops are altogether withdrawn from Taku, as it is reported they will be this summer, we may have an opportunity of observing the habits of the *Nien fei* at a nearer distance than at present.

The American Minister, Mr. Anson Burlinghame, has left for Shanghai, *en route*, they say, for the States; and General Ward, about whose mode of travelling to Peking the British Parliament were so inquisitive some years ago, passed through Tien-tsin a few days since to visit the capital; but I don't think that he went this time in "one of the carriages of the country."

Mr. Mongan resumed his duties here as Consul on the 1st inst.; and Mr. Lay, who has been appointed Vice-consul at Taku, has meanwhile gone to Chefoo to take temporary charge of that port. Mr. Meadows remains at New-chwang, and is not going home on leave as was reported.

SHANGHAI.

The present mail brings dates to the morning of the 23rd April. Nothing of any note had transpired since the French mail left.

The *London and China Express* of the 27th Feb., in the absence of other matter, had been specially attacked by the *Friend of China*, but we fear the reproofs administered will be entirely lost upon us.

The following, on the affairs of the Municipal Council, is from the *North China Herald*:—

The large deficit shown by the statement of Municipal accounts for the past year, sufficiently indicates the necessity for the economy on which Mr. Hogg insisted at the last meeting of Land Renters. The falling off in anticipated revenue accounts to a certain extent for the disagreeable result exhibited; but still there has been a large expenditure in excess of the outlay of Tls. 221,000 which was authorised at the meeting of Land Renters held on the 19th August last. Even had this limit been adhered to, the financial situation of the Council would have been sufficiently unpleasant, as a deficit of Tls. 3,000 would still have existed after the savings bank deposit fund and every other available dollar had been paid away in liquidation of claims. But, from sheer inability, we presume, to confine the expenditure to this sum, additional liabilities were incurred, to meet which the Council had only a failing income to rely upon. Deprived of the fictitious adjuncts so unmercifully exposed by Mr. Hanbury, the Municipal accounts show taels 180,000 only to have been received during the year; while of the taels 236,000 which have been expended, some taels 20,000 will have to be refunded to the Agra Bank and the Savings Bank and Tavern depositors, who unwittingly contributed towards the defrayal of Municipal bills. For the unsatisfactory state of the accounts which they had to lay before the Land Renters the Council, as we have already pointed out, are to blame only to the extent of taels 15,000, by which sum they have exceeded the outlay sanctioned, and the revenue which was accorded them when the budget for 1864-5 was finally decided on. Had that limit been adhered to, the loan from the Agra Bank would not have been required, and the savings of the police need only have been partially trenched on. For this excess of the power awarded them, they have been unsparingly censured. The epithets of wasteful extravagance and useless expenditure have been freely applied to their proceedings. We sincerely hope that the incoming Council may not find the demands on the Municipal purse so pressing that a contraction of the strings will prove impossible. Amidst much that is unsatisfactory in Municipal finance for the past year, there is at least one gratifying point,

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namely, the firmness of the Chinese house-tax. This important resource of revenue yielded 54 taels more than was anticipated; so we may fairly assume that the drain of Chinese from the settlement, which ensued after the capture of Soochow and Nanking, has at length ceased, and that the income during 1865-6 will be rather in excess of than under the Tls. 50,000 estimated. Before finally turning from financial questions to the other equally interesting points raised by the Council's report and by speakers at the meeting, the statement of defaulters for the past year claims a moment's notice. Much discussion arose in reference to the amount of Tls. 3,662.60 which stood at the head of the list to the debit of the British Consulate; and it will, we think, be generally admitted that the claimants of this sum had the best of the argument. The objection that the land had not, like that belonging to private individuals, a marketable value, was shattered to fragments by an apt quotation of Mr. Medhurst's unfortunate sale of a large portion of it for 100,000 tls.; and the subsequent remark that the community contributed nothing towards the support of an establishment from which it derived so much benefit, equally lacks point. In the first place, the principle has not yet been laid down that British communities abroad shall support their consulates; and in the second, the British Consulate at Shanghai does contribute very largely towards its own expenses out of the fees it receives. From a regard for the dignity of other Governments, therefore, as well as for the welfare of the Municipal purse, we would gladly see the sum in question wiped from the prominent position it now occupies on the defaulters' list.

At Hankow all is quiet. Our advices from Kiukiang are to the 18th April. The braves were still passing through the place on their way to the North, but there had been no murders of late. The annual races had just come off, and the prizes were divided with the Hankow community. An Alpine Club has been formed, and held its first meeting lately on the summit of the mountain behind the settlement, said to be 5,000 feet high, and very difficult of ascent. Municipal matters are making satisfactory progress; the hot weather has set in—thermometer at 80 degrees.

On Easter Monday, says the *Recorder*, the Shanghai Volunteers were entertained by W. Keswick, Esq., at his summer residence, Woosung, to a grand banquet. Among the guests present we noticed H.B.M.'s Consul, Sir Harry Parkes, Colonel Yonge, 67th Regt., and a number of the *elite* of Shanghai; the day was beautifully fine for the occasion, and one looked forward to, in England, as a day especially set apart for Volunteer field exercise and review. Including a large number of ladies, about 200 guests sat down; and all were delighted with the day's entertainment and Mr. Keswick's hospitality. A great cricket match came off at the Shanghai Club's ground on Tuesday, 12th inst., between the Scotch Eleven, and an Eleven chosen from the English members. Our Caledonian friends came off second best, leaving the English eleven victors by 76 runs in one innings against the Scotch two.

The approaching race meeting is not looked forward to with the usual amount of interest the dulness of the times having apparently extended itself to sporting as well as to business matters. There has been little betting; and a feeling adverse to lotteries and sweepstakes has been manifested among many influential members of the community.

The following mercantile notices have appeared:—

We have this day established ourselves in business at this port as Merchants and General Commission Agents, under the style and firm of Ballance and Hallam.—T. Frederick Ballance, J. B. Hallam. Hankow, April 1st, 1865.

We have this day established ourselves in business at this port as General and Commission Agents, under the style and firm of Rainbow, Lewis and Co.—J. M. Rainbow, G. Lewis. Nagasaki, March 1st, 1865.

The ship *Talbot*, Captain James, has been chartered to convey the Royal Artillery to Bombay.

KIU-KIANG.

The following is a more detailed account of a meeting to which we alluded in a previous issue:—

P. J. Hughes, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul, in the chair.

Present: Messrs. Hollingworth, Sams, Priee, Rainbow, Styan, Lenny, Hancock, Lovell, Ringer, Little, Mackintosh, and Hyde, representing eighteen renters, and others not renters.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read, Mr. Hollingworth presented the committee's report, and all accounts for the past year.

It was proposed by Mr. Styan, seconded by Mr. Ringer, and carried unanimously,

"That the accounts be passed."

After some discussion upon the subject of the committee's report, Mr. Little proposed,

"That the report just read be adopted, but that the proposed taxation scheme, extension of the bund, and arrangement of station-house be reserved for discussion at a special meeting to be called for that purpose, and of which due notice be given."

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Hyde, and carried by a majority of 10 to 8.

Mr. Sams proposed, and Mr Styan seconded,

"That Messrs. Hancock and Price be elected, and that Mr. Hollingworth be re-elected, members of the Municipal Council."

The resolution was carried.

On the motion of Mr. Ringer, seconded by Mr. Rainbow, a vote of thanks was given to the retiring Council.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

(Signed) P. J. HUGHES, Chairman.
(Signed) GEO. P. THOMSON, Secretary.

The report announced the completion of the repair of that portion of the bund line damaged by the gales last summer, and the payment of an instalment of the cost. A terrace had also been constructed which, by encouraging deposit, would, it was hoped, strengthen the bund. The wooden jetties had stood well, and sustained no apparent damage from their long immersion. A stone jetty had, however, been destroyed by the gale. The two principal roads have been raised, macadamised and shingled, at a cost of some tls. 1,500. Eighteen lamp-posts have been erected, which light the settlement satisfactorily. Some burners were stolen, it was suspected, by native gunboat men, and pressure upon the authorities was successful in eliciting tls. 150 in compensation. Drainage is still in abeyance, but is much required. Two tracks of land had been bought to enable the middle and cross roads to be continued to the native suburbs. Arrangements have been made for the extension of the bund in front of Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co.'s property. An inspector of police has been engaged, and arrangements will be necessary for a new station-house. The Council consider that the time has arrived when some system of taxation should be settled. Hitherto expenses have been met by calls of such a plot, but now that expenses have became diverse, a more equitable arrangement should be decided on. It is suggested that a tax of 3 per cent. be raised on rentals and ¼ per cent. on land. Valuing the rentals at tls. 33,000 and the land at tls. 210,000 a revenue of tls. 2,040 would thus be raised. The amount realised last year amounted to a trifle less than tls. 7,000, the expenditure to tls. 7,164.09.

HONG KONG.

The present mail brings dates down to the 29th April, or three days later than the French mail. The items of news during these three days appear to be *nil*.

The following on the rebellion is from the *China Mail*:—

"The last news from Amoy, if all rumours are correct, would seem to indicate the coming close of a civil war in China, which has lasted so long that few foreigners now resident in this part of the East saw its commencement. To trace the history of the Taiping rebellion would be a useless task. We said, ten years ago, that its success would neither benefit China nor Christendom, and we have had no reason to change our original views on the matter. The first to espouse the rebel cause and the last to abjure it were the Protestant missionaries, a circumstance that has probably had the greatest possible influence in the destinies of the present Chinese dynasty. There cannot be any doubt but that, had the rebels proclaimed themselves in favour of the Roman Catholic religion, the French Emperor would have declared a crusade in their favour, which would only have ended when China had become French territory. If the Taipings had raised the standard of the cross, and planted it in triumph upon every captured city, not France alone, but Catholic Europe would have answered the call of a second Peter the Hermit, as it sounded from the Tuileries or the Vatican. The eldest son of the Church would have commanded the sword to be unsheathed in her favour, and Christianity would have been, in a few years, the national religion of China, The Pope would have been called in to bless every fresh expedition sent to free his oppressed children; people's heads would have been turned with religious enthusiasm; English diplomatic action would have been brushed aside like a cobweb; a second India would have been laid open to the enterprise of a great military power, under the holiest of all sanctions; and that little clause in the Franco-Chinese treaty which places Roman Catholic Christians under a kind of French protection would have become a trump card, would have acquired the force of a pawn transformed into a queen.

A fire took place on board the *Jane Woodburn* which is thus reported in the *Daily Press*:—

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"April 27th. The British barque *Jane Woodburn*, Capt. Harrison, ready for sea and bound to Rangoon, caught fire in the cabins on starboard-side aft. No cause for the calamity can be shown—the crew were, its is said, stowing some provisions in the cabin an hour before the fire broke out. The mizen mast, mizen boom, all the spare sails, the spanker (bent), the whole of the personal property of the captain, his officers, and the carpenter (including the latter's tool chest), cabin furniture and many planks in the quarter-deck will have to be replaced. Boats from H.M.S. *Melville, Princess Charlotte*, the dockyard, and Messrs. Boura and Co.'s water boat—fire engineer from the P. and O. S. N. Co.'s office, and their ships *Ganges* and *Emeu* were quickly on board with fire-engines, and the surrounding ships, &c., lent valuable aid in sending their boats full of men to assist in putting the fire out, which was accomplished after the magazine had blown up (luckily without hurting any one), though many men on board, fearing something worse after the first explosion, dropped overboard out of the way.

NETHERLANDS INDIA.

MACASSAR.

The Netherlands India barque *Susanna Elizabeth*, Captain Van der Heide, reported here on the 24th March that there were pirates in the Straits of Macassar, close to Pulo South, on the south-east coast of Borneo. The report was found to be correct, for news was received from Takalar, the chief place of the southern district, that eight large and four small piratical boats had been off that place and had captured one trading prow and two men. When H.M.'s steamer *Sindore*, Commandant K. F. R. Andrew, lieutenant in the navy, returned from Tomtoli on March 31, she was ordered to be in immediate readiness. Subsequently, the extra courier of Djeneponts brought news that the pirates had shown themselves in Macassar Bay, On the 2nd April, early in the morning, the *Sindore* got up steam. and proceeded towards the place. Some firing was heard in the afternoon in that direction. The pirates had shown themselves also close to Bontheim, but it was believed that the *Sindore* had not fallen in with them. A boat belonging to a native had been captured, which, with its cargo, was valued at 10,000 florins.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are to the 6th May, only two days later than those brought by the French mail.

Some idea may be formed of the business transacted at this port, remarks the *Free Press*, when we state that at this moment there are lying in the roads, besides native craft, 154 square-rigged vessels, of which 3 are British men of war; 2 Straits Government steamers; 2 British merchant steamers; 2 American ditto; 2 Dutch mail steamers; 78 British merchantmen; 19 Hamburg; 9 Bremen; 8 French; 5 Danish; 5 Prussian; 4 American; 4 Dutch; 3 Oldenburgh; 2 Hanoverian; 2 Swedish; 2 Siamese; 1 Norwegian; 1 Belgian. Of the merchant vessels those under German flags are in proportion as one to two to the British: and to two to one to vessels of all other nationalities. Eight years ago at the same season there were only sixty merchant vessels in the harbour, the proportion being as one German to eleven British, and one German to eight of other nations. So much for free trade and Tuetonic enterprise. We should not be at all surprised, in a few years hence, to see the proportion still more in their favour.

PENANG.

Colonel Kitson will officiate as Resident Councillor during the absence of Colonel Man from Penang. This arrangement has taken place through the illness of Mr. Earl, the Assistant Resident Councillor, who has been confined to his house for the last fortnight, and has been obliged to appoint Mr. D. C. Presgrave as his substitute in the Police Court. It is reported that Mr. Earl will remove to Singapore on account of his health, and that his place will be filled by Mr. F. H. Gottlieb, one of the Singapore magistrates.

The Hon. Colonel Man arrived from Singapore on the 6th May.

Mr. D. Logan is appointed Crown Prosecutor for the station of Prince of Wales's Island.

It is seldom that our harbour is so crowded with vessels as t present (states the *Gazette* of the 6th of May). Ships are ocking here from all quarters in search of freight; rates, owever, being very low, several ships are laying up for more avourable times. Several ships have already been sold, and there are negotiations for the purchase of others. The last vessel sold was the *Buenos Ayres*, bought by Mr. Mahomed Noordin, who has altered her name to that of *Forbes Scott Brown*.

On the 26th April, the Penang Royal Dramatic Corps gave another representation, on which occasion they acted the farce of "Lend me Five Shillings," winding up the entertainment with several comic and sentimental songs. The management was rather rich in pianists on the occasion: there were no less than three, Messrs. Von der Meden, Zanders, and J. Anthony; this promises well for future concerts. The Dramatic Corps seems now to be pretty well established, thanks to the very able management of Lieut. Yaldwyn.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

HAZELAND—On the 25th April, at the Albany, Hong Kong, the wife of F. I. Hazeland, Crown Solicitor, of a daughter.

HALLILEY—On the 13th June, at Bedford, the wife of William Hallilcy, Esq., C.C.S., Collector of Customs, Point de Galle, Ceylon, of a daughter.

SEVERS—On the 13th June, at Woodlands-road, Redhill, the wife of Henry H. Severs, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

HUGHES—ROBINSON.—On the 13th June, at St. James's, Spanish-place, by the Right Rev. Dr. Morris, Bishop of Troy. John Hughes, Esq., of Yokohama, Japan, to Jane, eldest daughter of the late Harrison Robinson, Esq., of Anwick, Lincolnshire. No cards.

DEATHS.

BUTLER—On the 21st April, at Ningpo, from the effects of a pistol-shot wound in the abdomen, inflicted four days before by a Frenchman in the pay of the Chinese Government, John Butler, native of New York, U.S.A., aged 32 years, [many years resident in Shanghai, and highly respected by all who knew him.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—CANTON.—During the fortnight the remaining chop of country Congou has been taken, in conjunction with a Canton packed Congou, at the proportionate price of 17 taels, being about equivalent to former settlements. Country Greens have not been touched during the fortnight, but several bids are reported outside. Canton-made Teas: A few old season's teas of low grade have been taken, but attention is now being directed to the new season's teas, for which the teamen are at present asking about five taels above foreigners' ideas for the Scented kinds. Gunpowders have hardly yet been looked at—the only settlements have been some 1,400 boxes Sychue Congou at from Tls. 33 to 36.5.

FOOCHOW.—There have been no transactions during the fortnight, and arrivals, settlements and stocks need hardly be repeated until the season is closed.

SHANGHAI.—Black Teas: There have been no settlements or shipments of Congou during the fortnight, and without any arrivals to report, the stock remains as last stated (3,500 chests). We quote Ningchow and Oopacks, medium to good, none. Oonams, medium to good, taels 21 to 24. Fair Black Leaf, tls. 16 to 20 per picul. Total settlements and shipments: From 1st June to date, 381,600 chests, against 393,921 chests last year. Green Teas: The market has continued active, 22,000 packages having found buyers chiefly for America, at a decline of one tael on common and medium grades; but good and fine Moyunes being scarce have realised previous rates. Settlements comprise, common to fair Fychows, at tls. 21 to 28, and fair to fine Moyunes at taels 29 to 36½ in proportion. Re-shipments have been4,500 half-chests, and the stock is estimated at 61,000 packages. Total settlements and shipments: From 1st June to date, 293,600 half-chests, against 303,800 half-chests last year.

HANKOW.—One chop of Black Tea has gone forward on Chinese account, leaving two small parcels of half chests on the market. Total settlements and shipments: 373,000 chests or 37,405,900 lbs. against 362,200 chests or 35,320,700 lbs. last year.

KIUKIANG.—Green Teas: Shipments on native account have continued largely in excess of the settlements, the latter amounting only to 7,000 packages against 40,000 of the former. Fine teas chiefly had been taken, and for these an advance amounting to about one tael had been paid. The stock on the market was reduced to 40,000 packages, nearly all common and medium teas. Quotations were—Moyne: Fine to finest, Tls. 29 to 32; Common to medium, Tls. 33 to 27 per picul. Fychow, medium to fair, Tls. 23 to 25; common, Tls. 19 to 22 per picul. Total settlements and shipments, 186,000 half-chests or 10,884,900 lbs., against 217,600 half-chests or 12,675,100 lbs. last year. Black Teas: In these there was again no business to report, and no change in quotations, which remained—Ningchow, common, Tls. 16. Hohow, common, Tls. 12 per picul. Total settlements and shipments, 110,900 chests or 9,675,800 lbs., against 111,600 chests or 9,732,200 lbs. last year.

YOKOHAMA.—During the past fortnight a good business has been done in our tea market; purchases (with but a few exceptions) have been, as before, almost entirely for the American market; the bad news, repeatedly received by every mail, of the home markets most effectually deterring would be purchasers from shipping to that quarter to any but a very trifling extent. Prices remain much the same, with the exception of common kinds, for which higher rates are demanded. Settlements for the fortnight we estimate at 2,200 piculs.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—Early in the fortnight the dealers remained firm for previous quotations, but since the arrival of the English mail of 27th February, conveying unsatisfactory advices of the home market, they have been more anxious to realise, and now appear willing sellers and ready to submit to a decline. The miserable selection of silk in stock, as well as the present high prices, have prevented operations, and the settlements since last mail have barely amounted to 100 bales. There is nothing left unsold better than No. 4 Tsatlees and No. 3 Taysaam; the

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bulk is, however, chiefly composed of inferior silk. The stock remains unchanged, the receipts from the interior having been in the same proportion as the sales. The Yokohama mail steamer arrived on the 20th instant with 392 bales of silk on board. Prices there had further advanced $30 to 50 per picul;—best hanks of Mybash costing $740 to 755, or 30s. 10d. to 31s. 5d. per lb. Stock was estimated at 550 piculs, or 1,000 Japanese bales. Export to date 12,475 bales, against at same date last year 13,906 bales. The settlements of the fortnight are estimated at 100 bales, against 582 bales corresponding fortnight last season, 371 bales, and 2,500 bales in the seasons previous respectively. The present stock is 100 to 200 bales, against 3,000 in corresponding period last season, 1,000 and 2,000 bales respectively the seasons previous.

YOKOHAMA.—Business in silk has been quiet, the late extreme price here, as well as the rather unfavourable advices by the 10th of February mail, having had the effect of considerably checking the demand. The native dealers are, however, exhibiting much firmness, and our quotations below are nominally without alteration; but should the reserve of the buyers continue for some time longer, a greater or less reduction may be reasonably anticipated. The settlements of the fortnight are barely 400 bales, making a total for the season of 12,950 bales against 14,150 bales the same time last year. The unsold stock on the market is about 800 Japanese bales:—Ida, medium, 710 to 730; inferior, 670 to 690. Mybash and Sinchu—best parcels offering, 740 to 755; medium, 710 to 730; inferior, 680 to 690.

DRUGS, &c.—CANTON.—Cassia Lignea: The new crop is shortly expected; the old stock is apparently exhausted. Cassia Buds: The quotation is $51; stock, 45 pls.; sales and quotations being far higher than those at Macao. China Galls: Quotation, $16, sales none; stock, 200 pls. Vermilion: Small sales at $38½ per box. Musk: No supplies, no settlements. Rhubarb: Nothing doing; the old and common stock remains neglected. Galangal: $2.30 nominal, the article being much cheaper at Macao. Essential Oils: None brought to market.

COTTON.—The quotations at Shanghai are 14 to 15 tls. Stock, small. At Japan the quotations are nominal, the export having ceased.

CAMPHOR.—Sales at Hong Kong at $20 for first chop.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—The sales of the fortnight consist of 112 bales, one half of which is composed of twist imported from Singapore. Quotations remain nominally unchanged. Grey Shirtings: The quotations of goods weighing lbs. 7, being the quality of which stocks are now principally composed, are put about 10 cents per piece below the prices given under date of last circular. In other kinds there is not any change to notice, and settlements are limited to 1,800 pieces. White Shirtings meet with but little inquiry, and prices are nearly nominal. Sales, 1,100 pieces. T-Cloths: There has not been a single transaction in these manufactures reported since the date of last circular, and prices are nominally unchanged. American Drills: No stocks and no sales. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: These articles have been entirely neglected during the fortnight in this market, but from Canton we hear of a sale of 500 pieces White Spotted Shirtings at $5 per piece. A sale of 500 pieces of Coloured Brocades has been reported this morning. Damasks meet with no inquiry. Chintzes: 950 pieces have found buyers during the fortnight. Handkerchiefs: There have not been any sales of these goods reported.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: Have been in hardly any request during the fortnight, and sales are limited to 300 pieces of Habit Cloths at $1.02 per yard. Long Ells: There have not been any sales of these goods reported, and in the absence of transactions quotations show a nominal decline of 10 to 15 cents per piece upon the prices previously ruling. Camlets: Without any change to notice in value have found buyers in this market to the extent of 260 pieces. Lastings: 100 pieces have found buyers. Blankets: Have met with a fair amount of inquiry, and the sales reported during the past fortnight amount to 468 pairs.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: The various descriptions of Iron enumerated show but little change in value, and have met with a brisk demand during the fortnight. The sales reported consist of 4,160 piculs of Nail Rod, 2,100 piculs of Square and Flat Bar, and 840 piculs of Hoop. There are not any transactions reported from Canton. Lead: Without alteration to notice in price has met with but little inquiry, and the sales of the fortnight are embraced in the settlement of 500 piculs. In the Canton market 1,800 piculs have found buyers. Tin: Sales during the fortnight are estimated at 1,570 slabs. Tin-Plates: Have found buyers to the extent of 230 boxes.

COALS.—HONG KONG.—A new feature is observable in our market, viz., the absence of arrivals of any English or Welsh coals for sale for upwards of a month. This added to the limited shipments of late from England and Wales will doubtless ere long bring about an improvement in prices, but the demand has not yet set in strongly enough to have any effect upon stocks or upon the price of coals from store. We still quote Welsh, $7½ to $8, English, $7 to $7½, Australian, $4¼ to $4½, at which prices the Devonshire's and Eberdhard's cargoes of Australian have changed hands from alongside.

SHANGHAI.—The only arrival of the fortnight has been a cargo of Sydney coals. During the greater part of the fortnight very few sales were made, but at the close there was an active demand for English coals and 6,000 to 8,000 tons of West Hartley have changed hands at prices varying from tls. 6.7.5 to 8.0.0 per ton ex Godown, and a cargo has been sold to arrive at the latter figure. A cargo of Cardiff coals to arrive is reported sold at tls. 9.0.0 per ton, and sales of American Anthracite, have been made ex ship at tls. 8.80 to 9.0.0, but this description is in least request. Sydney coals, tls. 6.0.0 to 7.0.0; none in stock.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At NAGASAKI.—From London: March 13, Dwina.
At SHANGHAI.—None.
At FOOCHOW.—None.
At HONG KONG.—From London: April 25, Arab Steed. From Newcastle: 18, Migrator. From Cardiff: 24, Typhoon.
At MANILA.—None.
At SINGAPORE.—From London: April 30, Norfolk. From Liverpool: May 3, Wm. Chandler, Advance. From Southampton: April 28, Benvoirlich. From Cardiff: 30, Satellite, Ocean Belle. From Newcastle: Preciosa. From Shields: Hollandria. From Hamburg: Laura.
At PENANG.—None.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA and NAGASAKI.—None.
From SHANGHAI.—For London: April 10, Antipodes. For New York: 13, Canvas Back; 21st, Egmont.
From FOO-CHOW.—None.
From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: April 17, Broadwater.
From MANILA.—For London: April 8, Indien; 10, Sir W. F. Williams; 11, Osprey; 18, Alvis. For New York: 18, Young America. For Boston: 10, Hazard; 11, Wild Rover.
From SINGAPORE.—For Liverpool: April 26, Veloz.
From PENANG.—For London: April 26, Britannia.

VESSELS LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Mirage.
At SHANGHAI.—For London: Cissy. For Liverpool: Lalla Rookh, Wm. Melhuish, Woosung.
At FOOCHOW.—None.
At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Banda, Pakwan, Burdwan. For Liverpool: Vanda.
At MANILA.—For London: Vorsetzen, Westburn. For Liverpool: Raby Castle, Tewkesbury. For Havre: St. Esprit. For New York: Bavaria. For Boston: Conquest.
At SINGAPORE.—For London: Clarendon, West, Fortitude, Martin Luther, Civiale. For Liverpool: William Dixon, Richard Cobden. For Bordeaux: Robur. For Falmouth: Ida, for orders.
At PENANG.—For London: Caroline, E. Castle.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

YOKOHAMA.—Tea and cotton, £3 to London and Liverpool: silk, £4. 10s. per ton.

SHANGHAI.—There has been some improvement in the market, and vessels have found ready employment for coasting purpozes, but no settlements have taken place for home. The two vessels on the berth for London are loading at £2. 10s. to £2. 15s., and for Liverpool at £2. 7s. 6. to £2. 10s.

FOOCHOW.—Nothing doing.

HONG KONG AND CANTON.—The demand for tonnage has been good, but without an improvement in rates, the market plentifully supplied with tonnage. Nothing has been done in home charters. The vessels on the berth for London and Liverpool are filling up slowly at £3; to New York, £2.

MANILA.—The British ship Raby Castle has been chartered to load via Cebu for Liverpool with unclayed sugar at £2 and hemp at £4 per ton of 20 cwt. For the Tewkesbury to same port, 200 tons of coffee has been engaged to complete cargo at £3 per ton of 18 cwt. The American ship Conquest loads for Boston with hemp on owners account. Hamburg barque Vorsetzen for London rates not yet settled.

SINGAPORE.—Seeking vessels continue to arrive, and rates have further declined, viz., dead weight 30s., and measurement £2 per ton.

PENANG.—The Bremen ship Caroline is loading at £2 to £2. 10s. per ton for dead weight, £2. 5s. to £2. 15. light freight, £3. 10s. measurement, and 3½d. per gallon rum.

CASUALTIES.

NEWCHWANG.—The British barque Durban has been wrecked off the port of Newchwang; a survey has been held, and the ship condemned.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—April 17, Hybhow, London to Shanghai; 21, Taiping, London to Hong Kong; 28, Scotland, Glasgow to Batavia; 17, Libra, Amsterdam to Kanagawa.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—April 12, Brewster, Boston to Batavia.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—April 11, Falco, Singapore to Gibraltar; 17, Stuart Wortley, Shanghai to Liverpool; 18, Indien, Manila to London; 21, Maiden Queen, Foochow to London; 24, Phillipins, Canton to London; 24, Prince Arthur, Hong Kong to Liverpool; Agamemnon, Shanghai to Liverpool.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—April 23, Resolute, Shanghai to New York; 25, Wild Beaver, Manila to Boston.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	6s. 2¼d. to 6s. 2½d.	6s. 3d. to 6s. 4d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 5¾d.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.
At Singapore	6 ditto		
At Manila	6 ditto	4s. 3d.	

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 299 to 300 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 216 to 217 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 10 per cent. prem. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 72 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 27 to 28 discount.

Telegrams to 26th May report Exchange at Hong Kong, 4s. 4¼d. and at Shanghai, 6s. 1½d.

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Literature.

The Russians in Central Asia, by Capt. Valikhanoff, M. Veninkoff, and other Russian Travellers; translated from the Russian by JOHN and ROBERT MICHELL. Stanford, Charing-cross.—This volume supplies a want felt alike by the political and the reading world in a far more satisfactory fashion than could reasonably have been hoped for. The information desired could be furnished only by Russians or agents in Russian employ; and yet, as emanating from such a fountain, it would always have been looked on with suspicion. With the exception, perhaps, of Chapter XII., "On the Commercial Prospects of Central Asia, viewed in Connection with Russia," we cannot but feel, after an attentive perusal, that the translators were justified in stating, as they do in the Preface, that, "as the work of geographers and men of science, these narratives and descriptions have been executed with impartiality and without any political object." A complete idea of the gap filled up in the department of history, through the labours of the Messrs. Michell, can only be gathered by reference to the book itself, for the title-page is unjust to the novelty and interest of its contents. Even the daily journals have begun to look on Central Asia as a domain brought regularly within their circle; and we are getting accustomed to hear of "wars and rumours of wars" in countries and among tribes who really needed a geographical Master of the Ceremonies for their introduction before the mere newspaper reader could be expected to acknowledge any curiosity in their doings, or even to recognise their existence. The collection of papers comprised in the book before us gives all the story of the past that is necessary for the comprehension of what is now going forward in Kokan, in Dzungaria, and in that Chinese Turkestan where a Mahometan rebellion, to which we now have constant references, has been chronic for the last half century. The general ignorance on such matters is, however, perfectly excusable, for we learn, on no less competent authority than that of the late Mr. Hume Greenfield, who but just prior to his decease wrote the valuable Introduction to this volume, that "the historic period" of this vast area "commences only within the last ten years." Not but that much of this knowledge should have been at our command had what was fairly ours by right of purchase been properly cared for. The Russian Government have, it appears, a most magnificent manuscript, in the German language, accompanied by forty sketches of the country traversed, of "Travels through Upper Asia, from Kashgar, Tashbalyk, Bolor, Badakshan, Vakhan, Kokan, Turkestan, to the Kirghis Steppe, and back to Cashmere, through Samarcand and Yarkend." The author, it is inferred from the preface, and from certain observations in the narrative, was a German, an agent of the East India Company, despatched, at the beginning of this or the latter part of the last century, to purchase horses for the British army. The text, we learn further, has also been translated into French in a separate manuscript, and the maps worked into one itinerary in an admirable style. We may conclude, then, that the manuscript was offered to Napoleon I. before it was tendered to Russia. Pains have been taken to prevent the identification of this agent, for though his christian name remains on the manuscript, the surname has been erased. This little anecdote of years long gone by should be a caution against the employment of foreign agents for missions of exploration that, to say the least, could be as well discharged by Englishmen—a caution that we fear has been much neglected of late years.

The advances of Russia towards a permanent occupation of the Steppe that stretches eastwards to Khiva and Kokan date so recently as 1833; but since then her progress has been rapid, though it was only in 1840 that reliable accounts were received respecting the Sea of Aral, where she now has a steam flotilla. The first official intercourse with Khiva is recorded as belonging to the year 1557, and political relations may be said to have subsisted since the latter part of the 17th century. The *Moscow Journal* of April, 1703, notified that the Khan of Khiva had sent to tender the allegiance of himself and his subjects to Peter the Great, and that "our Sovereign Lord graciously granted" his request. For all that, however, Prince Bekovich, an envoy from the Czar, was murdered with all his attendants in 1717, at Porsu, a town about seventy miles north-west of Khiva. When the time comes Khiva must and no doubt will be annexed, but at present the main object of Russia is the conquest of Kokan. She has been pushing her posts from the Sea of Aral along the Syr-Daria (the ancient Jaxartes) till, we are told Russia thus occupies an almost barren extent of country along the Syr-Daria; while between Djulek and Fort Vernoe extends the northern part of the Khanat of Kokan, celebrated for its beautiful climate, fertility of soil, and rich tracts of land.

If we may believe accounts received during the present year, the greater part of this district has been already annexed; and a rumoured defeat of the Russians by the Kokanians, heard of this very week, is perhaps only to be credited to the extent of proving that war is actively raging between the parties. To whom the final victory must fall it needs no prophet to foretell, whatever temporary checks may delay the triumph of European artillery and resources. There needs no theory of dreams of unlimited sway on the part of Russia to account for the extension of her dominion in Eastern Asia. The truth is that security for the life and property of her subjects in that quarter is to be found only in conquest. The whole of the population of Central Asia is composed of hordes of plunderers, and Russia is restoring half a continent to the use of the human race by establishing therein order and settled law. One very singular fact is to be suspected, rather than positively asserted, from scattered passages in these papers, namely, that the Russians find Mahometanism more effective with the Tartar tribes as a religious agent of civilisation than Christianity. The fullest revelation in this regard is that made by Captain Valikhanoff, when speaking of the Kirghizes of Dzungaria:—

RUSSIAN PROPAGATION OF MAHOMETANISM.

The condition of the Russian Kirghizes, or those of the Middle Horde, was the same thirty years ago. The Russian Government, however, proceeded to erect mosques, and appointed Tartar Mullahs, under whose influence the Middle Horde Kirghizes do not now yield in fanaticism to the most fanatical dervishes. They regularly observe the period of prayer and thirty days' fast, while some have even introduced the exclusive system of the harem. It would be difficult to decide which would be more beneficial to the Kirghiz Steppe, the former state of ignorance with perfect religious toleration, or contemporary Tartar civilisation with its strong anti-progressive tendencies. The Tartars in Russia constitute a totally separate Eastern world, having nothing in common with the interests of Russian nationality. The great Kirghiz Horde is now in a transition state, and the Tartars who are scattered throughout it are making their influence felt more and more each succeeding year. It must be observed that the farther we remove from the Tartars the less fanaticism do we find among the Kirghizes, notwithstanding that they live here under the influence of Central Asiatic rulers, and in a country usually regarded as the very focus of bigotry. The Bokhara Mullahs are, in my opinion, much less to be dreaded than their Tartar brethren.

The judgment passed by Mr. Hume Greenfield, in his able Introduction before adverted to, on the position of both the Powers who are supposed to be the rivals of English influence in the East, is that which will be concurred in by every real friend of humanity as well as by every thinker on history and politics:—

THE THREE RIVAL POWERS IN THE EAST.

The exhaustive system of agriculture which travellers have described as characterising Persia, and which, with advantages hardly equalled, certainly not surpassed, by any Oriental country, still keeps her impoverished, and consequently warlike, along her frontier line, will readily account for the attempts of that Power to subjugate the mountainous region interspersed with fertile valleys which forms her eastern boundary. Hence the permanent feeling of irritation which prevails among the Hill tribes all along the north-west frontier of our Indian empire, and the constant recurrence every few years of some miserable squabble about Herat, which although distant 500 miles of the wildest mountain desert from Attock, it is still the fashion to call "the Key of India," in these days when Bombay is only twenty days distant from London, and when Bombay and Calcutta are themselves on the eve of being brought within three days of each other by the development of our Indian railways. A cursory glance at the map might at first sight seem to give some ground for alarm when we find that Russia has virtually pushed forward her outposts to within 300 miles of the British frontier on the north. But the barrier here is even more impassable than to the westward, since there intervenes between the Muscovite and the supposed secret object of all his movements and intrigues in those regions, the mighty barrier of the Hindoo Koosh and the Kuen Lun, which rise like a wall 17,000 feet high, with scarcely a crest or depression throughout their entire extent—none certainly practicable for an army with the *matériel* and appliances of war as waged by the nineteenth century civilisation. The truth is, that in the interest of science and humanity Great Britain ought to rejoice that any form of European civilisation is penetrating the howling wilderness that lies to the north of the Himalaya. Secure behind that impassable bulwark, still more secure in the gradual elevation in the scale of nations of the vast population which destiny has committed to her charge, she ought to view with feelings of sympathy and interest any policy that will replace the barbarities of such men as Hodja Khan and the other ruffians that infest the territory conterminous with our own to the N.N.W.

We have said enough to excite the curiosity of every reader interested in the East, and may dismiss the book with cordial thanks to the translators for the valuable mass of novel and unhoped for information thus placed at our service. We must add, however, that an excellent map of Central Asia, the most correct, we apprehend, ever yet submitted to the English student, enables one to follow every statement with satisfaction and profit.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 1865.

THE SILK TRADE IN FRANCE.

THIS subject has assumed such a serious aspect that the Senate has taken it up in a very earnest manner. Two petitions, one signed by no less than 3,574 maires, municipal councillors and landed proprietors of the departments of the Gard, Hérault, Ardêche and Lozère, were sent in to the Senate and were placed in the hands of M. DUMAS, the Chemist and Senator, to examine and report upon. M. DUMAS brought up his report on Friday, the 9th instant, and the Senate took up the matter as one of great urgency. The representations of the petitioners, endorsed as they are by M. DUMAS and other authorities, give the subject a more serious aspect than has ever heretofore been presented. M. DUMAS said, in presenting the report, that whatever might be the opinion of the Senate respecting the kind of aid asked for of the Government by the petitioners, there could be no question as to the suffering complained of, which, from its gravity, duration, mysterious nature, and the importance of the mischief done, assumed the proportions of a public calamity. It appears that the breeders of the silk-worms are not the proprietors of the mulberry trees on the leaves of which the insects feed, and there seems to be great reason to fear that unless some assistance is given to the latter they will be compelled to convert the land occupied by these trees to other uses, and thus the chance of resuscitating the industry would be deferred for years. The trees average twenty years of age, and this shows how great would be the loss by their destruction.

M. DUMAS says that the total amount of silk produced in the world is in value, about 1,100 millions of francs, or forty-four millions sterling per annum. France used to produce at least a tenth of this whole, and in the year 1853 her produce was valued at 117 millions of francs. To produce this result no less than eighty-three tons of eggs and six hundred thousand tons of mulberry leaves are required. In ordinary times the cost of the eggs or seed was between £120,000 and £160,000 per annum; but since the appearance of the disease amongst the worms this amount has been doubled, tripled, and at last reached six times the sum. Even in 1853, when the mischief was far less than it has since been, five millions of francs were expended in the importation of foreign seed. The ordinary expenditure for mulberry leaves is stated to have been between fifty-five and sixty millions of francs per annum; and M. Dumas agrees with the petitioners that for several years the growers have been losers to the extent of half that amount, or considerably more than a million sterling per annum. In good times the eggs or seed was worth only one or two francs per ounce and it was often given away amongst the breeders; now they have to pay twelve, fifteen and even twenty francs per ounce. The amount paid for foreign seed amounted to more than thirteen millions of francs in 1860, and to ten millions in 1863. One of the worst features of the disease is the fact that there is no appearance of it until just when the worms are about to spin their cocoons, so that the unfortunate breeders have to support the whole cost of the rearing and feeding to see the result swept away, as it were, in a day. It appears to be the opinion of everyone who has examined the question, that the disease attaches entirely to the worms, and not in any way to the mulberry trees. A similar visitation occurred in France in 1688, and did not entirely cease till 1710, and during this period so many mulberry trees were destroyed in Lanquedoc that the authorities were compelled to interfere and levy a fine on any one who destroyed or injured them. At the present time the condition of the growers is most lamentable; they cannot sell the leaves, and the *Credit Foncier* and other agricultural societies refuse to make advances on the security of mulberry plantations.

When the disease first reappeared, between fifteen and twenty years since, it was very partial, but it has now extended not only all over France, but also to Italy, Spain and the East, in fact to every silk-producing country except Japan. All agree that none but Japanese eggs are at present of any use; only the other day the President of the Agricultural Committee of Alais wrote as follows:—"Generally, all the indigenous seed has failed. That imported direct from Japan is the only kind that can be depended on. But the supply of this good seed is infinitely below the demand, and the quantity of silk now produced is scarcely equal to one twentieth part of good average. The greater part of the mulberry plantations do not yield sufficient to pay the taxes." The petitioners ask the Government for relief in the matter of taxes; for the means of transporting the eggs from abroad in good condition; or for employment in public works for the suffering workpeople, and to institute a searching inquiry into the causes and possible means of combating the disease, which is known in France as *La Gatine*. Of all these means the only one which is calculated to supply immediately the deficiency complained of, is the importation of Japanese eggs at a price lower than twenty francs an ounce, a rate which the poor breeder cannot pay. Two reasons are given for the conveyance of the seed in ships belonging to the Imperial marine; in the first place, it is necessary that the eggs should not be carried in the same vessel with other commodities which might affect them injuriously, and that they should be disposed that the cases could be brought on deck, and their contents examined in fine weather; and, secondly, that the French flag would be considered a guarantee that the seed really came from Japan.

The Government expressed its strong desire to aid the unfortunate silk growers as far as possible, and the petitions were referred to the four Ministers of Finance, Agriculture, Colonies and Foreign Affairs. It is right to mention, in connection with this subject, a fact referred to by the only Ministerial speaker on the occasion, namely, that the returns of the imports and exports of the French silk trade do not bear evidence of a state of things so gloomy as that represented by the petitioners and others with respect to the home production. The importation of foreign silks has fallen since 1855 from more than eleven to less than four millions of francs, while the exportation of French tissues has risen from 340 to 368 millions—an increase representing however in fact a small diminution, on account of the rise in prices; and as regards the raw material, the imports have risen from 206 to 314 millions, and the exports from 30 to 97 millions, which, considering the increase in value, present no very remarkable result. The matter certainly requires explanation, and it is far from the only instance of official returns requiring elucidation. It appears by the official returns that while during the first quarter of 1864 there were 5,066 kilogs., or rather more than five tons of silk-worms' eggs *exported* from France, the quantity of this precious seed sent away during the first three months of the present year was 11,225 kilogs., or more than double the former amount. Here is another riddle to be solved.

(Omitted from our last issue.)

THE falling off in the total amount of exports of French manufactured silk since 1859, not only to America but to all the other countries of the world, except our own, coupled with a growing increase of the quantity taken by the United Kingdom, and the unsatisfactory condition of the supply of the home-produced raw material, in consequence of the disease amongst the silk worms, naturally gives rise in France to many speculations as to the causes and probable consequences of this state of things. A certain class of people in France, disregarding all facts and figures, seem firmly convinced that commercial reform has done it all, but this absurd notion is easily disposed of. The change in the tariff took place in 1860-1, and we find by the French official returns that, although the total exports from France was less in 1864 than in 1860, the whole fall occurred

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in 1861, and the amount has been rising ever since. Here are the figures :—

1860	454,800,000	francs.
1861	332,891,000	„
1862	363,156,000	„
1863	370,293,000	„
1864	384,521,000	„

Now, the increase since 1861 would have been turned into a decrease but for the arch free-trader, England, for while the total exports from France, as shown by the above table, were higher in 1864, as compared with 1861, by not quite fifty-two millions of francs, the increase in the amount sent to England was sixty-seven millions. So much for that bugbear. Other people look at the matter in a calmer manner, and do not hesitate to tell their countrymen that the failure in the silk crop is not the sole cause of the falling off in the exports of the manufactured article, and attribute it to the want of daring, or over-caution, which generally characterises French commercial operations, coupled with the effects of the war in America. The influence of that terrible conflict must have been very great, for the direct exports from France to the United States have fallen in six years from 138 to 23 millions of francs per annum, without a single halt in the downward course till last year, when the exports were the same as in 1863; but another fact cannot be overlooked, namely, that while the exports to all other countries, as well as America, were constantly falling until last year, those to England have been as constantly rising since 1861, and were still advancing at the end of 1864. Looking at these figures a French journalist says :—"Seeing our hesitation about maintaining our relations with countries which give themselves up to the horrors of civil war, England adroitly substituted herself for us and helped herself to the customers with whom we dared no longer deal." This may be true, and is stated fairly and without rancour; but when the same writer adds—"She (England) comes to us for the arms with which to fight us"—he exhibits that habitual want of acquaintance with the first principles of commerce which is too often so evident in the French press. Did the merchants and manufacturers of France sell their silk at a lower rate to us than they would have sold them to the Americans, and was the credit longer and the money less secure in consequence of the shifting of the transaction from New York to London? We have heard a great deal of late about the enormous increase in exportation generally from France, and the immense progress which has been made in commercial matters in that country as compared with England; now we have a complaint that the latter is beating France by buying too many of her silks! Where would the export silk trade of France have been had her dealings with England followed the course of the rest of the world? Just about eighty millions of francs worse off in four years! Great complaints are made against the Americans for having tripled the import duties on silks, and they are accused, and with perfect truth, of having borrowed from the Old World one of its greatest economical errors; but the increase of the customs duty in America bears equally upon English and French silks, so that argument falls to the ground with respect to the shifting of the mercantile portion of the transaction from French to English shoulders, and could only account for a reduction on the total amount which should, but for some other circumstances, have fallen equally on the commerce of both countries. The returns quoted above show that since 1859 the proportion taken by England of all the silks exported from France has risen from one-third to one-half; but has not the general trade between France and England risen enormously, and is not this the grand result calculated upon by those who have worked towards the abolition of commercial restrictions? When, however, a French writer declares that this increase in the exports of silks to England has been the cause of the great influence which she now exercises over the French markets, and "of the additional suffering arising from the "sacrifice which the French manufacturer makes while awaiting "the return of regular communication between the French "centres of production and the countries of consumption," he exhibits a lamentable want of commercial knowledge. It is not to such causes that we must look for the results referred to, but to those which prevent general increase in the carrying trade and other mercantile transactions of France. Whether enormous taxation, the increasing subdivision of property, and the withdrawal of too large a number of young men for the army, navy, and public employment, are sufficient to account for the very slow growth, if any, of the French mercantile navy, and of bold undertakings of the purely commercial kind, is another and, for the French nation, a very serious question. But whatever be the cause, it is useless for French writers to fly in the face of economical science and to attempt to mislead the world with respect to such matters. When a general deficiency is felt, there is nothing like a special exception to aid in throwing a light upon the subject. Let those who complain of England absorbing too much of the foreign trade in French silks study the proceedings of the *Messageries Imperiales*, and see what capital and energy, properly applied, can do in such matters, and then we shall not have to discuss and expose such fallacies as those referred to.

Through the gloom that hangs over the silk trade a little light is peeping out; accounts from Lyons state that export business exhibits some symptoms of revival, and that a few important sales made at New York have caused fresh ventures to be undertaken. Moreover, as regards the raw material, science, aided by the State, has succeeded in doing something towards remedying the failure of the silk crops; at the Imperial farm at Vincennes the many new species of silk-worm introduced of late are receiving great attention, and young oaks, wild plum trees, the castor oil plant, and the *ailante*, or *Vernis de Japon* tree, are covered with insects of all colours and sizes. The worm which feeds on the last named tree is considered to be completely acclimatised, and its eggs are now being distributed as fast as possible, but not fast enough for the demand.

THE PHANTOM LIGHTHOUSE OF CEYLON.

THE almost boundless trust with which the Commons vote the various items of the annual estimates, fortunately obtains from time to time a wholesome and salutary monition. A plain, straight-forward inquiry the other night has given members the opportunity of experiencing, in however weak a degree, the pang arising from misplaced confidence. It was only last year that £5,000 was noted for "the completion of the Ceylon Lighthouse," towards the erection of which, on the Basses Rocks, successive sums of public money, amounting in the aggregate to upwards of £65,000, have been voted. We do not include the re-votes in this total. The undertaking was in accordance with the recommendation of the Commons' Committee of 1854, which but affirmed the decision of a previous Committee in 1826 charged with investigating the matter—the structure being deemed essential to the safety of our vessels in the Indian trade. Parliament, after its long series of contributions, may be supposed to have felt all the pleasure arising from the complete discharge of an appointed task when called upon last year, in a monetary sense, to put on the top-stone. But what is its astonishment now to learn that its money is at "the bottom of the sea?" that—needless information!—this money "cannot be got back;" that "the erection" vouched for by the Government as only requiring £5,000 "for completion" has had, outside the official mind, no objective existence; and that, on nearing the Basses Rocks, the aerial fabric that rose nearly to completion under parliamentary votes resolves itself into a heap of stones and a flag-staff. The Ceylon Lighthouse which the Commons were so near completing may for the present serve the purposes of the ghostly crew of the *Flying Dutchman*, whose favourite cruizing ground is known to be in the neighbourhood of the Basses Rocks—nothing more. It is nevertheless difficult, after such heavy money votes, including actual payment to the fabulous builders for "the finishing job," to realise the structure as that which is not. Notwithstanding nine years of presumed operations, Mr. MILNER GIBSON could not inform the House whether the engineer or the site were at fault; whilst Mr. HENLEY'S recollections as to the action of the monsoon in preventing approach to the rocks or raising a heavy sea on the reefs, are entitled to little more weight in forming a judgment as to the practicability of the erection, than Mr. GIBSON'S plea as to the disadvantage which distance creates in securing the requisite engineering facilities. We hold that suitable engineering science, such as may be commanded any day in London, would secure, at an outlay of but half the sum already voted by Parliament, a substantial iron lighthouse; and shall not fail to urge the appropriation next session. No nautical man will acquiesce in Mr. MILNER GIBSON'S dicta that a light-ship will be almost equally valuable. It can neither afford the same strength of light nor the required elevation. We believe the Government itself has no doubts as to the practicability of the erection, but that it is judged prudent to avert that

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scrutiny which a further call for money might invite into past outlay—an outlay of which the true history has yet to be written. Besides, when we can erect a lighthouse on the Goodwin Sands, surely the Basses Rocks are not to remain the perpetual monument of the discomfiture of British engineering and hydraulic science.

THE STRAITS TRANSFER.

No doubt but that the parties interested in the transfer of the Straits Settlements from the India to the Colonial Office are somewhat anxious to know if the statement we made some three months since, to the effect that the Bill would be introduced during the present session, is likely to be carried out. Our information at the present moment is to the effect that the Bill is already draughted, and will be introduced as soon as the War Office has determined the nature of the defences to be maintained, and the expense thereof.

Continental Intelligence.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

JUNE 7.

The *Russian Invalide* gives some interesting particulars of the Dunganes, whose insurrection against the Government of China, quite independently of that of the Taipings, excites such general attention. It appears that these insurgents are a Mohammedan race, called by the Chinese *Ouigour*, and disseminated at the present day throughout all the provinces of the Celestial Empire, but more especially in the North and West. Originally they dwelt in what is now called Turkestan, and as far back as the sixth century formed a powerful State known in the Chinese records of history under the name of Gaotchan, their chief city being Karaschar (the present Turkestan). At that remote period they were Bhuddists by religion, but about the eighth century Islamism was by degrees introduced, and since became general. The dynasty of Tang, which came to the throne of China in the seventh century, entered on a vigorous war with the Ouigours during that and the succeeding century, to ensure the security of the Chinese capital, which at thattime was what is now called Si-ann, in the province of Chang-si, at no great distance from Ouigour territory, and having subjugated them, annexed the whole of Eastern Turkestan to the Celestial Empire.

But as the Ouigours nevertheless remained a powerful people, and were moreover constantly rebelling against their conquerors, the Emperors of the dynasty of Tang resolved, about the end of the eighth and beginning of the ninth century, to remove a part of this unruly tribe to China Proper, and form colonies there, which was effected at two different periods, mentioned in the Chinese history, first with 800,000 families and subsequently 200,000 more. At first they were located in the provinces of Chang-si and Hang-sou, but by degrees they spread over all the Northern parts of China as far as the Great Wall, and thence westward. Living as the Ouigours did among the Chinese, they forgot by degrees their own tongue and adopted in time the language, as well as the manners and customs of their conquerors, though as Mussulmans they continued to form a distinct religious tribe and retained some of their original peculiarities, which have descended to the present generation, for very few of them drink wine or smoke opium or even tobacco.

The commune of Salar, in the district of He-chow, in the province of Chang-si, being the seat of the spiritual head of the present Dunganes, may be considered as the capital of this singular people, the more so as it was thence that the first impulse was given to the several insurrectionary movements and the rebellions that have more than once broken out in modern times among the Dunganes under the present Mandschurian dynasty, the latest of which occurred in 1862, at which period the rebellion; that broke out in Chang-si, spread to the provinces of Hang-sou, Si-chwang, and Yung-nang to such an extent that the Chinese Government estimated the number of rebels to be more than a hundred thousand men under arms. Obliged to retire from the province of Hang-sou to that of Ourum-chee, which lies more to the west, they found the whole of the population disposed to join the insurrection, which tended to increase their forces very considerably; for in the district of Kouldja alone there are sixty thousand Dungane families, and in the whole province proportionably more; besides which there is the significan fact that the major part of the Chinese local corps or militia (20,000 men), stationed at Ourum-chee, is composed of Dunganes, among whom are the commandant and several of the superior officers.

It was under the command of these latter that, at the end of last year, the fresh insurrection broke out at Ourum-chee and the surrounding country against the Mandschurian authority, and having seized the city they set fire to it and gave it up to pillage, retreating subsequently to the citadel, which is strongly fortified, and still remains in their possession. As the centre of the commerce and industry of the Western parts of the Chinese Empire, Ourum-chee contains a vast population—estimated at two millions of souls—and had an immense stock of merchandise both of native and foreign produce and manufactures. According to the statements of officials and merchants of Tchougoutschak, the insurgents massacred no less than 150,000 inhabitants of all ages, and destroyed the valuable stores by setting fire to the warehouses. The communication with Kouldja and Tchougoutschak being intercepted by the insurgents, the Mandschurian authorities were unable to correspond with the Government, except by the circuitous route of Khobdo and Ouliasoutai.

From Ourum-chee the insurgents advanced in two separate corps to the neighbourhood of Kouldja and towards Turkestan. The former was interrupted in its march at Kour-Kara-Oussa by the troops sent for that purpose from Kouldja, but the other corps reached Turkestan, where the inhabitants of Koutcha, also Mussulmans, raised the standard of revolt and joined their co-religionists. After taking possession of the last-named city the insurgents went off in a westerly direction, and took up a position near the city of Aksou, a very important place in a strategical point of view, because the great roads of Kouldja to the north, Hotan to the south, and Kashgar and Yarkend to the west, all meet at this spot. The commandant of the city immediately sent off to meet the insurgents all the regular troops at his disposal, as well as the local militia; but they were beaten by the rebels, and obliged to retreat. This was the situation of affairs at the close of last year. The principal chief of Turkestan, having reason to fear that the insurrection would spread to Kashgar and the other western cities of the province, required assistance from the Governor of Kouldja. In the meantime the insurgents, having occupied the pass of Yan-shan-Koou, leading from the mountains of Aksou to Kouldja, no relief could be sent to him, and also because intelligence arrived that, in the month of October the Dunganes of the province of Kouldja had also revolted and seized the cities to the east of Kouldja, and subsequently had taken possession of that provincial capital.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Great confidence is felt in this article, as enormous quantities will now be shipped to the Southern States of North America, where the ports will be opened on the 1st of July. All descriptions in good request, especially the finer qualities and prices a shade higher. Since last mail 35,000 bags sold. Among the sales were 800 bags of Timor which realised 8¾ sch. Banco.

SUGAR.—Raw has been rather lively, but the demand has now somewhat subsided and the market is calm. No alteration in values of raw or refined. Of the latter 25,000 loaves changed hands.

RICE.—Market looking up, as stocks are much reduced.

SPICES.—There is more demand for Cassia Lignea. Of Cassia Flores 30 chests found purchasers at 27 sch. Banco. Cloves also more inquired for, and 300 gonjes sold at 4 Sch. Banco.

TEA.—There has been an animated demand, and prices are well supported. The following were sold by importers: 1,438 quarter chests, 2,339 eighths, and 498 sixteenths Congou, 748 quarters, 95 eighths Souchong, and 232 quarters Congou, all per *Conard Heinrich*, and 302 quarte chests of Congou per *Picciola*, as well as several parcels of green and black teas by the dealers both for shipment and consumption.

SPELTER.—At first the market was not so lively, and prices sensibly receded, but within the last few days they have fully recovered their former position, the advance in May being fully 12 Sch. Bco. per Centner. The following transactions are reported:—

1,000	Centners	in loco	..	14	Marks	2	Sch. Bco.
500	„	for arrival	..	14	„	4	„ „
1,000	„	loco	..	14	„	4	„ „
1,500	„	loco	..	14	„	6	„ „
500	„	per July	..	14	„	7	„ „
2,000	„	do.	..	14	„	8	„ „
1,000	„	loco	..	14	„	3	„ „
3,000	„	per July	..	14	„	4	„ „
1,000	„	loco	..	14	„	8	„ „

The arrivals this year to end of May were 174,000 centners against 239,000 at the corresponding period of 1864. Stock on the 1st June 35,000 centners against 6,000 do. last year.

SHIPPING.—Sailed: Valedora, for Manila.

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CASE OF THE "ANN ADAMSON" CHARTER.

ADAMSON V. DUNCAN AND ANOTHER.

This was a special case. The action was brought for alleged breaches of a charter-party in not loading the plaintiff's ship *Ann Adamson* with a full and complete homeward cargo, as required by the said charter-party, and also for a balance of freight claimed to be due under the charter-party. On the 8th of May, 1863, the plaintiff, being the owner of the *Ann Adamson*, chartered her to the defendants for a voyage from London to Shanghai or Nagasaki, and back to London or Liverpool as ordered. By the charter-party it was stipulated that the freight should be as follows:—"For the round (*i.e.*, for the voyage out and home), at the rate of £6. 10s. per ton of 50 cubic feet of tea or silk; if other goods be shipped, freight to be in the same proportion as if those goods were tea." The vessel proceeded to Nagasaki, and, after unloading her outward cargo, received there from the defendants' agents a homeward cargo of cotton and other lawful merchandise, but no tea or silk. For the purposes of the case it was assumed that the homeward cargo, so loaded, was a full and complete cargo for the vessel, and also that the capacity of the vessel for tea was equal to 769 tons of 50 cubic feet measurement each, and also that the above-mentioned homeward cargo was, in fact, less than 769 tons of 50 cubic feet each, and was also less than 769 tons of 20 cwt. each. The plaintiff contended that, as a matter of law, upon the true construction of the charter, he was entitled to be paid for the "round" the sum of £6. 10s. per ton upon the first number of 769 tons, which would have been the amount had the cargo of tea been loaded. The defendants contended that the freight was payable upon the number of tons of cargo actually shipped, calculating according to the standard of 50 cubic feet measurement, equal to 20 cwt., and that the amount of freight was not a fixed sum for the "round." The question for the opinion of the Court was whether, as a matter of law, upon the true construction of the charter, the plaintiff was under the circumstances entitled to be paid freight upon 769 tons, at the rate of £6. 10s. a ton. If the Court should be of opinion in the affirmative, there was to be judgment for the plaintiff for £701; if otherwise, for the defendant. The question turned mainly on the words "in the same proportion."

Mr. Lush, Q.C. (with him Mr. Kemplay), argued for the plaintiff, and urged that the plain meaning of the charter was this, that as this was a new trade, in which the measurement was 50 ft. to the ton, whereas in other trades it was only 40 ft., the standard was taken to be tea and silk, because those commodities, from the square compact form and shape of their packages, were adapted to that measurement—packing, as they did, more closely than other commodities, so that a much larger quantity could be taken of tea and silk than of other goods. Hence, tea and silk were taken as the standard, and this was the key to the construction of the charter. Goods were divided into measurement and weight, that is, goods of which the tonnage was calculated only by weight and those by which it was calculated by measurement—that is, so many cubic feet to the ton. If goods were not to be calculated by measurement, they would be calculated merely by weight. If taken by measurement, of course it was very important how the measurement should be taken. In this case, the measurement adapted to tea and silk was adopted; and if other goods were laden, which would take more room, they must pay more tonnage. In short, every kind of cargo was to pay freight at the rate of 50 cubic feet per ton; and that was what was meant by other goods paying "in the same proportion." Any other construction made nothing of those words, or gave them no real meaning.

Mr. Watkin Williams argued for the defendant. The real question, he said, was whether the freight was to be fixed, or to vary with the cargo. It was well known that shipowners often chartered their ships at a fixed freight per ton for the cargoes of whatever value, so that the freight would produce very different amounts, according to the nature of the goods shipped. But the truth was that it might be more advantageous to carry one kind of cargo for a lesser freight than another kind of goods at a larger rate of freight. Tea or silk, for instance, would make a far better cargo than rice or millet seed, straining the ship much less than other goods. Hence the shipowner was influenced not only by the mere rate of freight, but by the nature of the cargo as well. Thus, then, it was not to be taken for granted that the shipowner meant to contract for a fixed rate of freight with a view to secure the same amount of freight. The standard was fixed with reference not merely to the rate of freight, but to the weight of the cargo, with reference to specific gravity. It was well established that goods which went above 40 cubic feet to the ton were to be charged on the measurement, and if below, then at the ton weight. No doubt the shipowner was entitled to full freight, but the question was as to the meaning of the words "the same proportion." It was perfectly well known that different kinds of goods earned different amounts of freight in proportion. No shipowner would expect the same amount for wool as for tallow. The words "same proportion" meant that the rate should be £6. 10s. reduced to the standard of 50 cubic feet a ton. It would startle mercantile men to be told that all goods were to pay the same freight, whether good for the ship or bad for the ship. Tea was a light cargo, and considerably above the average to be allowed in measurement. In the Baltic trade there were different scales of freight for different goods—tallow, hemp, &c. This was not a case of that kind, but the same result was to be attained thus—that as the goods varied in specific gravity, the parties had agreed upon a standard of weight and measurement to be adopted, and to which the rate of freight was to be reduced—that is, a fixed rate of freight was to be adopted for different kinds of cargo. If the cargo measured 50 cubic feet to the ton, it was to pay £6. 10s.; but if less, or if it measured 40 feet to the ton, then it was to pay a proportionate rate of freight, which would be one-fifth more upon the measurement. This was the meaning of the words "same proportion." If, again, unpressed cotton were carried which would measure (say) 60 cubic feet to the ton, the shipowner was to get £6. 10s. for 50 cubic feet, or one-sixth more per ton. In fact, 50 cubic feet was substituted for 40 as the turning-point between measurement and weight. This was the meaning of the words "in the same proportion." Proportion here fixed the rate of freight to the weight and measurement, not that other goods were to pay at the same freight as tea. On goods lighter than tea—hat is, more than 50 cubic feet to the ton—the freight was to be paid at the rate of 50 cubic feet to the ton. On goods heavier it was to be paid by the measurement of a ton for every 50 cubic feet.

The Lord Chief Justice delivered judgment as follows:—Generally speaking, the ambiguous language of these mercantile documents make them so doubtful, that it perhaps would be better if they were referred to a mercantile tribunal. No doubt they are very intelligible to mercantile men, but to lawyers they are full of ambiguities. Construing the document, however, as well as we can, according to the ordinary sense of the terms used, the meaning of this charter-party is tolerably clear. The stipulation as to freight is that for silk and tea—the species of cargo the parties contemplated. The rate was to be £6. 10s. per ton, not ascertained by weight, but by measurement. But, then, as the charterer would not be necessarily limited to tea and silk, it is stipulated that if other goods shall be loaded instead of tea or silk, the freight shall be paid in the same proportion as the other. One construction of these words is this that the measurement should be ascertained with reference to other goods, of the like species, and the weight in the same ratio as if dealing with tea; but that construction would lead to consequences so monstrous that it is impossible to sustain it. The only other construction is, that if, instead of loading a cargo of tea or silk, the charterer loads other goods, the shipowner shall stand in the same position as if a full cargo of tea or silk were loaded, and that then any one competent to deal with the matter, and knowing the capacity of the ship, can ascertain what amount of tea or silk the ship can hold by measurement, and thus get at the number of tons, and so calculate the freight to be paid. That is the only reasonable construction. The construction contended for by the defendant, the charterer, is that whereas the proportion (whatever may be the sense of the term) is to be the same between other goods and tea and silk—that is, that a certain proportion shall take place between the measurement and weight—the actual weight is to be introduced, which would frustrate the whole object of the stipulation, and introduce quite a new element into the calculation. In my opinion the meaning is that the shipowner is to be in the same position as if there were a full cargo of tea or silk. What that would be is to be calculated, and the charterer is to pay at the same rate; and judgment, therefore, I think must be for the plaintiff.—The other learned judges concurred.

COURT OF ADMIRALTY.

THE AMERICAN WAR.—THE "D. JEX."

This was originally an American vessel, and in consequence of the havoc by the *Alabama*, she was transferred, and had since sailed under the British flag. The vessel had sailed to China and back, and the master brought an action to recover his wages. The defendants brought in a large claim for a former debt, and the plaintiff now sought to make his claim and to re-arrest the vessel for the amount due to him when he transferred the vessel from being an American to be a British ship.

Mr. Vernon Lushington appeared for the plaintiff, and said the application was a very unusual one. The vessel had been transferred owing to the losses sustained by North American vessels from the *Alabama*. The vessel had been transferred, but the money not paid, and under the 191st section of the Merchant Shipping Act the present claim was made.

His Lordship asked whether the transfer was a mere colour.

Mr. Vernon Lushington said the money had not been paid.

Dr. Lushington: Then, a mere cover.

Dr. Deane, Q.C., on the other side, contended that as the action was, in fact, against an American ship, it could not be granted. The vessel was at Liverpool as a British ship, and the claim was for the transfer of an American vessel. The vessel was registered not at a British port. The court had no jurisdiction in the matter.

Mr. V. Lushington said his client was an American, and claimed for the sale made in 1861. He relied on the 191st section of the Act.

His Lordship considered the question raised an important one, and reserved his judgment.

BENGAL SILK.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—It appears to me that the tendency of the Chinese and Japanese to limit supplies of silk for the express purpose of enhancing its price might be materially counteracted were European enterprise and capital applied to that extent which circumstances seem to warrant in the culture of the article in Bengal. Allowing for the deficiency of supply from the Far East, and the anticipated shortness of the European crop, it must yet be allowed that Bengal silk has reached an extreme price in view of the drawbacks of its being so lowered in quality as to be the least desirable, and the difficulty of obtaining anything like a satisfactory valuation in the European market, many skeins being faced with good silk, whilst the interior is filled up with coarse and inferior thread. More European capital, with its appropriate organisation, invested in the business, together with European supervision, would soon produce, I am satisfied, a marked change in the quality and reputation of Bengal silk. Where skilful and systematic manipulation has to be combined with production, and, indeed, wherever firm and unremitting superintendence is required, the Hindustanees are generally found wanting, and the steadier action of the European mind required. The West Indies and tropical America, more particularly Guatemala, were enabled from this one cause to snatch away the indigo trade of India after it had been established a hundred years; and again, from the introduction of European agency, India recovered it. I know no enterprise more promising than the culture of silk in Bengal, and trust, should this publication be published, it may serve to draw attention to the subject. Numerous new companies have been brought out in London for industrial purposes in India, but none for the cultivation of Bengal silk. It is capable of demonstration that such a company, respectably formed, and with anything like judicious management, would secure, in the present state of the silk trade, most satisfactory profits—profits, of course, proportioned to the scale on which the enterprise was undertaken.

Yours, &c.,

SILK.

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THE HARBOUR OF NEW-CHWANG.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

Sir,—It may be worth while recalling to parties connected with the China trade that, by Lord Elgin's treaty, the valuable harbour of New-chwang, in Manchouria, was opened to us—a port that places us within easy distance of the Amoor. I cannot learn that anything has yet been done to take advantage of this proximity. Seeing that the merchants of Boston, in the United States, find it to their interest to maintain a direct trade with the Amoor (*vide* report of H.M.'s Consul at Boston), it appears to me that English enterprise might accomplish much in the same direction.—Yours, &c.,

F. L.

Baltic Rooms, June 9, 1865.

GROWTH OF SILK IN IRELAND.

(To the Editor of *The London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—When so much attention is being given to revive the staple industries of Ireland, I would venture to suggest the application of capital and skill to another production—that of silk. I am not the first to moot this idea. Though now lost sight of, it has been advocated at various times by parties well acquainted with the conditions of successful silk culture; among others by Mr. Martin in his work on China. The prospective scarcity of silk, or at least the certainty that the supply will not come up to the requirements of manufacturers, constitutes a powerful reason for attention to a culture which, under proper management, could not fail to ensure satisfactory returns. Myrtle trees, the most indispensable requirement to success, flourish in the sister-isle; and healthy seed may be obtained from Algeria, respecting which the *Mitidja* of Blidah remarks, somewhat extravagantly I allow, that "a single grain never failed to produce a silk-worm." Should any capitalists be disposed to give attention to this proposition, I shall be most happy to communicate the method of treatment adopted by Count Selimbene, of Modena, whose silk produce is remarkable for its unvarying excellence, and commands the highest price in the Italian market.—Yours, &c.,

MILANESE.

New Broad-street, June 8.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—The fourteenth and last meeting of the present session of this society was held on the 12th inst., at Burlington-house, Sir Roderick I. Murchison, President, in the chair. The first paper was on a "Visit to the Wahabee Capital of Central Arabia," by Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis Pelly, Her Majesty's political Resident at Bushire, Persian Gulf. The author was led to undertake this remarkable journey to the chief seat of the jealous and bigoted Wahabee Mahomedans from having read in the published proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society that the situation of these interior cities had never been fixed by direct observation. He was desirous at the same time of a personal interview with the Amir, on matters connected with public duty. He started, therefore, with two officers belonging to his establishment, Dr. Colvill and Lieutenant Dawes, on the 18th of February in the present year. The party did not attempt to conceal their nationality, although they found it prudent to throw the *abbah* and *chiffeeah* of the country over their own clothing, and thus avoid needless intrusion and collision. They travelled on camels, starting each morning a little before daybreak, and continuing the march until sunset. Colonel Pelly had the honour of three interviews with the Wahabee ruler, who is both the spiritual and temporal head of the Wahabee territories, and is absolute throughout his dominions. A second paper was "On the Korea," by Captain Allen Young. This was a description of the almost unknown peninsular of Eastern Asia, lying between Northern China and Japan, giving an account of its interior as derived from Chinese and Japanese writers, and a summary of the various futile attempts made by the commanders of European expeditions to gain an entrance into the land for the purpose of investigation. Korea lies under the temperate latitudes of 33 deg. to 43 deg., is thickly peopled with an industrious and civilised race, abounds in agricultural and mineral products, and with manufactures which promise all the requirements of lucrative exchange, and yet the country is so completely lost to the outer world that no foreign ship ever enters its ports, nor is any European voyager allowed to remain on its shores. The country forms the eastern shore of the Yellow Sea, the great highway to the rich treaty ports of Northern China, yet its western coast, masked by innumerable, and mostly inhabited islands, dangerous to navigation, has never yet been surveyed, and laid down on our charts. The history of the Korea is diversified by various attempts of the Chinese to encroach on the Northern Provinces, and particularly by two invasions of the Japanese in the 16th century. The latter still hold one port, Fouchan, opposite Tsu-Sima, the most westerly island of Japan, as a trading and military station. The author of the paper concluded by stating that his object in bringing forward the subject of the Korea was to attract the attention of all who take an interest in geographical discovery and the progress of our commercial intercourse with the East to this fine new field for enterprise—a country producing silk, cotton, hemp, rice, wheat, tobacco, gold, silver, copper, coal, furs, and manufactures similar to those of China and Japan. The question arises, how can we visit a country or initiate political and commercial relations with a people whose Government is so opposed to any connexion with the foreigner? The Korean Sovereign is practically independent and despotic, and a direct embassy to his Court would effect more than any other course we might pursue. The French would have carried out this end in 1848, had it not been for the loss of their ships on the coast, and they will probably renew the attempt. The Russians are already working down the eastern coast. The changed state of affairs in China and Japan now justifies the attempt to open negotiations with the Korean Government, and it is to be hoped that our Government may be induced to take steps towards giving us this new field for scientific exploration and commercial enterprise.*

* An account of the Korea appeared in our issue of the 28th Feb.

Monetary and Commercial.

The Bank of England has again reduced its rate of discount from 3½ to 3 per cent. Everything is flat, and the special suspicion attaching to the East India and China trade has not yet abated.

According to a report issued by the Customs, the quantity of tea entered for home consumption was, in 1860, equal to 76,859,428 lbs., the duty collected at 1s. 5d. being equal to £5,444,157 in 1861; 77,949,465 lbs., £5,521,322, in 1862; 78,817,059 lbs., £5,582,792, in 1863, at 1s. 5d. and 1s.; 85,206,776 lbs., £4,652,822; and in 1864, 88,637,099 lbs., £4,431,867.

At the half-yearly meeting of the British India Steam Company the usual dividend was announced, notwithstanding the losses incurred by the cyclone at Calcutta. The company's lines are in good working order, and it is contemplated to place another steamer on the Singapore line.

John James Lowndes, Esq., one of the directors, has been appointed to succeed H. D. Cartwright, Esq., as chairman of the Commercial Bank Corporation of India and the East.

The Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China has declared a dividend of 8½ per cent. for the half-year ending 1st July next.

The shares of many of the Indian banks are recovering from the depreciation which occurred in their value the last few weeks.

The claim of Messrs. William Pustau and Co., amounting to about £11,000, on what has been technically named the "Canton claims," has at length been allowed by the British Government. Mr. Parsons, solicitor, late of Hong Kong, has conducted the matter.

At a meeting of the creditors of Messrs. Dirom, Davidson, and Co., who suspended at Liverpool, in the East India trade, with uncovered liabilities to the amount of £140,000, a composition of 10s. in the pound was accepted.

A general court of proprietors of the East India Company was held at the offices, No. 3, Lothbury, on the 14th inst., Colonel Sykes, M.P., in the chair. The minutes of the former court having been read,

The Chairman read the notice that the dividend on East India Stock payable on the 6th July next, under section 2nd, 3rd and 4th William IV., c. 85, will be ready for delivery at the Bank of England on that day.

The Secretary read a detailed account exhibiting the state of the East India Company on the 1st June, 1865, which showed an aggregate total amount of

£5,287,258 3 5	Three per Cent. Reduced.	
777,178 14 3	Three per Cent. Consols.	
Total .. £6,064,436 17 8		

COMPANY'S INVESTMENTS, JUNE 1, 1865.

£10,422 19 7	Consols,	cost £9,285 0 0
6,000 0 0	Exchequer Bills,	cost 6,021 2 8
		£15,306 2 8

The members of the bye-laws committee were severally re-elected.

Mr. Beddome drew attention to a petition from the Company, which had been presented to the House of Commons some twelve months since, on the subject of the claims of the officers of the Company's navy. It was a case in which an Act of Parliament had been violated. The claims of the officers of the navy were utterly ignored, and in the debate in the House of Commons it was considered by Captain Jervis that the petition applied only to the army. Now, in the army the injury done to the officers was of comparative extent, but to the navy it was annihilation of officers who had been appointed, between the ages of 20 and 40 especially.

The Chairman said the army was annihilated (hear), but it was to be regretted that the officers of the navy did not petition the Legislature as a body, in appealing for the settlement of their just claims. Unfortunately there were only three petitions altogether presented by the officers of the navy. The gallant officer advanced many cases of hardship which had come under his own cognisance.

Mr. Jones suggested that the company should interfere by petition to protect the rights of the naval officers.

After some further conversation the matter was dropped, and the meeting separated with a vote of thanks to the chairman, proposed by Mr. Jones.

According to a circular of Messrs. Arles Dufour and Co., of Lyons, the attention of the silk trade in that city has lately been entirely directed to the progress of the silk crop, the unsatisfactory prospects of which, combined with a decided improvement in the state of the American market for silk goods, have led to important transactions. Owing to this activity and to the very high opening rates of cocoons, prices have experienced a progressive improvement, and now show an advance of 5 to 8 per cent. on the rates current a month ago.

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SOUTHAMPTON,

IMMEDIATELY OPPOSITE THE RAILWAY TERMINUS AND DOCKS

THIS FIRST-CLASS HOTEL, so well-known to most Travellers from the East and West Indies, China, the United States, Brazils, &c., is admirably situated for their convenience, Mr. RADLEY having, by careful organisation, made those arrangements that have tended so much to establish its reputation.

Mr. R. employs no touters or paid agents, but his Porters are always in attendance to meet passengers on arrival, with carriages, &c., as usual. Rooms may be engaged by letter from Malta.

SADDLERY, HARNESS, AND SADDLERS' IRONMONGERY,
FOR HOME OR EXPORTATION.

ESTABLISHED 1750 (AS A BIT AND SPUR MAKER).

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THE BEST AND CHEAPEST TO BE OBTAINED AT

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To Saddlers, Merchants, and all Wholesale Purchasers, this Establishment offers the greatest advantages.

DOCKS.
PORT OF AMOY, CHINA.

AGENTS and Commanders are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING, SPARRING, and RE-FITTING VESSELS of all sizes, and for CLEANSING and PAINTING Iron Ships, at moderate charges.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, with 19 to 21 feet water in the entrance at spring tides, and fitted with Caissoon Gate and Steam Pumps, is in complete working order, and is well supplied with every description of materials.

EUROPEAN FOREMEN superintend the work in all departments.

Amoy, 1st January, 1864

THE AGRA and MASTERMAN'S BANK (Limited).

(Established in 1833.)

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up Capi l,£1,500,000 (one million and a-half sterling).

Subscribed Capital, £3,000,000 (three millions sterling).

In 20,000 Shares of £100 each, and 20,000 Shares of £50 each.

Number of Shareholders, 908.

Reserved Fund, £500,000.

HEAD OFFICE.
Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

GEORGE GORDON MACPHERSON, Esq., Chairman.
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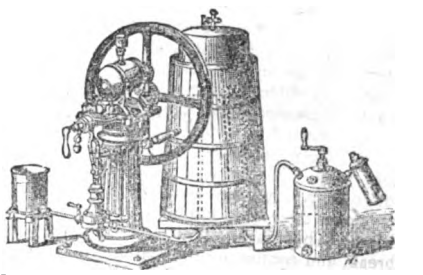

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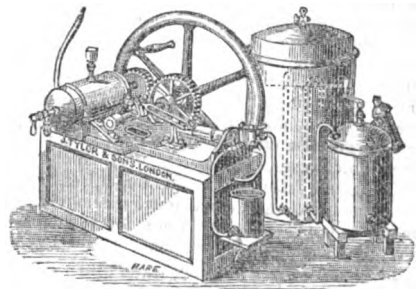

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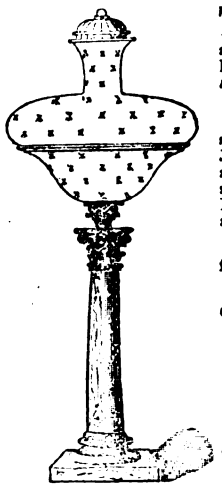

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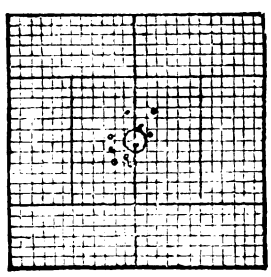

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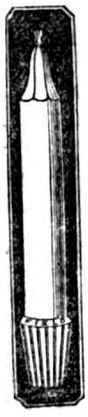

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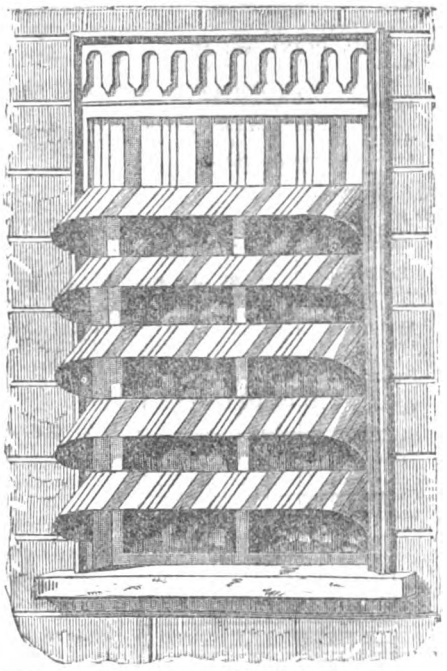

THIS very handsome SUN BLIND has the effect of keeping rooms cool in summer to an extent never before attained, for the very obvious reason that a double layer of cloth (by the overlapping of the hoods) is interposed between the sun and the window, whilst the wide open space between each hood favours a copious ventilation.

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Calcutta ...	Childwall Abbey ...	1227	AA 1 ...	About July 20
Batavia & Soulabaya ...	Bulgersteyn...	577	5-6ths. 1.1.	About July 15

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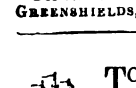

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Kanagawa & Yokohama ...	Chanticleer	A1 10 yr.	W.I.D.	With des.
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Calcutta ...	Sir J. Lawrence	1,090	A. Sinclair	July 5
Bombay ...	Oberon ...	1,181	H. Towill	June 15
Bombay ...	Cospatrick ...	1,200	J A Elmslie	July 10
Hong Kong & Whampoa...	Sydney Eggers	874	Richardson	With despteh

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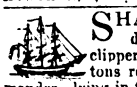

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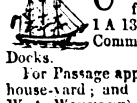

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE SEVENTH Volume of this JOURNAL commenced on the 3rd of January, 1865. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS," A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 177.] LONDON, FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London on the 16th June.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Feb. 10	April 6	April 13
Nagasaki			„ 14
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			„ 12
Tien-tsin			„ 15
Chefoo			„ 16
New-chwang			
Hankow			„ 13
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	„ 27	„ 15	„ 23
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	March 10	„ 22	„ 29
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	Feb. 27	„ 15	„ 21
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			„ 30
SIAM— Bangkok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			May 1
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	March 27	„ 30	„ 6
Penang	„ 27	„ 28	„ 8

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Poonah, from Southampton, June 20.—To Shanghai: One 2nd class passenger.—To Hong Kong: Asst.-surgeons A. W. Whitley, R.N., J. A. Gawen, R.N., and E. Hudson, R.N., Mrs. Gammell and daughter, and two 2nd class passengers, To Singapore: Miss Rough, Miss Page, and one 2nd class passenger. To Ceylon: Mr. A. Macartney, Mr. T. Powrie, Mr. and Mrs. Gow, Mr. W. M. Gow, Mr. A. T. Johnston, and four 2nd class passengers.

To Calcutta: Miss Pinope, Mrs. Naeve, Mr. Skinner, Mr. C. J. Sharp, Mr. H. Cherrys Mr. F. T. Brooks, fourteen 2nd class passengers, and one child. To Madras: Mr. Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. Labourn, six children, Capt. and Mrs. Stewart, two infant, and native female servant, Mr. R. H. Campbell, Major Gray, and nine 2nd class passengers. To Suez: One 2nd class passenger. To Alexandria: One 2nd class passenger. From Gibraltar.—To Hong Kong: One 2nd class passenger.

From Marseilles, June 28.—To Hong Kong: Capt. D. Sinclair and native servant, Mr. and Mrs. C. Bradley, Mr. John Pitman, Mr. C. F. Rodaty, Mr. Morewood and son. To Singapore: Mr. John Ross.

To Calcutta: Lieut. Thorpe, Mr. and Mrs. Le Mesurier, infant child, and European female servant, and one 2nd class passenger. To Madras: Mr. and Mrs. Conolly, Major Pearse, Mr. and Mrs. Hardy Johnstone, Major E. B. Ramsay.

From Suez.—To Singapore: Capt. and Mrs. Dana. To Calcutta: Mr. and Mrs. J. Broadrich.

Per P. and O. steamer Pera, from Southampton, July 4.—To Ceylon: Mr. W. Syme, Rev. Gerard Middleton. To Hong Kong: Capt. and Mrs. Kinder and child, two Misses Kinder, Miss Sergeant, Mr. Allen, Mr. Tookey, Mr. C. Fox, R.N. To Singapore: Mr. Skinner.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Suez, August 4.—To Shanghai: Mr. M. Archer Shee, jun.

THE INCOMING MAILS.

The P. and O. Company's mail due on 27th inst., which has been delayed by the accident to the *Nemesis*, cannot arrive in London until after the 6th July, and as the French mail with ten days' later news is expected about that time, we go to press to-day in order to complete the three numbers for June.

MR. HENRY DENT ON THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

On retiring from an office which I have held for something over two years, I may be permitted to make a few observations on the so-called municipal government of Shanghai. Perhaps there is no time more suitable than the present to make the remarks I have to offer. When times are prosperous and large fortunes are made with rapidity, men usually are far less prone to criticise the nature of the taxes they have to contribute to, or even their amount. Let, however, adversity come upon us, let commerce fail, let property depreciate to a fearful extent, then different feelings are awakened in the minds of taxpayers. Taxes which heretofore have been found to yield a sufficient revenue, gradually are becoming less and less productive. Hence new taxes become a necessity, and with these the means of enforcing them. This being one of the most important features in municipal government, naturally leads to its consideration. The first body which undertook to carry out in Shanghai the ordinary duties of a Town Council was entitled the "Committee of Roads and Jetties." On the 13th June, 1854, the gentlemen composing this committee wrote to Messrs. Alcock and Murphy, Consuls for Great Britain and the United States, stating that various reasons necessitated some change in the management of municipal matters. Mr. Alcock, in conjunction with the Consuls for France and the United States, convened, in consequence, a meeting of land-renters on the 11th July, 1854. By reference to his speech you will see that he states he presents to the land-renters "a carefully digested code of land and municipal regulations, adapted, as he trusted it would be found, to the local condition of the place. It had been reduced to its present form, only after drafts had from time to time been under revision by the Ministers of the three Treaty Powers." In another part of his speech he went on to say that "the question for the meeting seemed, therefore, not so much whether a Municipal Government was necessary, or whether there should be one, as what form it should take. Consider what effects the rebel raid on the surrounding districts had upon this city. The crowds of Chinese that then poured into the settlement will well be remembered, as also will the rapid rise in the value of property and the building of innumerable Chinese houses. The attraction of high pay held out by the rebels caused hundreds of the lowest class of foreigners to flock to this port, rendering imperative a much larger police force. But with the retirement of the rebels came a large efflux of the native population, a fall in rents and a decrease in taxes. There are now only 100,000 Chinese in the English and American settlements, whereas at one time the foreign settlements were believed to contain 500,000. The last remark leads me to the subject of finance. In days gone by the amounts derived from the old system of taxation proved sufficient for the expenditure. The eight per cent. tax on Chinese rentals was always that which brought in the largest sum. When the necessities of the Chinese Government caused a heavier tax to be levied on all classes of natives, rents fell. Another cause of rents falling was the partial migration of Chinese from this settlement when quiet was restored in the neighbouring districts. The popular idea at that time was that the foreign settlements contained some 500,000 people. The census now shows that not one-third of that number is in the

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place. The rents have fallen so low now and the number of houses occupied is so small, that not one-half of what was can now be collected. Then again the wharfage dues have fallen off considerably, in consequence partly of the erection of private wharves on Hong-que and partly of the depressed state of trade. From what I have said it will be abundantly apparent that the revenue has fallen off and still shows a tendency to fall off. When again the serious increase of expense which the incorporation of Hong-que has been and is to this settlement, the vast number of new roads which have to be kept in repair, it will be readily admitted that something should be done to provide new sources of revenue. Some gentlemen have stated that the fall in rentals of Chinese buildings was owing to the 16 per cent. tax which prevailed a short time back—this could hardly be, however, the whole cause, as the fall in rents in most cases amounted to 50 per cent. The real cause no doubt was the almost unlimited number of Chinese buildings that were erected, and the partial exodus of the natives. The heavy expenses connected with the police have also often been commented upon. When the population is taken into consideration it will be seen that for every thousand we have only 1¼ man. If the police force of other places is investigated, it will be seen that that existing here is small by comparison. One observation might appropriately be made, that in no other place in the East were foreigners taxed to so small an extent as at present in Shanghai. As regards the constitution of the Municipal Council, with its powers to enforce payment of taxes and to carry out the local government of the place, defects were very early observed. In 1862 a committee was selected to write an address to Sir F. Bruce on the subject. The objects which that address aimed at appeared to Sir Frederick of too high a nature, and his reply served rather to damp the views of the committee. To provide for the better punishment of Chinese criminals the Municipal Council recommended the establishment of a mixed court; it was thought that by the association of a Municipal Officer with a Mandarin that the Council would gain some authority over criminals so as to secure their certain punishment. By the assistance of the Consuls of America and Great Britain this court was established, "At the instance," however, of the latter, as the report states, a consular interpreter was substituted, and the object of the Council was to a certain extent defeated. That good results have arisen from the establishment of the court no one will deny; the diminution of crime in the settlement is sufficient to prove this. The duties of a council are well stated in the reply of of Sir F. Bruce to the address of the committee above referred to. In this reply, dated August 6, 1863, he states:—"Territorial jurisdiction is understood to mean the right to control thoroughfares and public buildings, public wharves and jetties; to improve and collect taxes; to establish and support a police; to arrest, for disturbance of the public peace, and bring to trial; to license houses of public entertainment, public chairs, carriages, and boats; to enforce sanatory regulations by fines." As regards the internal civil government of England, every parish has its churchwardens, every town its town council, every city its council or corporation. Each town has its separate code of bye-laws, which bye-laws, after having been approved of by the privy council, become law, and can always be enforced before the justices of the peace. These bye-laws form the basis of the authority of the council, and their course of action has always to be guided by their tenor; new bye-laws can at any time be submitted to the privy council, and with their consent may become law. The system is found to work well, based as it is upon the interests of the many. Again, the local knowledge obtained by a permanent establishment guided by fixed laws becomes an important point; not to mention the increased interest men take in an undertaking when a likelihood prevails that their efforts may not prove unavailing. On page 15, Toulmin Smith writes in his work on the "Nuisances Removal Act"—"Certainty, in all legislation, should be a primary object; the most earnest will not exert themselves, unless they see this certainty." Further on he writes—"Law without certainty, has no being. Property and enterprise and liberty are mere fictions, unless this certainty is felt. Property or enterprise made dependent on shifting legislation, is destroyed." The question now to be decided is whether any system of government could be devised for Shanghai as regards foreigners. The first question to be resolved is, "What body has inherent in itself the powers exerted by a Town Council at home." Not the Consuls, surely—Sir F. Bruce's and Mr. Alcock's letters would seem to decide this. No one would like to dissent from the opinion generally held, that those who pay taxes should have a voice as to what form they should pay them in. Not the Chinese, in so far as taxation of foreigners is concerned, inasmuch as the exterritorial law prevails here. In whom then does it exist—in the body of taxpayers. Hitherto the practice has been of only land-renters voting. That this system is wrong in principle can hardly admit of doubt. Rent-payers contribute largely to taxes, and ought certainly to have a voice in matters of taxation. Woolrich, in the introduction to his work entitled "The Metropolis Local Management Acts," on page 40, lays down the principle that "That system which wholly ignored the constitutional relation between taxation and representation, and under which the ratepayers had no voice in the election of those by whom their affairs were administered, could only be of limited duration." He would suggest that a committee be appointed to consider the subject of representation, that the interest of the many might be consulted. The *Recorder* had suggested that a council of thirty members should be chosen. What the number should be will be a matter for after consideration. The committee should be empowered to frame bye-laws, to be submitted for approval to the foreign Ministers—these would detail the duties and powers of the Council, the mode of enforcing penalties for breaches of regulations and the mode of exacting due payments of taxes. At the present moment no code could be said to exist. It was true that resolution after resolution had been carried unanimously at meetings of land-renters, but these resolutions could never be carried out, as no method of compulsion could be employed. Budgets had been framed and carried by a majority, but generally one man and then another objected to the payment of taxes levied under it, and all schemes alike must fail under existing circumstances. The Chairman said the Council was wrong in saying that the Consular authorities had been wrong. I am a member of the consular body myself, and I remember that the agreement was signed under the distinct impression that everything was to be done equally in every portion of the foreign settlement. Now it is well known that gambling-houses still exist on the French side.

The Chairman only objected to the form of protest. If the interests of residents on this side of the Yang-king-pang had been injured, this was neither the happiest nor the most courteous method of protesting.

Mr. Dent, then, could only opologise for the form. In conclusion, he would remark that whatever credit might be deserved by the Council was due to the working members; whatever was wrong was attributable to the Council themselves. Some misapprehension had got about regarding Mr. Clark, who was supposed by some to have originated certain measures which were now found objectionable. The drainage system had not been commenced by him. Sixty thousand taels had been spent on it before Mr. Clark arrived in Shanghai, and he found it necessary to spend a certain sum further, in order to utilise what had been done. The jetty in the Soochow creek which had been so much objected to was built up before Mr. Clark came. The encomia which the chairman had passed on Mr. Penfold rendered unnecessary any further remarks from him; he would only say that the Council fully endorsed them. It must be gratifying to the land-renters to find that so large a sum had been collected as the accounts showed to have been received by purely voluntary taxation. He would propose a resolution to the effect that:—

"A committee be appointed to considerthe method of government best adapted to the requirements of the community, and that the interests of all classes be taken into consideration."

The Chairman (Sir Harry Parkes) thought the resolution most opportune; but there was considerable elasticity about it, inasmuch as it did not mention who were to form the committee, or when it was to be formed. Every one knew that difficulties existed in the way of the Council; but he could not reply to every point which had been raised. In regard to the matter of the stones which had been complained of, if it appeared that a man had a right to retain stones in any position, the Council could not interfere to enforce removal. The British Government had expressed its readiness to give its assent to land regulations which might be acceptable to the community. But when so large a topic as a charter of incorporation was spoken of, he could understand that so small a matter as the land regulation, fell out of sight. He thought, however, if the latter were neglected, valuable time would be lost before they could obtain the former. He might ask, who was to approve

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of the bye-laws which the last speaker had referred to; and before whom could the corporation be sued?

Mr. Dent: The Ministers and the privy council. It was quite clear they must have their approval. His resolution had nothing to do with the corporation; he merely said that what we had not the smallest town in England had.

THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

(HONG KONG DAILY PRESS.)

The difficulties regarding the currency strike us in a new light. It is very clear to us, so soon as the Mint shall be in working-order, that broken money and badly-chopped dollars will entirely cease to be current, and will consequently be greatly depreciated in value. The bankers must anticipate this, and unless they adopt early precaution they will surely find themselves in the vocative as regards their specie in reserve. The new dollar will of course be the current dollar—the bankers must redeem their issues in current dollars—and although it might answer to liquidate deposits by the measure of currency existing at the time of their receipt, it would never do to attempt to redeem bank-notes by the measure of currency existing at the time of their issue.

If this view of the case be correct, and we should say it can scarcely be controverted, we can easily understand the bankers giving orders to their compradores to receive no broken money, nor badly defaced coin, and to get rid of what they may already hold by all possible means. And should this suggestion be correct, it will fully account for the stand the Chinese merchants have taken, the salient item of their complaint being the loss on the broken dollars which they receive from the country.

We repeat that the Chamber of Commerce would have done wisely to have appointed a committee to investigate this matter. The contingency we have indicated is as sure to happen as any sublunary affair that can be conceived. The evil day may be staved off, but it cannot be averted. It seems certain—at least according to our view of the case, that a great deterioration in the value of all the defaced coin in China will be caused by the operation of the Hong Kong Mint. Who, we ask, is to bear the loss? The reply is clear—the parties who hold defaced coin when the new currency shall appear. Consequently the cry is now, "Let defaced currency be eschewed as much as possible." But defaced currency being the currency of the day, how are commercial operations to be carried on in the meantime? The present attitude of the Chinese merchants will afford the best reply. The complaint may be brow-beaten or over-ridden, but it will surely break out afresh. The bankers will probably carry the day in relation to broken money, but it is little likely they will stop there, when they see the Mint staring them in the face. Defaced dollars will be next interdicted and then chopped dollars. At each and every stage of the proceeding the Chinere merchants will be the losers, and they will have to pay a much better kind of dollar than they receive.

There is a certain loss to be borne, and it only remains to be decided who is to bear it. It has ever been the custom on the establishment of a new coinage, to display the utmost consideration for those whose interests may be absolutely injured by the innovation. If the Chamber of Commerce had grappled with this question as they should have done, they would have arrived at the conclusion we have indicated, and they would then have been induced to open a correspondence with the local Government on the subject. They would have solicited the favour of having all broken and defaced money converted into the new coin on terms which would just save the Government from absolute loss. The rate of conversion could soon have been arrived at and declared, when the loss could be ascertained to a nicety.

It is a sad mistake to suppose that the Chinese merchants of this colony are combining to serve their own interests in this matter. They receive remittances of broken and defaced coin from the interior, the yield whereof proves very unsatisfactory to the parties remitting. The present stand is taken, more for the purpose of convincing the country dealers of the true state of affairs, than in the hope of coercing the foreign merchant. The combination of the Chinese will be pushed just far enough to stop the complaints of the country customers and no further. If the country customers should meanwhile take it into their heads to coerce the foreign merchants, they will of course try it. They cannot possibly succeed; they have merely to choose whether chopped coin shall be at a discount, or clean dollars at a premium. One or other must be the par of exchange—both cannot be, and it is useless to attempt it.

MACAO.

(DAILY PRESS.)

In addition to the gunboat which the Macao authorities contracted for with Messrs. Thos. Hunt and Co., Whampoa, we understand that Governor Amaral has entered into a contract for the construction of one in this colony. That both these are meant for service on the West Coast there is no matter of doubt, but in what respect they are destined to benefit the interests of Macao, is by no means certain.

Macao, as a place of trade, appears to be "flattened out," and gone past all redemption. Neither the Governor nor the Municipal Council appears to entertain the smallest hope of its resuscitation—if they had any such hope their intentions would have been expressed ere this; inasmuch as the Whampoa gunboat is nearly ready for service.

The Government of Macao is rich. It draws a large revenue from licensing and fostering Chinese immorality. The place is a stigma on civilisation, a cancer on Christianity. The end and the aim of the Government is not a desire to further Portuguese interests, nor yet to advance or promote the interests of its Portuguese residents. The latter are fast evacuating the place, which is being populated by Chinese. These are taxed and are allowed for a consideration to revel in immorality. A large revenue is obtained, and what is done with it?

Is it right that a European Power having no commercial interests whatever in China, should settle on the confines on its shores—and should provide a sanctuary for the outlaw, the man-stealer, and the pirate—for by these are the gambling tables of Macao maintained?

And under such circumstances, what can these gunboats mean? The prizes which they take from pirates may in the first place prove lucrative employment—but with the decrease of piracy that must follow, this source of revenue will soon fall off. What then—either the Macao authorities must undertake the protectorate of the west coast, as the Portuguese Consul of Ningpo some years ago undertook the protectorate of the Chusan fisheries, or the exclusive right to trade on the west coast will be set up. The latter conclusion we do not think likely, or the present exodus of Portuguese from Macao would cease. We do not feel clear about the former, because we do not exactly see how it is to be done.

The authorities of Hong Kong should keep a sharp eye on this gunboat movement. We can give them two strong hints—one, that notwithstanding the exodus of Portuguese from Macao, the value of property has more than doubled there the last few years, owing to the immigration of Chinese; the other, that the Macao authorities would never think of injuring the revenue they derive from the gambling licence (which they will do if they suppress piracy), unless they felt very sure of being recompensed in some other way. The Hong Kong authorities must further recollect that man-stealers and resetters are admitted into society at Macao. Men whose wealth has been notoriously derived from piratical connections, stand high in social life there.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

(EVENING MAIL, APRIL 17.)

The Volunteers should be getting into drill for the annual "turn-out" on Her Majesty's birthday. Since Colonel Brine left the colony there has been a want of life in the corps. This cannot be because the members are unwilling to turn out, but because of the ex-Colonel's ready tact in investing the simplest movement with the charm of novelty. The corps may therefore be reminded that though it has made a few excellent displays of strength during 1864 and in previous years, it has done nothing in 1865. It will not do to dream over past achievements and to prattle like garrulous old men over previous triumphs. The trips to Stanley and Macao have now done their work, and the accounts of them which we placed on record may be wiped out of the slate. The Volunteers must do something fresh; their arms are rusting and their very name is suggestive of something that was "Volunteers *fuerunt*" will not do just yet as an apt mode of referring to the existence of such a corps as we can muster. Let the Volunteer who reads this examine his side-arms and look at his carbine; if they are rusty or stiff from disuse, he may begin by having them made clean and bright. He may also air his summer clothing from time to time before laying aside the woollen uniform. We have had sundry successful marches, but a rendezvous at Victoria Peak has not been tried. Nothing could be more picturesque than fifty or a hundred uniforms wending upwards to the place of muster. The sound of the bugle call at the flagstaff would be most effective, and the company's colours would wave as gracefully on the mountain top as anywhere else. A couple of small howitzers might be made to do business for the day instead of the "deep-mouth'd" cannon which are usually brought into the field.

Our professional brethren in arms, the second battalion of H.M.'s 9th Regiment, lately treated us to a very excellent review on the Parade Ground, and it becomes the Hong Kong Volunteers to endeavour—not certainly to rival them in renown, but to pass a kind of fair muster with a view to maintain their knowledge of drill.

Since Major Scott left there has been no election of an officer to succeed him, so far as we are aware; and it is time that a successor should be named. Nor should we forget that the mantle of Corporal Goodall has not been offered to any of the active non-commissioned officers now in garrison.

We hear that signs of life are beginning to appear, and it is only to be hoped that these may not prove delusive, for there is a limit to the time that a healthy body may remain in a comatose state. It becomes the members of the corps as a matter of duty, to maintain some kind of coherence, so long as they are embodied, and recognised by the authorities. Their own sense of propriety must point that out clearly enough, and there is no time to be lost. Macao was the last great triumph of their arms, but that is nearly forgotten now even in the home papers.

The public want to know how the band is getting on, and whether its later progress bears out its early promise. The moment has arrived for putting this to the test, a test which, though severe, we are sure the gallant bandsmen will not flinch from.

The late success of the Rifle Corps at the shooting match has brought that body into favourable notice; surely the Artillery mean to show a front, but the decision on that point rests with the members.

We heard some time ago that a troop of Volunteer Horse was among the coming wonders of Hong Kong, and the idea is at least pleasing. There is no want of equestrian ability here, nor are there many men of standing who would find it difficult to produce a charger. We should feel greatly refreshed by the introduction of such a novelty as a mounted company. Let us hope the matter may prove something more than a joke.

A march-out has been circulated, we notice, for Monday first, when a good muster may be looked for, considering the famous weather.

WOOSUNG FOR THE PORT OF SHANGHAI.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—The articles which have lately appeared in your columns on the subject of the river communication between Woosung and Shanghai are deserving of minute attention from the different commercial Chambers in London and Liverpool, and from the home insurance offices. Indeed, the statements made by you are rather below than above the mark, and have elicited unqualified approbation from those foreign merchants at this port who are not interested in steam tugs, and possess no overwhelming amount of landed property under the walls of the Chinese city. As might reasonably have been expected, those members of the community who have speculated on the rapid deterioration of the river, and, in view of it, have invested largely in powerful tug-boats (which, by the way, are not always successful in saving the ships under their charge from the perils of the river

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navigation) cry down the idea of a railway to Woosung, and extol the upper reach of the Wongpu as the safest and most convenient of anchorage grounds. The space now available for berthing vessels opposite the settlement is rapidly narrowing, in consequence of the natural tendency of all muddy rivers to silt up their banks, while the operations of nature are powerfully aided by the exertions of private firms, which operate by the extension of long stone jetties into the current of the stream. There is, unfortunately, no power in existence here competent to check the ruinous practice of running piers into the river; and indeed the Municipal Council itself has just achieved a work which, I fear, will in five years' time stand as a monument of their ignorance or recklessness. They have placed a mole at the end of the avenue of the settlement now known as Nanking-road, but probably more familiar to your readers as Park-lane. This mole is constructed of earth, faced on three sides with shingle, and projects some 100 feet into the river at a point where, especially during spring tide, the stream runs like a mill sluice. Such an obstruction can have but one effect—the narrowing of the channel and the diversion of a considerable body of water into the centre of the whirlpool which now eddies opposite Putung Point. The "chow-chow" water must necessarily be increased in volume as well as in intensity; and, to render the matter still worse, an enterprising private speculator has rescued about two hundred feet of the Putung Point from the river, thus rendering the chance of a vessel arriving in safety at the upper reach extremely problematical. I have no hesitation in saying that within three years it will be utterly impossible for a thousand-ton ship to reach a berth opposite the Custom-house; and unless the wharf accommodation of the port be largely increased, or Woosung be made the anchorage, the only means of landing cargo will be by cargo boats sent from Shanghai to an indefinite distance down the river, and liable to all the abuses which have lately been exposed here. Now, in order to encounter all these inconveniences and danger, ships pass Woosung, where there is excellent shelter, pay a large amount for tonnage, and, unless sent alongside one of the few wharves, are delayed for periods varying from three to eight weeks before they are able to discharge their cargo. Moreover, the large river steamers which, especially during the tea season, arrive daily from the Yang-tse ports with Chinese produce for transhipment, run through Woosung, tempt the dangers of the bar, and the still greater dangers of the river, and eventually arrive at Shanghai to transfer their cargo to ships which in turn have to run the gauntlet of *chow-chow* water, mud banks, non-teetotal pilots, and finally the bar, below which the tea, or whatever else it may be, could easily have been transshipped, and upon which no less than eight vessels were during last year badly stranded. Besides these drawbacks, which are indeed sufficient to suggest the establishment of a different order of things, two mails have lately been detained below the bar (one for five hours) while waiting for sufficient water to carry the steamer over. Now, these are simple facts, well known to everybody in Shanghai; and in the face of them I have been astonished at various furious letters which have been indited on the subject, some of which I have no doubt reached you, Sir, by the French mail, and others which will accompany this communication of mine. The advantages of Woosung have already been enlarged upon. There we have an excellent anchorage, with the best possible sites for docks and wharves; between it and Shanghai we have a perfectly level country, intended by nature for the construction of a railway; and even now there is a carriage road 25 feet wide, which, with the few bridges necessary, will be completed by the middle of May. The constructors of this road have hit on a novel and ingenious mode of making it pay its expenses. They have ordered two omnibuses, which will each make a trip up and down daily at a moderate fare; and as it now costs natives one dollar for a wheelbarrow and two dollars for a sedan, from Woosung to Shanghai or *vice versa*, the omnibuses will no doubt be extensively patronised. I say nothing of the healthfulness of Woosung, although that is an element which might very reasonably enter into our calculations; yet, against all these considerations, the owners of tug-boats and the owners of property accumulated in mad speculation during the land mania of 1862, cry out in concert that the adoption of Woosung as the port of Shanghai will prove the knell of Shanghai prosperity. It may prove inconvenient to the men who have plunged into extravagant speculation on the strength of owning some hundred *mow* of Shanghai mud—it will prove still more inconvenient to the holders of mortgages effected two years ago, but to the men who hold property only in proportion to their absolute mercantile importance the step would prove in no way injurious. Whether Woosung rival Shanghai or not, the foreign settlements, as in the immediate vicinity of the Chinese city, must retain a considerable amount of importance. Godowns and warehouses will still be required here, and the necessary intercourse with the Chinese will be conducted as heretofore, at the offices in Shanghai.

I am not therefore careful to answer the many assertions which will probably inundate your columns. I am satisfied that sooner or later Woosung must become the port of Shanghai, and the obstacles now thrown in the way are simply practical illustrations of selfishness and short-sightedness.

With many apologies for thus trespassing on your space,

I remain, Sir, yours, &c., FREE TRADE.

Shanghai, April 2, 1865.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, June 15.

The Minister of the Colonial Department has gained, without any doubt, an immense Parliamentary victory. His Bill about the tariff for the Netherlands Indies has passed by 49 votes against 8, whilst all the amendments—whether in a Conservative or more Liberal sense—are rejected. When the First Chamber of the States-General has passed the Bill—and there is no doubt that will be done—the export duties from the 1st January, 1866, will be fixed as follows :—

Articles.	Rate.	Duties when Exported to Holland.	Elsewhere.
Hides	Value ..	2 per cent. ..	2 per cent.
Indigo, not prepared for the inland market	Per lb. ..	f.0.10 ..	f.0.15
Coffee	Value ..	6 per cent. ..	9 per cent.
Sugar	„ ..	Free ..	3 per cent.
Tobacco, not prepared for the inland market ..	Cwt. ..	1f. ..	1f.
Tin	„ ..	f.3.50 ..	5f.
Birds'-nests	Value ..	6 per cent. ..	6 per cent.

Amongst those who opposed the Bill were two Liberal members, but they represented the Almelo district, the Dutch Manchester, and—I need not add—it was not to the interest of those manufacturers that the Bill should pass. In the meanwhile the first step is taken towards introducing in our Indian possessions the principle of free-trade, and there is no doubt that on the 1st January, 1872—till which day this law will have effect—the principles of protection will be totally relaxed.

If Mr. Fransen van de Putte has been fortunate, such has not been the case with his *confrere*, the Minister of the Financial Department. After his Bill for the augmentation of the excise duty on spirits to 50f. per 100 litres was approved, the Bill relative to personal taxes came on for discussion. At the first sitting six members, mostly of the Liberal party, opposed the measure, and Mr. Betz asked for a delay till the following day before he replied to their arguments. At the next sitting, however, he did not make his appearance, and the President stated that illness prevented his presence. One of the ministerialists then proposed that the House should adjourn, and this motion was carried to-day by a majority of four votes. Why was the Bill not withdrawn, since it meets so much opposition ?

The First Chamber of the States-General will meet again on the 22nd inst.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The market remains in a firm condition ; the trade is occupied inspecting the parcels to be offered by the Trading Company on the 21st inst. These parcels are almost all of a good and superior quality, so that probably high prices will be paid. Good ord. with good demand at 44½ to 45¼ c. The 4,200 bags Santas in auction on the 7th inst. were sold from 31½ to 39½ c.

SUGAR.—The market is calm; there are no transactions to be mentioned since my last report, except 1,149 krang. Passaroeang ex Catharina Maria, at 1½f. under May prices.

TEA.—Firm but inactive, by want of parcels in the 1st hand.

RICE.—Unchanged, prices nominal; Aracan, 8f. to 8¼f. ; Bassein, 8¼f. to 8½f. ; Java, 9f. to 10½f.

SPICES.—With some more inquiry for export, but holders decline to operate at the existing prices. Mace 43 to 44 c. ; Cinnamon 97c.

TOBACCO.—The several auctions of circa 8,000 p. Java have begun, the buyers are more animated. The several prices paid will be mentioned in my following report. Stock in Rotterdam 11,693 b. Java

COTTON.—There is a good demand at former prices. 400 b. Java were taken for export.

HIDES.—In more request at former rates. The parcels sold consisted of 1,328 p. E.I., per Oceanus; 315 p. Buffalo, per Constantia; 600 p. Sourabaya Buffalo, ex County of Lanark; 486 p. Batavia Buffalo, ex Gysbert Graaf van Hogendorp.

INDIGO.—The market is in a firm condition. 100 chests Java were sold, and an advance was paid on the auction prices.

TIN.—Without transactions. Prices nominal, 56f.

COCHIN COCOA-NUT OIL.—1 a Cochin, 28f. ; good white, 27f. ; 1 a Ceylon, 26f. to 26½f. ; good white, 25½f.

ARRAK.—In much demand. 200 casks ex Nova-Zembla ; 190 casks ex Maria ; 50 casks ex Oceanus ; 30 half-casks ex Augusta were sold.

GUTTA PERCHA.—At the auction held to-day 19,600 lbs. were partly sold at from 100c. to 130c. ; 9,377 lbs. were retired at 40c. to 125c.

MONEY.—Our money market is easy. Bank discount for bills 3 per cent., for acceptances 3½ per cent.; open market 3¼. Homestock, 2½ per ct., 62⅝ ; 3 per cents., 73 13-16ths ; 4 per cents., 97⅛ ; Handelmaatschappy, 144½ per cent. ; Rhine Railway Shares, 337f. ; Central Railway, 36 per cent. ; Soc. of Expl. States Railway, 92 per cent.

EXCHANGE.—London, 3 months, f.11.77 ; 2 months, f.11.80 ; short, f.11.87½ ; Paris, 3 months, f.46,66 ; 2 months, f.46.80 ; short, f.47.20 ; Hambro, 3 months, f.34.87 ; 2 months, f.34.95 ; short, f.35.10 ; Berlin, 3 months, f.171 ; St. Petersburg, 3 months, f.151 ; Italy, 2 months, f.46.

SHIPPING.—ARRIVALS.—June 8, at Texel from Batavia, Zeenimph ; 9, at Texel from Banjoewangie, Electra.

DEPARTURES.—June 7, from Brouwershaven to Batavia, G. K. Graaf van Hogendorp ; to Hong Kong, Nova Zembla ; to Batavia, Loevestein ; 10, from Brouwershaven to Batavia, Philips van Marning.

FREIGHTS.—Quotations of Messrs. Fauchey and de Vletter, shipbrokers, Rotterdam :—For Batavia, Koffyboom, 1,280 tons, 18f. to 20f. ; Batavia and Sourabaya, Bezoekie, 747 tons ; Hugo Grotius, 673 tons ; Boni, 575 tons ; Johanna, 713 tons—18f. to 20f. for B., 25f. to 30f. for S. ; Batavia and Samarang, Bilderdyk, 754 tons, 18f. to 20f. for B., 25f. to 30f. for S. ; for Samarang, Doelwyk, 824 tons, 25f. to 30f. All per last of 2,000 ks. or 120 cubic feet, Amsterdam, and 15 per cent. For Kanagawa and Nagasaki, Maria, 380 tons, 20s. to 30s., and 15 per cent. ; Cape of Good Hope, Wildeman, 325 tons, 30f. to 40f., and 15 per cent. ; Singapore and Hong Kong, Mary Goddard, 312 tons ; Sophia Amalia, 319 tons, 30s. for S., 40s. for H., and 15 per cent. ; Singapore, Neerlandsch Vlag, 106 tons, 30s. to 35s., and 15 per cent. All per ton of 1,000 ks., or 40 cubic feet, English.

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PASSENGERS INWARD.

From Java, per Zeenimph, Captain Graadt von Roggen, Messrs. M. J. Moltzer and five children, C. J. Kraus and family, Hoorn and family, Struick, Snyders, Mrs. C. Gebing van den Berg, and 77 soldiers; per Electra, Captain Landweer, Messrs. J. W. E. Knipe rs and family, W. C. Ros Vosmaer, J. Sas.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

From Brouvershaven to Batavia, per Philip van Marnix, Captain van Ruyven, Messrs. Berg and family, Hissink, Mrs. Roukens and family, de Korte, Messrs. Busch and van Ruijven; per Kosmopoliet, Captain Koning, Dr. J. Enthoven and family, Messrs. F. David and family, C. Pruys van der Hoeven, Blanche van Kempen, Miss M. v. d. Broek, Messrs. J. van der Quass, M. Plate, A. Cupaerus, J. Guerin, J. S. Roels, A. H. A. C. van Nistebrooy and family, K. J. A. Pape, H. A. A. Nielson, J. E. Kokart, H. A. Reyers, W. J. R. Kalkshoven, and 150 soldiers.

ROTTERDAM, June 23.

There is no political news of any importance. The Second Chamber—adjourned when in the debate on the personal duties (*belasting op het personeel*)—was interrupted by the illness of the Minister of the Financial Department, Mr. Betz. On the 4th of July the members will meet again, but it is very doubtful whether this Bill will be brought forward in an unaltered state.

The First Chamber of the States-General meets to-day, and after some other business the Indian Tariff will be laid on the table, which, without any doubt, will be passed by a large majority.

Our Queen will start on the 26th for England. It is still widely rumoured that her journey has reference to the marriage of the Prince of Orange.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Before the auction of the Trading Company the transactions were of little importance for want of ordinary good tasting Java sorts. 1,000 bags Padang, ex Jan Daniel, only changed hands at 45c. The 84,231 b. Java and Macassar, offered yesterday by the Trading Company, were all sold at ¼ to 1 c. above valuation, so that the market closes in a very firm condition.

SUGAR (RAW).—Dull: The market inactive. 1,400 kr. Java only were sold at 1¼f. beneath the May prices.

TEA.—The market is in a firm condition, but there are no transactions to be mentioned for want of parcels in the first hand. Java sorts are in more request in the second hand, and an advance upon the last auction prices is willingly paid.

INDIGO (JAVA).—There is much inquiry, but the transactions are very limited for want of stock. About 200 chests were sold with an advance of 20 to 25 cts. on the last auction prices. Holders now decline to operate beneath an advance of 30 cts.

BANCA TIN.—The market is more active, and several pareels were taken at 55f., 55¼f. to 55½f. There are now no parcels in the market beneath 56⅛f. In consequence, however, of the near approach of the quarterly sales buyer decline to pay that price.

COCOA OIL.—Much higher; Cochin is willingly paid with 28f.; Ceylon with 27f. There is no stock.

GINGER (CHINA).—The 100 chests offered in auction were retired at 66 cts., but they were sold since at prices that did not transpire.

JAVA VANILLE.—The quantities offered in public sales were retired at 3f. per lb. Inferior quality was paid with 1f.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—20 p. were sold at 11½f.

TOBACCO.—The several auctions on which 5,236 p. were offered, went off at improved prices. The market closes, however, inactive and dull.

RATTANS.—6,898 bundles, ex Fransen Elise, were sold at former rates.

MONEY.—The quotation of the Bank discount is still unaltered, and money is abundant. The Stock Market is calm, except for those stocks for which there is much speculative inquiry. Dutch 2½ per cent., 62¾; 3 per cents., 73⅛; 4 per cents., 97⅞; Handelsmaatschappy, 145½; Dutch Rhenish Railway (shares), 337f.; Company for Exploration of the State Railway, 92 per cent.

CHANGE.—London, 2 mo., f.11.80; short, f.11.87½; Paris, 2 mo., 56.3-16ths; short, 56⅛f.; St. Petersburg, 152f.; Italy, 46⅛f.; Spain, 229f. to 231f.; Hambro', 2 mo., 34.15-16ths.; short, 35⅛f.

EXPORTS FROM THE 13TH MAY TILL THE 2ND OF JUNE, FROM DUTCH HARBOURS TO THE DUTCH EAST INDIA POSSESSIONS:—Butter, 13,246 lb.; flour, 30,610 lb.; cheese, 9,637 lb.; ham, 4,659 lb.; meat (preserved, 2,087 lb.; pork, 33,800 lb.; syrup, 600 lb.; victuals (preserved), 5,621 lb.; confectionery, 4,935 lb.; fruits (preserved), 2,339 lb.; cakes, 7,025 lb.; geneva, 72,084 litres; rum, 336 litres; liqueurs, 2,368 litres; cognac, 4,553 litres; beer, 67,095 litres; vinegar, 3,020 litres; wine, 53,441 litres: linseed-oil, 13,600 litres; petroleum, 6,670 litres; cotton (manuf. all sorts), 951,480 yards and 18,100f.; drillings, 100,000 yards; silk (manuf.) 2,124 yards; calicoes, 10,925 yards; jute coffee bags, 12,000 ps. and 8,000f.; flannel, 5,283 yards; carpets, 295 yards; sail-cloth, 5,000f.; earthenware, 100,966f. and 13,340 lb.; earthen-tiles, 20,000 ps.; window-glass, 104f.; glasswork, 12,490f. and 2,553 lb.; lamps, 4,000f.; rope, 4,771 lb.; white lead, 1,250 lb.; coal-tar, 28,000 lb.; tar, 7,750 lb. pitch, 70 lb.; coals, 1,151,160 lb.; copper, 2,635 lb.; iron bars and rod, 17,000f. and 10,000 lb.; iron-nails, 6,400 lb.; needles, 2,000,000 ps.; alkali, 1,270 lb.; machinery, 13,800 lb. and 674f.; silverwork, 950f.; carriages, 2,600f.; clocks, 1,045f.; photogr. and optical, 1,080f.; mercery, 20,720f.; and 502 lb.; arack-casks, 3,840f.; mattresses, 7,000f.; music instrum., 2,130f.; perfumery, 882 litres and 104 lb.; furniture, 9,100f.; writing-paper, 1,900f. and 700 reams; paper, 8,963f.; Holloway's pills, 100 lb.; steel-pens, 130 lb.; copper (manuf.), 6,384 lb.; lucifers, 1,713 lb. and 1,500f.; cotton-yarns, 9,000 lb. and 3,000f.; chocolate, 478 lb.

SHIPPING.—DEPARTURES.—June 14, from Brouwershaven, for Batavia, Cortgene; 15, from Texel, for Sourabaya, Nederland and Oranje, Zeemanshoop; 16, from Brouwershaven, for Batavia, Kosmopoliet; 18, from Texel, for Batavia, Amsterdam, Nic. Witzen: for Macassar, Elizabeth Jacoba; 19, from Zeirikzee, for Batavia, Grondwet; 20, from Brouwershaven, for Batavia, President van Ryckevorsel.

ARRIVALS.—June 13, at Texel, from Banjoewangie, Henriette; 17, at Hellevoet, from Banjoewangie, Elise Mary; 18, at Brouvershaven, from Banjoewangie, Cassipore.

LOADING.—For Kanagawa and Decima: Bantam, Gloria, Hermine, Marie Elizabeth. For Padang: Excelsior, Anna and Jeannette, Helena. For Batavia: Azia, Jan van Brakel. Helena and Anna. For Batavia and Samarang: Constance, Jacob Roggeveen, Tjilingsie. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Louise, Henriette Geertruida. For Samarang: Gerredina, Wilhelmina, Mathilde, Albasserwaard, Tenalak, Presto. For Sourabaya: Quintet, Senior, Bellatrix, Henderika. For Singapore and Hong Kong: Bernard and Agnes.

FREIGHTS.—Quotations of Messrs. Fauchey and de Vletter, shipbrokers at Rotterdam:—For Batavia: Koppyboom, 1,280 tons; Constantia, 741 tons; 18f. to 20f. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Bezoelci, 747 tons; Hugo Grotius, 673 tons; Boni, 575 tons; Johanna, 713 tons; 18f. to 20f. for B., 25f. to 30f. for S. For Batavia and Samarang: Bilderdyk, 754 tons; 18f. to 20f. for B., 25f. to 30f. for S. For Samarang and Doelwyk, 824 tons; 25f. to 30f. All per last of 2,000 kilo., or 120 cubic feet Amsterdam and 15 per cent. For Kanagawa: Maria, 380 tons; 20f. to 30f., and 15 per cent. For Singapore and Hong Kong: Mary Goddard, 312 tons; Sophia Amalia, 319 tons; 30s. for S., 40s. for H., and 15 per cent. For Singapore: Neerlandsche Vlag, 106 tons, 30s. to 35s., and 15 per cent. All per ton of 1,000 kilo., or 40 cubic feet English.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From Java, per Henriette, Captain Visser, Mr. J. W. Schutter.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

For Java, per Nederland and Oranje, Captain Haasnoos, Mr. R. Zindelhoff.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

JUNE 14.

In one of my earlier letters in the *China Express*, now some years ago, I warned your mercantile readers in the Far East not to charter or send goods to this port by any vessel under the Oldenburg flag, as the Grand Duke had not agreed to pay his share of the indemnity to Hanover for the abolition of the Stade dues, and that this was the only State whose vessels and cargoes were liable to that toll. I am now enabled to state for their government that Oldenburg has at length made up its mind to pay its quota, and a treaty with Hanover has lately been signed to that effect, so that from and after the 1st of July next Oldenburg vessels are placed on the footing of all other flags, and the officials at Stade and in this city—where the dues were chiefly collected—are discharged, and the whole establishment will be broken up.

Intelligence has been received here fully confirming the report contained in my last letter of the attack on the *Georg Andreas*, Capt. Ahrenholdt, belonging to this port, but sailing, I believe, under the Danish flag. She left Hamburg on the 29th of March last for Swatow, and it appears she was attacked by pirates near Single Island, in the Lye-moon Passage, who drove the crew below deck and plundered the ship. In attempting to defend himself the captain was unfortunately killed, and two of his sailors were slightly wounded. The pirates, finding the cargo consisted only of rice—whereas they thought it was opium—abandoned her, and the crew managed to regain possession of the deck, and eventually succeeded in bringing the vessel in safety back to Hong Kong.

At the last sitting of the Historical and Philosophical Department of the Russian Academy of Sciences, at St. Petersburg, Lieutenant-Colonel Tatarinoff, of the Imperial Engineers, who has lately returned from an exploring expedition in the Province of Semipalatinsk, presented to the Academy a slab of calcareous stone, covered with inscriptions, discovered by him in the Tarbagat range of mountains. The learned academician Schiffner, having examined the inscriptions, pronouneed them to be of Bhuddist origin, and written in the language of Thibet with the well-known form of letters, which he found no difficulty in deciphering.

The Russian *Northern Post* (an official journal) contains the following:—"The Director of the Department for Foreign Affairs in China has informed our Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Peking, that in virtue of Art. 1 of the tariff, stipulating that all articles not enumerated in the tariff shall be subject to an import duty of 5 per cent. *ad valorem*, it has been decided that camel's hair (to-joun), not being specially mentioned, shall be subject to the duty of 5 per cent. on importation into China."

The *Irkutzk Gazette* gives the following particulars of the trade of Kiachta during the year 1864:—Exports: Russian produce and manufactures, value 3,589,221 roubles; foreign do., 57,089. Precious Metals: Russian gold coin, 322,056 roubles; do. silver coin, 1,721,994; foreign silver coin, 843,625; Russian paper money (bank notes), 953,632; total value of exports, 7,497,619 roubles. Imports: China produce and manufactures, value 7,577,975; Mongolian do., 179,835; cotton stuff of velveret, 6,412; total value of imports, 7,764,222 roubles.

Mr. Franz Carl Ferdinand Nissen, whose appointment as Vice-Consul for Sweden and Norway at Ningpo I mentioned in my last letter, has now

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been appointed by the Senate of Hamburg, in conjunction with the Senates of Lubeck and Bremen, Hanseatic Consul at the above-named port, and gazetted accordingly.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Enormous quantities of this berry have been shipped from this port to the United States for consumption in the Southern States, the ports of which will be again opened to the commerce of the world on the 1st of July. Competition to be the first in the market is so keen that the shippers make no scruple of paying steamship freight, and send out large parcels by the regular Hamburg steamers to New York for trans-shipment to the South. Several sailing vessels, with cargoes of coffee for this port, have been intercepted in the Channel, and ordered to proceed to the United States. All this has caused great activity in the market here, and prices are higher. Sales of the week, 31,000 bags, partly on speculation, and partly for the execution of orders.

SUGAR.—But little has been done in Raw, and there is no alteration in the values. Refined firm; sales of the week, 15,000 loaves.

RICE.—No dealings of any importance, but prices well supported.

SPICES.—Neglected; prices without variation.

SPELTER.—The opinion for this metal is favourable, and sellers are loath to operate. Prices rather better, with a tendency to a further rise. The following sales are reported since last mail:—

1,500	centners	in loco	14 marks	8	Sch. Bco.
500	„	per July and August	14 „	8	„
500	„	loco	14 „	9	„
2,000	„	per August and Sept.	14 „	10	„
5,000	„	per ultimo June	14 „	10	„
1,000	„	per July and August	14 „	9	„
1,000	„	in loco	14 „	9	„
1,000	„	for arrival	14 „	10	„
2,500	„	per ultimo June	14 „	10	„

Stocks considerably reduced, and comparatively but little expected.

DISCOUNT—2½ to 3 per cent.

SHIPPING.—SAILED.—Elise, to Singapore and Hong Kong; Tek-li, to Singapore direct.

JUNE 23.

Captain Greif, of the Hamburg three-masted schooner *China*, lately returned to this port from Zebu, one of the Philippine Islands, reports having passed over a coral reef on the afternoon of the 30th December last, in the Balabac Straits, not laid down in any of the charts. He hove the lead and found successively seven, nine, and ten fathoms, and the next cast gave no soundings at all, though with a deep sea line. Observing surface ripplings to the south he thought it prudent to alter his course. As he had taken a good observation of the sun at noon he was able to fix the position of the reef, which he states to be 8 deg. 1 min. north latitude, and 118 deg. 4 min. east longitude. He judged it to be a mile and a-half in circumference. The breeze was blowing too fresh to allow him to lower a boat and make any further examination; he therefore bore up and continued his voyage.

Letters received here from Shanghai state that the Chinese authorities have made a new arrangement by which Hamburg vessels, which hitherto had to pay their tonnage dues at the rate of two tons register, per commercial last (which is the unit of Hamburg ship measurement), will in future be charged at 4 lasts, equal to 9 tons register. The treaty of September 2, 1861, contains no stipulation on the subject, and the letter states that the captains and supercargos of Hamburg vessels prefer to pay this overcharge to incurring the expense and loss of time occasioned by insisting on an actual measurement in Chinese ports. I think they act very wisely in thus holding their tongues, and the less they say about it the better, as were they to make a formal complaint and court inquiry the result would probably not be so favourable as they might wish; for the Hamburg commercial last is for all general purposes taken to be equal to three tons for measurement goods, whilst for dead weight it is 6,000 Hamburg lbs., or 3,000 kilogr., which at 110 232-1,000ths Hamburg lbs. per cwt. avoirdupois, makes three tons, less only 106 lbs.

By advices from Siberia, it appears that brigandage is becoming very general on the Russo-Chinese frontier, several cases having been reported lately. The St. Petersburg *Northern Post* contains the following account of the latest highway robbery there: "The Chinese subject Lian-tsun was returning home on the evening of the 14th of February last from the town of Troitzkosafsk, in the province of Sabaikalsk, to his village near the frontier town of Kiachta, when he was stopped by three unknown persons, who under the pretext of asking him for some tobacco, took off his fur pelisse, and relieved him also of 372 roubles that he had with him. Only a few days later a caravan travelling with valuable merchandise from Mongolia to Kiachta, and escorted by five Mongolians, having stopped to pass the night near Troitzkosafsk, was attacked by an armed band of robbers in the costume of the Bouriates, and the caravan was pillaged. They took away 50 liangs of Chinese silver, 5 chests of tea, 90 pieces of manufactured goods, 3 cases of tobacco, with some pistols, pipes, stirrups, and money. The Mongolians at first defended themselves and wounded some of the robbers, but were eventually overpowered by numbers. The account adds that the Border Police were actively engaged in tracing the culprits, and had succeeded in arresting some of the lawless band."

The following account has been received at St. Petersburg of the state of affairs in the town of Tchougoutschak subsequent to the catastrophe of the 15th of January last. The Russian factory and the consulate were guarded by a detachment of rebel soldiers under the command of a serjeant. The church remains intact, though the Dunganes at first wanted to enter it in the hope of finding ammunition for their artillery, but the Russian sub-lieutenant (a Tartar) attached to the factory opposed it, threatening them with the vengeance of the Muscovite Government should they force the gates. The town is almost destroyed, and the Mandschurian population all massacred. More than seven hundred dead bodies were lying in the streets, and as many more persons who had fled to the steppes were either killed by the Kirghese or perished from cold. The citadel was still defended by seventy Mandschurians, who courageously held out, the rest of the garrison having been massacred by the Chinese, as before stated, on the 15th of January, as well as the Governor, Hebay Ambani, and the Vice-Governor, Bolgoss Ambani. The insurgents are vigorously supported by the Kirghese, of whom there are more than a thousand in the town, as well as fifteen hundred Dungane rebels, all inhabitants of Tchougoutschak. Further assistance was expected from the interior of China—especially from the tribe of Salo-Dungan, which is composed of a mixture of all the insurgents in China,

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The demand continues active for all descriptions, especially the finer sorts, which are a shade dearer, and getting scarce. Market on the whole remarkably firm. Sales of the week 13,000 bags ex warehouse and floating cargoes with 24,000 bags ordered to proceed to New York.

SUGAR.—Importers of Raw are more inclined to sell, and have therefore lowered their pretensions without avail, as the demand was slack. Refined maintains its position with a fair amount of business. Sales 12,000 loaves, chiefly of Hamburg make.

RICE.—Market in a favourable position, and rather higher prices paid, but the dealings were of limited extent.

SPICES.—Nothing to say about any one article.

SPELTER.—Prices continue to improve with a further upward tendency. The following transactions have taken place since last report:—

			Marks	Sch. Bco.
4,000	centners	different periods	14	8
4,500	„	„ „	14	10
3,000	„	per July and August ..	14	12
2,000	„	per August and September	14	13
5,000	„	ex warehouse	14	13
3,000	„	„	14	14
1,000	„	per June and July	14	13
2,000	„	per July and August ..	14	13
3,000	„	June shipment	14	13
3,000	„	July and August	14	13

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

SINGAPORE AND THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

(June 19th.) The Earl of ALBEMARLE, in rising to ask the President of the Council what progress had been made in the transfer of Singapore and the other settlements in the Straits of Malacca from the Indian to the Colonial Department, said that at the time the English flag was hoisted in these settlements the population was chiefly composed of piratical Malay fishermen. Now, however, there was a peaceable, industrious, and thriving population of a quarter of a million, with a trade which might be estimated at £15,000,000. The greatest portion of that commerce was transacted with this country, and the capital embarked in it belonged to merchants of London, Liverpool, Manchester, and Glasgow. Singapore, the principal settlement, was 1,500 miles from Calcutta. It was true that these settlements possessed a Governor, but he had no legislative power, that power being lodged in the hands of the Governor-General of India. Not only were these settlements situated at so great a distance from the seat of Government, but the population was chiefly composed of Malays and Chinese. They now naturally desire to come more directly under the authority of the Crown. They wished to have the same kind of constitution that had been granted to Hong Kong and Ceylon. For five long years they had been petitioning Parliament for this boon, but hitherto without success. In the beginning of this Session there was a slight gleam of hope that before its termination they might be transferred. The Secretary of State for India, after having demurred, gave way, and said he was ready to get rid of them; the Colonial-office said they were perfectly ready to receive them, but the Treasury naturally asked if they could pay their way. They gave a most satisfactory account of themselves, saying they raised an annual revenue of £250,000, which was amply sufficient for all municipal purposes, and for the military expenditure. The Treasury were satisfied, and sent them to the War Department. But here a little difficulty occurred. Some circumlocution took place. The present gar-

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rison consisted of two batteries of artillery and two companies of Madras Native Infantry. The Straits Settlements, or those acting for them, proposed that there should be three batteries of artillery, and one native corps for police purposes, and to do duties of fatigue unfitted for the European constitution, with a due proportion of European officers and non-commissioned officers. The noble earl the Secretary for War gave the agents for the Straits Settlements reason to believe that the War-office accepted their proposals; but some time after, as he understood, the Horse Guards insisted it was indispensable that artillery should always have the protection of infantry, and therefore the proposal of the War-office was that there should be two batteries of artillery and a wing of a European regiment. The annual expense of all these combined, it was calculated, would be £48,000 a year. The Straits Settlements proposed to throw in £2,000 more, so as to make the amount £50,000 a year, leaving the War-office to make what arrangements they pleased. Considerable delay had since taken place, and the Straits Settlements were anxious to know the cause of it. He hoped their just expectations would not be disappointed, and that his noble friend the noble earl would be enabled to give a satisfactory answer to the question he had put to him.—Earl GRANVILLE said that a week ago he might have been enabled to give his noble friend a more satisfactory answer than he could now do. At that time it was thought another hour would have settled the whole question; but it had been found on a matter of practical detail that it would be necessary to bring in a Bill to effect the object in view; and, although the Government were very anxious to do so, he could not give his noble friend any assurance that it could be done this Session.

THE CONSUL AT SARAWAK.

(23rd.) Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE asked his noble friend the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether in sanctioning the appointment of a consul at Sarawak, under the exequatur of Sir James Brooke, Her Majesty's Government intended to recognise Sir James Brooke as an independent Sovereign in Borneo.—Earl RUSSELL said that application having been made for the appointment of a consul by the Rajah of Sarawak, he felt it his duty to ascertain first whether Sir James Brooke had been placed in an independenr position by the Sultan of Borneo; and, second, whether, if he had, there was any objection to the appointment of a consul in his dominions. It appeared to be clear from the papers which were submitted to him that an independent position had been granted by the Sultan of Borneo to Sir James Brooke, and the law officers of the Crown, upon being consulted, gave their opinion that there was no objection to the appointment of a consul at Sarawak. He therefore advised Her Majesty to appoint a consul at that place.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE INDIA AND CHINA MAILS.

(June 19th.) On the vote of £841,867 for the Post-office Packet Service Mr. WHITE asked the Secretary to the Treasury whether the Government had come to any decision on the question of a weekly mail to India, leaving on Friday. Such a mail would be of great importance to those engaged in the India and China trades.—Mr. CRUM-EWING expressed a hope that the Government would adopt the suggestion of having Falmouth or Plymouth the port for the India mail instead of Southampton; as such an arrangement would be a gain of nearly three days in the postal communication with India to the whole of Scotland and the north of England.—Col. SYKES observed that there were 70,000 European troops in India. The whole were to be relieved in ten years, at the rate of 7,000 in each year; making 14,000 *in transitu* between England and India every year. In addition, there were expired men and invalids, and men going out to fill up vacancies caused by death, which would give about 2,500 each way, or 5,000 in all, to be added to the 14,000; so that they had the total brought up to 19,000. The conveyance of these men involved a very considerable item of expenditure; and the consequence was that his right hon. friend the Secretary for India had before him a proposition for the building of transport vessels of a large class, like the *Himalaya*, to convey troops between this country and Alexandria and between Suez and Bombay and Calcutta. But, as it was not advisable to land troops in India during the monsoon or the hot weather, these vessels could only be used as transports during six months of the year. It was worthy of the consideration of his right hon. friend the Secretary for the Treasury whether they could not be turned to good account in carrying mails during the other six months. (Hear, hear.) He wished to know why an increase had taken place in the charge for the postal communication with the West Indies, and why there had been an increase of £7,000 for the packet service between this country and India.—Mr. Alderman ROSE said that the question of substituting Plymouth or Falmouth for Southampton as the port for the India mails had been fully considered by the Postmaster-General; but the noble lord had been unable to see that such a change would be attended with advantage. Southampton had great advantages. (A laugh, and "Hear, hear.") It had a double line of rail to London, and good dock accommodation for the steamers; while neither Plymouth nor Falmouth possessed either of those requisites. In addition, Southampton was within two hours of London by rail. Instead of there being a saving of time such as that spoken of by the hon. member (Mr. Crum-Ewing), the probability was that a delay in the transmission of the mails would be, as a general rule, the result of such a change. Southampton had as good a through communication with the north both by broad and narrow gauge as any other port, and postal communication, therefore, to the north could be effected as rapidly from Southampton as from Plymouth or Falmouth.—Mr. F. PEEL said that, as he had been prevented by a count out from answering some remarks made by the hon. member for the city of London on the memorial presented to the Treasury praying that the despatch of mails to India, instead of being on a fixed day of the month, should be on a fixed day in the week, as was the case with the Cunard mails to North America, he wished to say that the Postmaster-General was quite as sensible of the value of such a change as any one could be. The question, however, was one of expense. It must be remembered, however, that the mail service to India was connected with the mail service to China and Australia, and it would be impossible to make alterations in one service without making them in the others. The scheme of the mail service was this:—The mails went out four times in the month to Alexandria, and on the other side they went twice in the month to Bombay, and the other twice to Ceylon, and thence to Calcutta and China. One of these two last mails went on to Australia. So that there were forty-eight departures in the year for India, twenty-four for China, and twelve for Australia. If, therefore, weekly departures were substituted for the present departures of four times a month, the mail service would be increased by one-twelfth—there would be fifty-two departures for India instead of forty-eight, twenty-six for China, and thirteen for Australia. The increase in the frequency of departure would, of course, increase the expense to a proportionate amount. The expense of the service, as hon. members were aware, was very large indeed. (Hear.) The total expense amounted to about £390,000 a year; and of that £160,000 belonged to the Australian service, the loss upon which was divided between the Imperial Government and the Australian Colonies. The remainder represented the gross cost of the service to India and China, and the net loss upon that was divided between the Indian and the Imperial Government. The proposed increase of service would entail a further expenditure of about £35,000 a year, and though that might be probably covered by an increase in the number of letters sent, there would still be a large sum to be added to the present cost of the service. The proposal which had been made by the Post-office was, that the postage to India should be increased from 6d. to 1s.; and, when it was proposed that a fortnightly mail should be sent to Hong Kong, he believed that the commercial community had cheerfully acquiesced in such an increase, nor was he aware that any single complaint had been raised. The hon. member for the city spoke of a charge of 16d.; but that referred to letters going by way of Marseilles, the additional 4d. being the charge of the French Government for the transit through France. The member for the Tower Hamlets had called attention to the impolicy of foreign Governments imposing heavy transit rates, and he quite concurred in the hon. gentleman's observations. The present payment to the French Government was 10d. per ounce, but in the opinion of the Post-office the French Government would be indemnified if the charge were reduced by one-fourth; and in that case the transit charge on an ordinary letter, instead of being 4d., would be only 1d.; and the charge under the under the new system would be 1s. for letters going by Southampton, and 1s. 1d. for letters *via* Marseilles. This change would enable the Government to give additional postal facilities. It had been suggested that there should be a weekly mail to Bombay, but that would necessitate an increase in the number of running vessels from Bombay to Suez; but, judging from some recent tenders which had been received, that would be an additional expense, which could only be defrayed by an additional charge on the public. No decision had been come to yet, for it did not appear that the mercantile community would be satisfied to pay the additional charge. An hon. and gallant gentleman had referred to some transports which were being built to run between Bombay and Suez and Alexandria and England, which might be made available for carrying mails, but those vessels would not be ready before October, 1867. Consequently there was ample time for discussing that point. With regard to the Indian service, the contract with the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Company provided for their carrying Government passengers at two-thirds of their ordinary passenger rates. But it had been thought that the Government ought to make a contribution towards the cost of the passage of persons travelling between this country and India, and the company had arranged to charge the ordinary passenger fare for Government passengers, making to the Government an abatement of £15,000 from the subsidy on that account. There was not a real increase of cost for the Indian service, but, on the contrary, a reduction. The total charge was £162,125. From this they must deduct £44,000, the proportion to be paid by the Indian Government. A less sum would be paid by the Indian Government than last year, and the reason was that the postage was more. They had to deduct the amount of the postage from the whole charge, and what remained was divided equally between the Governments of this country and of India. The net loss last year was £100,000, but this year it was reduced to £80,000, half of which the Indian Government paid, but, of course, the gross charge had to be voted.—Mr. H. SEYMOUR thought they could not overrate the importance, in a social, commercial, and political point of view, of increasing and facilitating their communication with all parts of the world. Greater convenience, he believed, might be secured to the public without burdening the Exchequer. He had long been of opinion that our communications with India were not as perfect as they ought to be. The mails were not sent out with sufficient frequency; and it was most desirable that the civil and military *employes* of India should be able to visit this country as often as possible, and at the most moderate cost. The contracts for India were not on the best footing. There ought to be a separate contract for Alexandria, a separate contract for the Red Sea and down as far as Aden, and then they should have branches for India, China, and Australia, the Mauritius, and the Cape. In that way they might, without greater expense, have a weekly communication with these various important places. An increase of the Indian postal rates was a most impolitic measure, while it would bring a mere peppercorn to the public revenue, and he trusted that the Government would carefully reconsider the matter in the recess. In China the merchants were making large gains, and therefore, in equity, if the rate of postage to India was 1s., to China it should be 2s. 6d. [The hon. member has been badly posted up in regard to the "profits" of the China trade.]

CHINA.

(20th.) Mr. LIDDELL asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether any communications had passed between the Foreign-office and Her Majesty's representative in China relative to the permission said to have been given by the Chinese Government to its subjects to own foreign vessels and sail them under the Chinese flag; and whether, with a view of affording protection to the crews and cargoes of such vessels, Her Majesty's Government anticipated the necessity of any increase of our naval forces in Chinese waters, or whether the protection of its flag would be left exclusively to the Chinese Government, and all risks attending such trade, coasting or otherwise, left to be borne by such Chinese owners.—Mr. LAYARD said there had been a report to the above effect in the public papers, but the Government had received no information on the subject either from the British Consul at Shanghai or from Her Majesty's Minister at Peking.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

o notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, FRIDAY, JUNE 30, 1865

THE POLICY OF SIR RUTHERFORD ALCOCK IN CHINA.

THE appointment of Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK as our Minister at Peking receives the approbation of most of the banking and commercial classes interested in Eastern commerce. The judgment and decision exhibited in the past career of his Excellency promise to be of essential service in strengthening our political connection with China, and extending our trade. At a former election it will be remembered China provided one of those great questions on which issue was joined. We have now conducted a trade with China since 1684—a trade involved, for the most part of this period, in endless inconveniences and embarrassments. The results, however, are such as indicate that it has no present assignable limit, although the absorption of our manufactures and the actual gains realised are far from commensurate with the time during which our enterprise has been freely applied, or to the capital actually invested. A conviction appears generally to prevail that our Anglo-Chinese transactions are about to receive a fresh impulsion; that, notwithstanding the reign of civil war, we are destined to find ourselves brought into closer connection with the great centres of inland trade, and to be enabled to apply more profitably and on a more extended scale, the financial capital at our command—in a word, to obtain, if not a firmer, a more advantageous footing. It has become a question of no little interest as to what policy within the circle indicated by public opinion, our envoy will pursue? It is certain that Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK will not be content merely to exercise the symbolic function of Her MAJESTY'S representative, but will avail himself of every opportunity that present itself to forward, in all practicable forms, our material interests and strengthening in every practicable form that prestige which our Continental friends are apt to affirm we have seriously damaged, but which we venture to say was never further advanced than at the present time, whether the estimate be taken from a Mantchou or a Chinese point of view. We can well afford to fall short of any ideal of the Franco, the Tartar, or the Celestial type, provided we find our transactions in course of steady augmentation. Having met the full brunt of opposition to the presence of foreigners, we are now in a position that enables us to make our future moves a matter of accurate calculation of results, knowing pretty well the character and force of the disturbing elements.

Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK has not yet received his formal instructions, but in the interviews had by his Excellency with Earl RUSSELL, opportunity has been afforded for a complete interchange of views, which have coincided to such an extent as must aid the *potentiality* of the mission. It is considered no part of a Minister's duty to suggest means for securing to our merchants a greater profit upon capital, but our political and trading interests in China are in many respects so identified that any guarantees or special privileges which Sir RUTHERFORD may obtain for further encouraging inland intercourse, and more particularly in our obtaining a recognised position as traders in the great central marts of the empire, would certainly be in keeping with the mission. Both the Foreign Office and the Board of Trade are keenly anxious that our manufactures should obtain a larger outlet in China, and internal and unrestricted intercourse be extended and rapidly multiplied. It is not to be supposed that we can at once break down native combinations resulting in the adventitious control of the chief staples of Chinese industry; but with secured inland marts, and our own system of communication between them and the nearest ports, the conditions of trade, both for the foreign importer and exporter, must be far more favourable; 15,000 miles of water navigation will gradually become available for purposes of barter, and we may hope to see an end to the practice of Chinese mandarins forcibly preventing native merchants disposing to us of their produce except on the same terms they have arbitrarily fixed for their own stocks. We are satisfied that want of co-operation on the part of the representatives of other Powers will not turn Sir RUTHERFORD from his purpose. It is not always easy to judge the executive merits of diplomatic agents without seeing the instructions under which they act. There is some reason to suppose that the American policy will undergo a change with the changed fortunes of that Republic; that it will at once be more aggressive, and, to a certain extent, not altogether harmonious with our own. An undisguised dissatisfaction has already been manifested by Americans to the appointment of Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, for his well-known characteristics, sagacity and energy, which enable him quite as readily to forestall the political movements of rivals as to break through the toils woven by Asiatic cunning and duplicity.

One of Sir RUTHERFORD'S earliest acts will, no doubt, be to urge on the Chinese Government its obligation to contribute a given annual sum towards the maintenance of gunboats on the coast and at the mouths of the great rivers, for the suppression of piracy. It is judged unreasonable that the Chinese Government should have the enormous advantages of the services of our gallant seamen, and of our large outlay to this end, and yet not contribute. We certainly do not find any such generous action on its part in other matters. The policy of the future may, we hope, be defined as a policy at once more positive and practical, tending to give free scope to our trading enterprise and the widest possible market to our manufactures. It will be anything, indeed, but that which—

> ———"stands upon the swell at full of tide,
> And neither way inclines."

Diplomacy in China is chiefly of value so far as it serves in protecting our present ventures, relieving us from the combinations of irresponsible officialism, and enabling us better to discover whence increasing resources may be drawn.

WOOSUNG FOR THE SEAPORT OF SHANGHAI.

IN AN article on the "China Shipping Trade," which appeared in our issue of the 17th February, we commented upon the high shipping charges, the losses from collision, and the detention of vessels at the port of Shanghai in consequence of the crowded state of the river Wongpoo; the insufficient accommodation for ships discharging and loading; the evils of the lighterage system, and the shoaling of the upper anchorage from natural causes, which the local authorities have not the means of preventing. To obviate these drawbacks of this *river-port*, we hailed with some degree of satisfaction the proposition to constitute Woosung the *seaport*, for the accommodation of sailing vessels that have a difficulty in crossing the bar, and to connect it with Shanghai by a line of railway, only *eight miles* long, so as to avoid *thirteen miles* of intricate and dangerous navigation to ships of large burthen. It appears that the project—which emanated from this side—has given umbrage to a certain class of traders, and their exponents in the local journals, who benefit by these very evils, which are so ruinous to shipowners and insurance companies connected with the shipping trade of Shanghai. On the other hand, those British residents of a liberal turn of mind, who have the interests of commerce at heart irrespective of individual considerations, look upon the project as the only means of maintaining the commercial supremacy of Shanghai—the emporium of foreign trade in China and Japan. On that head we refer our readers to a letter in another part of our columns, signed, "FREE TRADE," which has been forwarded to us from Shanghai by a correspondent, who furnishes from the spot most convincing proofs of the necessity for having Woosung made the anchorage for large tea-ships, and others heavily laden trading with the port. From the statements contained therein, it is evident that the narrowing of the channel at the upper anchorage, so as to preclude the

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safe navigation of large ships, is actually being accelerated by the construction of a mole, a hundred feet long, straight into the river, a short distance below the Custom-house, which will have the effect of accumulating silt, and forming a shallow bank, like that before the British Consulate grounds. These, together with the numerous stone jetties at the bund, will tend to throw the force of the current towards the Pootung bank, where a British resident has reclaimed about two hundred feet of the shore. The consequence is, that where the channel was 1,650 feet wide at low water, in 1860, it is now in five years not more than 1,200 feet. At this rate another five years will, in all probability, narrow it to some 800 feet, and so on until the bed of the river becomes so shallow that ships drawing nine or ten feet of water will stick in the mud at ebb tide. But there is even a more serious contingency than this arising from the contracting of the channel in the elbow of the Wongpoo, which forms the two reaches above and below the Soochow Creek. It was the opinion of Commander WARD, R.N. and Captain BORLASE, R.N., when the river was being surveyed and sounded, that as the channel narrowed in these reaches the stream would naturally, force its way above the Chinese city, where it is wider, and cut a new channel for itself across the Pootung side, eventually forming the Point into an island. Moreover, in the early history of the Shanghai district, which is alluded to in the *Chinese Repository*, we find it mentioned, that "Twelve "centuries ago, in the time of the TANG dynasty, as related by "the Chinese historian, the river of Woosung (Wongpoo) was "twenty *li* (6⅔ miles); in the time of the SUNG it was nine *li*; "afterwards it gradually lessened down to five, to three, "to one *li*." In view of this data, and the reports of the engineer to the Municipal Council, which verify the statements of our correspondent, there are strong grounds of apprehension that the upper and middle anchorage of Shanghai is rapidly becoming dangerous and unfit for the safe discharging and loading of large ships, and the anchoring ground must be gradually extended towards Woosung below the "limits" where even now many vessels bring up when deeply laden, after struggling from two to four tides in attempting to cross the bar. By the construction of convenient T jetties at Woosung, where ships could be safely moored, or in docks, which that place is eminently calculated for, these dangers could be avoided; and, as our correspondent remarks, "the large river steamers which especially during "the tea season, arrive daily from the Yang-tse ports with "Chinese produce for transhipment, run through Woosung, "tempt the dangers of the bar, and the still greater dangers "of the river, and eventually arrive at Shanghai to transfer "their cargo to ships which in turn have to run the "gauntlet of *chow-chow* water, mud banks, non-teetotal pilots, "and finally the bar, below which the tea, or whatever else it "may be, could easily have been transhipped, and upon which "no less than eight vessels during last year were badly stranded." "The advantages of Woosung have already been enlarged upon. "There we have an excellent anchorage, with the best possible "sites for docks and wharves; between it and Shanghai we "have a perfectly level country, intended by nature for the "construction of a railway; and even now there is a carriage "road twenty-five feet wide, which, with the few bridges neces-"sary, will be completed by the middle of May." Coming, as this communication does from a correspondent on whose impartial judgment and opinions we have the utmost reliance, we take him as the exponent of the unprejudiced portion of the community, who look to the improvement of this port commensurate with its immense trade, and the introduction of modern works to facilitate commerce. "The owners of tug-"boats, and the owners of property accumulated on mad specu-"lation during the land mania in 1862, cry out in concert "that the adoption of Woosung as the port of Shanghai will "prove the knell of Shanghai prosperity." These are the class of residents whom our correspondent considers the alarmists at the railway project, and the obstructives to free trade. Now, we feel confident that there never was a greater fallacy than this cry of the general prosperity of Shanghai suffering from the introduction of safe, regular, and speedy communication with the sea-board; and we even go so far as to remark that landed property in business sites would improve by the railway being carried along the bund, or into the middle of the settlement. As to most of the cargo-boat and lighterage people, with certain pilots who prey like harpies upon ships and freights that enter the river, we would not libel the respectable residents of Shanghai by placing them in the same category of obstructives. As there were unprincipled traders who fattened on the contraband traffic in arms and ammunition with the Taipings, so there are selfish, overcharging boat owners and pilots, who get wealthy on the disasters that befal the shipping. These are just a kind of "wreckers," who gloat over the stranded vessels on the bar or shoals, where the latter are paid extra for detention until they reach the anchorage, and the former charge what they please for lighterage to ease ships when ashore. For the credit of Shanghai, irrespective of this Woosung railway scheme, the evils attending the pilotage and lighterage of vessels up the river are a disgrace to the port, and should be remedied without delay. The residents there must remember that this question involves the interests of others who are not land-renters or speculators in the country. The shipowners and insurance companies of England are largely interested in it, from the losses they annually sustain by detention and accident in the Wongpoo. The attention of the Chambers of Commerce in London and Liverpool is being directed to this dangerous navigation in a port where it might be avoided if not remedied. They find by the very reports of the Municipal Council that they are utterly powerless to render the river harbour safer, from want of means to dredge the channel and construct the necessary works. The annual report of that body was submitted to the land-renters in April, the details of which reached us by the last mail—showing that there is a large *deficit*, and there appears no prospect of raising sufficient revenue to cover it next year, in addition to the ordinary expenditure. As it is not a corporate body, each member is liable for the deficiency, consequently responsible residents decline acting, and there is little, if any, probability for years to come of the treasurer being able to collect taxes for carrying out the plans of the engineer, even to save the existing works in the harbour from decay. Under these circumstances it would be a boon to the whole community if a company was established with English capital to construct a railway to Woosung, and make that the seaport of Shanghai.

THE POSTAL SERVICE.

THE question of a weekly mail service to India and China has again been broached in the House, and according to the explanation given by Mr. PEEL, the Secretary to the Treasury, it is not intended to make the service to Singapore and China weekly, but on alternate Fridays; thus making 26 mails per annum in lieu of 24 as at present. We see no advantage in this alteration, and we think residents in the Far East will take the same view. What we require is an alteration in the time of arrival of the mails in London, which at present arrive just one to three days after the departure. This of course would involve an alteration in the time of starting from the Far East, which might not suit all ports.

THE STRAITS TRANSFER.

IN our Parliamentary intelligence it will be seen that Earl GRANVILLE, the President of the Indian Council, has stated in reply to the Earl of ALBEMARLE, that the Government were very anxious to have the Bill passed during this session, but that it was uncertain. From late inquiries we find that, owing to the early closing of the Session, the Bill must be thrown over until next Session, which is very unsatisfactory for all concerned. Residents in the Straits, however, will not regret it more than the India Board.

Sir Rutherford Alcock has left for the Continent in order to obtain the benefit of the German baths, previous to his departure for China, by the mail of the 10th Sept.

Mr. F. Clare Ford, at present an attaché to the Embassy at Vienna, has been appointed Secretary of Legation at Japan.

W. H. Mitchell, Esq., late Chief Magistrate of Hong Kong, has been duly passed as Barrister at Lincoln's Inn.

The China Dinner, fixed for the 15th July, will be presided over by Admiral Keppel, and will take place at Willis' Rooms, King-street, St. James's, at eight P.M. It is intended to confine it to officers of the Army, Navy, Consular and Civil services, and Merchants and others who have been resident in China and Japan. The tickets are one guinea and a-half. And the Secretaries are J. J. Mackenzie, Esq., and Major Brine,

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Royal Engineers. The China Challenge Cup will be shot for on that day at Wimbledon.

We understand that Robert Jardine, Esq., is a candidate for the representation of Ashburton in Parliament. In consequence of his intended departure for China, it is not the intention of John Dent, Esq., to offer himself during the coming elections.

Naval and Military.

The following has been issued from the Admiralty:—(Value of the Mexican Dollar in China and Japan.)—The value of the Mexican dollar in China and Japan having been fixed by proclamation at four shillings and threepence, the paymasters of Her Majesty's ships and other accountant officers, are, upon the receipt of this circular, to make payments to the officers and crews at the above rate, and take credit in their cash accounts for the gain on such Mexican dollars as they may have on charge at four shillings and twopence each, the previous rate at which they were received and issued.

The Medea, paddle sloop, Commander D'Arcy S. Preston, has been out of commission at Portsmouth, after being dismantled and cleared of stores, on return to England from service on the West India and North American station.

The Wivern, 4, iron turret (2) ship, 1,857 tons and 350 nominal horse-power of engines, one of the celebrated "rams" built by the Messrs. Laird, of Birkenhead, and subsequently purchased by the Admiralty, arrived at Spithead from the Mersey on Wednesday evening, in charge of Captain Paynter and a party of officers and seamen from Her Majesty's ship Donegal. The vessel is reported by Captain Paynter to have behaved exceedingly well during the passage round, and to have made an average speed of ten knots.

THE PORT OF BRINDISI.—This port, which is some 800 miles nearer o Alexandria than Marseilles, is again brought to notice as the port of departure for the India and China mail service. The Bombay Chamber of Commerce has sent home a memorial to the Postmaster-General on the subject, pointing out also that Falmouth should be substituted for Southampton. We do not think the former has any chance of being carried out. Indeed, if the passengers who go to and fro could be canvassed, we are of opinion that Falmouth would not be approved over Southampton, which lies so convenient to London. The long railway journey involved with Falmouth would be found very unacceptable, to say nothing of the certain annoyances to be incurred for the first year. Experience proves very distinctly that the conveniences of a packet port are not to be "pulled together" or produced by "magic." Nothing but time can bring us all the advantages of Southampton, and we advise experienced residents in India and China not to trifle with that delicate fabric in a hot climate—"the temper." The annoyances which would be met with at a new port would be a grievous tax, especially to invalids who, in many cases, are quite unfit for a long railway journey. With regard to Brindisi it will be a long time before the harbour is fit for the arrival and departure of steamers at all hours; and in other particulars we think it would be premature to adopt the port in lieu of Marseilles.

THE CONFEDERATE CRUISER "SHENANDOAH."—The *Liverpool Albion* understands that instructions were sent some time since to the captain of the *Shenandoah* to abstain from all hostilities against the ships of the United States, and that Earl Russell has undertaken to send an intimation of the fact to the British consuls in the East. The *Shenandoah* is supposed to be on the coast of Japan.

GEORGE WINGROVE COOK.—This gentleman, who will be remembered as the special correspondent of *The Times* in China, died suddenly at his residence in Chelsea, on the 19th inst.

Monetary and Commercial.

Amongst the new undertakings lately announced is the British India and Colonial Trust Corporation, for the purpose of acting as agents for either merchants or private individuals resident in India, China, Australia, the Cape, West Indies, &c. The list of directors includes R. M. Martin, Esq., formerly Colonial Treasurer at Hong Kong, and the other directors have been so selected as to represent all these places. The company propose to deal entirely on commission, and transactions on their own account are strictly prohibited. Under good management this agency will be a very profitable affair, as the residents in these parts have almost outgrown the private agencies now in existence. Details will be found in another column.

Telegrams have been received dated Hong Kong, May 30, announcing the opening of the new teas at Foochow at two taels above last year, and that the *Serica* and *Fiery Cross* had sailed.

The biddings for £250,000 in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were,—to Calcutta, £121,200; to Madras, £31,200; and to Bombay, £100,000. The *minimum* price was as before, 1s. 10½d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 10¾d. on Bombay. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 1s. 11d. will receive about 60 per cent., on Bombay at 1s. 11⅛d. about 45 per cent., and above these prices in full. These results show a little increase in the demand for means of remittance.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Poonah*, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was:—In gold, to Alexandria, £5,000; to Madras, £411. In silver, to Hong Kong, £6,630; to Shanghai, £4,000. Total, in gold, £5,411; in silver, £10,630.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices June 17.
£20	Asiatic Bank Company, issued at £15 prem., £7. 10s. paid up	£2. 10s.	6 to 7	—
100	Agra and Masterman's	50	112 to 115	117 to 120
50	Do. New	25	56 to 58	58 to 60
50	Do.	25	—	—
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	26 to 27	27 to 29
20	Do. New	All	—	—
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	47 to 49	49 to 51
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	—	—
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (10 pd.)	All	—	—
20	Eastern Exchange	5	1 dis. to 1 par	1⅛ to ¼ dis.
50	London Joint Stock	15	50 to 51	50 to 52
100	London and Westminster	20	97 to 99	98 to 101
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	51 to 53	54½ to 55½
50	Union of London	15	54 to 55	54 to 56
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	5 to 4 dis.	5 to 3 dis.
100	Do. Issued at 2 pm.	25	6 to 4 dis.	5 to 3 dis.
100	Do. New	15	6 to 4 dis.	5 to 3 dis.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	3½ to 3 dis.	3½ to 2½ dis.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	31 to 32	30½ to 31½
100	Bank of London	50	140 to 143	140 to 143
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	⅛ to ¼pm.	⅛ to ¼pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3½ to 4¼	3¼ to 4¼
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	75 to 77	76 to 79 xd.
50	Do. New	35	19 to 21pm.	19 to 21pm.xd
20	China Steamship & Labuan Coal Co.	5	—	—
5	Bombay Gas	All	5 to 5½	—
10	Hong Kong Gas	All	2 to 1½ dis.	2½ to 1½ dis.
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	10	3½ to 2½ dis.	3½ to 2½ dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	½ dis. to par.	½ dis. to par
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	20 to 21	20 to 21
1	Oriental Gas	All	1⅛ to 1⅛	1⅛ to 1⅛
1	Do. New	All	—	—
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2 to 3	2 to 3
100	West India Steam Company	60	108 to 110	106 to 109
20	Ceylon Company	7	2¾ to 3¼ pm.	3¼ to 3¾ pm.xd
20	International Finance Society	5	1⅝ to 1¾ pm.	1¾ to 1¾ pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	1¾ to 2 pm.	2 to 2¼ pm.
50	London Financial Association	15	7 to 8 pm.	8 to 8½ pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	¾ to ⅛ dis.	1¼ to ¾ dis.
20	Société Financiére d'Egypte	10	3¾ to 3½ dis.	4 to 3 dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	15⅛ to 16½	15½ to 15¾
10	Upper Assam Tea	3¼	3 to 4 pm.	3 to 4 pm.
10	Do.		19 to 21	19 to 21

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Business has been limited, except in the finer kinds of Congous, which have become very scarce, whilst export orders have been on only a moderate scale. Prices have, however, been well maintained, the only exception being in fair medium kinds of Congou, on which importers have given way about ¼d. per lb., the demand for these at present being very limited. Prices for the low and dusty kinds of Congou have rather hardened, siftings now selling at 8d. per lb., whilst those with leaf under 1s. per lb., are difficult to meet with. Fair to good common show no alteration. Common to fair flavoury kinds do not meet with much inquiry the better kinds of medium quality are saleable at full prices, whilst fine to finest are firmly held for extreme rates. Common to fair blackish-leaf kinds are only taken to a small extent at about former prices. The qualities ranging from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. have not been readily saleable; but good to fine and finest have been taken to some extent at fully previous prices. Tayshans show no alteration. Further arrivals of boxes of new-make, overland, have been sold at about 3s. per lb. Oolongs have not been in demand. Common to fair Souchongs show no change; fine continue in request at full prices. Flowery Pekoes are neglected. Scented Teas have been saleable at fully previous prices, but only as buyers have wanted them. Green: The new Moyunes have fetched extreme rates, as high as 2s. 8d. to 2s. 10d. per lb. having been paid for finest or No. 1 Young Hyson; fine grades, 2s. 2d. to 2s. 6d. per lb.; medium, 1s. 9d. to 2s. 1d. per lb. Gunpowder has fetched up to 3s. 6d. per lb. for finest, and finest Hyson 4s. per lb. There have been large sales of uncoloured Japan the last few days; about 5,000 packages having changed hands, the demand has chiefly been for good common and the fine qualities, and prices have ruled about the same as last quoted. The public sales, which commenced on the 20th inst., consisting of 46,000 packages, 18,000 packages, without reserve, are still in progress, and are passing without any striking change. Common Black Teas are selling at ½d. to 1½d. lower, but the few fine Congous offered have realised outside rates. Sales of about 1,000 packages of Indian Tea are declared for the 28th inst.

COTTON.—The Weekly Circular of the London Cotton Brokers' Association states—An improved demand on Friday, the 16th, was followed by a good business on Saturday, at enhanced prices; and on Monday and each succeeding day a large business has been transacted, resulting in an advance on Tinnivelly and Western Madras of 2½d. to 3d., and on other descriptions of 2d. per lb., the market closing firmly at these rates. There has been a considerable inquiry for Cotton afloat, but the operations have been limited by the small quantity available. Of the sales in London during the week comprising 18,560 bales, 410 China, middling fair to fair, went at 8¾d. to 11d., and 1,060 bales Japan, middling fair to fully fair, at 10¼d. to 12¾d. The total stock in London on the 22nd June was 66,687 bales, against 85,304 bales last year. Of China and Japan the

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stock was 7,521 bales against 33,278 last year. The stock of cotton in Liverpool on the 23rd June was 276,000 bales, against 311,551 last year. The total cotton afloat to Europe on the same date was 509,219 bales, against 475,657 bales last year. At that date there were 25,181 bales of China afloat, against 57,622 last year, and 531 bales Japan, against 8,252. The report from Liverpool of the week's business is—a very large business has been transacted in East India, at rapidly advancing prices; the lower kinds, which had been previously neglected, and were comparatively plentiful, have risen as much as 3d. per lb., while other grades are quoted 2d. per lb. dearer, with the exception of Scinde and Bengal, which have advanced 1½d. per lb. China and Japan have participated in the general activity, and are 2½d. per lb. dearer in the week.

SUGAR.—At the opening on the 20th, a steady demand prevailed, and business to a fair extent was concluded at last week's rates, since when, buyers having somewhat held back, a more subdued tone has again been apparent, and though prices remain tolerably steady, transactions have been effected with less facility. Among the transactions reported by private contract are 9,000 bags Muscovado Manila at 26s. Also 6,500 bags Clayed Manila at 30s.

COFFEE.—Increased buoyancy has characterised the colonial market this week, and stimulated in some measure by the favourable result of the Dutch Company's sale, the more numerous parcels of Ceylon, offered by auction, have been cleared off with spirit at improving rates, establishing an advance of 6d. to 1s. per cwt. on those of last week, viz., 690 casks, 530 brls. and bags Plantation, fine ordinary to low middling 79s. to 84s., middling to good ordinary at 68s. 6d. to 69s. 6d., superior up to 75s. The latter description has also been in request by private contract, and business of some importance has been done on proportionate terms. On Friday, the 23rd, 39 casks, 474 bags Ceylon went off at firm prices.

RICE.—The market on the spot has remained very quiet, and the business privately has been limited to 10,000 bags at, in some cases, barely previous prices, good bold new white Bengal, 15s. 9d.; middling to good middling old, 13s. 6d. to 14s.; and Rangoon and Bassein at 9s. The following parcels at auction were withdrawn, but afterwards placed, viz., 996 bags good middling white Bengal, of the new crop, at 14s. 3d., and 2,040 bags middling Rangoon at 9s. 4½d. Afloat, two cargoes Nakrenzie, together 2,750 tons, have been sold at 10s. for the Continent, or 10s. 9d. for the United Kingdom.

CAMPHOR.—Business has been very restricted, and the market is quiet at £5. 10s. to £5. 17s. 6d. for China, and £6 to £6. 2s. 6d. for Japan. 85 cases China at auction retired.

CARDAMOMS.—All descriptions steady; at auction 2 cases Malabar were retired; of 43 bags Madras, one-fourth sold at 4s. to 4s. 10d. per lb. for middling to good Aleppy; and 7 casks Ceylon sold at 3s. 2d. to 3s. 3l. per lb., for fair.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—There have not been any auctions; moderate business has been concluded privately upon the terms previously required. Buds: Quiet; supplies not yet on the market.

CINNAMON (CEYLON).—We quote first sort 1s. 4d. to 2s. 4d. per lb.; second, 1s. 3d. to 2s. 2d.; third, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 9d.; and fourth and Jungle, 10d. to 1s. 4d. Limited trade at firm rates.

COCOA NUT OIL.—This market has continued very firm, without any variation in value, and good business for arrival, as well as on the spot. Only 100 casks Cochin, 90 casks Ceylon, and 372 casks Manila at auction.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Auctions confined to 84 bags, two-thirds (damaged) sold at 80s. to 82s. per cwt., being dearer. Dragon's Blood: Only 2 cases at auction, and those retired. Rhubarb: Very quiet; and of 136 cases at auction a few sold at 4s. 3d. to 4s. 6d. per lb. for middling round; private trade exceedingly limited.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Steady; 6 cases Siam at auction retired; and of 123 cases Sumatra, about one-fifth sold at £10. 10s. to £13 per cwt. for inferior to fine 2nd quality; and £6. 10s. to £9. 12s. 6d., middling to fine 3rd. Damar: Quiet; of 124 cases at auction, a few only sold at 23s. 6d. to 31s. 6d. per cwt. for very inferior to ordinary in sorts.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Continues very quiet; 18 tons at auction all retired.

HEMP (MANILA).—Very firm, with inquiry; improved terms generally demanded; of 5,281 bales at auction a small proportion, damaged, only quitted at full value.

HIDES.—At the public sales on the 22nd there was a fair demand for East India for export, and a moderate one for consumption. Prices generally showed a decline of ¼d. per lb., but in a few cases former rates were obtained for inferior qualities. Of 1,675 Java Buffalo Hides offered, 1,368 sold—1st heavy, 5¼d. per lb.; light, 4¼d. per lb.; seconds, 4¼d. per lb.

JAPAN WAX.—Steady, but quiet; of 126 boxes at auction, a few sold at 67s. 6d. to 68s. per cwt. for good saucers.

INDIA RUBBER.—Is better; sales made privately up to 1s. 3d. per lb. for Singapore, and 1s. 2d. Penang, and no good now to be had at those prices. Only 61 bags Mauritius at auction sold at 10d. to 11¼d.

OILS.—Anniseed: There has been but little activity in this market, and small sales only have been effected at our quotations of 7s. 6d. to 7s. 7d. Cajaputa: Two cases at auction retired. Cassia: Cheaper; of 20 cases at auction half sold at 8s. per lb. Cinnamon: Quiet; 6 cases at auction retired. Mace and Nutmegs: Dearer; of 3 cases at auction one sold at 3d. per oz. for middling.

PEPPER.—Black: After falling slightly in value, has recovered to quite the currency of our last. Of 1,954 bags Singapore at auction one-third sold at 3⅞d. to 3¼d. per lb., and of 5,483 bags Penang half sold at 2⅝d. to 3⅛d. White: Limited business privately on former terms. No auctions.

SAGO.—Very quiet; 100 boxes at auction all retired. Flour; Very flat, and no business of any consequence doing.

SHELLAC.—Of 781 cases at auction, little more than half sold: Orange at £4. 2s. 6d. to £4. 17s. 6d.; Garnet £4. 12s. to £4. 15s.; Button £3 to £4. 1s.; Native £3. 10s.; block and blocky £3. 19s. to £4. 7s. 6d. Very little business accomplished privately.

SPICES.—Cloves steady: 31 cases Penang at auction sold at and after the sales at 1s. 2d. to 1s. 3d. per lb. for fair to very good; and 366 bags Zanzibar mostly sold at 3⅛d. to 3½d. for ordinary to good. Mace: Nothing of any consequence doing. Nutmegs: Transactions too unimportant for reference.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Continues very quiet; of 864 bags at auction, half sold at 22s. 6d. to 23s. 6d. per cwt. for fair quality, but in bad condition. Gamboge: Very flat, with private business upon lower terms—21s. 6d. per cwt. for fair quality. 2,849 bales at auction all retired; 150 baskets cubes, ordinary dark, sold at 22s. to 22s. 6d., being cheap.

TIN.—This market has lately undergone marked improvement; large business done in Straits, commencing at £90 cash, and rapidly rising to £92. 10s. For arrival, sales have been also made at £91 to £93. Operations in Banca very small.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Galls: Market for all descriptions remains quiet, and 61 cases Japan at auction sold at 52s. 6d. per cwt. for good clean. Musk: Tonquin is again rather cheaper. Of 68 caddies at auction, two-thirds sold at 25s. to 27s. 6d. per oz. for fair to good, and 22s. to 23s. pickings. 11 tins China Cabardine retired. Rattans: Steady; and of 8,152 bundles Singapore and 1,638 bundles Penang at auction, about two-thirds sold at 4s. 2d. to 8s. per 100, with a few extra large at 13s. 10d. to 14s. 6d. Sapan Wood: Quiet; 15 tons Siam at auction retired: of 98 tons Manila, a few sold at £8 per ton; and 20 tons Ceylon sold at £10. 10s. Shells, Mother o'Pearl: Firm; 72 cases Singapore sold at auction at £7. 7s. 6d. per cwt. Soy: Held firmly, but very little doing. Star Anniseeds: Very scarce: 17 cases at auction retired; retail sales made privately up to £8 per cwt. Sticklac, Siam: Steady; 150 cases at auction sold at 45s. to 53s. per cwt. for fair to good. Vermilion: Nothing of consequence doing; 7 boxes at auction retired.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 15s. to £8; nail rod, £8. 10s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10. 5s; sheets, single, £10. 10s. to £11; Staffordshire bars, £8. 15s. to £9; rails, £7.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £15.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £93 to £94 per ton; yellow metal, 7¾d. to 8d. per lb.

TIN.—97s. for block; 98s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 28s. to 29s. 6d.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £19 to £19. 5s.; W.B., £21; shot patent, £22. 10s.; sheet, £20. 10s.; spelter, £22. 15s. to £23 10s.; zinc, English sheet, £26. 10s. quicksilver, £8.

With the exception of a further advance in the price of Spelter, there is scarcely any alteration in the Metal market.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£78,619
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£5,500
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£152,246
Singapore	£3,007	£202,650
Penang	—	£3,500
Yokohama	—	£2,165

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£57,966
Penang	—	£4,508
Hong Kong	—	£47,000
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£31,151
Yokohama	—	£6,040

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£56	—
To Saigon	—	£80,157
To Batavia	£2,132	—
To Hong Kong	—	£14,880
To Shanghai	£80	£59,183

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0	to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4	
Silver in Bars	0 5 1½	
Mexican Dollars	0 4 11½	

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
June 6	Off Dungeness	Banjoewangie	Electra	Landweer.
May 26	Montreal	Singapore	Zizine	Friest.
— 24	Do.	Shanghai	Princess of Wales	Barrow.
June 7	Off Scilly	Penang	Avalanche	Stott.
— 18	Liverpool	Nagasaki	Spes	Howison.
— 9	Do.	Do.	Carrie	Williams.
— 10	London	Foo-chow-Foo	Laurel	Moodie.
— 11	Deal	Manila	Monarchy	Dyer.
— 6	Off the Lizard	Java	Henrietta	Visser.
— 12	Liverpool	Shanghai	Sailors' Home	Bryant.
May 31	New York	Yokohama	Benefactress	Eldred.
Jun. 14	Liverpool	Manila	Indiaman	Webb.
— 11	Off Falmouth	Shanghai	Belle	Wayman.
— 12	Off the Wight	Sourabaya	Elise Mary	Koster.
— 15	Off Falmouth	Ceylon	Ethelral	Anderson.
Jun. 13	Texel	Banjoewangie	Henriette	
— 12	Cadiz	Manila	Asuncion	Olano.
— 18	Scilly	Colombo	Nelly	Simpson.
— 18	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Cosmpore	Halbert.
— 21	Liverpool	Manila	Empress of India	
— 19	Off the Lizard	Colombo	Strata Florida	Jones.

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DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
June 4	Rotterdam	Java	Joan	Lasuer.
— 13	Liverpool	Yokohama	Brilliant	Walker.
— 7	Off Dungeness	Java	Authonie van Hobsken	
— 8	Deal	Batavia	Allegonda Jacoba	Swart.
— 6	Rotterdam	Hong Kong	Nova Zembla	Mamms.
— 10	London	Madras & Penang	Southern Cross	Rogers.
— 8	Hamburg	Manila	Volandora	
— 10	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Moravia	Potter.
— 11	Do.	Galle	Amphion	Dahlstedt.
— 10	Off Dungeness	Java	Marnix	v. Ruyven.
— 14	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Canadian	Russell.
— 12	Off Falmouth	Batavia	G. K. G. v. Hoogendorp	Fabritius.
— 16	London	Cardiff & Hong Kong	Agincourt	
— 11	Rotterdam	Batavia	Julia	v. Loon.
— 11	Amsterdam	Do.	Coenesein	
— 12	Shields	Hong Kong	Mary Francis	
— 4	Rotterdam	Batavia	Ternate	Cars.
May 6	Callao	Hong Kong	Esperanza	Fokkes.
Jun. 13	Rotterdam	Batavia	Cortgene	Nemerus.
— 17	Cardiff	Singapore	Houigby	v.d. Culph.
— 10	Shields	Batavia	Kon. Ned. Yacht Club	Zwart.
— 20	London	Yokohama	Medina	Brun.
— 20	Do.	Hong Kong	Violet	Wiseman.
— 16	Amsterdam	Macassar	Elizabeth Jacoba	Zwaneweld.
— 14	Rotterdam	Batavia	Kosmopoliet	Koning.
— 21	London	Colombo	Wynaud	Smith.
— 22	Do.	Shanghai	Spirit of the Deep	Hewitt.
— 24	Do.	Batavia	William Simpson	Napier.
— 21	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Prudhoe	Reed.
— 23	London	Hong Kong & Canton	James Russell	Griffiths.
— 23	Do.	Batavia & Sourabaya	Zeenymph	Schipper.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokobama: Chanticleer. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Scindia. For Shanghai: Laurel, Jubilee, Anglo Saxon, Dilkhoosh. For Hong Kong and Canton: Ladye Love, Sydney Eggers, Crest of the Wave. For Singapore and Penang: Bride. For Singapore and Bankok: May Queen. For Manila: Manila. For Colombo: Crixea. For Colombo and Cochin: Eaglet, Star of the Mersey.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Aerolite. For Singapore: Norah Greame. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Bulgersteyn. For Manila: Cinco Hermanos, Aureliana. For Penang: Avery. For Ceylon: Star of Devon. For Galle and Bombay: Admiral Lyons.

At GLASGOW.—For Manila, Iloilo, and Zebu: Anastasia. For Singapore and Penang: Foam. For Cape of Good Hope, Singapore, and Hong Kong: Japan (s.). For Ceylon and Madras; Thomas Mitchell, Queen of Trumps.

At NEW YORK.—For Shanghai: Horatio. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Anna Kimball. For Hong Kong: Benefactress. For Hong Kong and Singapore: Harmon.

At BOSTON.—For Hong Kong: Santel.

SPOKEN.

ELIZA THORNTON, barque, London to Singapore, May 2, on the line, W.
HELEN DOUGLAS, Newport to Shanghai, April 29, 18 (?) N., 21 W.
JOHANNA MARIA, Newport to Singapore, May 31, 49 N., 8 W.
TYPHOON, Cardiff to Hong Kong, March 17, in Pitt's Passage.
ETHELRED, Colombo to London, April 12, 28 S., 9 E.
SEA MEW, Liverpool to Shanghai, April 17.
HOMELY (?), barque, Macao to Havana, May 5, 34 S., 21 E.
BENVENURE (barq.), Shanghai to London, May 13, 19 S., 1 W.
COUNTESS OF RUSSELL, Shanghai to London, May 13, 19 S., 1 W.
THETIS (barq.), Liverpool to Ceylon, Feb. 25, 21 N., 25 W.
FAGEL (Dut. barq.), from the Philippine Islands, May 5, 31 S., 11 E.
MARIE, Rotterdam to Batavia, April 10, 4 S., 31 W.
LABUAN, from Shanghai, April 19.
CALLAO, Sourabaya to Rotterdam, April 17.
SUSANNA JOHANNA (barq.), Surbya. to Rotdm. April 11, 36 S., 19 E.
TIGRIS, ship, for Manila, May 1, on the line, 21 W.
JOSEPH WILLEM, Newcastle to Batavia, 49 N., 6 W.
SALATIGA, Rotterdam to Sourabaya, April 14, 2 N.
BATAVIA, Shields to Batavia, May 19, 49 N., 6 W.
CORNELIA HENDRIKA, (Dut. barq.), Bat. to Rot., April 11, 30 S., 41 E.
LEONDE BURDOES (Fr. barq.), for Singapore, Apr. 13, 13 S., 24 W.
HESPERUS (? HESPERIA), Dartmouth to Shanghai, Mar. 31, 1 N., 132 E.
JALAWAR, Colombo to London, April 28.
MARIA (Dt. b.), Rottdm. to Yokohama, Feb. 15, in the Ombay Passage
VERENA COLLET, Dunkirk to Saigon, April 19, 39 S., 33 E.
SIR WM. WALLACE, Maryport to Shanghai, April 8, 4 N., 134 E.
FIDELIO, Hong Kong to Falmouth, April 25, 31 S., 37 E.
SEVILLA, Canton to Demerara, April 27, 33 S., 32 E.
JAN VAN SCHAFFELAAR, Java to Amsterdam, May 2, 35 S., 25 E.
WILHELMINA JOHANNA (barq.), Bat. to Amstm. May 1, off Cape Agulhas.
EMILE (Fr. brig), Singapore to Belle Isle, April 6, 28 S., 8 E.
ELLWOOD WALTER (barq.), Colombo to London, April 13, 19 S., 2 E.
MAURITIUS (Hamb. barq.), Batavia to Rotterdam, April 13, 19 S., 2 E.
ZOE (barq.), Sunderland to Singapore, June 2, 47 N., 15 W.
ANTHONY VAN HOBOKEN, for Bat., June 10, 49 N., 6 W.
CALIFORNIA (Dut. ship), Bali to Amsterdam, Feb. 25.
REFLECT (ship), Sourabaya to Amsterdam, March 12, lat. 22, lon. 89.
LA PLATA, Ceylon to London, April 15.
WILHEMINA AND JOHANNA (ship), Sourabaya to Rotterdam, May 3.
MINA ELVINA (barq.), Manila to Rotterdam, 79 days out.
CHINA, Batavia to Amsterdam, 35 S., 24 E.
KONIA, Batavia to Rotterdam, 35 S., 20 E.
BELINA (?), from Shanghai, April 8, lat. 85, lon. 82.
TESTREL (ship), Manila to London, April 24, 32 S., 33 E.
BEATRICE (barq.), Shanghai to London May 4, off Cape St. Francis.
BEZER, Sourabaya to Amsterdam, June 10, 46 N., 12 W.
KITE (brig), Foo-chow-Foo to Cowes, April 17, 35 S., 19 E.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

We have again no alteration to report in outward freights. Ships of good character have been in demand both for general cargoes from London and for coals from Wales and the Tyne. In homeward charters we have nothing to remark.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 35s. weight or measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £38 and 37s. 6d. to 40s. For Shanghai: £43 to to £44 and 47s. 6d. to 50s. For Manila: £34s. to 35s. For Batavia: 24s. to 26s. For Singapore: £24 to £25 and 25s. to 26s. For Galle: £29 and £1. 5s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of ten tons (meast.) of boots from the river Thames to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Queen of the North, Tidmarsh, from Colombo for London, put into Mauritius, May 10, leaky, having experienced heavy weather from the 26th April to the 3rd May, commencing in lat. 10 S., lon. 78 E., during which she made 16 inches of water per hour.

The Malabar, Chambon, from Colombo to Belle Isle, put into Mauritius, May 15, making 10 inches water per hour, having experienced heavy weather on the 17th April, in lat. 1 N., lon. 80 E.

Advices from Neuwe Diep, dated the 16th June, state that on the previous evening a strong smell of fire was noticed on board the Batavia (ship) v. Dolder, bound from Amsterdam for Yokohama, whils tlying in port ready for sea; she was examined by surveyors, but no cause for the same being discovered, she sailed the following day for her destination, when a smell of fire again was noticed. She has consequently put back to Nieuwe Diep, and her whole cargo will be discharged in order to ascertain the cause of this smell.

The Willem Hendrik, Bickering, from Amsterdam for Batavia, put into Simon's Bay, May 8, with loss of foremast.

The Fernande, Giles, from Rio Janeiro for Singapore, put into Table Bay, May 14, for repairs, having been struck by a heavy sea, which carried away her weather bulwarks, stanchions, rails, &c., filling her deck and bursting her bulwarks on the opposite side.

The Ian van Schaffelaar, from Java for Amsterdam, was spoken, May 2, in lat. 35s., lon. 25 E.; with her fore main yard gone.

The wreck of a large iron ship, stranded on the West Point of Pulo Leat Island, was passed, Feb. 17, by the Empress of India, arrived at Liverpool. Her stern was under water, consequently her name could not be made out. This wreck is supposed to be that of the Sea Horse, Carty, which was bound from Liverpool for Shanghai last year.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Off TRINIDAD.—May 24, from China, Paria.

At ASCENSION.—May 1, from Hong Kong, Warrior, and sailed 3 for Liverpool; 23, from Ceylon, Charlotte Anne, Roberts, and sailed 25 for London; 25, from Ceylon, Attilar, Browne.

Off ASCENSION.—May 9, from Hong Kong, for Portsmouth, Hindostan; 15, from Japan, for London, Diana; 25, from Shanghai, Oliver Cromwell; 26, Stanley, both for London.

At ST. HELENA.—April 26, from Shanghai, Belle, Wayman, and sailed 26 to London; 27, from Singapore, Indiaman, Webb, and sailed 29 for Liverpool; 28, from Shanghai, Constance, Simpkin, and sailed May 1 for Liverpool; from Sourabaya, Reflect, Ross, and sailed May 3 for Amsterdam; from Colombo, City of Manchester, Muirhead, and sailed 29 for London: from Banjoewangie, Ortelius, Groote, and sailed 29 for Amsterdam; from Sourabaya, Nederland and Oranje, Bouwmeester, and sailed for Rotterdam; 29, from Batavia, Quartet, Mulder, and sailed for Amsterdam; 30, from Banjoewangie, California, Leonharde, and sailed May 2, for Amsterdam; May 2, from Macao, Lochnagar, Chester, and sailed 3 for London; 3, from Hong Kong, Hindostan, and sailed 3 for Portsmouth; from Macao, Queen of England, and sailed 4 for Havana; from Pasaroeang, Oceaan, Schmit, and sailed 4 for Amsterdam; 10, from Manila, Madura, Schmidt, and sailed 11 for Falmouth; from Amoy, Light of the Age, Porter, and sailed from Honduras. May 18, from Hong Kong, Europa, Fenster, and sailed for New York; from Padang, Padang Packet, Huidecoper, and sailed for Amsterdam; from Shanghai, Benvenue, Reay, and sailde for London; from Foo-chow-Foo, Shelburne, and sailed for Montreal; from Ceylon, Teviot, Wheelan, and sailed 20th for London; 19, from Banjoewangie, Jacoba Christina, Jaskie, and sailed for Amsterdam; from Manila, Kestrel, Fisher, and sailed 20th for Falmouth; from Shanghai, Countess Russell, Thomson, and sailed 20th for London; 19, from Padang, Isaac da Costa, Klein, and sailed 20th for Rotterdam; from Nagasaki, Agnas Holt, Taylor, and sailed 20th for London; 20, from Banjoewangie, India Vonck, and sailed for Rotterdam; Cornelia Hendrika, Smart, and sailed 24th for Rotterdam; 21, from Manila, Jose-y-Maria, de Ror, and sailed 24th for Santander; from Banjoewangie, Laconia, Admiraal, and sailed 22nd for Rotterdam; from Ceylon, Santiago, Wilson, and sailed 22nd for London; from Banjoewangie, Aldebaran, Dryven, and sailed, 23rd for Amsterdam; 22, Catharina Maria, Amerongen; 24, from Ceylon Hunter, Irwin; 25, from Hong Kong, Diana, Brans.

At TABLE BAY.—May 14, from Rio Janeiro, for Singapore, Fernande, Giles (with damage); 7, from Macao, Emanuel, Condray, and sailed 8th, for Havana.

At SIMONS BAY.—May 8, from Amsterdam, for Batavia, Willem Hendrick, Bickering (with damage).

At MAURITIUS.—May 10, from Colombo, for London, Queen of the North, Tidmarsh, leaky; 14, from Shanghai, Caroline Coventry, Jones; 15, from Colombo, for Belle Isle, Malabar, Chambon, leaky.

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COMMUNICATION by STEAM to INDIA, AUSTRALIA, &c., *via* EGYPT.—The PENINSULAR and ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY book Passengers and receive Cargo and Parcels at their London Offices for Gibraltar, Malta, Egypt, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, the Straits, and China, by their steamers, leaving Southampton on the 4th and 20th of every month. For Gibraltar Malta, Egypt, Aden, and Bombay by those of the 12th and 27th of each month; and for Mauritius, King George's Sound, Melbourne, and Sydney, by the steamers leaving Southampton on the 10th of every month.

For further particulars apply at the Company's Offices, 122, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C., or Oriental-place, Southampton.

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SERVICES MARITIMES DES MESSAGERIES IMPERIALES.

FRENCH MAIL STEAM PACKETS.

The 19th of every Month, at 2 P.M., for—

MESSINA, ALEXANDRIA, ADEN, POINT DE GALLE (Ceylon), PONDICHERRY MADRAS, CALCUTTA, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, SAIGON, HONG KONG, and SHANGHAI.

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MESSINA, ALEXANDRIA, ADEN, SEYCHELLES, REUNION, MAURITIUS.

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Calcutta ...	Childwall Abbey ...	1227	AA 1 ...	About July 20
Batavia & Soerabaya ...	Bulgersteyn...	577	5-6ths. 1.1.	About July 15

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Kanagawa & Yokohama ...	Chanticleer	A1 10 yr.	W.I.D.	With des.
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For Freight or Passage apply to HIORNS and PHILLIPS, 155, Leadenhall-street, E.C.; or to JOHN C. CAMPBELL, 22, Great St. Helen's, Bishopsgate-street, E.C.

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To Sail positively on the 22nd July. Last Shipping Day the 20th.

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Mate's receipts will be required before signing bills of lading for water-borne goods.

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DIRECT for BOMBAY.—The magnificent new River-built Clipper Ship, DILBHUR, A 1 Fourteen years (owned by Messrs. Smith, Fleming, and Co.), 1,320 tons register, Commander, East India Docks.

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A DIVIDEND of EIGHT-AND-A-HALF PER CENT. (free of Income Tax) for the current half-year, will be PAID to the Proprietors on the London Register, on and after the 1st of July next.

The Transfer Books of the Bank will be closed from the 21st to the 30th current inclusive.

By order of the Court of Directors,
D. T. ROBERTSON, Chief Manager.

No. 52, Threadneedle-street, E.C.,
June 13, 1865.

THE BANK of HINDUSTAN, CHINA, and JAPAN (Limited).

NOTICE of CALL of £5 per Share on 20,000 New Shares. Third Issue.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the DIRECTORS have THIS DAY made a CALL of £5 per Share, on the 20,000 New Shares in this Company, payable on the 12th day of July next, at the Banking-house of the Company, 1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Interest at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum will be charged on all calls not paid on the above date.

By order of the Board,
R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

1, Bank-buildings, June 19, 1865.

THE UNDERSIGNED LICENSED PILOTS FOR THE PORT OF SHANGHAI, CHINA,

BEG to inform SHIPMASTERS that their Schooners DANIEL WEBSTER and A. J. WESTEWELT will be found at the OUTSIDE PILOT STATION on the YANG-TZE-KEANG, with thoroughly qualified PILOTS on board. The schooners distinguishable by being painted white, and having the word Pilot on the mainsail.

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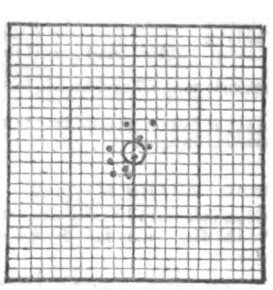

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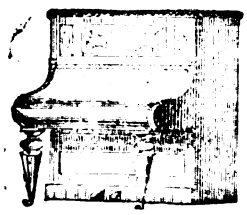

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(INCREASED TO £500,000 ON SETTLEMENT OF CHARTER.)

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MAJOR-GENERAL TREMENHEERE, late Bengal Engineers, Springgrove, Isleworth.
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Secretary.—JOHN HERON MAXWELL, Esq.

Temporary Offices—22, Change-alley, Cornhill.

PROSPECTUS.

I. The objects for which this Company has been incorporated are stated in the Royal Charter as follows:—"Carrying on the business appertaining to the fulfilment of Agency, Commissions, Trusts, Assigns, and Executorship in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and within the dominions of the British Crown and elsewhere; receiving consignments of merchandise and goods, and selling the same on commission; purchasing goods for persons abroad, and forwarding the same on payment by remittances; holding in trust of lands, buildings, and other property of every description; the safe custody, insurance, administration, and disposition of such property; the administration of solvent and intestate estates; the transmission of valuables and property of constituents and others to and from the United Kingdom, and other countries beyond the seas, and generally to perform and fulfil all such business, transactions, functions, and operations as are implied in the duties of Agents, Trustees, Executors, Administrators, and Assigns."

II. Hitherto there has been no public company to perform these highly-important duties; they have been scattered among persons engaged in various branches of trade, or entrusted to private individuals, although there is no description of business which more imperatively requires the security, permanence, and responsibility of a monied Corporation.

III. The several millions of British subjects resident in Asia, Australasia, Africa, and America; the vast trade (£100,000,000) which they carry on with England; and the rapid communication by steam navigation and telegraph which makes London the monetary and commercial capital of the world, indicate the extensive operations which this Corporation will be prepared to undertake.

IV. Among the more prominent may be named:—

1. *Commission Business* of every description; receiving merchandise from constituents, selling the same, and remitting promptly the proceeds; executing orders for goods from abroad when accompanied by remittances; and generally acting as the medium of exchange between the producer of commodities and the purchaser.
2. *Agencies* of private individuals in any quarter of the globe; also those of regiments and officers of H.M.'s ships on foreign service, the management of military and other public funds, and the duties of Colonial Government agents.
3. *Executorships and Trustees* for persons at home and abroad, the administration of wills, the care of minors, and the management of estates.
4. *Custody of Property* in fire-proof buildings, for the security of which the Corporation will be pecuniarily responsible.
5. *Carriage of Valuables and Parcels* insured between the United Kingdom, India, the Colonies, and Foreign Countries.

V. The profits on these transactions, ranging from 2 per cent. upwards, are well known to be very lucrative; the business does not demand an outlay of capital, but necessitates confidence, trust, and punctuality; and the remuneration from even a moderate amount of transactions will afford a very satisfactory dividend to the shareholders.

VI. Various Trusts and Executorships in the United Kingdom have already been offered to the Corporation. Negotiations for the purchase of several well-conducted private agencies have commenced, in order to begin with established connections under experienced managers. When these negotiations are completed due notice will be given, and there will be a further issue of shares.

VII. To provide security for those who confide property, executorship, and trust to the Corporation, banking and trading, or buying and selling goods on account of the Corporation, are prohibited by Clause III. of the Royal Charter and by the Articles of Association. The business done will be similar to that performed by the large India Commercial Agency Houses, such as Forbes and Co., Crawford and Colvin, Arbuthnot and Latham, &c.; and by the more personal agency firms of Grindlay and Co., Smith and Elder, &c.; all which houses have realised large fortunes without any outlay of capital, their transactions being purely those of commission and agency, which are carried on by the moneys of their constituents.

Application for shares must be made in the printed form, which may be obtained from the brokers and bankers, and at the offices of the Corporation, where a copy of the Royal Charter may be seen.

Printed for the Proprietors by WOODFALL and KINDER, Milford-lane, Strand; and published by JOHN ELLISON at the Office of the LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH, No. 19, George-yard, Lombard-street, in the Parish of St. Edmund the King, in the City London.—Friday, June 30, 1865.

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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 178.] LONDON, FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London This Day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Feb. 27		April 28
Nagasaki			May 6
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			April 20
Tien-tsin			
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			„ 30
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	March 26	May 12	May 18
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	April 10	„ 21	„ 23
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	March 10	April 26	„ 6
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			„ 27
SIAM— Bangkok	„ 27	May 14	„ 20
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			„ 16
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 23
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	April 17	„ 21	„ 31
Penang			

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By yesterday's mail, per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, arrived at Marseilles July 4.—From Shanghai: Messrs. Dick, Antrobus, and Webb, and one second-class passenger From Hong Kong: Messrs. J. Ray, A. Coxon, A. Heard, and Ward, Mr. and Mrs. Burlingame, child, and European servant, Capt. W. Endicott, Gen. Pruyn, and nine second-class passengers. From Singapore: Mr. Cardinaal. To Malta.—From Hong Kong: One second-class passenger.

To Southampton, per Syria, expected to arrive 10th inst.—From Shanghai: Four second-class passengers. From Hong Kong: Hon. Chief Justice Adams, Mrs. Adams, Rev. Dr. Irwin and three children, Mr. Happer and one second-class passenger. From Yokohama: Mr. Henderson. To Gibraltar.—From Hong Kong: Two second-class passengers.

To Southampton, per Ellora, expected to arrive 10th inst.—From Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Meldrum.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Pera, from Southampton, July 4.—To Ceylon: Mr. W. Syme. To Hong Kong: Capt. and Mrs. Kinder and child, two Misses Kinder, Miss Sergeant, Mr. Allen, Mr. Tookey, Ensign Kinder. To Singapore: Mr. Skinner. From Marseilles, July 12.—To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Green.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, July 20.—To Hong Kong: Staff-Commander Thain, R.N., Mr. R. S. Syer, Mr. and Mrs. Davies, Mr. and Mrs. Manning. To Shanghai: Mr. Scheidt. To Ceylon: Rev. G. Middleton. To Singapore: Mr. E. J. Smith. From Marseilles, July 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. Troncoso, Mr. I. A. Tuton. To Shanghai: Mr. E. B. Drew. From Suez.—To Shanghai: Mr. M. Archer Shee, jun. To Hong Kong: Mr. W. Hulse.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Aug. 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. W. Foster, Mr. Rennie. To Ceylon: Mr. G. Studdart.

Per P. and O steamer, from Southampton, Aug. 20.—To Hong Kong: Mrs. Tomlin To Ceylon: Mr. F. M. Evans, Mr. E. W. H. Holdsworth. From Marseilles, Aug. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs Davidson.

THE INCOMING MAILS.

A telegram has just been received from Suez announcing the arrival of the mail steamer with the Calcutta, China, and Australian mails, which are expected in London on the 15th inst.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Dates hence are to the 28th April. The London mail of Feb. 27 had arrived out.

The political intelligence is still meagre, save as regards the important fact of the Government of the Tycoon having declared that at present no new port will be open to Europeans; and that it is willing to pay $3,000,000 as indemnity for the Simonoseki affair.

The Hon. General R. H. Pruyn, United States Minister Resident in Japan, was to leave by the present mail, deputing A. L. C. Portman, Esq., his Secretary of Legation, to take charge until the pleasure of his Government be signified in the matter The favour in which Mr. Portman is held by his compatriots in Japan makes the appointment a generally acceptable one. It was not known whether General Pruyn goes home under a recall or leave of absence.

The Municipal question still drags its slow length along, and seems as far from settlement as ever. Two meetings had been held at H.B.M.'s Consulate during the fortnight.

The harbour presents a very different appearance from that witnessed a few weeks back. The merchant vessels keep up their usual numbers, but the men-of-war are gradually leaving. H.N.M.S. corvette *Metulen Kruis* took her departure for Nagasaki on the 25th April, and H.B.M.S. *Barossa* and *Havoc* have left for the same port—the former being about to relieve the *Argus*, which vessel will proceed to Shanghai in company with the *Havoc*. H.B.M.S. *Leopard*, Captain Leckie, arrived here on the 19th April from Shanghai. She had an accident near the Ki Channel on the 16th, and received some damage, which will necessitate her going to Shanghai or Hong Kong to be put in dock.

Socially, the last fortnight of April had been enlivened by the performances of two amateur theatrical companies, and with a concert by Mons. Desvachez, a violoncellist of great talent.

CHINA.

PEKING.

We have no direct news from Peking or Tien-tsin, but we find the following in the *North China Herald*:—

In our last issue we had to record the complete and sudden degradation of Prince Kung from rank, titles, and favour; and we now have to report his no less unexpected restoration to office. The regency is still withheld, but the Prince has resumed his seat at the Foreign Board, and has received permission to again enter the palace; but the Emperor, while yielding to the representations of several high officials, fully maintains the guilt of the Prince and the justice of the first sentence. It is worthy of notice that the officer who was most prominent in denouncing the faults which led to the promulgation of the edict of degradation, was a brass-button mandarin of the seventh class, who must either have possessed singular moral courage or relied with certainty on the support of higher influence than his own. And it is remarkable that among the petitioners whose representations have led to the partial abrogation of that edict, the most prominent are the Prince of Li, who is a mere child, and Kwang-chêng, who, although once a powerful mandarin, was some time ago degraded in consequence of faults very similar to those attributed to the Prince Kung. The Prince is the second high officer, Hsueh Huan being the first, who has been degraded from every other post he had previously filled, and yet allowed to remain in the Tsung-li Yamen. It is certainly flattering to the foreign represen-

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tatives that persons whose official corruption has become so glaring that, even in China, they are held unfit for any other position, should be allowed to remain in the office by which foreign affairs are exclusively conducted. Prince Kung's restoration to the Foreign Board must, however, be regarded as satisfactory in at least one sense. It destroys any doubt which may have been entertained that his removal was a mark of the ascendancy of anti-foreign prejudices in the councils of the Emperor.

SHANGHAI.

The P. and O. mail of 26th March arrived out on the 12th May, and the French mail of the 17th March on the 7th May. Telegraphic news was up to the 4th April.

The *North China Herald* has the following on the new "Chinese Medal:"—

"More than two years ago we mentioned that the Chinese Government was contemplating the creation of a decoration on the model of European orders, for the purpose of rewarding foreigners who might render it distinguished service. The effort of arriving at such a decision was, however, apparently exhaustive, as the idea remained in an embryo state so long that its adoption had almost been forgotten, and nearly all those who were looked on as likely recipients when the project was first mooted had left China. At length, however, the period of incubation has ended, and the result is sufficiently successful to reconcile us to the delay. The new distinction is in the form of a gold medal, to be worn on the breast, but in the centre is inlet a small red, blue, or white stone, to mark the first, second, or third grade of the order. On the obverse, circling round the stone, is the Imperial dragon; while the reverse bears an inscription in Chinese, announcing it to be the 'Imperially presented star of the dragon of the great dynasty.' A more happy combination of the European and Chinese ideas could not have been attained. The prejudices of the former are consulted in the form of the decoration, while the grade is marked in a manner essentially Chinese. The intrinsic value of the medal is probably about that of a gold dollar, which it nearly equals in size and weight. Since the order was first projected, most of those who were regarded as likely recipients have left the country, but others have arisen whose claims to one or other of the three grades are weighty. To Gordon the highest class has of course been decreed; and M. Giquel, the acting Commissioner of Customs at Shanghai, has been similarly rewarded, for services rendered in connection with the Franco-Chinese contingent in the province of Chekeang. The acceptance of the distinction by the gentlemen whom the Chinese may seek to honour, necessarily depends on the approval of their Governments; but this will of course be accorded, as it has been in the numerous other instances where decorations have been awarded as a mark of appreciation of services rendered to foreign Governments."

The Spring Meeting, which commenced on the 26th of April, seems to have excited the usual degree of interest, notwithstanding the commercial depression that prevailed. In a betting point of view, however, we are glad to observe that the meeting was characterised by a quietness and an absence of "speculation," which we look upon as indicative of the restoration of a better tone than has of late years prevailed on the turf at Shanghai. The following is a summary of the sport:—

FIRST DAY.

1. Tsatlee Cup, 300 tls., second pony 50 tls.; China ponies only. Bogtrotter, 1; Blair Athol, 2.
2. Arab Cup, 100 guineas, 1½ miles. Belooch, 1; Busy Bee, 2. Won easily.
3. Griffin's Plate, 100 tls.; for China ponies. Fleur-de-lis, 1; Flotsam, 2.
4. Derby Stakes, tls. 25 each, and 100 guineas from the fund; for colonial horses. Pomeroy, 1; Vesuvian, 2. Oriflamme and Beauregard fell at starting.
5. Ladies' Purse. Won by Early Purl, whose rider was presented with the Purse by Madlle. Montmorand.
6. Volunteer Plate, tls. 150. Piff-Paff, 1; Gorilla, 2.
7. Welter Cup, tls. 150. Sir William, 1; Anecdote, 2.

SECOND DAY.

1. Maloo Plate, 75 tls.; for ponies. Fleur-de-lis, 1; Birdlime, 2.
2. Arab Challenge Cup, value 250 guineas, 2 miles. Early Pearl, 1; Hassem, 2.
3. Chaasee Cup. Fleur-de-lis, 1; Flotsam, 2.
4. Challenge Cup, 500 guineas; for all horses, 2 miles. Sir William, 1; Pathfinder, 2; Incledon, 3; Haddington was pulled up lame; and North Pole fell dead nearly opposite the Grand Stand.
5. Chukaza Cup, 250 tls., for Arabs. Bedouin, 1; Hassan, 2.
6. The Selling Stakes, value 400 tls. Anecdote, 1; Spartacus, 2.
7. Hack Stakes, of 10 tls. each, with 100 tls. from the fund. Robin Hood, 1.

THIRD DAY.

1. Consolation Sweepstakes. Deserter, 1; Cobnut, 2.
2. Byramjee Cup, value 50 guinuas; for Arabs. Busy Bee, 1; Hassan, 2.
3. Kathay Handicap, 25 tls. each, with 200 tls. added. Anecdote, 1; Warrior, 2; Ironclad fell with his jockey under him.
4. Fa-kei Cup, 500 tls.; for all horses, 1¾ miles. Sir William, 1; Incledon, 2.
5. Roadsters' Plate, 100 tls. San-ko-lin-sin, 1.
6. Steeplechase, for all horses, 300 tls.—3 miles. Won by Kangaroo. No others were placed. Louise started with the lead but fell at the first jump, when Kangaroo went to the front; but the mare quickly collared him and led to the last jump but one home in the first round. She then fell again, but picked herself up and went on bravely to the jump at the Grand Stand in the second round. when she fell heavily and disappeared from the race. In the meantime Kangaroo came home at his own pace, clearing everything, and allowing nothing else to pass him. This race occasioned intense excitement.
7. The Scramble, 100 tls.; for ponies. Birdlime, 1; Mud 2.

The following mercantile notices have been published:—

Mr. T. S. Borradaile is authorised to sign our firm. Dow and Co.

The interest and responsibility of Mr. William Herbert Vacher in our firm ceased on the 30th April, 1865. The partnership now consists of Richard James Gilman, Charles Augustus Wild, Henry Beverley Lemann, William Lemann, Edmund Henry Lavers. Gilman and Co. China, 1st May, 1865.

The *North China Herald* has the following on the report of the French Municipal Council:—

The report drawn up by the French Municipal Council of their proceedings, during the past and their projects for the ensuing year, sets the position of affairs lucidly before the land renters. Thanks to the sum of Tls. 33,260 yielded by the tax on gambling-houses, their financial position is most flourishing, the balance in hand at the end of the year having been Tls. 8,000, out of a total revenue of Tls. 103,000. Nearly the half of this large sum is derived from taxes which have either never been recognized in the English concession, or were voluntarily abandoned by the land centers at their last meeting; while only Tls. 35,000 were derived from the house and land tax which figures so prominently in the English budget. Opium-houses, brothels, sampans, and gambling-houses alone yielded Tls. 48,000, and the proceeds of taxes on various shops contributed Tls. 3,300 more. The expenditure is classified so differently from our own that it is difficult to compare the items. The salaries of the Secretariat at Tls. 5,948 and of the Police at Tls, 25,663, however, attract attention by the inferiority in amount to those paid by ourselves. Passing to the estimates for the ensuing year we find an anticipated income of Tls. 111,500 to meet an expenditure of 110,500 tls.; and this time the gambling houses are assessed at 43,500 tls., while the Chinese house tax is only to produce 19,000 tls., and that on foreign houses 750 tls. No less than 7,000 tls. are anticipated from the boat-tax, which the English Council so generously abandoned, and 4,500 tls. for that impost on brothels which the Taotai has objected to sanction. It is satisfactory, however, to find that the Consul-General has objected, however gently, against the utter disregard of the Chinese authorities shown by persistence in the levy of the tax on gambling houses, after the emphatic protest of the Taotai. M. de Montmorand has, it will be seen, requested the Council to consider how they can replace this tax by some less objectionable impost. But these gentlemen held that the creation of any new taxes was impossible; that the existing revenue was barely sufficient to meet the engagements which had been undertaken, and consequently begged the Consul-General to defer the question until it could be laid before a meeting of the land renters on the Concession. This was agreed to, and it remains to be seen whether the Consul-General will insist on the illegality of thus running counter to the wishes of the Chinese, with sufficient emphasis to induce the abandonment of the impost. That he will meet with strong opposition cannot be doubted, for without the 43,000 tls. anticipated from this source, the budget would be completely upset, and the abandonment of many contemplated works become inevitable. The scheme for the advancement of the bund to low water mark, which is now rapidly approaching completion, is also fully explained. The total cost of this work is to be 37,340, tls. of which 22,840 tls. are allotted to the construction of the necessary bunding, and 14,500 tls. to raising the mud-bank to the necessary level. The latter measure is by far the more simple of the two, and we fear that a recurrence of the disaster which has already happened to a portion of the new work is not improbable. The sinuosities which were noticeable shortly after its commencement, have lately become still more apparent, and suggest the fear we express lest it should prove too weak to support the immense pressure which is being gradually brought against it. A floating jetty has been constructed near the northern end of the bund, at a cost of 2,000 tls., and it is purposed to erect a similar one at a similar cost near the Pagoda bridge. Great improvements, however, are contemplated if the Land Renters agree to the sale of the 20 mow of land which will be reclaimed by the advancement of the bund line; amongst these the construction of two floating piers at a cost of 15,000 tls. are the most prominent. It is also suggested that 10,000 tls. from the proceeds of such sale should be appropriated to the building of a chapel at, and the embellishment of the new cemetery.

Sir Harry Parkes has been appointed commandant of the volunteer corps, vacant by the departure of Mr. Antrobus.

Another attempt has been made by rowdies to carry off a steamer from the river, which fortunately proved unsuccessful. Twenty men boarded the steamer *Hyson*, and cast her off from her moorings; but they were unable to get up steam, owing to the absence of an important portion of her machinery. They then abandoned her, with the exception of the leader of the gang, who was captured, and conveyed to the English consular gaol.

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The *Friend of China* has the following notice of the sale of steamers :—

"To show the variation in the price of steam vessels in these waters, we may mention that the little craft built in England originally for Murrow's Canton line, afterwards sold to Tah Kee here for $44,000, and called the *Mandarin*, was bought the other day by Captains Partridge and Roundy for 3,500 taels; and after undergoing some slight repairs, passed last week into the hands of Kwok Acheong, Hong Kong P. and O. Comprador, for 16,000 Mexican dollars. The *Cricket*, again, which Captain Hill sold to Tah Kee for 22,000 taels, passed also into the lucky hands of the gentlemen above mentioned for 1,150 taels only, and will, we hope, eventually obtain as good a return as her predecessor the *Rose*. We hear Mr. E. A. Reynolds has purchased that most serviceable steam-ship the *Chusan*, for 18,500 taels, her price when transferred by the P. and O. Company to Chinese a couple of years ago being 65,000 Mexican dollars.

A road is being constructed to Woosung, which will be completed in about a week. A sum of 7,000 tls. was, we believe, subscribed for the purpose, on which no return is expected by the projectors. The only obstacle to free communication between this port and Woosung, at the present moment, is the Soochow bridge, which, by some extraordinary means, continues to stand, supported principally by the reputation of a charter from an unknown Taotai. The proprietors have an undoubted right to levy some toll, although Mr. Webb, one of the original shareholders, has publicly stated that it was the intention to throw it open so soon as it had paid itself, an object which has long since been obtained. But we do object to so large a revenue being extorted from the community for the privilege of using so inconveniently situated and crazy a structure. We doubt, moreover, the legality of exacting a tax from the Chinese. The Stone Bridge is an instance out of many in which a tax is being levied to recover the original outlay. But we do not think an instance can be quoted of a Chinese bridge, of which the cost has been repaid, being still subjected to a tax.

Mr. Antrobus, of the firm of Lindsay and Co., proceeds to England by the present mail; also Mr. Dick, Commissioner of Customs. The following announcements in connection with the customs have been made :—

P. Giquel, Commissioner at Hankow, to officiate as Commissioner at Shanghai, vice T. Dick, granted seventeen months' leave of absence.

Richard W. Halkett, Clerk of the 1st Class, Hankow, to take charge of the office at Hankow.

James Brown, Clerk of the 3rd Class, Ningpo, to be Deputy Commissioner at Shanghae.

H. E. Hobson, to be Clerk of the 3rd Class at Ningpo, vice James Brown, promoted.

The passage of the *Silver Eagle* is thus noticed :—

This celebrated clipper ship has made one of the fastest passages ever recorded. She left the Downs on the 20th December, and crossed the equator on the twenty-second day. Her commander, Captain Longman, is of the Royal Naval Reserve, and adheres to the great principle of circle sailing, in pursuance of which he extended his course as far south as 51. She carried the winds prevailing from the northward from the meridian of the Cape of Good Hope, cleared Van Dieman's Land on the 23rd February—only 43 days from the equator—and made the South Head Light on the evening of the 5th March, having achieved the distance from the Downs to Port Jackson in the singularly short time of seventy-two days. The extraordinary despatch which this vessel met with at Sydney is worthy the notice of the mercantile community at this port. She discharged 1,500 tons of general merchandise in 49 hours, and shipped 930 tons of coal; the entire discharging and loading being accomplished in 21 days, when she was again ready for sea. The *Silver Eagle* again left the anchorage at Port Jackson on the 2nd March, having made the run to this place in 38 days, with calms and light winds to contend against. During the passage from thence her royals were only lowered for a few hours. The entire voyage, including detention in Sydney, was made in 135 days.

Letters from Tangchow record the defeat of San-ko-lin-sin by the force lately commanded by Shih-ta-khai, better known as the Assistant King. These troops appear now to have amalgamated with the Mohamedan rebels, and the combined forces are for the present clearly in the ascendant in the Shantung province. San-ko-lin-sin's defeat caused a panic throughout the province and led the inhabitants to seek refuge in the walled towns. In Fohkien the Imperialists have been more successful, having, it is said, defeated a sally of the Changchow garrison with a loss of 1,500 men. The success was mainly attributable to a movement suggested by Col. Kirkham, by which the rebels' right flank was turned; when, as usual with the Chinese, a panic at once ensued.

An action has been brought into the Consular Court by Messrs. Smith, Preston and Co., of London, against Messrs. Maitland, Bush and Co., of Newchwang, to recover the sum of tls. 5,052.95 being amount of losses arising on the charter of the *Vanda*, which vessel they had taken up in Liverpool on time charter for account of Messrs. Maitland, Bush and Co., jointly with Messrs. Maitland, Maclean and Co., of Shanghai. The charter party having been made out in the names of the plaintiffs, they had been held responsible by the owners of the vessel, and now sought to indemnify themselves by recovering the amount of the loss from the real charterers. Owing to the absence from Shanghai of Mr. R. K. Maitland, who had been chiefly concerned in the management of the affair, there was some difficulty in elucidating the actual nature of it, and judgment was reserved.

The Acting British Minister at Peking, Mr. Wade, it is stated, is at issue with Prince Kung on the subject of the confiscation of the steamer *Mercury* for entering a non-treaty port.

HANKOW.

A letter from this port states that a force of eight thousand of the Imperialists who have made themselves so notorious in that neighbourhood and at Kiukiang, entirely ignored the authority of their commanders when at Kinkow *en route* for Hankow, and, having looted the former town, declared their intention of marching on Hankow forthwith. Finding, however, H.B.M.S. *Hardy* and a French gunboat in the river, awaiting their arrival, they changed their minds, marched into the interior towards the black tea districts of Anhuei, when they practically raised the standard of rebellion by murdering a Chi-Hsien, and giving up the district to plunder. Circulars had been issued by the Consuls impressing upon foreigners the necessity of acting prudently, and not straying too far from the settlement.

The navigation of the Yangtsze has been much impeded of late by constant changes in the bed of the river. Even in the course of a few weeks new sandbanks have formed, and old ones entirely changed their position, so that steamers leaving Hankow after having lain alongside a wharf with plenty of water, often find, on their return from Shanghai, considerable difficulty in approaching their moorings. For instance, only two weeks ago, the *Fusiyama* found it impossible to get alongside the Paoushun wharf, and had to anchor in the stream. It has been suggested that something might be done, by means of dredging-boats to remedy the rapid shoaling of the river, and by frequent superficial surveys to keep the channel properly buoyed. But this would necessarily entail great expense, which it would probably be difficult to induce the Peking Government to sanction, while nothing can be drawn from the Shanghai Customs to defray any expenditure, however necessary, on the upper portion of the river.

NANKING.

Considerable excitement has been caused in this city by the discovery that some daring agent of the rebels had posted a Taiping proclamation on the great gate of the Governor-General's Yamen. Copies had also been affixed to the walls of tea-houses and on other conspicuous places. Six men were arrested, and not being able to give a good account of themselves, were beheaded. Such an occurrence is a sufficient evidence that disaffected bands still exist even at the very centre of constituted government, and that but little reliance can be placed on the tranquillity which now apparently prevails.

KIU-KIANG.

A special meeting of the renters of land at this port was held on the 28th of April, for the purpose of considering "*the proposed taxation scheme, extension of the bund, and police station*," P. J. Hughes, Esq., H.M.'s Consul, in the chair. The following resolutions were agreed to :—

Proposed by Mr. Rainbow, seconded by Mr. Hyde—"That in the opinion of this meeting the present condition of the port does not warran the outlay recommended by the late Municipal Council. That instead of increasing the expenditure it is desirable to curtail it in every possible way, and with this view the meeting would recommend the present Council to abandon the scheme of bunding in front of Messrs. Heard and Co.'s land."

Proposed by Mr. Mackintosh, seconded by Mr. Styan—"That the arrangements for a police station be left to the discretion of the Municipal

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Council, as it is the opinion of the land renters that they will incur no needless expense."

Proposed by Mr. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Mackintosh—"That in the opinion of this meeting, it is undesirable to make any addition to, or alteration in the present mode of taxing the land renters."

A vote of thanks to the Chairman terminated the proceedings.

Considerable annoyance has been occasioned by the presence in the neighbourhood of a large number of braves, who committed acts of violence on several persons who came within range of their projectiles. The native authorities appear to be powerless in the matter, and the English Consul does not feel justified in taking upon himself the responsibility of calling on the gunboat to enforce order.

HONG KONG.

The P. and O. mail of 10th April arrived out on the 21st May. The dates are now down to the 23rd.

We have to note the departure for America of the Hon. Mr. Burlinghame, U.S. Minister at Peking, and Mr. Pruyn, Minister at Yedo. Chief Justice Adams, and Mr. Irwin, Colonial Chaplain, come home also by this mail.

The following is from the *Daily Press*:—

"The military authorities are materially increasing their establishment in this colony. They are putting a third storey on the godowns on the south side of Queen's-road, opposite the Commissariat whereof they are the tenants, and they have taken those large premises at Spring-gardens known as McGregor and Co.'s, to the godown whereof another storey is also being added. It would appear from this that Kowloon is not deemed healthy. What surprises us is that the military do not level the ground on which the deserted quarters of the 22nd N.I. stand. The earth taken away could be shot down the hill, and could be used for filling in opposite the Commissariat and naval yard. In this manner for a small sum of money the naval and military authorities would obtain two most valuable sites; one with a water frontage, the other on a fine healthy bluff overlooking the Queen's-road. Besides, both these sites would be within their own palings, as it were.

"The naval yard is being vastly increased, and will really very soon make an imposing appearance. We can see, or fancy so, that Sir Rutherford Alcock's plan is being carried out. Namely, to keep a force in reserve to overawe the Chinese and Japanese Governments. In other words, to provide a body for that of which diplomacy is the soul. This reserve can only be kept in Hong Kong, and the attention which the military authorities are observing relative to malaria and ventilation does them infinite credit.

"We would suggest the feasibility of putting the Saiwan and the Stanley Barracks in good habitable order, and of making arrangements with the naval authorities to keep up a daily communication between Victoria and those places, by means of a gunboat to be placed at the disposal of the military. The trip would be conducive to health, and so would the change of air. It would not take a gunboat more than an hour and a half to go from the parade ground wharf to Stanley, and she would be a good patrol against pirates in the Ly-ee-moon passage. The only objection to the Stanley Barracks is that they are inaccessible—to place them within one hour and a half's distance from the parade ground wharf would be a great acquisition to the Hong Kong garrison."

The British ship *Taeping*, Captain Mackinnon, left London on the 8th February, discharged her pilot on the 9th, crossed the Equator on her 20th day out, passed the meridian of the Cape on the 43rd, St. Paul's on the 53rd, Anjer 71st, obtained her pilot on the 12th May, and entered this port in tow of the *Fame* on the 13th, having only occupied 92 days on her passage from pilot to pilot, an almost unparalleled passage at this season of the year.

SIAM.

BANGKOK.

Our dates are to the 20th May. The London Mail of the 27th March reached Bangkok on the 14th May. Later intelligence would be brought there it was hoped by H.M.S. *Princess Royal*, bearing the flag of Vice-Admiral St. Vincent King, which was expected to pay the Siamese capital a visit before the end of May. The French despatch boat *Mitraille* left Bangkok for Kampoot on the 2nd May. Messengers were to be despatched from the latter place to Udong, to inform the Cambodian Prince of his independence of Siam and dependence on France. A Royal autograph from His Majesty the First King of Siam, in reply to the one from His Imperial Majesty Napoleon III., received in April, was sent late in the afternoon of the 19th May, accompanied by a large procession, to the French Consul, for transmission to Paris. This autograph was said to relate to the new Cambodian treaty and other matters of present interest, and was to be transmitted by the steamer that left next day.

On the night of the 25th April a daring attempt at robbery and murder was perpetrated in the residence of Captain G. H. Roberts, situate immediately behind Mr. Blake's premises. The thief entered by removing some of the bamboos leading into the front room. A noise then aroused Captain Roberts, who sent his housekeeper, a China woman, to close a window, supposing it to be raining. On going into the hall she was immediately knocked down by a ruffian. Captain Roberts then jumped out of bed, drew a sword-cane, which lay convenient, and attacked the thief, who assailed the Captain, cutting him over the head several times with a sharp instrument. Roberts's sword-cane got bent in the struggle, and the would-be-thief and murderer made his escape by the back door. Dr. Campbell was sent for and dressed the wounds of Captain Roberts and the woman. Mr. Blake was also on the spot, and messengers were sent for the police. The Commissioner on being informed of the outrage asked whether the sufferer was an Englishman or an American. Being told he was an Englishman, he sent off a native officer and two or three peons, and troubled himself no farther till six o'clock next morning. The housekeeper's skull was cut by the blow or blows which she received. Captain Roberts received more than a dozen cuts on his head and shoulders, though happily none of them were very dangerous. The thief did not succeed in getting away with any property, but on the contrary, with several thrusts from the sword-cane. At daylight next morning the thief was tracked by his blood, which must have flowed freely, to the New Road. There traces of him were lost, and the circumlocution officer had to delay the chase in conformity with established usage. At half-past eight or nine o'clock Acting-Consul Newman made his appearance on the ground. At three in the afternoon the Phra Raj Rong Muang came down, and the Acting-Consul proceeded to take down Captain Roberts's statement. The native officer of the district suggested that if the foreigners were to offer a reward the burglar might be caught. The fellow had fifteen hours' start of his pursuers, and is likely to evade justice, though a reward of 80 ticals has been offered for such information as may lead to his apprehension, Mr. Blake and Capt. Ames offering 50 ticals, and the Phra Raj Rong Muang 30 ticals, making 80 in all.

Since the above was written, on the 28th April, a Siamese with a stab wound in his face and two or three other wounds on his person, has been arrested in a wat. south-east of the Burmese village. This man may prove to be one of the burglars. This case is a striking commentary on the assertion of Consul Knox, that a police for the foreign quarter is not needed.

The *Siam Times* remarks on the above:—"The present police force is not authorised by the authorities to act outside of Sampeng, except in some special cases. Its chief cannot act without a warrant from the superior Siamese authorities. For the prevention of crime in the foreign quarters it is not available. For its detection, if made available by the slow process of applying for a warrant to superior Siamese authorities, it is useless; for so much time must elapse before the Phra Raj Rong Muang can be communicated with, that evil-doers have a chance of escaping. This was clearly illustrated in the case of Captain Roberts. In the morning at daylight the miscreant who assailed him had been traced by his blood to the New Road, by the Commisioner of Police and a foreign merchant. The quarter to which he was traced was inhabited principally by Hong Kong Chinamen. The Commissioner of Police applied to the acting British Consul for power to search the houses of Hong Kong Chinese in the vicinity, while traces of the ruffian were yet fresh. This power was refused by the Acting-Consul and application had to be made to the Phra Raj Rong Muang. This the Commissioner of Police knew would occasion delay enough to allow the would-be murderer to escape, and he remonstrated against it, but in vain. The acting Consul had had his way, and after the lapse of fifteen hours the Phra Raj Rong Muang came on the ground, looked around him, and went home again. This last outrage is a painful instance of the evils affecting the community through the apathy of the Foreign Consuls and the Government. Had a regular police patrol been at all convenient, this daring attempt would not have been made, as it was from a public thoroughfare, and

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the villain could not have escaped had there been any police to follow him up immediately. Captain Ames would have been justified in not sending a single peon to assist in this case unless he had been called upon by the Phra Raj Rong Muang. Her Britannic Majesty's Consul has persistently endeavoured to ignore the existence of the force under Captain Ames, and has shown himself ever ready and willing to lessen the respect in which Captain Ames should be held by his subordinates and the public, by forcing him to appear as defendant to answer trumpery charges preferred by perjured natives for alleged illegal acts, which acts are necessarily incidental to his anomalous position."

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are to the 31st May. The London mail of the 17th April arrived out on the 21st May.

H.M. steamer *Euryalus*, Admiral Kuper, arrived at Singapore on the 17th May, and on the 23rd Admiral King relieved the former as Commander-in-Chief of the China and Japan station, hoisting his flag as such on board his vessel the *Princess Royal*.

The *Euryalus* will return to Europe with Admiral Kuper, and the *Princess Royal* will proceed to China, calling possibly at Bangkok and Saigon by the way. H.M. steamer *Severn*, bearing the broad pendant of Commodore Montresor, left for Trincomalee on the 21st May.

H.M. steamer *Tamar*, Captain Stirling, from Mauritius and Natal, from which latter station she embarked the 11th Regiment, arrived on the 19th May and sailed for Hong Kong on the 23rd.

His Honour the Governor and suite returned from Malacca on the 20th May in the *Mohr*.

The United States frigate *Iroquois* anchored in the harbour on the 22nd May, after a cruise.

On paying a visit to the powder magazine at Kallang, the Deputy Commissioner of Police found 500 barrels of powder stored in an open shed, with a Chinese cooking his rice within a dozen feet of the same. On the 18th May, the proprietor of the magazine, Koo Chan, was fined 200 rupees by the sitting Magistrate, and the gunpowder was confiscated.

PENANG.

With the close of the Criminal Sessions we hope (remarks the *Gazette*) we have heard the last of the late Congsi riots. A tedious sessions has been prolonged by the vindictive, but, happily, absurd proceedings on the part of the Ghi Hin and To-Peh Kong Congsis. Not satisfied with the charges which they brought against some thirty-five or forty individuals at the February Sessions, and nearly all of whom were found innocent, they again invoked the assistance of the Court to aid them in their work of revenge. Each Congsi, after retaining a special Law Agent to prosecute or defend as the case may be, thought to obtain the mastery over the other, but in this they were foiled. The ridiculous nature of their proceedings was too evident to every observer. Some of their victims turned out to be decrepit old agriculturalists, whose very appearance ought to have been a sufficient guarantee against their engaging in any lawless riots. In every case the witnesses were enabled to prove in a graphic manner the whole scene of a riot, or the loot and burning of house and property. At the sound of horn and gleam of spears, the unhappy prosecutor fled in haste for his uncertain life; but his presence of mind always got the better of his terror, and just at the desirable distance he bethought himself of seeking a retreat under the ample shades of coffee or mangoostin trees or behind canes and plantains, whence he accurately noted down in his mind's eye every circumstance which took place so as at some future trial to be able to answer every question which the ingenuity of lawyers could devise. Not in one case did this happen but in a dozen, and three at least of such fearless observers were alloted to each case for the prosecution, so that every subsequent Congsi case was nothing more than a rehearsal of the same play. But the strongest fact which appeared in every case was that though the prisoners, their occupation, and abode had been well known to the prosecutor and his witnesses for years, yet no information was given against them till about a month after the occurrence, nor were they arrested for another month after the information, though the prisoners were frequently seen by the parties and the police during these intervals. It seems more likely that in every case the prosecutor and his witnesses fled at the first approach of some assailants, and never returned till his house had been ransacked and deserted, and that not till after he had cast about in vain for the likely parties did his Chinese instinct of revenge fasten on some innocent parties whom he knew to belong to the opposite Congsi.

From the north of the Province we learn that a good deal of rain has fallen, and some of the Malays have been tempted to commence paddy planting, the scarcity of rice probably inciting them to anticipate the regular paddy season. There has been an almost entire failure of the rice crop in Kedah, and the people are consequently suffering much from the scarcity of their staple article of food. Cholera has nearly quite disappeared; a great number of deaths have, however, occurred during the last few months, causing considerable alarm amongst the natives.

Another vessel, the barque *Snap Dragon*, was sold the other day to some Chinese merchants here for $17,500. This vessel was originally under the American flag, and has traded in the East for the last three years, but when the Confederate cruizers appeared in these waters, she, in common with many others of the same nation, was sold in Bangkok, and hoisted Siamese colours. She will make a very creditable addition to the ships already owned in Penang, and we are glad to see the Chinese merchants speculating in really good ships, instead of, as in former days, buying up old half-rotten craft, which will be continually requiring repair.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

BERRIEN—On the 22nd May, at Singapore, the wife of G. Berrien, of a son.
DALY—On the 28th June, at Wandsworth, Surrey, the wife of Robert Daly, Esq., of daughter.
LEWIN—On the 28th June, at Tynwald Lodge, Springfield-road, St. John's-wood, the wife of D. Duncan Lewin, Esq., formerly of China, of twin daughters.
WADMAN—On the 27th June, at Slaugham Park, Sussex, the wife of E. Wadman, Esq., of a daughter.
WALKER—On the 8th May, at Hong Kong, on board the British ship Arab Steed, the wife of Henry Fowler Walker, commander, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

BARKLEY—On the 7th May, at the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, Alexander J. Barkley, destitute seaman.
EHRESTENSEN—On the 7th May, at the Seaman's Hospital, Hong Kong, Hans Ehrestensen, seaman unemployed.
JOHNSON—On the 10th May, at Bangkok, of apoplexy, Capt. Johnson, Master of the Siamese ship Norseman; a native of England.
MOUL—On the 1st May, at Canton, Jessie Moul, aged 10 months.
O'RILEY—On the 6th May, at the village of Kamain, up the Attaran River, in the Amherst district, of fever, Edward O'Riley, Esq., Deputy-Commissioner Shoay Ghyeen, while employed as special commissioner for defining the boundary between British Burmah and Siam.
SOAMES—On the 26th April, on the passage from Hong Kong to Shanghai, after a short illness, Fanny Augusta Dickson Soames, aged 3 years and 7 months, daughter of Wm. Soames, commander, P. and O. Company.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	6s. 0¼d. to 6s. 0½d.	6s. 1d. to 6s. 2d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 4¼d.	4s. 5d. to 4s. 6d.
At Singapore	6 ditto		
At Manila	6 ditto		

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 299 to 300 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 216 to 217 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 10 per cent. prem. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 72 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 27 to 28 discount.

The circular of Sharp and Co. states:—

DISCOUNTS AND MORTGAGES.—As mentioned in our last the value of money generally may be said to range from five to eight per cent., according to time and character of security. Short discount five and mortgages eight per cent.

EXCHANGE.—There has again been a gradual decline during the fortnight, a great deficiency being observable in the supply of first class commercial paper; the remittances are therefore mainly composed of Bank drafts. The rupee rate, however, has not been similarly affected.

SHARES.—The new Bank Shares are still lower, Union Docks are rather in demand, probably owing to the concession which the company have obtained of land at Kowloon, their rental being $480, whereas the adjoining property of like demensions is held by private parties at a rental of $7,759, showing an annual saving of $7,279, or if capitalised at 5 per cent., a fair rate for landed property, an actual fund of $145,580, an amount more than covering the total outlay upon the docks, plant, stock, and goodwill at Whampoa, which in this sense may be said therefore to have been bought for nothing.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1864-65.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to April 30, 1865	2073123	53540287	45410256	453017	10436862	117913545	30719
Corresponding period last season	2285872	59818686	45933354	2257092	13596339	117191343	40432

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SHIPMENTS IN MAY.

Ship	From	
Emue (mail str.)	Shanghai, &c.	313

TO UNITED STATES.

From June 1 to April 30, 1865	15360969	Piculs. —
Corresponding period last season	22134596	—

TO THE CONTINENT.

From June 1 to April 30, 1865	968824	Bales. ...
Corresponding period last season	1332328	...

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

From June 1 to April 30, 1865	Tea pkgs 42320	Boxes. 112
Corresponding period last season	483936	64

TO AUSTRALIA.

From 1st June to 31st Jan., 1865	2,719,154 lbs.
Corresponding period last year	9,349,260 ,,

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	51,022,600	...
,, 1845 to 1846	57,334,200	18.60
,, 1850 to 1851	63,972,000	22.143
,, 1853 to 1854	77,327,800	61,280
,, 1855 to 1856	92,240,300	80,480
,, 1857 to 1858	76,990,255	68.31
,, 1858 to 1859	65,789,792	83,13
,, 1859 to 1860	35,560,452	64,16
,, 1860 to 1861	90,066,160	70,644
,, 1861 to 1862	109,854,040	79,199
,, 1862 to 1863	121,273,580	72,848
,, 1863 to 1864	117,463,586	46,605

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to April 30, 1865	345701	154	1793	7802	119	189

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to Jan. 31, 1865...	7662	—	—	720	325	1145

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Ponges Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to March 31, 1865	12000	1800	—	285	—	—

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to April, 30, 1865	2381	20398	100236	3697	5420	266380

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to April 30, 1865	224	1196	7794	6697	12240	—

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA—CANTON.—Country Greens: The market has at length opened by the settlement of a chop by an American house at 31 tls. proportion, which may be quoted fully 10 tls. lower than the teamen would have taken when the teas first arrived at market this season, and considerably lower than last year. Canton-made Teas: The market, after some apparent shyness on the part of intending buyers, opened at from 10 to 12 tls. higher for Scented Orange Pekoes, and 6 to 7 tls. for Scented Capers than last year, but equal to (in consequence of the low rate of exchange and freight) only 6 tls. for the former and 2 to 3 tls. for the latter; the quality of the leaf being also inferior, and 12,000 boxes Scented Orange Pekoe, with 18,000 boxes Scented Caper have been taken by two or three houses, which now leaves our market comparatively bare, in consequence of the paucity of flower to scent the leaf with. It is expected that a considerable decline on these opening rates will soon take place. Canton Greens: Have not attracted any attention as yet, and a small quantity only of these kinds are at present being made up, owing to the large quantity remaining over from last season. New make Tayshans from Macao are being taken at full rates for the finer descriptions, but the medium and lower grades are rather neglected. All Canton made Congous are being taken at full rates. The sales of fortnight are as follow:—Canton Congous, 3,700 boxes, at 29 to 36 taels; Scented Orange Pekoe, 12,000 boxes at 31 to 50 taels; Scented Caper, 18,000 boxes, 26 to 47 taels; Country Green, 624 half-clests, at 25 to 31 taels. The stock of Country Green is about 20,000 packages, that of other kinds being uncertain.

FOOCHOW.—The market being swept, there is no report.

SHANGHAI.—Black: There has been little done during the past fortnight, settlements only amounting to 50 half-chests; quotations remain unaltered. Settlements on the market 2 chops, 504 chests, Oopacks, Oonahms, Ningchows, Hohows, and Flowery Pekoe. Re-shipped on owner's account 1 chop, 600 chests Oopacks, Oonahms, Ningchows, Hohows, and Flowery Pekoe. 3 chops, 110 chests, making total to date 387,246 chests. Stock: Waiting shipment, for re-sale, 5 chops, 2,900 chests. We quote: Third crop Oopacks, none; Ningchows, 17 to 20 tls.; Oonahms, 15.50 to 20 tls.; Hohows, None. Green: There has been considerable business done in Green Teas for New York and Canada, arrivals from Kiukiang on native account having kept the market well supplied, and prices have ruled favourably to buyers, there being fully a fall of 1 tls. since our last. Common to fair Moyune having been freely settled at 25 to 28 tls., and fine to finest, 29 to 34 tls.

AMOY.—The stock noted in last report continues to attract little or no attention, and only a few trifling settlements are reported. Musters of the new Plain Orange Pekoes have been shown, and further musters representing specific parcels are expected in a few days. Prices in the country are reported to have opened at very moderate rates, and the teamen are displaying great caution, believing that to induce foreigners to operate a much lower range of rates must be established than has existed for many years past. The unsold stock is stated at 2,400 half-chests Oolong, and 76 half-chests Congou, which being refused, the season may be called closed, the export being 700,000 lb. in excess of last year.

NINGPO.—Contracts to the extent of 2,000 pls. are reported from the interior at 31 to 32 tls. deliverable in Shanghai, but as there is not much disposition to purchase, rates are expected to recede.

HANKOW.—During the past fortnight 1 chop of common coarse Oonam has been settled at 11.2 taels leaving only 1 chop which is of similar quality on the market. Total settlements to date 740 chops. Quotations nominal.

KEWKIANG.—Green Teas: Nearly 7,000 packages had been settled for United States and Canada at prices showing a decline of nearly two taels on common and one tael on fine teas. Supplies continued to arrive, but the shipments on native account were largely in excess of arrivals, and only 14,000 half-chests remained in stock. Quotations were—Moyune: Fine to finest, tls. 27 to 31; common to medium, tls. 22 to 26 per picul. Fychow: Medium to fair, tls. 21 to 25; common, tls. 18 to 20 per picul. Total Settlements and Shipments: 219,300 half-chests or 12,881,400 lbs., against 231,500 half-chests or 13,488,100 lbs. last year. Black Teas: In these there was again no business to report, and no change in quotations which remained—Ningchow: Common, tls. 16. Hohow: Common, tls. 12 per picul. Total Settlements and Shipments: 110,900 chests or 9,675,800 lbs., against 111,600 chests, or 9,739,500 lbs., last year.

NAGASAKI.—Is just now quite neglected, and prices have fallen about $2. The new season's leaf is expected to arrive in about forty days.

YOKOHAMA.—Since the departure of last mail a fair business has been transacted in our Tea Market; the settlements as before have been almost entirely for the American market; the almost unprecedentedly flat state of the Home markets having, as we previously stated, put at all events a temporary stop to the purchases at high rates for that quarter. Prices we must quote decidedly lower, with a tendency to a still further decline. Fine Teas are $0.50 to 1.00 per picul lower, while medium teas about $22.00 are fully $1.00 lower than at the date of our last. Settlements for the fortnight amount to about 1,200 piculs, leaving a stock of about 3,000 piculs.

RAW SILK—SHANGHAI.—Since our last we have very little business to report in this staple. The total settlements for the month of April, amount to about 100 bales Chinas, chiefly Sze-chuen silk lately arrived from Hankow, and about 1,000 bales Japan, making total settlements for the season 38,900 bales, against 37,900 at corresponding period last season. The total export of all kinds from China and Japan to date is 38,900 bales, against 37,900 last season. The unsold at stock is only about 150 bales. The prospects for the new season's crop are encouraging, and some native dealers estimate the probable production at as much as 60,000 bales. From Japan, advices to the 27th ult. report a quieter feeling and a decline in prices of $35 to $50 per picul, with an increasing stock.

YOKOHAMA.—For a few days after the departure of last mail steamer business was very flat, few buyers only being disposed to operate at the high prices that were still ruling. But since the receipt of the 27th February mail, the native dealers having submitted to a reduction of from $30 to 70 from the highest point, about 350 bales were settled, making a total for the season of 13,300 bales, against 14,300 at the time last year. The unsold stock on the market amounts to about 900 or 1,000 piculs, mostly composed of medium and coarse kinds, fine hank silk remaining scarce. To all appearance the approach of the new crop, and the fear of a further fall in prices, are strong incentives for the Japanese holders to bring their silk forward and press realisations. We therefore venture to hope that, if the foreign buyers do not spoil their own bargain by too much eagerness, we are at the beginning of a reaction in our favour. The Japanese are now anxious sellers; it will be our own fault if we throw away our chance. Ida: Medium, 680 to 700; inferior, 590 to 640. Mybash and Sinchu: Best parcels offering, 710 to 730; medium, 680 to 750; inferior, 650 to 670.

DRUGS, &c.—CANTON.—Cassia Lignea: Of the new crop only 200

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pls. Taiwo and 500 pls. Loting have as yet come to hand, but further and fuller supplies are expected in a few days—$15 75 is asked for the best quality and $14.75 for Loting, but it is expected that these rates will soon give way, the demand being very limited. Cassia Buds: 25 pls. have been taken at $48.50. Stock 30 pls. China Galls: The native demand has slackened of late, and larger parcels are offered to the export trade at the reduced rate of $14, but purchases might be made even cheaper. Vermilion has declined $1 per box, and may now be quoted $37.50. Musk: The market is bare, and the native demand being good, exporters can hardly expect to operate for some little time. Rhubarb: No supplies—no sales. Galangal: As last reported. Essential Oils: No supplies—no sales.

CAMPHOR.—Further supplies have come to hand, and owing to very favourable advices from the home markets by last mail a good demand for the article has existed, but buyers are not particularly anxious to submit to the higher prices asked by importers. 250 piculs sold at $20.75 per picul packed.

RAW COTTON.

HONG KONG.—There has continued a fair inquiry during the fortnight for local consumption. The supplies from the North have been small in quantity and indifferent in quality. The sales amount to about 5,000 bags at $22.50 to 24.50 for China, and $25.50 to $26 for Japan. The demand appears to be steady, and the quotation for fine is readily obtainable. A small quantity of Bengal cotton has been imported per Thunder, and full supplies are shortly expected thence.

AMOY.—Sales for the month from foreign hands amount to 2,167 bags at $25.10 to $28.50—quotations have since fallen to $25½ to $27 owing to the increased transit dues. Stock in foreign hands is stated at 1,750 bags, the native merchants holding quite as much.

SHANGHAI.—The business done has been chiefly for the coast ports, at about last mail's quotations say tls. 14 in for Shanghai, and tls. 14.50 to tls. 14.75, for Koong-pek. Nothing has been done for the home market.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—A decline equal to fully $15 per bale must be quoted in the value of this article, the demand for which continues extremely trifling, and even at the low rates now current is confined to the best qualities imported. The total sales for the past fortnight amount to 176 bales, and there are not any settlements reported from Canton or the Coast. Grey Shirtings: The quotations for all classes of these manufactures must be put at 10 cents lower than the rates last current, and a fair amount of settlements have been made at the reduced prices annexed. Sales of the fortnight amount to 9,500 pieces, and from Amoy we hear of settlements of 2,550 pieces, chiefly lbs. 8¼ goods, the quotation for which at that port is $5.75. White Shirtings: Show a decline in value equal to that sustained by unbleached goods, with settlements reported during the fortnight equal to 5,500 pieces. T-Cloths: Have found buyers at the reduced quotations given in this report to a considerable amount, and as the dealers have now supplied themselves pretty freely, the market closes somewhat weak, and to effect further sales in quantity a further concession would be necessary on the part of the importer. The settlements effected in this colony during the past fortnight amount to fully 18,000 pieces, Sales of 2,100 pieces are reported from Amoy at $3.30 to 3.45 for lbs. 6 to 6¾ goods. American Drills: No stocks, but sales of 2,000 pieces of drills of English manufacture are reported. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: There are not many sales of these goods to report, and prices remain nominally as quoted last month. Damasks: Meet with no inquiry. Chintzes: The sales reported during the fortnight amount to 450 pcs.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: Have not met with any very brisk enquiry, and rates remain without alteration. The sales reported consist of 120 pieces of Spanish Stripes and about a similar amount of Medium and Habit Cloths. Long Ells: Assorted colours are quoted as under date of last report, but Scarlet commands an advance of 15 to 20 cents per piece upon the price current a fortnight ago. The sales reported amount to 600 pieces. Camlets: Remain unchanged in value, and have found buyers to the extent of 300 pieces. Lastings: 200 pieces have been purchased.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: A fair average amount of business has been transacted in the various descriptions of Iron enumerated during the past fortnight, but the value of Nail Rod shows a decline of about 12 cents per picul upon the quotations previously current. The sales reported consist of 840 piculs of Nail Rod, 3,900 piculs of Square Flat and Round Bar, and 270 piculs of Iron Wire. Lead: Has met with but little attention, and sales are restricted to 840 piculs. Tin: Some 1,250 piculs have found buyers. Tin-Plates: The sales of the fortnight are estimated at 640 boxes. Steel: There are not any transactions to report.

COALS.—HONG KONG.—The demand for this article, anticipated in last report as likely to set in sooner or later, has come on more quickly than was expected. Stocks, although still heavy, are diminishing, which circumstance, added to the continued absence of arrivals, to the small quantity known to be afloat, and to some orders for shipment of Welsh to Shanghai, has tended to improve prices, and from $7.50, at which the last sale was effected, the market has suddenly risen to $11 to 11.25 for best Welsh or English in store or to arrive—at from $10 to 11.25 several cargoes have changed from the hands of importers into those of consumers. In Australian there has been nothing done since the sale of the Electra's cargo at $4.90, but the next cargo that arrives will, doubtless, realize a much better price.

SHANGHAI.—The speculative demand which we reported in our last has had the effect of clearing the market of most available lots of steam coal, and the stocks on the market in first hands are now much reduced. Stock for consumption having been well laid in during the time of the low prices, it is doubtful whether any advance upon present rates can be looked for. The rates at which sales have been made are: English steam coals taels 8.50 to taels 9. West Hartley to arrive at taels 8 per ton. Cardiff to arrive 57s. 6d. to 60s. Sterling per ton, payable by 6 mos.—sight bill on delivery. Recent arrivals of best Sydney have been placed at taels 8 to 8.25 per ton. Sales for arrival taels 8. American: Little doing; a few sales at taels 10 from Godown, but the bulk held for taels 11.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From London: Eliza Shaw, Eleanor. From Amsterdam: Marie, Yokohama.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: April 22, Guinevere; 30, Challenger. From Sunderland: 22, Ethel; May 1, Hesperia. From Falmouth: April 28, Lalla Rookh. From Cardiff: May 1, Sir W. Wallace; 13, Madge Wildfire. From Newport: 6, Vincenno Giaunilla. From Marseilles: 7, La Virerge.

At HONG KONG.—From London: May 4, Devanar; 14, Taiping. From Hamburg: 15, Dioscuren; 17, Princess; 18, Zanzibar. From Newcastle; 15, Paradise. From Bremen: 18, Rudolph. From Antwerp: Miranda.

At MANILA.—None.

At SINGAPORE.—From Liverpool: Jessie Beasley. From Cardiff: Agenaria.

At PENANG.—None.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—For London: Mirage.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: April 29, Cissy; for New York: 24, Marion; May 6, Eva.

From FOOCHOW.—None.

From HONG KONG.—For London: May 19, Banda; for New York: May 22, Recife.

From MANILA.—None.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: May 16, Clarendon, Martin Luther, and West; for Liverpool: 14, William Dixon; for Bordeaux: 6, Robur; for Bremenhaven: 10, Amazone.

From PENANG.—For London: April 26, Britannia.

VESSELS LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Dora.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: William Melhuish, Highflyer, Fire Queen. For Liverpool: Woosung.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: The Serica and Childers are waiting for the New Teas.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Pakwan, S. S. Annette, Burdwan, Blackburn, Northfleet. For Liverpool: Vanda.

At MANILA.—None.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Civiale, Zephiros, Bencleuch, Fortitude. For Liverpool: Richard Cobden. For Falmouth: Ida, Melbourne. For Bordeaux: Prophete. For Hamburg: Molly. For New York: Triton, Sea Ranger, Energie.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

YOKOHAMA.—To London, cotton and tea, £3 per ton; silk, £4. 10s. per ton of 50 cubic feet.

SHANGHAI.—Little or no inquiry exists for tonnage either for home or coast. Vessels on the berth for U.K. are loading slowly at £3.

HONG KONG and CANTON.—Small vessels to the northern ports alone can find employment; for large vessels no charters are to be obtained; the Pakwan and Northfleet are on the berth for London at £3.

MANILA.—The Raby Castle (English) has been taken up for Liverpool at £2 for unclayed sugar, and £4 per 20 cwt. for hemp; the sugar being loaded here, and the hemp in Cebu. The Vorsetzen (Ham.) has been fixed for Falmouth, to discharge at a port in the U.K., with about 500 tons unclayed sugar at £2 per 20 cwt.

At SINGAPORE.—Tonnage continues in abundance. Arrivals of disengaged ships have been numerous, and very little employment is offering for coast or home. The rates for U.K. are £1 per ton, £1. 10s. other dead weight, and £2 light freight.

At PENANG for LONDON.—Cargo is very scarce, particularly light freight. The Caroline has been compelled to reduce her rates to £2 per ton.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—April 20, Taiping, London to Hong Kong; 22, Scotland, Glasgow to Batavia; 25, Nheti Oeletei, London to Hong Kong; 28, Coral Nymph, Sunderland to Hong Kong; Amoy, Cardiff to Shanghai; 29, Fi-wan, Sunderland to Hong Kong; May 2, Banian, London to Hong Kong; Simoda, Liverpool to Shanghai; 3, Caractacus, London to Hong Kong; Dewa Gungadhur, London to Singapore; Invincible, Liverpool to Shanghai; 4, Cezard, Havre to Saigon.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—None.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—April 18, Indien, Manila to London; 21, Ocean, from Macao; 24, Philippine, Macao to London; Ouderk and Amstel, Batavia to Holland; Cesarea, Manila to Falmouth; Kier, Manila to Falmouth; 25, Agamemnon, Shanghai to Liverpool; May 4, Conference, Singapore to London; 11, Osprey, Manila to London.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—April 25, Wild Rover, Manila to Boston; May 1, Hazard, Manila to Boston.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—July 5, at Deal, from Shanghai, Benvenue; 6, at London, from Colombo, Teviot, Charlotte Ann, and Attila; 4, at Liverpool, from Singapore, Springwood; 6, at London, from Shanghai, Cornish Girl.

SPOKEN.—Robin Hood, Sunderland to Shanghai, May 30, 2 N., 29 W.; Tagal (Dut. barq.), China to Amsterdam, June 26, 43 N., 34 W.; China (Dut. barq.), Batavia to Amsterdam, June 30, 47 N., 21 W.

CASUALTIES.—The Etienne, Abeille, which sailed 28th May from Mauritius for Singapore, put back on the 1st June, leaky.

MISCELLANEOUS.—At Mauritius: May 20, from Sourabaya, Margaretha, Muller; June 4, from Singapore, Conference, Reid; 4, Shaftesbury (s.s.), Aitken, said for Singapore.

LAID ON.—At Liverpool, for Shanghai, Lockett.

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ALTERED CONDITION OF SHANGHAI.

SHANGHAI formerly received the well-deserved appellation of "The Model Settlement," *per se*, of all the foreign settlements in China. In those days trade flourished, merchants made their fortunes, residents bought land cheap, and built stately mansions on its mud soil, and great harmony prevailed among its motley community, who pursued theeven ten or of th ir way without governors and council to control, or judges and lawyers to dispute their acts. Although of nationalities and races differing from each other as much as cats and dogs, rabbits and monkies, or rats and mice, yet they associated together as peacefully as the famous "Happy Family" of the menagerie. Alas! those days have passed away. The dog is worrying the rat, the cat is pinching the mouse, and the monkey is pulling the rabbit by the ears. Everybody seems to be quarrelling with everybody else, and all are dissatisfied, more or less, with the Moloch they had set up to worship, and to govern their affairs by the administration of a *quasi* Municipal Council. Commerce is no longer flourishing, merchants are becoming bankrupt, a Supreme Court is being established, lawyers are flocking to that shrine of contention, foreign residents object to pay taxes which no authority has power to enforce, the necessary public works are abandoned for want of funds, and, generally, the "Model Settlement" is in sad case. The causes that have led to this altered condition of Shanghai are numerous, but that which immediately commands our attention is the unsatisfactory state of the Municipal Government, which is unable to cope with the pecuniary difficulties that surround it. On this head we have a partial explanation in the valedictory speech of Mr. HENRY W. DENT to the land-renters, on his resigning the office of Chairman to the so-called Municipal Council, in which the following occurs:—

"When times are prosperous and large fortunes made with "rapidity, men usually are far less prone to criticise the nature "of the taxes they have to contribute to, or even their amount. "Let, however, adversity come upon us, let commerce fail, let "property depreciate to a fearful extent, then different feel-"ings are awakened in the minds of tax-payers. Taxes which "heretofore have been found to yield a sufficient revenue, "gradually are becoming less productive. Hence new taxes "become a necessity, and with these the means of enforcing "them. This being one of the most important features in "municipal government, naturally leads to its consideration."

These trite remarks he illustrates by giving an historical sketch of the origin of the Council and the extent of its powers of self-government, as originally laid down by Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK in 1854, when he was British Consul at Shanghai. Without entering into details, we agree on the whole with Mr. DENT'S views as to the insufficiency of that institution at the present day, at the same time Sir RUTHERFORD deserves the highest encomiums for the plan on which he framed the Land Regulations, and the rules for guiding the Municipal Council. For seven years these met all the requirements of the settlement without a murmur, and it is only surprising how such a large and heterogeneous community could have been governed by so limited a code of laws and so slender an administration, for that length of time. As the circumstances under which the Council was formed out of the primitive "Committee of Roads and Jetties" was the growth of the settlement into a prosperous town, so the augmentation of that town into a great city or colony demands a new constitution. Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK is shortly returning to China in the well-earned capacity of Her MAJESTY'S MINISTER at the Court of Peking. Doubtless on his way to the capital he will call at Shanghai, where he will naturally inquire into the grievances of his bantling; and the time would be appropriate for the land-renters to set forth their views on the "Better Government of Shanghai" question. Three years ago this was the topic of the day, when the safety of the settlement was entrusted to the Defence Committee, to provide measures for its protection against the Taiping Rebels, which the Municipal Council had neither the means nor the power to initiate. That committee did its duty until the causes which brought it into existence had passed away; and before dissolving pointed out the absolute necessity of having some general system of government similar to that of the Free City of Hamburg. This idea, however, was not acceptable to the community; and any further attempt to raise the *locus standi* of the land-renters was quashed by the famous despatch of Sir FREDERICK BRUCE, wherein he considers them nothing more than squatters on Chinese territory, and the British settlement to have no legal existence. Be this as it may, the time is now at hand when something must be done to establish an efficient executive and legislative government at Shanghai. As to the Municipal Council, it is neither one thing nor another. It wants the vital power of all municipalities, namely, to sue and be sued; and hence it is not a corporation at all. It is a self-elected body under the *permissive* authority of the representatives of England, France, and the United States of America, *id est*, the joint act of a constitutional monarchy, an imperial despotism, and a republic. Such a heterogeneous authority is contrary to the laws of political economy, and will no more mingle than oil, water, and sand. It is this divided authority that renders the Council utterly powerless to enforce the payment of taxes. If it was under the jurisdiction of one treaty Power this could be done; as is the case at the British settlements of Hankow, Kewkiang, Tientsin and others, where none but British subjects are allowed to purchase or rent land. If Shanghai was a British settlement there would be an end of the difficulty, but it is not so, it is a "Foreign settlement," including what are called the English, French, and American concessions, according to the land and municipal regulations of July 1854, signed by ALCOCK, EDAN, and MURPHY, and the plenipotentiaries of their nations, together with TAOUTAI WOO on the part of the Chinese authorities.

Such being the case there is no possibility of forming a legal council unless the settlement is divided into separate concessions, the British having that which is commonly assigned to them. But since these regulations were passed, other Powers have ratified treaties with China, containing favoured-nation clauses; so that unless they agree to yield their privileges any of them can object to the participation of the foreign settlement. Perhaps Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK might persuade the Government at Peking to grant a concession, or possibly to have the land ceded; but that would be sure to raise the opposition of his colleagues, and cause endless negotiations, while the material improvement of Shanghai would go to wreck, and even the Chinese house-renters might refuse to pay taxes—which would be the death-blow to the bubble municipality. In that case what course would lie open for the British authorities to pursue? We know of only one, and that would be to abandon the foreign settlement altogether, and secure a concession from the Chinese Government of the land at Woosung, for British residents only, as at the Yangtsze open ports, where the Consuls have power to enforce the laws. Nay, more, if Sir RUTHERFORD were to represent that it was necessary for sanitary considerations to remove the forces from their present unhealthy locality to Woosung, where it is more salubrious, as in the annexation of the Kowloon shore to Hong Kong, it is just possible that the EMPEROR of CHINA would cede the land to Her MAJESTY. This would effectually solve the difficulty, as far as England is concerned, and with a railway to unite the new colony with the old settlement, Shanghai would be properly governed under the ægis of the glorious British Constitution.

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CHINESE OWNERS OF FOREIGN SHIPS.

AN important concession is stated to have been obtained by Mr. ROBERT HART, Inspector-General of H.I.M.'s Maritime Customs, from the Chinese Government, to the effect that natives may legally be the owners of foreign ships, and trade at any port in China under the protection of the national flag. Hitherto the Chinese ownership of foreign vessels has been restricted to a few lorchas and small steamers trading between the treaty ports, and into the silk districts near Shanghai and Ningpo. Although the property of native owners, yet these vessels are all commanded by foreigners, chiefly English and American; and although part or most of the crews are Chinese, yet the officers, engineers, and other responsible persons, are also foreigners. Moreover these vessels sail under foreign flags, mostly British and the United States. But, what is of chief consideration, the register of a ship owned by a Chinese was made out in the name of a foreigner, in whom the true owner had implicit confidence, as it was an illegal transaction. Be that as it may, hundreds of lorchas and small steamboats have been sailed under the British flag, by English captains and officers, and ostensible English owners; and, to their credit, we know of no instance where the confidence in their integrity by the *bona fide* Chinese owner has been broken. However, the principle is wrong, and tends to the demoralisation of British relations in China. On the other hand, a large fleet of native junks is owned by foreign merchants, who are allowed to sail them under their national flags by their respective consular authorities, although they are manned by Chinese masters and crews. These junks are used as cargo-boats and barges. The latter on the Yangtsze being towed by steamers sometimes from Hankow to Shanghai. It is well known that from time to time some of these steamers, lorchas, and junks have visited non-treaty ports for the purposes of trade, and penalties have been inflicted on the owners for so doing, in accordance with the treaty of Tientsin. By this new concession, these restrictions, as far as the native owners are concerned, will be done away with, and the Chinese owners of lorchas and steamboats may henceforth have the vessels registered at the foreign Customs in their own names. This is only a just concession to the enterprising Chinaman who has ventured his capital in improving the shipping interests and commerce of his native country. But when it is proposed to extend this ownership to vessels of the largest burthen, with power to trade at every port in the empire, it infringes on the rights of foreign traders, who are excluded from other than treaty ports. As the bulk of the merchant fleet in China is British, of course our interests will be materially affected by this concession; and it behoves everyone interested in the shipping with China to look seriously into the matter. The Imperial decree promulgating this measure has not yet reached us, consequently we cannot enter into details; neither have the Ministers and Consuls of the treaty Powers published any notifications on the question. However, sufficient has transpired to enable us to form an opinion on the general question.

We think it a measure that will not stand, as it is contrary to the policy that hitherto has raised the foreign trade of China to its present high development—especially as sustained by British merchants, whose true course is to encourage and promote what has already been so successfully done in the conveyance of merchandise and produce in British ships only, manned by British sailors and officers, and owned by British owners. Not only do the foreigners of other nationalities in these waters recognise the safety and security of cargoes in British bottoms, but the Chinese prefer shipping in them. And why so? Simply because the practical Chinese mind sees the advantage of insuring his property in a British ship, when he cannot do so in one owned by his countrymen, as there is no law of insurance in China, and foreign insurance companies will not insure cargo in vessels owned or manned by Chinese, even with foreign captains and officers. If we are not mistaken, the lorchas, steamers, and junks already referred to are neither insured nor the cargoes they carry, even though the ownership is ostensibly in foreign names; in the same manner that houses owned and tenanted by Chinese seldom or ever have an insurance effected on them. There is no doubt that the preference given by the Chinese shipper to foreign vessels, where time is a matter of importance, has been influenced by their superior speed and punctuality in reaching their ports of destination. But his chief consideration is the "can insure;" which he readily avails himself of, and cheerfully pays the premiums. Now, in the event of the wealthy Chinese investing in foreign ships, and native merchants shipping cargo in them, to trade between any of the immense number of ports in China, is it likely that the insurance companies would grant policies on either vessel or goods? We should say not, even if they were officered or manned by Englishmen or sailors of other nationalities. The insurance offices, by their regulations, have shown hitherto that they have no confidence in Chinese ownership of vessels or houses, or property on sea or land, under their charge; and we very much mistake their policy if in this instance they will extend their operations to native risks. On the contrary, it is probable that they may be more particular in future as to enforcing the rules laid down where a policy becomes vitiated. Under these circumstances it is not likely that even the Chinese will avail themselves of this new measure; and we presume that no foreign trader would risk his goods on board such vessels. At the same time, as far as legalising the ownership of vessels at present held clandestinely is concerned, Mr. HART has secured a boon to the Chinese, and relieved many foreigners of questionable titles, for which he is entitled to the thanks of the foreign communities in China.

CHINESE IMMIGRANTS.—The barque *Paria*, 103 days from Whampoa, arrived in the gulf on the 25th May, bringing 279 Chinese immigrants, viz., 190 men, 76 women, and 13 children. She had nine deaths on the voyage.

THE NEW SECRETARY FOR JAPAN.—We intimated in our last issue that Mr. Ford had been appointed to Japan. The following has since appeared in the *London Gazette*:—The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint Francis Clare Ford, Esq., now a Second Secretary in Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service, employed in Her Majesty's Embassy at Vienna, to be Secretary to Her Majesty's Legation in Japan.

THE DE MORNY SALE.

The auctioneer has distributed the late Duc de Morny's collection of pictures and curiosities to the four winds, and the widowed duchess and children will receive something like two millions of francs when all expenses are paid. The gross sum received was 2,023,937 francs, of which the pictures produced more than three-fourths. The curiosities realised 324,737 francs. It is with the latter that we have to do; the amounts paid for the pictures have been reported in all the journals in Europe.

As regards the curiosities, of which a large proportion consisted of Chinese, Japanese and other Oriental productions, scraps of information have appeared in the London daily and other papers, but the value of these may be estimated from the fact that the French journalist originated a mass of errors which have been copied with more or less fidelity with the blindest confidence on all hands. As instances of these blunders, we may mention a crystal cup which sold for 1,260 francs, set down at 12,600 francs, a jade ornament marked 2,300 instead of 1,010 francs, another at 1,505 in place of 900 francs, two vases at 4,000 instead of 1,600 francs, and two bowls at 770 in place of 170 francs. If information is worth anything at all it is worth while to give it accurately, and therefore we have taken the trouble to obtain the prices at which the principal articles were sold from the official documents, and it will be seen, as we have stated on former occasions, that Paris is not a bad market for Chinese and Japanese curiosities.

The most important items in the section of *cloisonnes*, or incised enamels, were the following, the prices being given in sterling money, and odd shillings being omitted. Bronze Monster seated and holding an oval disc of white jade, carved and pierced with dragons and flowers and surrounded by two long branches of flowers in enamel, £60. Two fine perfume burners in sea-green and blue enamels, with dragon handles in gilt bronze, £144. Flat box with cover, eight inches in diameter and four inches high, enamelled in medallions, containing landscapes with figures, the heads of the latter being in gilt bronze and standing out from the surface, £160. Perfume burner on three feet, round and about fifteen inches high, in turquoise enamel with ornaments in relief, £59. A large gourd-shaped vase with two handles covered with flowers in coloured enamels on blue ground, £92. Two square screens about fifteen inches square, enamelled flowers on blue ground, in carved and pierced wood stand, £112. Two enamelled pictures, 28 inches by 16, representing a river with junks in eagle wood frames, decorated with bronze, £45. Two square perfume burners, about sixteen inches high, enamelled with dragons and ornaments, standing on four heads of monsters in bronze with dragon handles, £75. Square vase decorated with mountain scenery in coloured enamels, £62. Round perfume burner with decorations on blue enamel ground, monster handles in gilt bronze, supported on a kneeling elephant in gilt bronze, altogether under nine inches high, £66. Pagoda, sixteen inches high, gilt bronze and coloured enamels, £52.

There were a dozen or more articles in rock crystal of European and Oriental workmanship; a richly ornamented cup of the time of Louis XV., sold for £139, and a fabulous bird, ornamented with precious stones, an Italian work of the sixteenth century, £240. A small upright vase not six inches high, of Chinese origin, with elephant head handles and loose rings, all worked out of the crystal, with engraved figures and dragon on the cover, £84.

Half-a-dozen incrusted jade vases and boxes of Persian workmanship, fetched nearly £800.

The other works in jade amounted to more than sixty in number. A round cup with cover, about four inches high and 6 inches in diameter in milk-white jade carved and pierced, fetched £41. Two perfume burners in the same

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material and style, but of smaller dimensions, £100. Two pairs of small plain bowls on a tray in white jade, each marked with Chinese characters, each pair, £32. Flower-shaped cup in white jade with gilt and enamelled handle, about two inches high, £22. Fine circular cup with bats and monsters for handles, and cover with four ring handles, decorated with engraved flowers, white jade, £54. Two square screens, 10 inches by 6, white jade carved, on an enamelled stand, £45. Circular vase in white jade surrounded by a woman's hand, with flowers, and birds with rings in their beaks, with cover surmounted by a divinity, a very curious work, little more than eight inches high, £42. Screen in emerald green jade carved landscape with river, and junks on gilt bronze stand, 8 inches by 5, £40. Monster with small vase on his back, green jade, with very ancient inscription, 7 inches high, £52. Pair of spherical boxes with trees and birds cut in relief, green jade with carved medallions in white jade, inserted, 8 inches by 9, £90. Upright vase and cover in green jade with handles and wings, with landscape engraved and gilt, and a long inscription in Chinese, 14 inches high, £112. Cup and cover, spherical with flattened sides, carved and pierced, green jade with inlets of white jade, four ring handles, 14 inches high, £60.

The porcelain includes some fine pieces. Two old China vases, baluster shaped, with covers, and decorated with flowers on a white ground, brought from the Palace of the Escurial, 45 inches high. £400; pair of square vases, old china, birds and flowers on a white ground, 16 inches high, £64; bottle, old china, clouds, birds, and ornaments in blue and copper colour, 27 inches high, £22; Pitong, old turquoise china, 14 inches high, £54; pair of parrots in old turquoise, on violet coloured rockwork, £44; vase, with figures and ornaments in relief and sunk colours on blue ground, ancient and curious, mounted on a bronze stand of the time of Louis XVI., 16 inches high, £42; baluster shaped vase, in old grey crackling china, with flowers and ornaments in relief, with gilt bronze handles and mounting, 16 inches high, £44. These are but a few of the most important items.

The Chinese and Japanese bronzes were numerous, but less remarkable than the enamels and china. Two vases in the shape of open mouthed trumpets, in Japanese bronze, encrusted with silver, with leaf shaped handles, 16 inches high and 15 wide at the top, £57; teapot and heater, the latter in bronze, with handles, and decorated with flowers and ornaments in silver, the former in white metal, chased and gilt, with handle formed of birds, Chinese, £22; tazza, with butterflies in relief, encrusted with silver and gold, with gilt heads of monsters for handles, £40.

The lacquer works were numerous and good. Chiffoniere cabinet, with figures of Japanese, flowers, &c., in gold, and mountings in Tonquin bronze gilt, £54; pair of candlesticks in eagle wood, carved and lacquered, and decorated with tortoises and insects in gold and silver, £42.

Amongst the ornaments was a mandarin's necklace, composed of beads of lapis lazuli and coral, with pendants in rose and ruby coloured crystal, and mounted in gold, £47. A pendant with amulet in carved cornaline, green jade rings and three large pearls, £71; and a massive gold box with filigree ornaments, surmounted by a monster's head carved in turquoise, and containing a bronze figure of a divinity, from the Summer Palace, £58. Two mosaic pictures, one representing a landscape, and executed in mother o' pearl and coloured stones on a black ground, the other trees and flowers on a salmon coloured ground, £19; two cups and covers in Indian tortoiseshell, with decorations in gold, £36.

The ornamental furniture included four square stools in black lacquer, with incrustations of flowers and ornaments, of Chinese manufacture, £23. Two small round tables, carved and pieced with inlet porcelain tablets representing the fete of flowers, £76. Two small cabinets, with drawers, in carved soap stone, on wooden stands decorated with flowers, £123. Small cabinet in carved eagle wood, and decorated with figures in white jade inlaid with bronze, £18.

MALPRACTICES OF BANK OFFICERS IN THE EAST.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—Your issue of April 17th, containing an extract on the above, has just come to hand, and I hasten to avail myself of your permission to reply to it through your columns, desiring on behalf of myself and *confreres* to repudiate the insinuations so lavishly and so undeservedly cast upon us.

With respect to the privilege of obtaining *sight* drafts on London, at the rate of exchange granted to the public on *six months'* sight paper, one might imagine from the tone of the writer that this was abused to an alarming and dangerous extent. Now, one who has succeeded in procuring so much information regarding the *strictly private* arrangements existing between the leading banks and their foreign staff, cannot be ignorant that the latter are rigidly forbidden to enter upon any speculative or trading operations whatever, on their own account. Whether this salutary regulation is closely adhered to, or if it is occasionally evaded, I am not in a position to say, but the shareholder in question may rest assured that the sending home of large remittances by sight drafts would most infallibly lead to the offender's detection and consequent dismissal were the latter the case. Writing from a tolerably wide experience, I have no hesitation in saying that the privilege is *never* made use of except in the case of family remittance, and I am much mistaken if the general body of shareholders is disposed to grumble at this slight boon being granted to such of their employés as have relatives to support in England.

The second ground of complaint is the allowance of interest at the rate of *six* per cent. per annum upon our current deposit account balances; and how much loss does this entail on the poor shareholders, I wonder? The rule, I believe, was originally established for the purpose of fostering a spirit of economy among the junior officials, but were the balances of the whole Eastern staff taken in the aggregate, I question if the average amount of the credit of each individual would represent more than *a month's salary!* I quite agree with the writer in his recommendation that "ledger-keepers" and "clerks" should be prohibited from keeping current deposit accounts with the establishments they serve, seeing that Eurasian and other native hands have of late so grossly decerved their employers; but were such a want of confidence as the imposition of this regulation would imply shown to a European bank officer, he would resent the insult by immediate resignation.

The insinuation that bank officials abroad are paid "ridiculously higher than they are worth," must have been made in ignorance of the fact that the leading establishment in the East has lost the whole of its Bombay staff (from the agent down to the junior assistant accountants) within the past eighteen months, they having procured more lucrative situations elsewhere, which testifies that the enterprising inhabitants of that city are of a different and more appreciative opinion, at any rate. In trading language, the market value of banking experience has risen considerably within the last few years; neither is this surprising when one reflects upon the enormous competition now prevailing, in the face of which the older establishments will do wisely to pause before they give heed to such insinuations as have been quoted above. An efficient foreign establishment is the best surety for a lucrative business, and this can only be maintained by a liberal scale of salaries.—Yours truly,

* * * * May 19, 1865. ONE OF THEM.

WOOSUNG FOR THE PORT OF SHANGHAI.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—Having read with much interest the letter of "Free Trade," in the last impression of your journal, and considering the vast importance of the question, not only to the community of Shanghai but to the commercial world at large, I trust you will allow me space in your columns for a few observations, which a residence of some years in the "Model Settlement" may justify me in asking.

In my mind—which I am happy to say is not biassed by any shares in steam tugs, or uninhabited native dwellings in the settlements or their suburbs—there are very great doubts whether the transfer of the anchorage to the mouth of the Wongpu would be any advantage to the prosperity of the commerce at Shanghai, or saving in risk to vessels visiting that port. No doubt the ignorance complained of by "Free Trade" on the part of the Municipal Council in the bunding opposite the settlement, and the irregular construction of the jetties, thereby narrowing the channel at Pootung point, and making that elbow of the river more difficult to navigate, are great drawbacks to the present anchorage; but they are not insurmountable difficulties, and with the present works to commence from, a combination between the French and English councils to preserve an even river frontage, and regulate the length and construction of the jetties, would, I am sure, soon remedy the present evils. To transfer the anchorage to Woosung, I consider, would be a very questionable advantage even in the case of the river steamers transferring their cargoes of produce to the homeward-bound ships there, and so saving a river navigation of some 28 miles up and down, as this would entail a staff of clerks and native officials on the part of each firm, the establishment of a branch Custom-house, and the same risks that have been encountered at Shanghai of bunding the banks of the river, erecting jetties or wharves, or excavating, as your correspondent suggests, docks. To add to these difficulties it would not always be required or practicable to tranship produce at Woosung, for a deal of it arrives unprepared for the voyage home or intended for the Shanghai market; and where the agents of steamers would make no allowance for the 14 miles less distance, consignees would not care to incur the expense and risk of the railway transit to the settlement, and the attending removals and knocking about of packages; and from the past experience of pilfering in shipment homewards, I think it very unlikely that firms would care to trust their goods to a staff of natives, in whatever capacity, so far from their own supervision, or to encourage public Godowns or embark in private ones, with their extensive accommodation at Shanghai doomed to lie idle.

Again arises the question—would the river at Woosung be a safer or more commodious anchorage than the present one at Shanghai? I think most assuredly not, for below the bar the channel is narrow, and would not provide room for a third of the tonnage which assembles in the port in the south-west monsoon; while if the vessels had to cross the bar they might as well proceed to Shanghai at once, for then the greater part of the risk of navigation would be over; and I think it very doubtful whether much space available for moorings could be found in the broad expanse of water above the bar, which, if I remember right, is very shallow except on the left or channel side of the river; and I don't think that that accommodation would be much improved by interferring with the banks by bunding or wharves, which it is very likely would even be attended with worse results than at Shanghai, as the narrowing of the stream might only deepen the present bar at the cost of a much more dangerous one at the conflux of the two rivers, and the extension of the middle ground, now I believe worthy of the name of Gough Island.

In conclusion, Sir, it is my humble opinion, from the arguments I have given above, that it would be a great mistake to attempt to make Woosung the port of Shanghai, as when a terrific outlay of money had been expended the advantages might, and, I think would, be found to rest with the present anchorage. Then why incur such risk? A deal of money, it is true, has been squandered over the present settlement, but with it what is necessary has been obtained, and the experience should teach us that it would be folly to throw away more on an unnecessary scheme. Woosung as a Sanatorium, is a very different thing to "Woosung as the port of Shanghai;" and in the former capacity I should be glad to hear of it connected with the settlement by a good inland road, by means of which the *elite* of Shanghai could drive or ride out on a Saturday evening to enjoy a little pure air at their marine villas, and escape from the nauseous effluvia which have taken possession of the concession, since cupidity converted it from a healthy "model settlement" to a native settlement of sickness, filth, and vice.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

MERCATOR.

London, July 6, 1865.

Legal.

RE THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, AND JAPAN (LIMITED) AND THE COMPANIES' ACT, 1862.

This was a motion to rectify the register of this company by striking thereout the name of Mr. J. B. Higgs, of 22, Change-alley, Cornhill, merchant, who was by the register represented to have been a shareholder

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in respect of 50 shares, which became forfeited on the 29th May last. The case turned upon the construction of the 161st section of the Companies' Act. On the 22nd April, 1864, the Joint-Stock Imperial Bank of China, India, and Japan was registered, and Mr. Higgs became a shareholder therein. Shortly afterwards the Imperial Bank proposed to amalgamate with that of Hindustan, which had been registered in 1862. In August, 1864, the terms of amalgamation were published, by which 20,000 new shares, of £100 each, of the Bank of Hindustan were to be issued to the holders of 20,000 shares of £50 each, in the Imperial Bank. The issue was to be at a premium of £6 per share, of which £5 was to be placed to the reserve fund of the united bank. Sundry general meetings of shareholders were held, and it was eventually, in effect, agreed that the liquidators of the Imperial Bank were to be authorised to receive, in compensation for the property of the Imperial Bank, shares in the Bank of Hindustan upon certain terms; and that if any member should dissent, in writing, from this arrangement within seven days from that meeting, and should require the liquidators to purchase his interest, the liquidators should raise the purchase-money to be so paid to such dissentient member by sale of shares in the Bank of Hindustan, which otherwise would have been allotted to such dissentient member. Mr. Higgs did not attend these meetings, nor assent to the resolutions, nor express dissent within the seven days. He received a circular from the secretary, informing him he was entitled to the allotment of fifty shares, and enclosing a form of application for them. Mr. Higgs did not return the former, as directed; nearly a year's delay occurred, the shares fell in value, and he eventually declined to take these shares. Meanwhile, Mr. Higgs's name had been entered on the register as a shareholder for fifty shares. The bank from time to time applied for calls on these shares, and, in consequence of their non-payment, the shares were declared forfeited. This motion was made under the 35th section of the Act of 1862. The company contended that full authority had been given to the directors to amalgamate; and that the resolutions, carried by a sufficient majority of the shareholders of the company, must be binding on individuals like Mr. Higgs, when his authority to the directors had been once given.

His Honour held that Mr. Higgs had never surrendered his option of accepting or refusing those shares; that he had been abroad, and on his return had immediately refused them. He must be struck off the list accordingly. Costs against the company.

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA V. PETO AND OTHERS.

This case raised an important question of mercantile law, relating to the right and title to receive goods imported from abroad and warehoused at the docks, and the liability of the dock companies for making or withholding delivery. It was an action against Sir Samuel Morton Peto and Mr. Brassey, lessees of the Victoria Dock Company, to recover the value of eighty-two boxes of tea, which had been delivered by the Dock Company, as was said, to the wrong parties. The defendants denied their liability.

Mr. Field, Q.C., and Mr. Archibald were for the plaintiffs; Mr. Bovill, Q.C., and Mr. Watkin Williams were for the defendants.

The action was to recover the value of 82 boxes of tea alleged to be the property of the bank, being 82 out of 331 boxes of tea shipped to Messrs. Maltby and Co., of Shanghai, on board the ship *Millbrook*, the bills of lading of which were held by the bank as endorsees for value, and which 82 boxes were not delivered to the bank by the defendants, at whose docks the tea was warehoused. One Bradley, a merchant carrying on business in London, was an extensive importer of tea from the East, which he was in the habit of warehousing in the defendants' docks. In July, 1864, the *Millbrook* arrived in the port of London from Nagasaki, with a cargo of tea, of which Bradley was consignee and owner. The teas were shipped by Maltby and Co., of Shanghai, for account of Messrs. Rothwell and Co., of that place, agents for Bradley. The bills of lading imported that the teas were shipped by Maltby and Co., and consigned to order, and they bore the "open," or "blank" endorsement of Maltby and Co. The firm of Rothwell and Co. drew upon Bradley for the amount of the invoice, and these draughts attached to the bills of lading were negotiated with the plaintiffs, the Chartered Mercantile Bank, in the usual way, and so the bank were holders of the bills of lading. It appears that business of this character is very largely transacted by the banks, and it is usual, it was said, for the banks to give notice on the arrival of goods thus hypothecated to them to the various dock companies. The ship in this instance arrived on the 23rd July, and no notice was given to the dock company, it will be seen, until the month of October. On the other hand, it was said that it is the custom at docks and warehouses in London not to deliver up goods coming from the East except on production of the bills of lading. And it was not denied that this was the custom with the older docks; but the defendants, when they opened the Victoria Docks ten years ago, established the following rule:—

"Bills of lading, or other satisfactory proof of ownership, must be produced in all cases before goods can be delivered to any party claiming the same."

But this, it was suggested, could not be intended to apply to cases where the party who had deposited the goods demanded them back. And moreover, it was suggested that this rule was intended only to apply to cases where vessels were entered and discharged at the docks on the delivery by the master of a copy of the ship's "manifest," in which case the dock company, or their lessees, the defendants, assume the duty of correct delivery of the goods, and for their own protection give notice that they will not deliver any goods to parties claiming them except upon production of bills of lading or other proof of ownership. This, however, it was insisted was a very different case, as it was a case not of the discharge of the ship by the master at the defendants' docks, and then of a claim to the goods by some third party, but it was the case of goods entered at the docks by a party and delivered to his order. In the present instance the teas were discharged at the St. Katharine's Docks, and were afterwards, on an entry by Bradley at the Custom-house, transferred by him to the defendants' docks, the Victoria, where they were entered under the name of Bradley as owner, and the defendants, from time to time, upon his orders, made deliveries of different portions of the tea—to the amount of the 82 boxes—to various parties. On the 27th of October, 1864, the defendants received notice from the bank that the bank held the bills of lading of the whole cargo as collateral security, on an hypothecation of the cargo, against bills of exchange not yet paid, and which had been discounted by the bank, and desiring the defendants not to deliver any part of the cargo, except upon production of the bills of lading. Thereupon the defendants stopped further delivery of the teas to the order of Bradley; but the question was as to the 82 boxes already delivered, and which were formally demanded on the part of the present plaintiffs, the bank, upon production of the bills of lading which Maltby and and Co., the consigners, had endorsed to them and which Bradley had never had. The question was whether the defendants' delivery of those 82 boxes to Bradley's order, without demanding production of bills of lading, was wrongful. The defendants contended that as they received the teas from Bradley they were bound to deliver to his order at all events until notice of the title of any other party. The bank contended that the defendants should have demanded production of bills of lading as proof of Bradley's title. It was found that the question—the facts not being in dispute—was one of law, and after the statement of the case—in substance to the above effect—by the plaintiffs' counsel, the defendants' counsel not disputing it, the Lord Chief Justice suggested that the question of law should be reserved for the Court upon the facts as thus stated; and the counsel on both sides assenting to that course, he accordingly directed a formal verdict for the plaintiff for £358, subject to a special case.

Literature.

Adventures Among the Dyaks of Borneo; by FREDERICK BOYLE, F.R.G.S.: Hurst and Blackett.—This interesting volume is just the book of travels suited to the season of the sea-side. From the first page to the last it is full of incident and novelty, without sensational excitement on the one hand, or heavy science and learned disquisition on the other. What was the object of the author and his brother in visiting Borneo it is difficult to discover. Commerce and trade are but casually noticed, unless indeed an exception is made with regard to the Borneo Company, of the extent of whose operations and the hospitality of their officers we hear a great deal. If the purpose of the travellers was sport, the account given does not say much for their perseverance and spirit; nor does the island appear to afford variety and abundance of game sufficient to keep up the ardour of a Briton's love for the chase. Borneo, or at least the neighbourhood of Sarawak, to which the writer's explorations were confined, does not yield the nobler and more terrible beasts that afford employment for the hunter's rifle or spear in regions of the East not so distant from England. The "batang" roads, too, of the impenetrable jungle are such that "no Englishman can ever overcome his natural feeling of giddiness"—for they are carried as the crow flies, over river, abyss, and morass, up hill and through valley—"so far as to encounter them when any other means of reaching his destination presents itself." Communication with the interior is in fact almost wholly carried on by means of the rivers; which, it is true, abound with alligators, brutes on whom the marksman little cares to waste his powder and shot. The purpose for the journey alleged late in the volume must, we conceive, have been an afterthought, formed when in Borneo:—

The great object we had in view—that of being the first white men to traverse Borneo from Sarawak to Pontianak—was put out of the question by the failure of the Kyans, through whose territory our journey lay, to ratify peace with the Rajah. If the ambassadors of that numerous people had come to Kennowit according to agreement, and fulfilled the antique ceremonies of friendship, rendering their country moderately safe to enter, we had hoped by ascending the Upper Rejang to its source, then traversing a tract of jungle, to reach a large lake of the interior, from which descends the river of Pontianak. . . . Though this expedition was prohibited by such unfortunate circumstances, we had hitherto made an active use of our time. We had visited every fort and station of the Sarawak territory, and had probably seen more of the outward aspect of the country than any other European connected with it. We had visited both the Land and Sea Dyaks in their own homes, and had made acquaintance with some of their most celebrated chiefs. If, by ill-fortune, the main object of our voyage had failed, at least our travels had introduced us to most of the points of interest in a kingdom whose history in connection with Rajah Brooke has been the most romantic story of modern times. And, therefore, since we regarded ourselves as mere wanderers, neither scientific nor anthropological, we decided that, our curiosity being already satisfied by the experiences of four months, nothing more remained for us to do in this country than to take our passage in the *Rainbow*, and return to England.

It will be seen from the extracts that, without making extraordinary pretensions, these "Adventures" carry the reader into a part of the world with which he is but little acquainted, and thence that every circumstance attending them, however trifling, has the merit of novelty told in an easy and unfatiguing style. At times Mr. Boyle's more ambitious flights

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betray him into utterances that might as well have been avoided. When we are told that the Singapore "community is naturally addicted to gin and grumbling," we detect that the love of alliteration has led the author into an unjust and rude attack upon a body of residents by whom, he admits, "the traveller is sure to be hospitably received." Many curious facts in natural history are to be gathered from this volume, some of which deserve further inquiry. Is it true that the fibres of the tuba-root, tied round the feet, are a protection against sharks in the open sea? Neither are we sure that we should be disposed to handle a scorpion carelessly aboard ship from the assertion that "it has been frequently proved in the Far East that the most venomous reptiles lose all power of injury after a few days at sea." Not the least enjoyable portions of the book are the author's pictures of native life, of which he is able to give a minute detail, having lived freely among some of the chiefs, who appear to be a set of jolly dogs greatly addicted to one of the articles mentioned in the alliterative sentence given above. Mr. Boyle speaks in very laudatory terms of the treatment and accommodation he experienced on board the steamers of the "Messageries Imperiales," and very disparagingly of those of the P. and O. Company, who should take warning and look to their laurels.

Monetary and Commercial.

There has been no change in the rate of the Bank's discount, which remains at 3 per cent. As we have continued to impress on our readers, we have not seen the last of the failures in the China trade. During the past fortnight the old firm of Scott, Bell, and Co. have been endeavouring to get sufficient assistance to carry them over their engagements, but on the 6th inst. their formal suspension was announced, with liabilities for about £800,000. In 1847 the firm suspended, but subsequently paid 20s. Mr. Peter Bell has for some time been chairman of the City Bank.

The suspension has been announced of Messrs. John T. Bell and Co., in the Bombay trade, with liabilities for £380,000. Also of C. J. Nasmyth and Co., East India trade, with liabilities for £65,000.

It has been notified that the interest and responsibility of Mr. James White and Mr. James Mackrill Smith in the firm of White and Co., Shanghai, has ceased. Also that the interest of Mr. Frederick Grant White and Mr. Herbert Smith in the London firm of Mackrill, Smith, and Co., has ceased.

An adjourned meeting of the creditors of Messrs. Buchanan, Hamilton, and Co., of Glasgow, in the East India and China trade was held on the 3rd inst., when it was decided to accept a composition of 12s. 6d. in the pound, subject to confirmation at a meeting to be held in September, by which time accounts with regard to the position of the Shanghai house are expected to be received here.

The Agra and Masterman's Bank has received authority to divide their £100 shares into £50 each, with £25 paid. By this arrangement the old and new shares form a uniform capital of 60,000 shares of £50 each with £25 paid, and as such they will in future be quoted in our share list.

A call of £5 is to be paid on the 20,000 new shares in the Bank of Hindustan, China, and Japan (Limited) by the 12th of July. The third call, making £25 per share, will become due on the 12th of October next.

The Nowgong Tea Company have declared a dividend of 10 per cent. per annum, and the Borokai 8 per cent.

The biddings for £250,000 in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were—to Calcutta, £174,100; to Madras, £3,500; and to Bombay, £66,000. The *minimum* price was, as before, 1s. 10½d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 10¾d. on Bombay. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at and above 1s. 11⅛d., and on Bombay at and above 2s., will receive in full. These results show some increase in the demand for means of remittance to India.

The Board of Trade Returns for May, compared with those of the corresponding month of last year, show a falling off of £981,882, or about 7 per cent., in the declared value of our shipments. Compared with the corresponding month of 1863, however, they show an increase of £1,910,469, or 17 per cent. The total declared values of Exports for the month ending 31st May in the present year is £13,194,758, against £14,176,640 in 1864, and £11,281,289 in 1863, which is a decrease as compared with the former period of £981,822, but an increase over the latter of £1,910,469. For the five months of the present year the total is £60,901,576, against £64,069,060 in 1864, and £50,742,670 in 1863, showing a decline of £3,167,484 as contrasted with 1864, but an increase of no less than £10,158,906 over 1863. The reduction from last year is almost entirely caused by the fall in the price of cotton and other important staples, and not by any diminution of employment—a fact illustrated by the circumstance that, while there has been a falling off of 2½ per cent. in the value of our shipments of cotton yarns, and of 10 per cent. in those of cotton manufactures, the quantity of yarns shipped shows an increase of 11 per cent., and of manufactured goods an increase of 8 per cent. The general trade of the month presents no very striking features of alteration. Among the principal articles in which there has been an increase of exportation are coal, earthenware, and machinery, and among those which figure for a decrease are haberdashery, hardwares, linens, woollens, and metals. As respects our trade with the Far East, these returns present results as follows:—

EXPORTS TO CHINA AND HONG KONG.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
For the Month ended 31st May.			
Cotton yarn	121,520	266,400	236,800 lbs.
Cotton manufactures	6,455,026	11,513,490	9,138,293 yds.
Worsted stuffs	1,023,188	1,550,922	1,003,619 ,,
Woollen and worsted cloths	202,435	208,780	149,292 ,,
Lead	1,798	1,493	66 tons
Value for the Five Months ended 31st May.			
Cotton yarn	£37,027	£97,423	£77,425
Cotton manufactures	387,622	835,699	1,026,543
Worsted stuffs	229,807	326,397	499,583
Woollen and worsted cloths	142,660	126,208	113,829
Lead	150,838	77,567	20,404

The Cotton Manufactures exported to other ports and countries of the Far East were in quantity for the month, and in value for the five months, as follows:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity for the Month ended 31st May.			
Ceylon	2,358,762	360,550	1,505,233 yds.
Singapore	2,639,069	1,582,764	3,261,635 ,,
Java	2,808,053	3,722,803	5,033,109 ,,
Philippine Islands	—	4,651,404	6,042,350 ,,
Value for the Five Months ended 31st May.			
Ceylon	£111,265	£184,011	£114,130
Singapore	170,682	420,378	431,443
Java	100,948	326,344	247,885
Philippine Islands	77,242	286,059	330,701

Of Cotton Yarn, the quantity forwarded to Singapore in the month of May was 37,520 lbs., against 43,008 lbs. last year, and 185,776 lbs. in 1863. To Ceylon 34,750 lbs. was sent in May, against 9,500 lbs. in 1864, and 45,000 lbs. in 1863. The value of the export to Singapore for the five months is £64,447, in 1865, against £58,126 in the year preceding, and £55,906 in 1863; to Ceylon, £6,090 in 1865, £11,030 in 1864, and £18,800 in 1863.

IMPORTS.

Of Raw Cotton the import begins to show a diminution, as regards the total from all countries—more marked if the single month is considered than if the five months are embraced:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity for the month ended 31st May.			
British India	310,157	472,508	290,381 cwts.
China	31,750	90,046	63,677 ,,
All parts	472,865	997,244	611,653 ,,
Quantity for the Five Months ended 31st May.			
British India	962,524	1,247,875	925,891 cwts.
China	68,613	300,164	206,495 ,,
All parts	1,676,491	2,756,664	2,637,022 ,,
Value for the Four Months ended 30th April.			
British India	£4,840,520	£7,211,413	£3,363,542
China	254,064	1,806,422	683,514
All parts	9,932,891	18,472,061	13,967,469

Of Unrefined Sugar, the quantity imported from Java and the Philippine Islands during May was 17,283 cwt., all of the 4th quality. The quantity for the five months, and value for the four months, is thus represented:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity for the Five Months ended 31st May.			
Of all qualities (cwts.)	463,329	65,075	339,307
Value for the Four Months ended 30th April.			
Of all qualities	£335,421	£42,959	£318,821

Of Hemp the quantity imported from the Philippine Islands was 14,160 cwt., and the quantity and value are reported as follows:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity to 31st May (cwts.)	122,397	58,334	89,985
Value to 30th April	£84,536	£79,568	£103,708

Ceylon delivered to us 6,764,065 lbs. of Raw Coffee in the month of May, and the quantity and value for the relative periods is thus returned:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity to 31st May (lbs.)	21,327,449	23,365,001	22,114,380
Value to 30th April	£567,020	£562,689	£526,591

The Declared Value of the British and Irish Produce and Manufactures Exported during the first four months of the three years to the ports and countries named is represented by the amounts set against each:—

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To	Exports for the Four Months ended 30th April. 1863.	1864.	1865.
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)	£647,326	£849,444	£1,229,303
Hong Kong	318,997	476,430	485,569
Singapore and the Eastern Straits	310,899	579,837	598,046
Ceylon	164,469	313,760	172,755
Netherlands India	72,931	314,280	209,485
Philippine Islands	125,169	213,587	280,365
Siam	1,374	11,253	3,614
Japan	37,146	79,205	412,927

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Jun.26	Cowes	Hong Kong	Kite	Blanc.
— 26	Deal	Macao	Lochnagar	Cuester.
— 24	Falmouth	Maulmain	Northland	Howard.
— 25	Deal	Singapore	Norval	Taylor.
— 23	Liverpool	China	Lockett	Topham.
— 24	London	Colombo	Ethereal	Anderson.
— 18	Cadiz	Manila	Perla	De Hormaza.
—	Off the Wight	Batavia	Quartet	Mulder.
— 27	Liverpool	Shanghai	Constance	Wilis.
— 25	Off Dungeness	Java	Ortelius	Groote.
May25	Trinidad	Canton	Paria	Nichol.
Jun.30	London	Colombo, &c.	Venetia	Bowen.
—	Off Folkestone	Sourabaya	Reflect	Ross.
— 28	Off the Lizard	Colombo	City of Manchester	Mairhead.
— 30	Falmouth	Akyab	Europa	Hansen.
July 1	Do.	Do.	Jorgen Bruhn	Krabbe.
Jun.28	Off the Land's End	Hong Kong	Hindostan	Anderson.
July 1	Off Falmouth	Singapore	Blonhm	Jespersen.
— 2	London	Colombo	Seafield	Dough.
— 3	Do.	Japan	Agnes Holt	Taylor.
— 2	Deal	Singapore	Hawthorn	Windworn.
— 3	Do.	Japan	Diana	Toel.
Jun.30	Falmouth	Akyab	Michiels Loos	Parmentier.
July 1	Off Falmouth	Manila	Madura	Schmidt.
— 3	Liverpool	Shanghai	Carrizel	Lay.
Jun.17	New York	Foo-chow-Foo	Queen of the Seas	Ro-s.
July 3	Falmouth	Manila	Oliver Cromwell	Balmano.
— 3	Do.	Java	Adelaide	Cock.
— 3	Off Falmouth	Do.	Mauritius	Holtz.
— 4	Liverpool	Rangoon	Sardinian	
— 4	Deal	Colombo	La Plata	Blair.
	Off Dartmouth	Do.	Charlotte Ann	
—	Do.	Do.	Feviot	
—	Plymouth	Singapore	Arab	
— 4	Off Falmouth	Maulmain	Clara	Talkey.
— 4	Liverpool	Singapore	Springwood	Smith.
—	Gironde	Hong Kong	Jeane d'Arc	Bedex.
— 5	Deal	China	Stanley	
— 4	Falmouth	Hong Kong	Fidelio	Schultz.
— 4	Do.	Manila	Kestrel	Fischer.
— 4	Do.	Maulmain	Mazatlan	Jeffery.
— 2	Off Beachy Head	Sourabaya	Jeannette & Cornelia	
— 5	Falmouth	Singapore	Georg Heinrich	Schmidt.
— 4	Liverpool	Manila	C. S. Lemon	Campbell.
— 3	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	Nederland & Orange	Bouwmeester.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Jun.17	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Presdt. v. Ryckevorsel	Vogelsang.
— 22	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Clara Morse	Laurance.
— 22	Do.	Singapore	Jacobus Cornelius	Jansen.
— 23	Cardiff	Manila	Herbert	Cook.
— 19	Cadiz	Do.	Magallanos	Le Lecertua.
— 19	Hamburg	Singapore	Tek Li	Kier.
— 28	London	Sunderland & China	Belle	Wagman.
— 27	Cardiff	Galle	Blandina Dudley	Barron.
May15	Callao	Hong Kong	Providencia	Naltini.
Jun.29	London	Manila	Manila	De Alcatena.
— 30	Do.	Singapore & Bankok	May Queen	Gilfillan.
July 1	Do.	Sunderland & Galle	Cornelie David	Harme.
Jun. 1	Rio Janeiro	Batavia	Roland	Wiegmann.
— 19	St. Vincent	Japan	Japan (s.)	Bell.
— 25	Rotterdam	Singapore	Neerlandsch Vlay	Humfrey.
July 2	Newport	Galle	Annie Boyleston	Peterson.
Jun.29	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Agincourt	Harvey.
July 1	Do.	Galle	Tantivy	Tulloch.
— 1	Do.	Do.	Falcon	Luscombe.
— 1	Liverpool	Shanghai	Sailor's Home	Bryant.
— 1	Do.	Singapore	Norah Greame	Bake.
— 5	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Ladye Love	Deery.
— 5	Do.	Colombo & Cochin	Eaglet	Ginder.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Chanticleer. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Scindia. For Shanghai: Laurel, Jubilee, Anglo Saxon, Dilkhoosh. For Hong Kong and Canton: Sydney Eggers, Crest of the Wave. For Singapore and Penang: Bride. For Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius, and Batavia: Konig Willem III. For Colombo: Crixea, Thames. For Colombo and Cochin: Star of the Mersey, John Bunyan.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Shanghai: Aerolite. For Singapore: Carn Tual. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Bulgersteyn. For Manila: Cinco Hermanos, Aureliana, San Luis. For Penang: Avery. For Ceylon: Star of Devon.

At GLASGOW.—For Japan: Fusi Yama. For Manila, Iloilo, and Zebu: Anastasia. For Singapore and Penang: Foam. For Cape of Good Hope, Singapore, and Hong Kong: Japan (s.). For Ceylon and Madras; Thomas Mitchell, Queen of Trumps.

At GREENOCK.—For Hong Kong and Canton: Ariel.

At NEW YORK.—For Shanghai: Horatio. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Anna Kimball. For Hong Kong: Benefactress. For Hong Kong and Singapore: Harmon.

At BOSTON.—For Hong Kong: Santee.

SPOKEN.

LOTUS (Dan. ship), Singapore to Gibraltar, June 15, 29 N., 41 W.
GLENCLUNE, London to Shanghai, May 1, 28 N., 19 W.
NAPOLEON III., for Shanghai, May 15, 2 S., 27 W.
HAAKON ADELSTEEN, London to Singapore, May 13, 3 N., 22 W.
ELIZA THORNTON (barq.), off the Isle of Trinidad.
WATERLOO, from Colombo, 120 days out, June 12, 49 N., 7 W.
COSMOPOLIET (Dut. barq.), Rotterdam to Batavia, May 7, lat. 17, lon. 34.
HARKAWAY, Sunderland to Japan, April 30, 2 S., 29 W.
BALTIMORE, Amsterdam to Batavia, April 27, 24 S., 32 W.
SUSANNA JOHANNA, Sourabaya to Rotterdam, June 25, 48 N., 12 W.
DIANA (Swed. barq.), Hong Kong to New York, May 11, 28 S., 8 E.
HOLLINSIDE (ship), Colombo to London, May 7, 36 S., 21 E.
ZEPHYR (Dut. barq.), Rotterdam to Batavia, May 24, 4 N., 23 W.
BARON HAMBRO, Sourabaya to Rottm., 85 days out, May 22, 14 S., 9 W.
GEN. VAN DER BECK (Dt. s.), Cardiff to Singapore, June 2, 5 N., 25 W.
CICERONE, Hg. Kg. to Portsmouth (with troops), June 3, 31 N., 46 W.
OCEAAN, Batavia to Amsterdam, 49 N., 9 W.
EMILE (Fch. brig.), Singapore to Belle Isle, May 6, 28 S., 8 E.
ELLWOOD WALTER (barq.), Colombo to London, May 12, 2 S., 2 E.
ALHAMBRA, Manila to New York, April 22, 33 S., 30 E.
ELIZABETH ANN, Sunderland to Galle, June 3, 7 N., 25 W.
ROBT. AND ALEXANDER, Sunderland to Galle, May 31, 5 N., 24 W.
JACOBA CHRISTIANA (Dt. bq.), Sourabaya to Amstm., May 30, 2 N., 24 W.
SPIRIT OF TRADE, Shanghai to London, May 1, 35 S., 20 E.
MATHILDA (brig), from Shanghai, June 1, 6 N., 21 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

In outward freights we have but to confirm our last advices, and our lastest advices from the East report no improvement as to homeward charters.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 35s. weight or measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £38 and 37s. 6d. to 40s. For Shanghai: £43 to to £44 and 47s. 6d. to 50s. For Manila: £34s. to 35s. For Batavia: 24s. to 26s. For Singapore: £24 to £25 and 25s. to 26s. For Galle: £29 and £1. 5s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 142 tons naval stores from the river Thames to Hong Kong, and for the conveyance of 35 tons naval stores, including a few combustibles, from the river Thames to Trincomalee.

CASUALTIES.

Advices from Nieuwe Diep, dated the 16th June, state that on the previous evening a strong smell of fire was noticed on board the Batavia (ship) v. Dolder, bound from Amsterdam for Yokohama, whilst lying in port ready for sea; she was examined by surveyors, but no cause for the same being discovered, she sailed the following day for her destination, when a smell of fire again was noticed. She consequently put back to Nieuwe Diep, and her whole cargo will be discharged in order to ascertain the cause of this smell. Later advices from Amsterdam, under date June 22, state that after discharging two lighters of her cargo, some new ropes were discovered in a smouldering burning condition. Researches are being made, but the vessel will not be able to proceed for eight days.

The Reflect, from Java for Amsterdam, which was spoken with in lat. 27 S., lon. 8 E., reported that, during a gale off Mauritius, she lost her top-gallant-masts.

TRINIDAD, June 7.—The Paria, Nicol, which arrived here from Canton, May 25, reports that on the 30th March, in lat. 19 S., lon. 86 E., she fell in with a portion of the poop or housedeck of a vessel, apparently not long in the water, and with the dead body of a man lashed to it.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

Master Attendant's Office, Colombo,
April 1st, 1865.

In consequence of several groups of rocks having been lately discovered in Sillavatorre Bay, to the S. Westward of the village of Sillavatorre, with from 2 to 6 feet water over them, the positions of which have not been accurately fixed as yet, vessels bound to that port from the southward are recommended to stand in for Kallar, when bearing East, until the Doric bears North; they may then stand to the northward, bringing the Doric to bear N. ½-W. when abreast of Condatchey.

(Signed) JAMES DONNAN, Master Attendant.

Messrs. A. Stephen and Sons launched on the 27th ult., from their building-yard at Kelvinhaugh, a composite sailing barque, named the Fusiyama, of 630 tons, and 14 A 1 at Lloyd's. The vessel is for London owners, and is to be employed in the Japan trade.

A ship named the John Milton, of 800 tons O.M., and to class 14 years, was launched recently from the yard of Mr. Clark, at Jersey. This vessel has been built for Joshua Le Bailly, Esq., and is intended for the China and India trade.

The first vessel of the mercantile marine which has obtained the Admiralty warrant to enable her to fly the blue ensign is the Golden Fleece, of London, 2,768 tons, and 500-horse power, commanded by Lieutenant R. W. Ker, of the Royal Naval Reserve, and owned by the East India and London Shipping Company (Limited).

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PORT OF AMOY.

SHIPOWNERS, AGENTS and COMMANDERS are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING and SPARRING VESSELS, and for CLEANING and PAINTING Iron and Steam Ships.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, is in complete working order, and at average spring tides can take vessels drawing 16 to 17 feet water. The Dock is fitted with a Caisson Gate and with a Centrifugal Steam Pump of great power ensuring despatch in all states of the tide. An ample stock is kept on hand of Timber, Oregon Spars, Sheathing Copper and Yellow Metal, and of every description of material for Dockyard use.

The premises comprise an Engineer's Workshop, Brass Foundry, a large Smithy and Carpenter's Workshops, and the works are superintended by Resident Europeans, viz., a Shipwright, an Engineer, and a Blacksmith. Dry Godowns for the reception of vessel's stores, &c., when requiring to discharge them.

Amoy, March, 1865.

THE AGRA and MASTERMAN'S BANK (Limited).

(Established in 1833.)

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up Capi £1,500,000 (one million and a-half sterling).

Subscribed Capital, £3,000,000 (three millions sterling).

In 20,000 Shares of £100 each, and 20,000 Shares of £50 each.

Number of Shareholders, 908.

Reserved Fund, £500,000.

HEAD OFFICE.
Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

GEORGE GORDON MACPHERSON, Esq., Chairman.
Alderman THOMAS QUESTED FINNIS, Deputy Chairman.

GENERAL MANAGER.
Mackintosh Balfour, Esq.

LONDON MANAGER.
William Shipman, Esq.

ASSISTANT MANAGER.
T. F. Robinson, Esq.

INSPECTOR OF BRANCHES.
Richard Barnes, Esq.

AUDITORS.
J. H. Williams, Esq., and William Farr, Esq., F.R.S.

SOLICITORS.
Messrs. Uptons, Johnson, and Upton, 20, Austinfriars.

EDINBURGH BRANCH.
17, St. Andrew-square.

DIRECTORS.
THOMAS RANKIN, Esq., 68, Queen-street, Chairman.
Daniel Ainslie, Esq., 48, Moray-place.
Benjamin Burt, Esq., M.D., 31, Charlotte-square.
George Moir, Esq., Advocate, Sheriff of Stirlingshire, 14, Charlotte-square.

MANAGER.
Robert Hunter, Esq

Branches in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee' Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Sydney, Melbourne.

Current accounts of firms and individuals are kept at the head office, on the terms customary with London bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received at seven days' notice of withdrawal, at rates fluctuating with those of the Bank of England; and for longer periods at fixed rates, particulars of which may be obtained upon application.

Sales and purchases effected in British and foreign securities, in East India stock and loans, and army, navy and civil pay and pensions realised.

Every other description of banking business and money agency, at home and abroad, transacted.

Letters of credit and circular notes issued, payable at the chief cities of Europe and Asia, and also at Cairo and Alexandria.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

BANKERS.
The Bank of England.

The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)

Branches and Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo Kandy, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Point de Galle, Manila, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow, Nagasaki, and Kiu-kiang.

Deposits received at ten days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed period, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued and Bills negotiated payable in India China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government loan notes effected so that the interest may be paid in England. Every other description of Banking and Agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.—

Incorporated by Royal Charter. Authorised Capital, £2,000,000. Paid-up Capital, £500,000.

Head Office—No. 4, Lombard-street.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Melbourne.

The Corporation grant drafts and negotiate bills of exchange payable at the above places, issue letters of credit, and conduct every description of banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian securities, the receipt of dividends, &c. and undertake the safe custody of securities. They also receive deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of interest and exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

TO MERCHANTS AND SHIPPERS OF HARDWARE, MACHINERY, &C.

GEORGE PETTIT & SON,

COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

MANUFACTURERS & GENERAL AGENTS,

97 AND 98, SUFFOLK-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

ESTABLISHED 1820.

TUPPER AND COMPANY.

MANUFACTURERS OF PATENT GALVANISED IRON, in Sheets, Tiles, Iron Roofs Sheds, Cisterns, Pails, Gutters, Wire for Fencing, &c.

WORKS AT BIRMINGHAM AND LONDON.

OFFICES: 61A, MOORGATE STREET, LONDON.

Merchants' orders executed with despatch.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up capital, £750,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

Bombay.	Colombo.	Penang.	Hong Kong.	Yokohama
Calcutta.	Kandy.		Shanghai.	
Madras.	Galle.	Singapore.	Hankow.	Mauritius

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at the places above mentioned, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the Overland Route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office in London.

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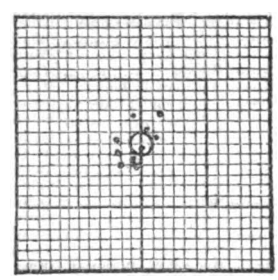

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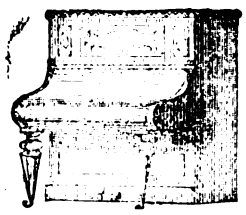

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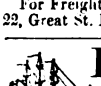

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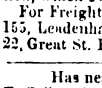

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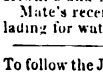

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BEG to inform SHIPMASTERS that their Schooners DANIEL WEBSTER and A. J. WESTERWELT will be found at the OUTSIDE PILOT STATION on the YANG-TZE-KEANG, with thoroughly qualified PILOTS on board. The schooners distinguishable by being painted white, and having the word Pilot on the mainsail.

To regular traders the undersigned are known to be among the oldest and best Pilots on the River:—

DANIEL MARTIN.	JOSEPH SHERMAN.
ALEXANDER SMITH.	JOSEPH CARGILL.
JOHN COATES.	JOHN KURSH.
EDWARD BRAND.	

THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 179.] LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 17, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 1s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London This Day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	March 10		May 18
Nagasaki			„ 19
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			1
Tien-tsin			„ 2
Chefoo			„ 18
New-chwang			„ 21
Hankow			„ 15
Kiu-kiang			„ 18
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	March 26	May 12	23
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 25
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	April 19	„ 29	„ 30
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	March 27	„ 12	„ 23
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			
SIAM— Bangkok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
AVA—			
Batavia			June 2
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	April 26	„ 30	„ 7
Penang	„ „	„ 28	„ 9

The Persian Gulf Cable is injured, and the communication with Galle interrupted.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, per P. and O. steamer Poonah, arrived at Marseilles July 14.—From Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie, Mr. Gavin. From Hong Kong: Mr. Newton, Capt. Gerrard, Mr. and Mrs. Wright, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Dubost and child, and one second-class passenger. From Singapore: Mr. Dircks.

To Southampton, per Nyanza, expected to arrive July 22.—From Shanghai: Mrs. Moller and infant and two second-class passengers. From Hong Kong: Col. and Mrs. Moody, two children, and European servant, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Forbes, Mr. G. Liddell, and three second-class passengers. From Singapore: Mrs. Smith, four children, and native servant, Mr. R. H. Hawes, Mr. Watson, and one second-class passenger. From Penang: Mrs. Mitchell.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, July 20.—To Hong Kong: Staff-Commander Thain, R.N., Mr. R. S. Syer, Mr. and Mrs. Davies, Mr. and Mrs. Manning, Dr. R. Bernard, R.N. To Shanghai: Mr. Scheidt. To Ceylon: Rev. G. Middleton, Mr. A. C. Hoare, Maj.-Gen. Hodgson, Lieut.-Col. Young, Capt. Napier, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Brown and infant. To Singapore: Mr. E. J. Smith. From Marseilles, July 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. S. Fyfe, Mr. J. Troncoso, Mr. I. A. Tuton. To Singapore: Mr. Hoffmann. To Shanghai: Mr. E. B. Drew, Mr. R. Geller. From Suez.—To Shanghai: Mr. M. Archer Shee, jun.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Aug. 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Rennie. To Ceylon: Mr. G. Studdart. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. W. Hulse. To Singapore: Mr. Leveson.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Aug. 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. H. P. M'Clatchie, Mr. M. O'Brien. To Hong Kong: Mrs. Tomlin, Mrs. Emilius Hughes. To Ceylon: Mr. F. M. Evans, Mr. E. W. H. Holdsworth. From Marseilles, Aug. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Davidson. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. M'Lean.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Sept. 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. W. Foster. Mr. W. Gaskell. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Fitzroy. From Marseilles, Sept. 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Davidson, Rev. J. S. and Mrs. Burdon. To Shanghai: Mr. R. J. Forrest, Mr. Herbert and friend. To Galle: Mr. W. Hudson. From Suez.—To Shanghai: Sir Rutherford and Lady Alcock and Miss Alcock.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Sept. 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. Henderson. To Ceylon: Mrs. Claughton.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Dates from this port are to the 18th May. The London mail of March 10th had arrived out.

The accounts now received confirm the intelligence that the Government had arrested and conveyed to Yedo a Yakonin named Samouvai, who had boasted that he had assassinated some Europeans at Yokohama. When under examination at Yedo, however, no such admission was elicited from him, but it is surmised that he may have been one of the murderers of Lieut. Camus, or of the two English officers lately assassinated.

It is generally known, although it has not been officially notified, that the Home Governments have left their respective representatives in Japan at liberty to settle the affair of the opening of new ports as they may think best. The representatives of England, France, America and Holland have therefore entered into special negotiations with the Japanese Government, and the immediate result has been the officially notified intention of the Japanese to postpone the opening of any new port until due time, and to pay a sum of $3,000,000 as indemnity for the expenses of the Inland Sea expedition.

The following paragraph, taken from the *Japan Herald*, would seem to indicate that the turf mania, which has of late somewhat abated in Shanghai, is on the increase at Yokohama. We trust, however, that betting, or more properly speaking gambling transactions of this nature will not be carried to the same extent, or attended with such disastrous results, as they have been at the former place:—"This morning the long talked of match (for $1,000) between Mr. M.'s Chinese pony Rat, and Mr. S.'s Japanese pony Batavia, came off at a very early hour. Course, round the New Road, from the first hill above the creek to the 20th's Barracks. A fair start was made, and the two went away freely, Rat taking an early lead, and at the crest of the first hill above Mississippi Bay, he was about half-a-dozen lengths a-head; here Batavia fell, giving an easy victory to Rat. Time thirteen minutes; distance estimated at four miles and three-quarters."

The following is the market report from this place:—

EXPORTS.—TEA.—During the past fortnight we have to report an active business, and prices have been maintained. Settlements about 2,200 piculs, leaving a stock of about 2,600 to 3,000 piculs. New teas are expected to arrive early in June. Quotations are: Good common, $14.50 to 17.00; medium, $19.00 to 22.00; good medium to fine, $22.50 to 27.50; finest, $32.00 to 38.00.

COTTON.—No business to report.

SILK.—An active business has been done during the past fortnight. Settlements about 1,200 bales, making a total for the season of 14,500 bales, against 14,800 same time last year. Prices have experienced little variation. Unsold stock about 650 piculs, and further arrivals are expected to come down freely from the country. Quotations are: Ida, medium, $680 to 700; inferior, $590 to 640: Mybash and Sinchu, best parcels offering, $700 to 720; medium, $680 to 690; inferior, $650 to 670.

From Nagasaki we have dates to the 19th May, but no news of interest.

CHINA.

PEKING.

A letter from Tientsin contains the following further information regarding the most remarkable event that has lately occurred in China, the sudden disgrace of Prince Kung, and his equally sudden restoration only a week later.

The Chinese Censorship, instituted with the view of ensuring the safety of the Dynasty and the efficiency of the Government, consists of a body of forty censors, who have the power of calling for an inquiry into the conduct of any official whom they may suspect of improper conduct. So high indeed is the nature

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of their office, that they are even permitted to reprove the Emperor when he does wrong. Several of these censors combined to accuse Prince Kung of embezzling money intended for the use of the army; of disrespectful conduct towards the young Emperor; and of sowing dissension between certain exalted personages. Peking was astonished to hear early in April that this notable Prince was deposed from his offices. The members of the Cabinet were told that, being now without their President, they must the more diligently transact their business. The Foreign-office was consigned to Wen Siang. Duties connected with the palace, formerly discharged by Prince Kung, were distributed among his one elder and three younger brothers. The Presidency of the Astronomical Tribunal and the Board of Physicians was declared vacant.

This startling news was conveyed to all the Provinces by the daily press—in the form of those little yellow-covered pamphlets which constitute the *Peking Gazette*. Curiosity and wonder were excited. The question was asked,—who were the unmentioned personages between whom dissension had been sown? What was the meaning of this dim allusion which the Emperor's decree said could not be further inquired into? The ready answer was, the two Empresses; the Empress-Dowager in the eastern palace, and the Empress-Mother in the western. Perhaps it is as well not to inquire too minutely into the nature of the differences that existed between these august ladies.

Days passed on, and the Court was found to be dull. The well-known figure of the young Prince did not appear at the daily morning assemblage of grandees and statesmen in the presence of the boy of eleven years old who is called Son of Heaven. The absence of his business habits and able management was palpably felt. What secret influence induced his brothers to speak for him we know not. Whether it was a self-prompted feeling, or whether it came from the offended, but now relenting ladies before alluded to, we cannot tell. Suffice it to say that they gave their names as guarantee for his good conduct, and it was at once decided to recall him to his position.

Prince Kung has been taught a lesson, has kept his riches, has been punished for his indiscretion, been disgraced before the empire, and suddenly reinstated in the possession of the reins of power. The yellow stitched pamphlets will tell the empire to its remotest parts that he is an avaricious and unscrupulous man, but one necessary to the Government, in which his position for the remaining six years of the Emperor's minority is probably more secure than it was before these events occurred.

SHANGHAI.

The dates are down to the 23rd of May, or five days later than per French mail for which we published on the 7th inst. The items of news are scant. We take from the *Friend of China* the following:—"Mr. and Madame Simonsen gave their fourth concert at the Lyceum Theatre on Wednesday evening last to a large and fashionable audience, among whom we were delighted to see a number of ladies, for, after all, what is a concert or any other attempt at enjoyment without the presence of ladies? Madame Simonsen, in the grand cavatina from Lucia de Lammermoor and Meyerbeer's complaint from the Prophet, added greatly and deservedly to the high reputation she has obtained in Shanghai. She was several times encored during the evening, replying on each occasion with one of those home ditties we all so love to hear, and she so exquisitely renders. Her rich voice was in perfect tone, clear, pure, and full; while her execution was effective and faultless. Martin Simonsen's fantasia on 'La fille du Regiment' and the Carnival of Venice, were enthusiastically received. He was loudly encored, and gave some favourite airs with variations. His perfect mastery of the violin is unquestionable, and his talents as a musician, apart from mechanism, are evidently of a very high order."

The following account of the meeting of the new Council is from the same paper:—

Present:—W. Keswick, chairman; J. Hogg, T. Hanbury, J. C. Coutts, N. Latimer, W. Probst, R. F. Gould, secretary.

The members chosen to serve on the Municipal Council for the year 1865-6, assembled at the Council-room for the transaction of general business.

Messrs. Dent, Antrobus, and Heinsen, of the late Council, were also present.

The police force was inspected, and after a short speech from the Chairman of the retiring Council, was dismissed.

1. The minutes of the last meeting read, confirmed, and signed.

2. The members of Council for 1864-5 then retired. It was moved by Mr. Councillor Hogg, and seconded by Mr. Councillor Coutts, and resolved unanimously—

3. That Mr. Councillor Keswick be elected chairman of this Council for the year 1865-6.

4. The municipal engineer was then introduced to the Board, and informed that the public works committee would confer with him respecting the management of his department.

5. The secretary read a draft of proposed standing orders.

Resolved,—That the Standing Orders just read be adopted.

6. It was moved by the Chairman, seconded and

Resolved,—That the following members of Council be appointed to serve on the finance, rate, and appeal committees for the current year, viz., Councillors Hogg and Hanbury.

Resolved,—6. That the following Members of Council be appointed to serve on the public works committee for the current year, viz., Councillors Hanbury, Probst, and Nye.

8. That the following members of Council be appointed to serve on the match committee for the current year, viz., Councillors Coutts, Latimer and Hogg.

9. It was moved by Mr. Councillor Hogg, seconded, and

Resolved,—That a communication be addressed to H.B.M.'s Consul requesting him to submit the Budget to H.E. the Toutai, and obtain his assent to it, as far as it bears upon Chinese subjects, also that his Excellency be requested to increase the sum charged in commutation of native wharfage dues, to 15,000 taels, and the Council trust that H.B.M.'s Consul will urgently second this proposal.

10. It was moved by Mr. Councillor Latimer, seconded, and

Resolved,—That the finance, rate and appeal-committee be authorised to communicate with H.B.M.'s Consul, with reference to his obtaining powers for the enforcement of municipal taxation.

Resolved,—That the Council do now adjourn.

W. KESWICK, Chairman.

The following items are from the *Recorder*:—

Rebels and bands of disorderly "braves" are causing trouble in all directions. A force of some 8,000 Imperialist troops threw over their allegiance, looted the town of Kinkon, and declared their intention of marching upon Hankow, from which it seems they were only deterred by hearing of the presence of foreign gunboats. At Kiukiang similar disturbances have taken place. A large body of braves, who have revolted on account of the non-payment of their wages, have declared their determination to join the rebel ranks, and were within fifty miles of Kiukiang. Volunteer movements were inaugurated, and Mr. White, late of the S.V.C., was elected Captain, Mr. Paterson Lieutenant. The unsettled aspect of affairs has called public attention to the question of the withdrawal of the military forces, and a general feeling exists against such a measure.

The subject of the P. and O. steamers' moorings has again called forth public attention, and the notices which appeared in the papers are such as show, in a manner not to be mistaken, the general feeling of the public that they ought to have the advantage of being able to go on board the mail steamers from a wharf instead of having to go down to them in sampans.

At the first meeting of the new Municipal Council, they appointed separate committees to attend to the different departments. These consist of the finance, rate and appeal committee, the public works committee and the watch committee. This is a decidedly desirable innovation and it is to be hoped that it will conduce to a more successful administration of municipal matters than we have yet been able to record.

The election of Sir Harry Parkes (says the *Recorder*) as Commandant of the Shanghai Volunteers, will, we doubt not, meet with the unanimous approval of the community. It is essential that the gentleman occupying that post should be an influential and popular man; and above all that he should be one who will not spare himself trouble in the discharge of the duties which fall to him. All these qualifications are pre-eminently combined in Sir Harry Parkes. His personal influence and popularity do not make him more conspicuous than the well-known energy with which he has always devoted himself to the public service and to the furtherance of all objects likely to be beneficial to Shanghai. Amidst his onerous duties, judicial and diplomatic, while deciding lawsuits and writing despatches, Sir Harry has still found time to preside over meetings of the Asiatic Society; to take the chair at volunteer meetings; and in fact to interest himself in every movement of importance, which has taken place.

His co-operation as commandant of the Volunteer Corps will be in every way conducive to the success of the movement. What is wanted in public men in Shanghai is not more talent (though in that respect all who know Sir Harry will think him well qualified for the post alluded to), but more energy. Most men are here only for a short time. Their utmost exertions for the public good are likely to be rewarded only by a transitory popularity, and hence has resulted a spiri of indifference as to public affairs which has

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been at the bottom of nine failures out of ten in matters of this description.

These considerations lead us to congratulate Shanghai upon the acquisition of a Commandant like Sir Harry Parkes. He has a high reputation to maintain. The successful conduct of volunteering matters will be only another, added to the many laurels which he has already won. His success, and the reward of that success—the high opinion of his countrymen and the approval of his Government—will be in proportion to the degree in which he furthers the general and permanent good of Shanghai.

The *Recorder* announces that the business premises, stock, machinery, &c., of Messrs. Nicolson and Boyd, at Pootung, were brought to the hammer by Messrs. Wainwright and Co. Owing, we presume, to the hardness of the times and consequent scarcity of speculators, the first lot, consisting of the yard and buildings, was knocked down to Mr. Boyd for 13,000 tls., a trifle over half the original cost of the place. For the machinery there was a slight competition, the greater portion of it, together with the bulk of the stock being purchased by Mr. Boyd; and we are glad to perceive that the firm again commences business, under its old style of Nicolson and Boyd, although the interest of the late Mr. Nicolson has, of course, ceased. His place will, we doubt not, be ably filled by the new partner, Mr. Adam, and we cordially wish the new firm success in their undertaking, for it would have been sad to have witnessed the breaking up of an establishment which reflects such credit on the energy and skill of foreigners in this settlement, and which is of such utility to the mercantile marine visiting this port.

The following is the market report from this place: —

EXPORTS.—TEA.—Black: During the past fortnight we have no business to report, and quotations cannot therefore be given. Reports speak favourably of the prospects of the new season's crop, but as yet no authentic information has been received. The incursions of the disorderly Imperial troops into the tea districts have not led to any apprehension of injury to the new crop.—Green: We have again to report a large business, chiefly for America, with an advance of 2 tls. for finer descriptions, but lower grades have shown a tendency to decline, owing to the larger quantity upon the market, and the anxiety of the teamen to realise before leaving for the tea districts.

KIUKIANG.—Dates to 17th inst., one chop of 200 pkgs. Green settled at tls. 18.5.0. Rumoured approach of rebels causing alarm among the teamen, they continue to hasten forward their teas, and stocks comprise only about 2,000 pkgs.

SILK.—We have no transactions to report during the past fortnight, and quotations therefore cannot be given. The reports from the interior respecting the new crop are various, but seem to concur in the opinion that we are likely to have a fair supply, and that under any circumstances, the yield will be much larger than last year's. It is to be feared that the usual anxiety on the part of foreigners to secure first parcels will prevent the chance of the market opening at such low prices as would otherwise be accepted by the silkmen; and tls. 420 to 440 for No. 3 Tsatlee, is spoken of:—

Settlements since 4th May to date	China Silk, Nil.	
	Japan „ 1,200 bales.	
Total settlements from 1st June, 1864, to 20th May, 1865	40,100 bales.	
Do. 1863, to 20th do. 1864	38,600 „	
Export for the season to date	38,957 bales.	
Do. from 1st June to 20th May, 1864	38,029 „	
Unsold stock	Nil.	
Do. last year	1,000 bales.	

COTTON.—The transactions in this staple have been almost nil. Prices are nominally tls. 14.50 to 15 for best description.

FREIGHT.—To London, £2. 15s. to £3 per ton of 50 ft. New York, £2. 15s. per ton of 40 feet.

NINGPO.

The following letter has been published at Shanghai:—

(To the Editor of the *Friend of China*.)

SIR,—The Campo, Ningpo, was disturbed yesterday from its usual quiet, by the appearance of a body of Cook's Disciplined Force, under the command of Lieutenant, or Captain, Watson, also a few Imperial soldiers under a white button Mandarin, and nearly the whole of the police force, all in fighting costume. It appears that their destination was a house or houses inhabited by Cantonese, supposed to be gamblers; and although the said Cantonese have lived in the houses over two years, and during that time conducted themselves in a quiet and peaceable manner, the way in which they were surrounded, dragged out by the hair of their heads, and made to kneel down before this imp of a Mandarin (those refusing to do so being beaten about the knees and body by the muskets and knives of these European drilled and impish Mandarin soldiers) is beyond description. The houses were completely gutted and looted, upwards of $4,000 in gold, silver clothes, &c., was taken away not by the Mandarin soldiers, but by that respectable body of disciplineds, called Cook's, under the very eyes of their commanding officer, the gallant Lieutenant or Captain Watson, who, strange to say, did not appear to trouble himself, or attempt to put a stop to such atrocious proceedings, though, upon marching away he said he would loot his men when he got them in the city, perhaps thinking that second plunder is better than first.

It is also rumoured that several of the gentlemen wearing the letters N. P. on the collars of their coats, had their pockets so full of dollars that they would not hold any more. (Nice protectors we have in Ningpo.) If such scenes as these are allowed to be carried on in the midst of a foreign settlement, and by a body of should be well-disciplined men, under the command of a European, what next may we look for?—Yours, &c.,

Ningpo, May 18, 1865. JUSTICE.

HONG KONG.

The local Bank Returns, as published in the *Hong Kong Gazette*, exhibit the following result:—

	Average Notes in Circulation.	Specie in Reserve.
Oriental Bank	$873,115 ..	.. $300,000
Mercantile Bank	757,855 ..	.. 300,000
Chartered Bank	604,948 ..	.. 250,000
Agra and United States Bank	609,517 ..	.. 250,000
Totals	$2,845,435	$1,100,000

The following glowing account of the progress of the new settlement at Kowloong is from the columns of the *Evening Mail*:—

"The works at Kowloong are rapidly progressing. The rough stone foundations of the sea wall on the west side are showing here and there above the water. The hills diminish daily in height and extent, and the earth taken from them goes far to fill in the space enclosed between their foot and the line of the Praya. Two main lines of road are already marked out and partly finished—so much so that planting has commenced and the appearance of a number of healthy-looking stumps at the sides of the roads give promise, at no very distant period, of shady and pleasant avenues. One of these roads runs from the most southern point of the Peninsula, along the west side of and close under the hills on which it is intended to erect the barracks. The second runs at the other side of these hills, and as nearly as possible through the centre of the territory. A third line of road will run parallel to the other two along the sea wall to the west, and from the Praya on that side. The lots disposed of some time since at Kowloong lie along those lines of road. Owners of lots would appear to be in no particular hurry to comply with the terms of their leases by filling in and building on their allotments. If we are not much mistaken, they were bound to complete the filling in within six months from the date of sale—a period which terminated some time in March last. They cannot, however, be blamed for not having as yet complied with the conditions of sale, as the colonial authorities, although they set about it energetically and at once, have not got through their share of the work—the construction of the sea wall and the making of roads—and until these are finished, it is neither possible nor advisable for lot holders to proceed with their operations. We were of opinion, at the time, that the six months granted was not sufficient, and the result shows that we were right. The day will come when the picture we have here drawn with feeble pen will be realised. Kowloong must, with common energy and prudence on the part of the merchants of Hong Kong, become the southern depot of the railway system of China. Wharves, godowns, and offices will congregate on the south and west sides of the Peninsula, where alone a safe anchorage and sufficient depth of water can be obtained. The eastern slopes and the shores of the many bays that indent the coast on that side will afford 'ample space and verge enough' for palaces, gardens, and villas; and if the Government and the community are wise enough and provident enough, the Chinese town will still nestle under and around the Peak and its sister hills."

From the same journal we extract the following:—

"We notice that the steamer *White Cloud* has commenced to ply upon the Macao line in opposition to our old friend the *Feiseen*. We are not astonished at the *White Cloud's* proprietors invading the ground so long and so honourably held by the *Feiseen*, although we believe they *did* resent the invasion of the Canton waters by the *Kinshan's* owners. What the public want is a good boat to go by, quite irrespective of flag or ownership. We admire the readiness shown by Messrs. Russell and Co. to offer the best accommodation to those who are willing to pay for it, and have no doubt that it will reap its reward. At the same time, we cannot see well how both steamers can pay. If one be got to pay, the other must go the wall. The choice of a steamer to go to Macao by is not altogether guided by old associations. Many of us feel, or fancy we feel, a preference for the *Feiseen*, on account of the deserved popularity of the captain, but that will never weigh for a moment against the superior cookery and general style of an American steamer. In saying this much, we are not speaking in any way sarcastically of those who travel to Macao or Canton by American

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boats. Nine out of every ten passengers go to those places on excursions of pleasure, and a not unimportant part of that pleasure is what may be called the hotel life afloat. These river boats are floating hotels, and we select that which is most temptingly provided. It seems to be impossible for an Englishman to put down dinner or luncheon in a manner equal to that which a Yankee can achieve. We are almost prepared to swear that the thing cannot be done. Who among us has not sat down to a pleasant meal on board of a river steamer flying the stars and stripes? Did we not feel happy with the snowy table-cover before us and the exquisitely clean knives? Englishmen cannot clean knives, nor can they produce pure white table-cloths. If these superhuman, or rather super-English feats could be achieved on board of the *Feiseen*, then our favourite old boat would be our favourite boat still. Some of us may have a weakness for sailing under the British flag, but most people have a greater weakness for good meals."

A daring attempt had been made to capture the French barque *Louis*, which left Whampoa on the 3rd April, bound for Havana, with 290 Chinese coolies, and about $40,000 in specie. Tempted by the latter, the passengers, on the 10th April, rose and endeavoured to capture the vessel, but the energy and daring of the crew prevented their obtaining their end. The mutineers were overpowered, secured under hatches and a guard kept carefully over them, nine men being placed in irons. Three of the crew were rather severely wounded in the fray, and one of the ringleaders jumped overboard and was drowned. On the 12th April the vessel met the Bremen barque *Wartburg*, from Borneo, bound to Hong Kong, and a signal of distress being hoisted, assistance was immediately rendered, and the vessels kept in company until their arrival at that port.

The following changes have been officially noted in the Colonial Service:—The Hon. Chief Justice Adams having obtained six months' leave of absence on medical certificate, the Hon. Mr. H. J. Ball is to act in his stead; while Mr. Julian Pauncefote is to be acting Attorney-General until further notice. Mr. Cecil Smith has been confirmed in the office of Registrar-General; and the Rev. John Wilson will act as Colonial Chaplain during the year's absence of the Rev. Dr. Irwin.

SIAM.

The 28th April was the festival of agriculture. His Majesty was escorted with the usual procession to the Pavilion between the First and Second King's Palaces, and the customary ceremonies at that place were performed. The field for ploughing and for feeding the ox for the purpose of divining what products of the earth would be abundant this year came off on the new canal. This latter ceremony is conducted in this wise. A variety of edibles, such as paddy, beans, plantains, potatoes, &c., are arranged on the ground and a hungry ox let loose. Whichever article he eats first will not be abundant that year. We should fancy a hungry ox would not be very fastidious in his choice, and that the article that struck his eye first would be the likely one he would partake of.

The sugar mills at Laconchasee have stopped work for this season. The native mills have turned out but about 25,000 piculs this year against 90,000 piculs last year. The steam sugar mill has also ceased grinding. It is said to have turned out about 7,000 piculs, the grain of the sugar being of fine quality, though not so white as some of that produced by the native mills.

Great complaints are made of petty piracies along the coasts on the Gulf. The pirates are known to be chiefly Chinese fishermen. The unsuspecting traders either anchor or make their boats fast for the night. Their small crews sleep unconscious of danger, being fatigued with the toils of the day. About twelve o'clock at night, the crews of the fishing boats, taking advantage of the heavy sleep of the traders, board their boats and demand the property. Having got this, they haste away. The traders then make their depositions to the Governor of the Province, or the authorities of the place, who, of course, are unable to catch the pirates, and the traders return home glad to have escaped with their lives. It is said that these piracies are chiefly committed by Hainan Chinamen. "Hainan junks (observes the *Siam Times*) have a very bad reputation all along the coast. Something should be done to protect peaceful traders from robbery and violence. Out of the fleet of gunboats at present in Bangkok, surely some could be spared for this duty. This coast is under the special jurisdiction of the Prime Minister, and he has the means of breaking up these piracies. In case he fails to do so immediately he should be held accountable. A man who has the power and revenue he has at command, ought not to be so careless and negligent in the affairs of the country. We are of opinion that a little overhauling and exposure would do both the Prime Minister and the country much good."

The new dry dock under construction by Captain Bush, harbour-master, is making excellent progress, the dry season having been unusually favourable to its construction. The twin screw propeller brought down from Hong Kong by Capt. Shannon, has been purchased by Poh-Chin-Soo, for $4,500, and will be used both for pleasure and towing, for which she is very well adapted. The Siamese barque *Orestes* belonging to H.R.H. Krom Luang Wongsa, and which has been under repairs for some time past, has just been taken out of dock. This is the barque so long commanded by Capt. Cummings, and was the first Siamese vessel which visited Europe. She has been overhauled and re-coppered, and will soon be ready to resume her trading voyages. The Siamese vessels *Ocean Queen*, *St. George*, and *Rapid* have also undergone repairs. The owner of the latter had a company of Buddhist priests on board repeating prayers, and going through ceremonies preparatory for a voyage. Siamese shipowners have very generally improved the dull times to overhaul and repair their vessels.

The American schooner *Eclipse* sailed from Bangkok on the 10th May with a cargo of teak timber for San Francisco. This is the second cargo from hence for California. Teak is very scarce and dear this season on account of the low state of streams up country, and consequent difficulty in rafting it down.

In the absence of the usual rice trade, many of the natives have turned their attention to timber. Siamese rose-wood and a species of red wood is very abundant, and has been brought to market in large quantities. The Chinese, who are the principal purchasers, made some beautiful furniture out of it. Specimens of these timbers have been shipped to Europe, but European mechanics complain of their great weight and hardness, and refuse to purchase. The Siamese make very little use of any timber except teak. The best timber in Siam for enduring all climates, salt and fresh water, is mitakrao. This kind of timber is quite abundant on the eastern coast of the Gulf. It is rarely if ever used except for building religious edifices. Occasionally a little is used for the frame and planking of boats, but the superstitions of the people are so strong against employing it for any purpose except for "Wats," that they use other varieties of timber not half so good. It is rather heavier than the best of teak, and for the purpose of building war vessels it has no equal. The tree grows very large and tall, and timber of the largest size can be procured of it.

The Siamese ship *Siamese Crown* struck and dragged over a reef near Pulo Panjang on her voyage from China to Bangkok. This reef is not marked on any chart. At the time the vessel struck, Peak Island bore north and White Rock S.W. by W. The ship was drawing fifteen feet water. After crossing over the reef, soundings were got at thirty fathoms. It being in the night time the captain did not stop to examine it.

JAVA.

BATAVIA.

The firms A. van Hoboken and Sons, of Rotterdam; Rynst, and Vinju, at Batavia; and Anemast and Co., at Sourabaya, have forwarded a petition to the Netherlands India Government, proposing the establishment of a steam line between Batavia and the East coast of Australia.

PALEMBANG.

The rice plant promises a rich harvest. The price is from 8 florins to 10 florins per picul. The import of cotton from the interior still continues; but a small quantity was sold, so that the stock is abundant.

CELEBES.

From the first crop of rice no great produce was expected; but scarcity was not feared, as the second crop, and also the reaping of the *jagong*, were expected to be very favourable.

Pirates had been seen at several places on the coast, but care for protection had been taken.

BALI-BOLELENG.

The paddy promised a good harvest; also the coffee, the gathering of which had commenced. White rice 8f. per picul; tobacco, 25f.; coffee 33f.

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COCHIN-CHINA.

Admiral Roze, learning that many pirate junks were in the neighbourhood of Phuoc-hai, and threatening that town, sent the armed steamer *La Fusee* to give chase. The commander, Captain Brice, directed his course to the Bay of Phantit and there found a number of junks strongly armed. A picked body of marines, under Mr. Robertjot, was ordered to board them, a feat that was accomplished after a mere show of resistance; and this done, their cannon were thrown into the sea. A lighted piece of charcoal was subsequently thrown near the spot where the marines were engaged in destroying the powder of the first junk boarded, and simultaneously they were attacked with spears. Mr. Robertjot and a sailor were slightly wounded by the explosion. A gallant charge on the pirates caused them to fall back, and all presently threw themselves into the sea. Three junks were captured.

The armed schooner *La Mitraille*, whilst engaged in the survey of the approaches to Cape Padaran, came upon a canoe containing the captain of the British ship *Ruby*, his daughter, and a portion of his goods. The *Ruby* had been pursued by pirates for thirty or forty miles off Cape Varella, and thus far distanced her pursuers, but a calm coming on, the pirates prepared to board the vessel to the number of 100 or 150. The captain of the *Ruby*, favoured by darkness, launched two canoes, and as they rowed away saw the pirates climb the sides of the vessel, and heard their cries of joy as they fell on their rich prey. The party had been on the sea without food and without water when fallen in with by the *Mitraille*. The second canoe was not in sight, but search was being made for it. As the *Mitraille* rounded Cape St. James the captain of the *Ruby* was surprised to discover his vessel lying at anchor. After relieving the *Ruby* of her rich cargo of tea, the pirates had abandoned the vessel, which was subsequently fallen in with by a Hamburg ship.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Dates hence are to the 6th June. The London mail of the 26th April arrived out on the 30th May.

H.M.'s *Euryalus*, the flag-ship of Admiral Sir L. A. Kuper, left for England on the 27th May.

The *Government Gazette* notifies that Mr. F. Vonder Heyde ceased to have charge of the Hamburgh and Lubeck Consulate at Singapore, from the 11th May.

The death-blow has been struck at the Kling Hoeys by Colonel Cavanagh's determination to put a stop to all processions at the Mohorum. Without them these societies must cease to exist, for their sole object is the celebration of that festival with as much pomp and splendour as possible. For this purpose subscriptions are collected by the head men from the members, and it is said vast sums of money are spent on the occasion. The Governor has interfered on account of the disturbances that occurred last year, and the *Free Press* trusts he will on the same grounds be induced to suppress the processions of all the Chinese Hoeys that have been guilty of creating disturbances. There are two Kling secret societies in Singapore, called the White and Red Flag Kongsis or Hoeys. The first was established shortly after the institution of the Ghi Hin or Triad Society here, and is said to be a branch of the same. The second is of later date, and is supposed to be identical with the Chinese Kongsi called Ghi Hok, a rival of the Ghi Hin. The parent clubs are always at variance, and although the Mohamedan members of each hold exactly the same religious tenets, they, like the Chinese, are always at war. The processions at the Mohorum are considered heretical by a large section of the Mohamedan community in the Straits, who keep aloof and despise those who join in them. Nearly all the Malays are of the orthodox party. In a political point of view, therefore, Colonal Cavanagh will have a strong body of Mohamedans on his side.

PENANG.

Remarking on the defensive staff of both services that would probably be retained for the defence of the settlement, after the transfer, the *Gazette* observes:—

"While urging economy on the Straits Government, we would protest most strongly against the retention of the very expensive and utterly useless steam vessels, retained for the alleged purpose of suppression of piracy. Suppression of piracy where, we would like to ask? The Governor's annual report for last year mentions the number of cases of piracy brought before the Supreme Courts of Singapore, Penang, and Malacca, and they were these:—

PENANG.—There has been but one case of alleged piracy reported. Three Chinese fishermen stated that they had been attacked off Quallah Pry, by three Malay boats, with reference to the number of boats continually passing the mouth of that river, much credence is not, however, given to their statement.

MALACCA.—The only case of piracy was dismissed by the Grand Jury, it appearing that the prisoner only seized some Durians out of a boat passing down the river, as payment of a debt that was due to him by the owner.

SINGAPORE.—There was only one case of piracy, in which the alleged perpetrators were brought to trial, no conviction was however obtained. Now this is but a repetition of what has occurred for several years, and for this result we are to continue to pay a large sum annually for the maintenance of the *Pluto*, *Mohr* and *Tonze*. Vessels whether sailing ships or steamers, for the suppression of piracy, were no doubt necessary in former days, and indeed did good service in that way, but where do we see acts of piracy now-a-days in the Straits, necessitating the keeping up these steamers whose speed could not possibly enable them to overtake an ordinary well manned Malay sampan? We cannot for a moment think that these vessels are really kept for such a purpose, but simply that it is convenient to retain in the reports the name of the service they were once required to perform. Now, however, when they are no longer of use in that way, they had much better be at once struck off the lists of establishments for the Straits and their place supplied by one really good fast steamer, with a light draught of water and moderate size, and with passenger accommodation suited for the requirements of the Straits Government.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

DAWSON—On the 4th July, at Ponsonby Hall, Whitehaven, the wife of Capt. R. Pudsey Dawson, of a son.

DUFRESNE.—On the 27th May last, at Java, the wife of G. Dufresne, Esq., of a son.

D'ALMEIDA—On the 5th July, at The Grange, West Molesey, Surrey, the wife of William Barrington D'Almeida, Esq., of a son.

GARDNER—On the 14th May, at Hong Kong, the wife of Mr. William Gardner, Hamburg Tavern, Queen's-road, West, of a son.

LEWIN—On the 28th June, at Tynwald Lodge, Springfield-road, St. John's-wood, the wife of D. Duncan Lewin, Esq., formerly of China, of twin daughters.

MUIRHEAD—On the 8th July, at Grove-lodge, Colney Hatch-park, the wife of D Muirhead, Esq., of Shanghai, of a son.

VICKERS—On the 30th June, the wife of Cuthbert Vickers, Esq., of Farnborough, Kent of a son.

WADMAN—On the 27th June, at Slaugham Park, Sussex, the wife of E. Wadman, Esq., of a daughter.

WEATHERHEAD—On the 23rd June, at Shakespeare Villas, Tottenham, the wife of Mr. Alfred Weatherhead (late of Hong Kong), of a son.

MARRIAGES.

HEWETT—STEAINS.—On the 29th June, at St. Bartholomew's, Sydenham, by the Rev. W. H. Harke, cousin of the bride, assisted by the Rev. Hy. Stevens, William Hewett, eldest son of William Hewett, of Sydenham-hill, Kent, to Sarah Ann, second daughter of Arthur Steains, of Forest-hill, Kent. No cards.

STUART-WORTLEY—VERSCHOYLE.—On the 29th June, at St. Peter's Church, Pimlico, by the Rev. F. Norman, Archibald Henry Plantagenet Stuart-Wortley, eldest and only surviving son of the late Hon. Charles and Lady Emmeline Stuart-Wortley, to Augusta, youngest daughter of Robert Verschoyle, Esq.

DEATH.

HAPPER—On the 20th of May, at Hong Kong, Willie Daizelle, the youngest child of Rev. and Mrs. A. P. Happer, of Canton.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—A further decline, without in any way leading to inquiry, has been submitted to by importers, and the transactions to be noted since the date of last circular are confined to the settlement of 165 bales. Grey Shirtings: Show a decline in value, as compared with the prices current during the early part of the month, equal to 15 cents per piece. A moderate amount of inquiry has however been manifested for these fabrics, and settlements are estimated at 15,970 pieces. White Shirtings: The quotations for these goods have shared in the decline noticed for unbleached cloths, and the purchases reported during the fortnight do not exceed 2,300 pieces. Sales of 200 pieces of 64 reed are reported from Foochow at $5.40 per piece. T-Cloths: The settlements reported during the past fortnight have been almost entirely confined to a sale of 5,000 pieces made by one firm at a reduction upon the quotations previously current equal to 10 cents per piece. Settlements in Canton of 2,000 pieces are also reported. American Drills and Jeans: There is not any of these manufactures in stock. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: Remain unchanged in value, and meet but with trifling inquiry; the sales of the past fortnight consist of 250 pieces of the first named and 750 pieces of Dyed Spotted Shirtings. Damasks: Meet with no inquiry. Chintzes: Have been in moderate request, and sales of 1,890 pieces are reported. Handkerchiefs: Have found buyers to the extent of 2,000 dozen, at about the quotations current under date of last report.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: These goods have met with a moderate amount of inquiry during the past fortnight, and the sales of Spanish Stripes (which remain at the quotations previously current) are estimated to amount to 700 pieces. 132 pieces of Medium Cloths have also found buyers. Long Ells: In the absence of almost any business in these goods, the advance of 20 cents quoted in the value of Assorted Colours must be deemed almost nominal. Sales are put at 100 pieces. Camlets: Remain unchanged in value, with sales reported since the date of last Circular amounting to about 680 pieces. Lastings: The transactions reported to have taken place in these fabrics amount to 460 pieces.

METALS.—Iron, flat, &c.: The value of Nail Rod Iron shows a decline as compared with the prices current under date of last report equal to about 15 cents per picul, and the settlements effected during the past fortnight are reported at 2,680 piculs of Nail Rod, 240 piculs of Square and Flat Bar, 340 piculs of Hoop and 400 piculs of Wire. Lead; Re-

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mains as previously quoted, with sales of 375 piculs in this colony and 600 piculs in Canton. Tin: 1,500 piculs have found buyers. Tin-Plates: The sales of the fortnight are estimated at 1,150 boxes. Steel: There are not any sales to report.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	6s. 2¼d. to 6s. 2½d	6s. 3d. to 6s. 4d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 4¾d.	4s. 5d. to 4s. 6d.
At Singapore	6 ditto	4s. 5¾d.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 6½d.
At Manila	6 ditto	4s. 2d.	4s. 3d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 299 to 302 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 216 to 217 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 10 per cent. prem. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 74 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 28 to 29 discount.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—July 16, at Falmouth from Akyab, Ironsides; at Liverpool from Shanghai, John Nicholson and Queensbury.

DEPARTURES.—July 13, from Sunderland for Shanghai, Prince Alfred; 15, from London for Shanghai, Dilkhoosh.

SPOKEN.—Prince Alfred (barq.), London to Shanghai, May 30, 5 S., The Gloucestershire (arrived at Manila) spoke the British ship Peep o'Day bound to Shanghai, in lat. 22 S., long. 110 E.; 179 days out.

LAID ON.—At London: For Hong Kong and Canton, Dilpussund.

NEWS has been received from Sydney of the death of Sir F. Pottinger, son of Sir Henry Pottinger, the well-known negociator of the China Treaty of 1841.

THE CHINA DINNER.

This event (the first of an annual meeting) came off on Saturday evening, the 15th inst., when a company of about forty, comprising army and navy officers, merchants, and members of the Civil Service, sat down shortly after eight. We believe the idea originated with Major Brine, Royal Engineers, who has lately returned from Hong Kong, and well known as the Commandant of the Hong Kong Volunteer force. Mr. J. J. Mackenzie, formerly a partner in Messrs. Dent and Co., co-operated with the Major as joint-secretary. From the remarks made by Major Brine, it was evident that he intended to promote the interest now attaching to the "China Challenge Cup," and which is being competed for by the representatives of thirty-two counties. It is hoped this cup will be an annual presentation. Several names were down on the list in addition to those recorded. The gentlemen present comprised:—

Admiral Sir Henry Keppel (in the Chair).	MESSRS.:—
Bishop Smith.	Warden.
Sir John Davis.	Brown (of Amoy).
Admiral Sir James Scott.	Luce.
Admiral Sir Lewis Jones.	Cleverly.
Capt. Roderick Dew.	Bridges.
Capt. De Casembroot (Dutch steamer Medusa).	Langley.
Colonel Sargent.	Adam Scott.
Colonel Gordon.	Harry Smith.
Major Brine.	Arthur Smith.
Capt. Byrom.	Silverlock.
Capt. Dent.	Montgomery Martin.
MESSRS.:—	Charles Compton.
Robert Jardine, M.P.	Spencer Compton.
Edward Pereira.	Brown (of Shanghai).
Robertson, M.P.	M'Andrew.
Stiff.	Ashton.
J. J. Mackenzie.	Maturin, D.C.G.
Donald Mackenzie.	Augier.
Dohmen (Legation in Japan).	Wright.
Stuart (Chief Manager Oriental Bank).	Blenkin.
Holliday.	Webb.

On the removal of the cloth, Admiral Keppel rose and was heartily greeted. He said:—

My Lord Bishop and Gentlemen,—It is with unfeigned pleasure that I meet my countrymen now present, representing, as you do, a quarter of the globe in which I have spent the happiest time of my life. The hospitality of the China merchants is not equalled in any other country. This alone is no trifling recommendation, but they are a set of men who seem thoroughly suited to amalgamate with naval officers. I often wish I could be First Lord of the Admiralty for a few minutes to make out my appointments to the China command. (Hear, hear.) I now propose the health of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen.

This toast being drunk, the health of the Prince and Princess of Wales followed; and the next toast proposed was the Church, coupled with the health of Bishop Smith, who in responding said:—

This occasion is one which all of us welcome, as reviving past associations, and as more particularly connected with the Volunteer display that has taken place at Wimbledon. The volunteer spirit that has been developed in China among foreign residents—the genuine character of which is so well proved in the gift that has been forwarded—is calculated to exert a happy and healthy influence, not only on the tone of the foreign community abroad, but also on the China mind. That mind—indeed, the whole organisation of China—demands greater stability. I recognise nothing so essential to stability as Christian truth; and, notwithstanding the feebleness of coherence to which I have referred, I feel assured that the moral and Christian influence of this country is beginning to have its effect on the Chinese. As a result, with their attention thus drawn to the true elements of power, they will have an increased sense of their weakness, and proceed, under the directive influence of our example, our guidance, and our teaching, to rectify their deficiencies. I trust yet to see generated that internal prosperity—the product of still greater benefits—of which China stands so much in need. The germ of progress may be discerned even in the present state of comparative disorganisation. The commercial spirit of England must be allowed to have contributed largely to this result. (Cheers.) The future page of history will, I trust, record a progress yet more conspicuous, and carried out under happier auspices; a progress, so far as China is concerned, that will be first manifested in a modification of those modes of thought and action that at present give such a dubious working to her institutions. (Hear, hear.)

The CHAIRMAN then proposed, "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," coupled with the names of Sir James Scott, Colonel Sargent, and Major Brine. All these are, permit me to say, animated by the same patriotic ardour, and are equally ready, when occasion offers, to vindicate the interests and to defend the honour of the empire. (Cheers.) The services of the army and navy in China are matters of history, and worthy of all praise and encouragement is that Volunteer movement which has developed an amount of patriotism and martial ardour which will not fail of any requirement placed upon it. (Great cheering.)

Sir JAMES SCOTT: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, on behalf of the navy as representing that portion serving in the China seas, permit me most cordially to thank you for the honour you have done it. If it has proved of signal service, that service has had the fortune to have been most fully appreciated. (Cheers.) For my own part, it has ever been my desire to serve the national interest in the way most beneficial and honourable. (Cheers.)

Colonel J. N. SARGENT, C.B.: Gentlemen, I am happy to respond for the army and myself. I can speak most kindly of the China community during my various terms of service in that country. I can tell you that nothing is so encouraging to us as the approval and good wishes of our countrymen.

Major BRINE: I could have wished that this toast could have been more efficiently represented. On behalf, however, of the Volunteers, permit me to return you our best thanks. The season of our meeting is unfortunately a late one; but it is to be hoped the dinner will be an annual one, and no doubt, at a more propitious season, will be still more largely attended. As to the prize offered by the Volunteers in China—I speak here for the Volunteers, and in a volunteer capacity, and I do not think I can point too strongly—you will remember that but for the money that has been added to the cup there would have been no such competition as that which has taken place; and speaking for the Volunteers, and in a volunteer capacity, I trust you will see the desirability—as I am sure you have the capacity—of permitting yourself to be copiously bled (laughter), by making a handsome addition to the fund. Looking to the great wealth represented by Anglo-Chinese residents at home, I do not think I can put the point too strongly—(Laughter, and continued cheering.) Five hundred guineas is a sum that would demand extreme thankfulness. I don't like going back to China without conveying a record of a worthy liberality on your part. Thirty-two counties have competed for the cup, and I trust the next contest will witness all England in the list. We Volunteers value very highly your support, and it is in your power to render us most essential service.—(Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, the next toast to which you will be pleased to fill your glasses is the China Civil Service, represented on this occasion by no less distinguished an individual than Sir John Davis. I need say nothing as to those distinguished services which enhanced the political *prestige* of England, and so largely tended to promote her interests in China.

Sir JOHN DAVIS, who looked remarkably well for his years, and who was received with every demonstration of enthusiasm, spoke as follows Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, on behalf of the China Civil Service I most cordially thank you for the compliment you have paid to its efficiency, the character of this assembly, composed as it is of residents in China, giving a peculiar value and emphasis to such a recognition. To meet thus, gentlemen, fellow-residents in China, in a friendly interchange of sentiments and recollections, is truly grateful to my feelings. Indeed, there is nothing better to exercise a revivifying influence on old age—(cheers)—recalling as it does earlier associations. The weather itself is well fitted to recal China to our minds, but I trust, like the sheep who "left their tails behind them," we will forget the depressing influence from this cause in recalling former associations, which give a peculiar value and emphasis to such a recognition. Sir, the time in which I was a resident in China was not one in which ambassadors and plenipotentiaries were backed up by large military and naval forces. They had to make their way as best they might, among multiplying obstructions—against a policy that generally conceding our claims, endeavoured to defeat them in detail. It was a period, moreover, of great disorganisation. Merchants had to complain of the stagnation of trade, owing to the absence of available means for supplying the Chinese with the goods they were supposed so ardently to desire. Foreigners were treated by officials with insufferable arrogance, and although vexatious hindrances in the way of the development of trade have not disappeared, these are as nothing to those which then existed, our commercial and political relations being alike unsatisfactory. Although the export trade to China has not increased in such a degree as the number and known commercial disposition of the people would lead us to expect, we have secured, through a conciliatory but firm policy, numerous facilities for trade; and it is to be hoped that the advantages in time to come will be proportionately greater. I conceive nothing more flattering than the prospects opened up to us in China and Japan, notwithstanding that the obstacles that present themselves to a more extended trade have been but partially overcome. And with this state of things I cannot but associate the name of Sir Rutherford Alcock, whose discriminating and enlightened course of action has proved of such essential service in the advancement of our interests. European nations were strongly averse to interfere in the affairs of China, but a resort to arms, aided by the efforts of diplomacy, have in the end been found necessary.

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The monarchical despotism of China, the feudal oligarchy of Japan were found hard to overcome in order to secure the establishment of our treaties. Our interest and our policy, however, is to strengthen as much as possible the internal Government. Neither accepting any overtures from the Taipings, nor yielding ground before the assassinators of Japan. Japan is a nation of Booths, and might appropriately be termed Boothenia Felix. (Laughter.) It is the wish of this Government, that a central power should be promoted and encouraged in both countries; and this accordingly has been realised. To what shall we ascribe our extraordinary success? Formerly one nation contended with another for Eastern trade; their jealousies and rivalries were mutually injurious; now all cordially co-operate from the same motives and for the same ends. All European nations are united as to their policy in China. To what must we attribute our success? Whatever England gains in her contest with China, whether in diplomacy or war, all nations share. The same policy will continue to be prolific of good results.

Sir LEWIS JONES: I propose, seeing a distinguished officer of the Netherlands Government present, "the Foreign Power." (Cheers.) There was a time when the interests of the two countries were not recognised as identical, but those times have long since passed away. The Netherlands has been in advance of us as to time in the East in gaining empire and power; the traces of hostile rivalry, political and commercial, and that subsequently culminated in conflict by land and sea, have left no traces of their influence so far as regards the mutual relations maintained between England and the Netherlands in the Far East, and we recognise in Holland a friendly Power ready to co-operate in all that can promote the common interest. (Cheers).

Captain M. DE CASEMBROAT, Aid-de-Camp to His Majesty the King of Holland, who commanded the *Medusa* in Japan, was enthusiastically received, and said: I cannot say what is in my heart. I hope in your indulgence, for my thoughts are better than my words. I shall be always happy for occasions presenting themselves to testify to the strength and sincerity which my countrymen entertain for yours.

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I propose to you "Prosperity to the Commerce of China."

Mr. ROBERTSON (formerly of Turner and Co.), M.P. for Hastings briefly and humorously responded, adverting to the beneficial system of the East India Company, so far, at least, as concerned the forcing our goods on Chinamen and securing large profits, to which, of course, the company said amen, but did not quite believe in.

Mr. W. T. BRIDGES: I rise to propose the health of our distinguished chairman, Admiral Harry Keppel. (Prolonged cheering.) No name is more distinguished, whether for organisation, rapid insight, and large prescience, and supreme and overpowering dash. In the China seas and in China he added lustre to the British name, and has vindicated himself as a worthy compeer of the immortal Nelson. We old Chinamen glory alike in his reputation and achievements. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN: In rising to return thanks, I am at a loss what to say. I m now fairly overcome. (Cheers.) I assure you I have still a longing toreturn to the China station. Gentlemen, I thank you most sincerely, and cordially unite in the wish so generally expressed that this dinner may be an annual one. The annual meeting of the real and good friends of China cannot but prove both gratifying and beneficial. (Cheers.) The gallant Admiral resumed his seat under a storm of applause, and a rain of Kentish fire.

Mr. MONTGOMERY MARTIN: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, I rise to propose the health of a gentlemen who has done more to the civil cause in China than any Commodore,—(laughter)—than any Bishop, (increased laughter)—than the whole body of merchants. (Continued laughter.) I allude to Colonel Gordon. (Enthusiastic applause.) Although I happen to differ from him on many points, I pay every homage to his integrity of motive, to his marvellous sagacity, to his tried courage, to his reliance on his own convictions, and on the strength of which he has been ready to assume all needful responsibility. (Cheers.) He has been resolute, wise, and courageous in a novel and peculiar position, where the qualities he has manifested have rendered the British character better understood and more unreservedly trusted, and to this extent have largely contributed to improved and extended commercial and financial relations. China, with its material interests, its great staples, its large and active population, is eminently calculated to impress us with the possible advantages of a more extended trade in that quarter. We see in the condition of the country not only a national marvel but a standing type of the old civilisation brought to light, and coming into contact with the civilisation of the West, when, as if in obedience to some mysterious behest rather than through our own seeking, we are gaining in power and dominion over the whole of the Asiatic races. China, though containing one-third of the human race, and held together by municipal institutions for 2,500 years, is shaping itself anew under Anglo-Saxon influences. Notwithstanding all that has been accomplished, I see clouds hanging over the future of China—problems which it must yet be the task of political and civil wisdom to solve. What we demand is that we shall be able to put more fully to account the natural capabilities of that country for trade. We seek not only the increase of our commerce, but an increase proportionate to the augmented capital we have invested. Great as are our resources, we are not willing that the operative influence these carry with them should be arbitrarily curtailed. Eventually, by concerted action, we shall triumph, if not in extinguishing at least in destroying the effective force of that spirit of exclusiveness which is the bane of China. After these violent upheavals of political strife, let us hope to see an enlarged trade, such as the Government of China will be found not only to recognise but to encourage. We acknowledge the necessity of a great central Government, and of union among the provinces; what is desired is that the administration shall be conducted at once in a more liberal and vigorous spirit.

Colonel GORDON, whose rising was the signal for enthusiastic applause, said: I think on this occasion that you have placed too high a value on my services. Whatever I have done has been with the best intentions (cheers), and I thank you most sincerely for your testimony. I would especially mention the testimonial presented to me on leaving Shanghai. I consider myself amply repaid for any service I rendered to our national interests or those of the merchants in China.

Admiral Keppel, to the surprise of most of the company, then left the chair at a quarter to eleven. Had the gallant Admiral been asked, no doubt he would have presided for another hour or found a deputy. As it was the, toasts which properly applied to the occasion were not half accomplished. There was one which certainly should not have been omitted. We allude to Admiral Sir Michael Seymour, but for whose able and prudent conduct a great many who were then present would never have had the pleasure of again seeing "Old England." Our readers will remember that he conducted the operations known as the "Arrow War" in Canton, and subsequently at Taku, which finally led to the capitulation of Peking—unquestionably the most eventful period of our history in China.

CHINESE EMIGRATION TO THE BRITISH COLONIES.

The twenty-fifth General Report of the Emigration Commissioners, which bears date the 29th April in the present year, contains a very comprehensive account of all that occurred during the season 1864-65, both as regards emigration from the United Kingdom and the immigration into the British Colonies from whatever part of the world it took place. Of course the subject of "Chinese Emigration" comes in for its share of the Commissioners' attention. They state:—

"In our report of last year we explained the arrangement recently entered into by British Guiana and Trinidad to import a certain number of Chinese immigrants annually for a term of years, in the hope of reducing the expense and improving the character of the immigration. The amount which it was proposed to fix as a minimum was—to British Guiana, 1,250; Trinidad, 750—2,000. At their meeting, however, early in 1864, the Combined Court of British Guiana raised the quota for that colony for the ensuing season to 1,500 male labourers; equal, with the proportion of women, to 1,800 adults. The first vessel dispatched by the Emigration Agent, Mr. Sampson, was the *Brechin Castle*, which sailed from Canton on the 18th October with 270 emigrants (of whom 78 were women), and arrived in British Guiana on the 26th January. The deaths on the voyage were only 3; equal to 1·11 per cent. The immigrants were said to be a fine body of people, the women capable of working, and all appeared on arrival cheerful and contented. It was necessary to send seven to the Colonial Hospital, of whom one died. The next ship dispatched was the *Montrose*, for Trinidad. She sailed from Whampoa on the 17th November, and arrived at her destination on the 18th February, having lost on the voyage 11 out of 324; equal to a mortality of 3·39 per cent. Among the emigrants were 100 women. The surgeon of the ship died at sea a month after leaving Whampoa; but by the good management of the master and officers health and discipline were satisfactorily maintained. Besides the above, we have heard of the dispatch of the *Queen of the East* and of the *Sevilla* for British Guiana, the former with 487 emigrants, and the latter with 312, and of the *Paria* for Trinidad, with 288. One ship also, the *Light of the Age*, has been dispatched from Amoy to Honduras, in consequence of a special application from the Government of that colony. To procure the requisite number of emigrants the agent had been obliged to establish a subagency at Amoy."

The number of emigrants conveyed from China to the West Indies since the year 1843 is 12,175, of whom 2,107 were dispatched from 1843 to 1856. The contract price for the immigrants embarked last year for British Guiana in the *Brechin Castle* and *Sevilla* was £14, and for those in the *Queen of the East* (1,226 tons) £12. 17s. 6d.; and for those in the *Montrose* to Trinidad £15, and in the *Paria* £14.

With reference to the Australian gold-fields, the Commissioners state they have received the returns of the population there for the year 1864. "They show so extraordinary a steadiness in the numbers that, if correct, the gold-digging population, so far from being a migratory and excitable class, as has been supposed, must be singularly constant and stationary." This steadiness in the number characterises both the European and Chinese population. Of the latter the numbers were—for the 1st quarter, 31,957; 2nd, 32,277; 3rd, 29,963; 4th, 30,071. The Commissioners remark:—"In the return of population, the most striking fact is, the large number of Chinese men, and the total absence of Chinese women. It cannot be matter of surprise or regret that the Colonial Legislature should be anxious to adopt any measures calculated to check so pernicious a state of things." The Legislature of Victoria passed in 1864 an Act to consolidate the laws affecting Chinese immigrants. It reimposes, from the 30th June in the present year, the tax of £10 a head on Chinese arriving by sea, and £4 a head on those arriving by land, which was originally imposed by an Act passed in 1855, but by an Act passed in June, 1863, was suspended for two years.

At the conclusion of the document the Commissioners note:—"Several leases of Guano Islands in the Pacific Ocean have also been granted since our last report; the islands so granted are eleven in number, lying generally between 2 deg. north and 25 deg. south latitude, and between 143 deg. 52 min. east and 104 deg. west longitude,"—rather a wide section of the chart of the world.

CONSUMPTION OF SHERRY.—The official list of the export of sherry from Cadiz for the past half-year shows a total of 24,421 butts against 40,419 in 1864. The principal exporters from Jerez are Gonzalez and Byass, 2,228 butts; P. Garvey, 1,608; P. Domecq, 1,367; M. Misa, 1,277; Mackenzie and Co., 942; and Pemarten and Co., 751. From Port St. Mary—Widow, Harmony, and Co., 1,117; M. and F. Tosar, 1,045; Duff, Gordon, and Co., 772; M. de Mora, 728, and F. W. Cozens and Co. (Jerez, 1,301, and Port St. Mary, 759), 2,960.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 17, 1865

PRUSSIAN COLONISATION IN THE FAR EAST.

FROM the ambitious and equivocal conduct displayed last year by Prussia in her aggression on Denmark, her seizure of the Duchies of Schleswig, Holstein, and Lauenburg, and above all her subsequent appropriation of the harbour and Bay of Kiel as the head-quarters of her little navy, our readers will not be surprised to learn that that Government entertains still more ambitious views of aggrandisement, and proposes to take a higher flight in so remote a quarter that no fear of any remonstrance being made by European States need be entertained. Herr von BISMARK, Prussia's Prime Minister, believes it to be the destiny of his country not only to swallow up all Germany but to spread out over the globe like Russia; but though his SOVEREIGN may possess the ambition of PETER the GREAT, yet his genius is certainly not of the same calibre, although that requisite may be supplied by an unscrupulous and enterprising Prime Minister like himself. Besides, there is the infant navy, Prussia's latest hobby, to find occupation for; and as it is manifest there is no room for expansion in that respect in Europe, it will be good exercise to quarrel with some semi-barbarous nation, as they did some years ago with the Barbary pirates, and thus get accustomed to naval warfare. A few years ago, it will be recollected, a Prussian expedition, partly diplomatic and partly commercial, of three or four ships of war was sent out to the Far East, and Count EULENBURG, in his capacity of Ambassador Extraordinary, was fortunate enough to conclude very favourable Treaties of Commerce and Navigation with China, Siam, and Japan, which afford a fair pretext for keeping a ship of war or two in those waters, ostensibly for the protection of their commerce.

During the last ten days or fortnight a series of well-written articles has been published in a prominent part of a Berlin paper called the *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*, belonging to that class called in German "officious" and meaning semi-official, and which is also well-known to be Herr von BISMARK'S pet organ, specially made use of—and in fact only very lately founded by him—for the dissemination of his own peculiar doctrines and the enunciation of coming events as well as the defence of his ministerial policy. That series of articles, which are just now concluded, bear the significant heading of "Prussia's Colonial Policy," and are generally ascribed to the pen of Count EULENBURG himself, who is now a member of the Cabinet—being Minister of the Interior—and a fast friend and supporter of the present *régime*. Under these circumstances, and as the imputation of the authorship has never been denied, the articles have made a great sensation, not only in Prussia, but all over Germany; and we have reason to believe, from trustworthy and reliable sources, that they do really and truly represent the feelings and intentions of Prussia, and foreshadow events that are on the eve of taking place.

After dwelling at some length on the advantages secured by treaties with the countries before-mentioned and the development of Prussia's commerce and navigation in the China Seas that has already taken place in consequence of those treaties, and after paying a just tribute to the wisdom and foresight of England in creating such flourishing places as Singapore and Hong Kong, the writer proceeds to demonstrate the benefits that must necessarily accrue to Prussia in particular and Germany generally, by the possession of a well-selected spot capable of being strongly fortified and easily defended, within an easy distance of China and Japan, where ships of war may repair for refitting, coaling, and taking in fresh provisions and water, and merchant vessels find a harbour of refuge under the protection of the Prussian flag and artillery. With reference also to the present highly to be deprecated want of system in German emigration to all parts of the world, by which during the last thirty years some millions of steady, frugal and hard-working Germans with their wives and families have not only become lost to their Fatherland, but whose strength and labour have gone to populate and enrich other countries that may some day or other be at war with Germany, the writer opines that many of them would easily be induced to prefer settling in a Prussian colony of the same language and religion as themselves, and with whose laws and customs they are familiar. He then refers to the progress made by the Dutch in pushing their relations with the Far East, and points out the extent of territory and the valuable possessions known under the generic term of Netherlands India, arguing that under the fostering care of a paternal government the contemplated Prussian colony may shortly become the nucleus and head-quarters of a "German India."

But where to find such a desirable spot combining all the advantages above described with a healthy climate, fertile soil, and capability of expansion? The German diplomatist calls out "Eureka!" and proceeds to develop his plan. He has pitched upon a safe and commodious harbour on the west coast of the Island of Formosa, or Tai-wan, that was partly surveyed by the officers of the late expedition, but not completed owing to the determined hostility of the natives. He thinks it might be easily fortified, and afford security and shelter for Prussian merchantmen frequenting the China Seas, as well as forming a naval head-station for the ships of war employed in those waters. He cites the works of Mr. FORTUNE and other late writers to prove the fertility of the country, supplying as it does the opposite coast of China with corn, rice, vegetables and fruits, and therefore affording a field admirably adapted for German industry and scientific agriculture, whilst the climate forms a desirable mixture of the temperate and the torrid zones, the Tropic of Cancer passing through the centre of the island. Our learned Theban seems to ignore that the Emperor of CHINA claims the sovereignty of this future German paradise—a claim that, as far as we know, has never been disputed; for he states as an undoubted fact that Formosa is "inhabited by "by savages owning no allegiance to any foreign Power, who "can be easily subdued or their acquiescence and friendship be "obtained by favourable treaties." Thus it seems that the prevailing idea is that it will be much easier to gain possession by force used against the natives than by negotiation or purchase from the Emperor of CHINA. But the dream of Prussian aggrandisement goes even much further, for the writer proceeds to show how the infant colony "would very soon spread "over the whole of the island, and even extend to the opposite "coast of the Chinese continent;" from which it appears that he considers the province of Fo-kien also a *herrenloses land*, or country without any recognised master, which term he more than once does not hesitate to apply to Formosa. "But it "may be asked (continues the writer), if Formosa offers such "advantages for German colonisation, how comes it that the "British have not thought it worth their while to take posses-"sion of it?" "The fact is," answers the diplomatist to his own query, "that England has quite enough colonies in all "parts of the world, and finds them rather an embarrassment "than otherwise; for she has even begun to get rid of them, as "was lately the case when she voluntarily renounced possession "of the Ionian Islands and transferred them to Greece, with "which kingdom they have now been incorporated. But it may "further be asked, what will England say should Prussia take "possession of Formosa? The answer is simply that though "England may demur beforehand, she will make no objection "when it is a *fait accompli*, and therefore the sooner we go to "work the better."

The articles conclude by a disquisition as to whether it would not be advisable to make it a penal colony, but after

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weighing the benefits and disadvantages against each other, the writer seems to think it had better be left an open question for the present, but recommends the measures that ought to be taken under all circumstances in the course of the summer for the immediate realisation of the project. These are to send out a couple of the ships of war that are lying idle at Kiel and Danzig, with a certain number of troops on board, to take possession of the island and hold it in military occupation. There will also be sent out a body of skilled artificers of different trades to be employed in erecting the fortifications, building houses, barracks, &c.; those men to be allowed to take their wives and families with them, who will form the nucleus of the infant colony. As all Prussian subjects have served in the army for three years, these artificers have been trained to arms, and would be able to defend themselves if attacked by the natives. On the completion of the defensive works and habitations required, these original settlers would receive a free grant of land for themselves and their families, and turn their attention to the cultivation of the soil, in which they would be supported in a liberal manner by the Prussian Government. There are such a number of enterprising young men now in Prussia that the writer is convinced there would be not the slightest difficulty in procuring a sufficient number of intelligent young couples ready to volunteer to become the pioneers of the infant settlement which is to expand by degrees into "German India." It is in no spirit of hostility towards Prussia that we have penned these lines. The world is large, and there is plenty of room in it for us all to live and prosper in. But there is an old adage that says "the proof of the pudding lies in the eating," and as the Germans have hitherto not yet tried their hands at colonisation in any part of the globe, we cannot be induced to consider the project at present in any other light than as visionary dreams of the richly theoretical but certainly not practical Germans. We shall not fail to keep an eye on the prosecution of the plan, and, if it is carried into execution, we shall communicate in due time further particulars to our readers.

THE HONG KONG ROYAL MINT.

CAPTAIN KINDER (the Master) and family, and Messrs. Tookey and Allen, of the Hong Kong Royal Mint, proceed to Hong Kong by the present mail; Mr. Davies, the Comptroller, and Mr. Manning, of the melting department, will probably follow by the next steamer. With the exception of a few trifling articles, the shipment of the balance of the machinery for the Mint has just been completed, and we hope soon to hear of the establishment being in satisfactory working order.

W. H. MITCHELL, Esq., late Chief Magistrate of Hong Kong has been duly passed as barrister at Lincoln's-inn, and, we understand, will shortly proceed to Shanghai to practise. From his previous experience in China, and intimate knowledge of mercantile matters, as well as of criminal proceedings, we doubt not but that he will be found an able adviser, and an ornament to the "New Court at Shanghai." He possesses the *suavitur in modo* with the *fortiter in re*, which is so important to a barrister.

STRAITS OF SUNDA.

It will be remembered that some months since an article appeared in our columns in reference to difficulties said to have arisen between the local authorities at and masters of vessels passing through the Straits. In reply to this, a correspondent at Anjer assures us that no interference ever takes place with the masters, crews, or passengers of vessels, further than is necessary to carry out such salutary regulations for the maintenance of order as are usually enforced at every port to which merchant vessels resort. Our correspondent further states that the office of the Assistant Resident is always open to persons having complaints to make, and that such are invariably received by that functionary with courtesy and attention. We trust, therefore, that no further complaints will reach us, and that that delightful resting place on the route to the Far East will be appreciated as heretofore in the old times.

THE MESSAGERIES IMPERIALES.—This company will be prepared to open the branch line from Shanghai to Japan next September. A steamer is fitting out for despatch to Singapore to take up the Batavia line.

THE P. AND O. COMPANY.—The *Delhi*, which has been employed on the home line, has started for Galle, there to receive orders to take up one of the lines on the India or China station.

THE AMERICAN LEGATIONS IN CHINA AND JAPAN.—The simultaneous return of General Pruyn and Mr. Burlinghame, has given rise to a report that they have been recalled, in pursuance of an intention the part of the United States Government to abandon the Legations both at Peking and Yedo. There is, however, no truth in this supposition, both Ministers having applied some time ago for leave of absence.

THE WIMBLEDON MEETING.—The annual rifle competition begins to-day, the formation of the camp having been in progress since the 8th inst. Several new prizes have been introduced this year, the most conspicuous being the "China Challenge Cup," value 500 guineas, contributed by volunteers in China.

IMPORTS OF HEMP AND JUTE.—The quantity of hemp imported into this country last year was 1,010,688 cwts., against 1,067,913 cwts. in 1863, and against 915,807 cwts. in 1862. The chief sources of supply are Russia, Austria, British India, and the Philippine Islands; and these countries in 1864 furnished us with 540,093 cwts., 157,299 cwts., 75,522 cwts., and 183,943 cwts., respectively—all other places contributing 53,831 cwts. Reviewing the statistics of this article of commerce during the past fifteen years, it cannot be said to have exhibited any marked advance. Of jute and other vegetable substances of like nature the quantity brought into this country last year was 2,047,287 cwts., or 792,682 cwts. in excess of that in 1863, or 1,083,513 cwts. more than in 1862. Twelve years since, when jute was first specified in the official account under a heading distinct from that of hemp, the annual importation did not exceed 275,578 cwts.; the increment has been, therefore, more than sevenfold. Almost the entire supply was brought from India, Singapore, and Ceylon.

COLONIAL BISHOPRICS.—There are, it appears, by a return issued lately, thirty-eight colonial bishops, with salaries varying from £50 up to £2,500. The £50 bishop is Dr. Thomas, Bishop of Goulburn (New South Wales), and his munificent income is said to be derived from the Colonial Bishoprics' Fund, and from the interest on a sum returned blank invested in the colony. The prelate who has £2,500 a-year is Dr. Parry, of Barbadoes, whose income is entirely derived from the Consolidated Fund. Only five bishops are thus provided for, and they are all in charge of West Indian dioceses. A note appended to the return says, "The list of colonial bishops is made up without reference to the effect of the recent decision of the Judicial Committee in the case of the Bishop of Natal."

A clipper ship, built by Messrs. Robert Steele and Co. for the China trade, was recently launched from their yard on the Clyde. As the vessel left the ways she was named the *Ariel* by Mrs. Robert Steele, jun. The *Ariel's* dimensions are:—Length of keel and forerake, 195 feet; breadth of beam, 33 feet 9 inches; depth of hold, 20 feet 6 inches; register tonnage, 850. She is built on the composite principle, and will be classed 14 years A 1 at Lloyd's. Her owners are Messrs. Phillipps, Shaw, and Lowther, and Captain Maxton, London, and she will be commanded by Captain Keay, late of the *Falcon*.

DR. DANIELL, THE AFRICAN TRAVELLER.—William Freeman Daniell, M.D., F.L.S., late Staff-surgeon to Her Majesty's forces in Jamaica, from which island he arrived in England last September, with a constitution thoroughly broken up by climate, died, June 26, at Southampton, aged 47 years, and was buried in Kensal-green, July 3. Dr. Daniell was well known to the scientific world by his indefatigable labours and researches on the climate and productions of the pestilential coast of Western Africa, and other parts of the globe. He served the whole of his time as assistant-surgeon at our settlements on the African coast, and obtained his promotion to the rank of staff-surgeon in 1853; since which he has twice been employed in the West Indies, and accompanied the "Expeditionary Force" to China in 1860, where his love of his favourite pursuit, Botany, led him to make some additions to the flora of that interesting region, more especially of a fine new species of Tartary oak, which may at some future day furnish timber for a dockyard at Hong Kong—should our present iron-clads not altogether supersede the demand for that invaluable wood in the construction of Britain's best bulwarks.

THE CHINA CHALLENGE CUP.—The competition for this cup commenced on the 15th by representatives from thirty-two counties. It is expected to be completed to-day. Several designs for the cup have been submitted, and the selection is still under consideration. The conditions of the match having been left to the Council, great curiosity was felt as to the ultimate destination of it. The decision arrived at was that it should be placed in the hands of the Lord-Lieutenant of the winning county from year to year, and that £100 should be annually divided among the more successful of the competing squads, consisting of ten men drawn from every county desirous of entering.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, July 8.

The First Chamber of the States-General, as I anticipated in my last, passed the new tariff for the Netherlands Indies without a dissentient. This was certainly a great parliamentary triumph for the Minister of the Colonial Department, but I persist in my opinion that the tariff is not so liberal as we had the right to expect from this Cabinet. An important discussion took place about the abrogation of the existing free-ports and free provinces in India, which are exempted from paying duties. Several members were of opinion that these privileges ought to be repealed, but Mr. Fransen van de Putte thought it impossible to revoke those protective measures immediately. After having passed also the great politico-economical measure for modifying the law regarding the communal imposts, the First Chamber was prorogued.

Though the Cabinet had been thus successful, it was to be feared that the Minister of the Financial Department would suffer a check on the law about the personal taxes. At a former sitting, when the law met with some opposition from the Ministrial party, the illness of Mr. Betz delayed this defence of his principles. Every one thought that the law would be modified during this delay, but that not having been done Article I. of the Bill was rejected by 39 against 25 votes, and in consequence the Bill was withdrawn. There are many

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rumours in circulation as to what he will do in his critical position. His resignation would follow according to strict constitutional usage, but I do not think that will be his resolve. Meantime the Second Chamber adjourned till Monday next, when the discussion on the law abolishing the Stamp duty on newspapers will commence.

Yesterday the commercial treaty with France was signed at the Hague. In my next I will give you some particulars about this important treaty. I can now only say, that on Dutch coffee imported into France no higher duty can be levied than 5 francs per 100 kilo. This is one of the most favourable stipulations.

Dr. Buddingh, Inspector of Education in the East Indies, has had the Leopold order conferred on him by the King of the Belgians.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The market continues to be in a very firm condition. Very few parcels are offered, notwithstanding there is much inquiry for those qualities sold in the last auction. The unsold stock of the Trading Company amounts to 380,200 bales Java, against 417,900 bales in 1864, and 396,400 in 1863. The stock in the Netherlands amounts to 512,200 bales, against 563,100 bales in 1864. Since the 1st of January till the 1st inst. the Trading Company delivered 412,498 bales, against 384,923 bales in the six first months of 1864. At the close of the market holders declined to operate without a considerable advance, because it was officially known that the new crop would not produce more than 760,000 bales.

SUGAR.—(Raw). The market remains inactive, but in a firm condition. Holders decline to sell at the actual quotations; only 2,000 to 3,000 kr. changed hands at 1½f. beneath May prices. On the 21st inst. the Trading Company will offer at public auction 70,600 kr.

RICE.—The market remains still in an unaltered condition; only 300 bales Java were sold at the former rates.

TEA.—At the public sales for private account the quantities offered were partly sold at the following prices:—China: Superfine Congo 92 to 100c., Extra Fine Kaisow Congo 115 to 142, Fine Congo 98, Finest Pecco Souchon 160, Fine Kaisow Congo 100 to 105, Finest Kaisow Congo 76 to 100, Finest Flowery Pecco 130 to 140, Finest Congo 110 to 111, Finest Souchon 105, Extra Finer Oopack Congo 137 to 140, Extra Fine Flowery Pecco 112, Superfine New Season's Souchon 140 to 141, Finest New Season's Souchon 105 to 106, Finest Lapsang Souchon 175, Fine New Season's Congo 128 to 130, Finest New Season's Kaisow Congo 125, Fine Congo 105, Extra Fine Congo 105, Finest Hysant 60 to 100 c. Java: Boey 40 to 43c., Congo 48 to 76, Kempoey 60 to 80, Souchon 80 to 85, Congo Souchon Pecco 110, Pecco 110, Tonkay 40 to 50, Schin 37 to 40, Hysant 50 to 80, Uxim 65 to 80c. Since the auction the parcels retired were sold at the same prices. There is much confidence in this article.

SPICES.—Still dull, and with a very limited business at former prices. Since the 1st January the Trading Company delivered:—Nutmegs 330 casks, Mace 228 casks, Cloves 224 casks; against 996 casks Nutmegs, 347 casks Mace, and 234 casks Cloves, in 1864. The unsold stock of the Trading Company amounted on the 30th June to—1863, 2,116 casks Nutmegs, 960 casks Mace, 600 casks Cloves, 1,065 fard. Cinnamon, 5,181 b. Pepper; 1864, 1,466 casks Nutmegs, 856 casks Mace, 70 casks Cloves, 1,378 fard. Cinnamon, 3,707 b. Pepper; 1865, 3,061 casks Nutmegs, 756 casks Mace, 1,793 casks Cloves, 1,612 fard. Cinnamon, 1,619 b. Pepper. And on ceduls in the 2nd hand—1863, 4,474 casks Nutmegs, 1,150 casks Mace, 2,885 casks Cloves, 756 fard. Cinnamon, 616 b. Pepper; 1864, 4,190 casks Nutmegs, 1,096 casks Mace, 2,853 casks Cloves, 944 fard. Cinnamon, 464 b. Pepper; 1865, 4,786 casks Nutmegs, 1,129 casks Mace, 2,465 casks Cloves, 326 fard. Cinnamon, 264 b. Pepper.

COTTON.—The sales have been extremely light in the last days. In the former week the transactions were important, and with improved prices. Stock, 4,300c. Madras.

HIDES.—Without transactions, at least they are not known, the brokers being defended to give publicity as to the sales and prices.

INDIGO.—With a good demand at improved prices, but the stock being very unimportant in the first hand, business is limited. 91 chests were sold at an advance of 25c. on the last auction prices.

GAMBIER.—A parcel of 413 p. came in the market, of which 100 p. were sold; the rest may now be had at 14f. per p.

BANCA TIN.—The 168,704 slabs Banca and 1,223 slabs Billiton offered at auction by the Trading Company were all sold at 56f., which must be considered as very favourable. The actual stock amounts to 217,023 slabs (value 56f.), against 185,988 in 1864 (value 62½f.); and 148,218 slabs in 1863 (value 78f.).

COCOA-NUT OIL.—Very firm; the prices are still improving by want of stock.

RATTANS.—Only a few transactions have taken place at former quotations.

ARRACK.—There are no transactions to report, buyers declining to operate at the high quotations.

TOBACCO (JAVA).—(Report of Mr. N. C. Gregoor, broker, Rotterdam).—The several auctions went off not unfavourable with regard to the best qualities. The interior, however, were given at low prices, which, without doubt must give great losses to the consigners. These low quotations, however, caused some speculative inquiry, and it is more than probable that these operations at prices much beneath those at which can be produced, will give very favourable result. Those qualities fit for the London market were paid with fabulous prices. The trading marks H. and A. Blitar, de Blitar, Nauta Blitar, A. J. Walter, N. A. J. Walter, Blitar and Djaris, obtained the highest prices. The Rembang tobacco is waited for with much interest. Manilla: There was a good demand at improved prices for 2a. (cover), and the consumption bought a very important quantity. In the second-hand, many transactions took place. The market closed, however, inactive for want of parcels offered. Quotations, 3a. (dec. auction) 65 c., 3a. full auction 55 c.; 2a. 120 c., 1a. 150 c.; 4a. 32 c. Actual stock, 14,676 p. Java leaves; 3,118 p. Manilla; 3,000 casks Maryland.

MANILA SEGARS.—375,000 were offered to-day. The 2a Cortados were partly sold at 38¼f., the rest was retired at 40f. Another lot of 450,000 2a Cortados, 1864, were partly sold at 39½f. to 40f., and the rest retired at 42f.

TORTOISE.—The Netherlands Trading Company offered in public auction 93 ch. 10,000 kilo., which were partly sold at f.4.25 to f.10.25, and partly retired at f.8.75 to f.9.75.

MOTHER OF PEARL.—About 77,100 ps. were sold by the Trading Company; the 1a, at 81½ to 82½c.; 2a, 84 to 85c.; 3a, 65c.

SILK (JAPAN).—The Trading Company sold at auction 6 b. Hadchojee, at 33f. to 34f.; 20 b. Coshio, at 33½f. to 40½f.; 41 b. Sodai, at 31½f. to 38¾f.; 18 b. Idah (slips and bricks), at 34½f. to 42½f.; 166 b. Oshia (redevidée), at 34½f. to 42f.; 12 b. Sincheu (flotillons), at 40½f. to 44½f.; 16 b. Maybash (flotillons), at 37½f. to 42½f.; 5 b. Inchew (bricks), at 32½f. to 32¾f. For private account was sold: 2 b. Trame, at 51f.; 5 b. Organzine, at 43f. to 48f.; 57 b. Persian, at 26f. to 26¾f., 3 b. Chinchanttes, at 18f.; 1 b. Chinchea, at 18f.

MONEY is very abundant, and it is willingly given in the open market at 3 per cent. Bank discount, for bills, 3 per cent.; for acceptances, 3½ per cent.; Dutch debt, 2½ per cents. 62 11-16th; 3 per cents., 73⅝; 4 per cents., 97 3-16th; Handelmaatshappy, 146½; Dutch Rhenish Railway shares, 334f.; Central Railway shares, 121¾f.; Society of Exploration State Railways, 91½; East Indian Bank, 86; East Indian Railway, 90. The market in general is flat and business very limited. 'Change: London, 3 mo., f.11.78; 2 mo., f.11.81; short, f.11.89; Paris, 3 mo., f.46.70; 2 mo., f.46.82; short, f.47.20; Antwerp, 3 mo., f.46.65; short, f.47.12½; Hambro', 3 mo., f.34.90; 2 mo., f.34.98; short, f.35.10.

SHIPPING.—ARRIVALS.—June 22, at Flushing, from Singapore, Landrost Braun; 26, at Texel, from Batavia, Quartet, Ortelius; July 3, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Nederland and Oranje; 2, at Texel, from Banjoewangie, Reflect; 4, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Susanna Johanna; 5, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Jeannette Cornelia; Burgemeester van Middelburg; 6, at Brouwershaven, from Tjilatjap, Tonia, Minister Pahud; July 7, from Padang, Isaac da Cotas; at Texel, from Passaraeang, Jacoba and Christina.

DEPARTURES.—June 26, from Texel for Sourabaya, Quintet; July 2, from Texel for Kanagawa, Batavia; 6, from Hellevoet, for Singapore, Sophia Amalia.

READY TO SAIL.—Helena and Anna, for Batavia; Alblasserwaard, for Sourabaya; Sophia Amalia, for Singapore.

LOADING.—At Rotterdam, for Batavia and Sourabaya, Bezoekie, Hugo Grotius, Boni, Johanna; for Batavia, Constantia, Cornelis Wernard Eduard; for Batavia and Samarang, Robertus Hendricus; for Samarang, Doelwyk, Bilderdyk, Koffyboom; for Singapore and Hong Kong, Sophia Amalia. At Amsterdam, for Batavia and Sourabaya, Louise; for Batavia and Samarang, Constance; for Decima and Kanagawa, Bantam; for Kanagawa and Nagasaki, Gloria; for Padang, Excelsior, Anna and Jeannette, Helena, Geradina Wilhelmina, Telanak; for Singapore and Hong Kong, Bernard and Agnes; for Sourabaya, Bellatrix.

FREIGHTS.—Quotations of Messrs. Fauchey and de Vletter, shipbrokers, Rotterdam:—For Batavia: Constantia, 741 tons; Cornelis, Wernard Edouard, 850 tons. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Bezoekie, 747 tons; Hugo Grotius, 673 tons; Boni, 575 tons; Johanna, 713 tons. For Batavia and Samarang: Robertus Hendrikus, 753 tons. For Samarang: Doelwyk, 824 tons; Bilderdyk, 754 tons; Koppyboom, 1,280 tons. For Kanagawa: Maria, 380 tons. Freights unaltered.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From Java: per Ortelius, Messrs. J. H. Donleben and family, S. Fegel, J. F. Kooze, and Miss C. Abbink. Per Quintet: Messrs. W. J. Schroder and Bregman. Per Nederland and Oranje: Mr. F. A. Wethmar and family. Per Tonia: Messrs. F. Ten Hagen and family, C. Drayer, Labaar and family, Smits, Mrs. Graiken and family. Per Padang Packet: Messrs. C. de Haan Holtzinger and family.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

To Java: per Quintet, Messrs. T. and P. Blom and two children, C. J. Gysbers, Mrs. J. Schaffien von Bronkhorst and six children, Miss J. L. Sauer.

TEA.

(Traders' Circular.)

Two months have now elapsed since the announcement of the proposed reduction in duty, and with the exception of a few days of feverish excitement, the market has been, during the whole of that period, in a state of unprecedented stagnation. How different a result was anticipated! It was thought that the removal of one-half of an impost, equal to 100 per cent. of the market value of the great bulk of the tea used, would so materially reduce retail prices, that the immediate increase of consumption would again raise prices after the reduction was absolutely made. These anticipations have only been partly realised; retail prices have fallen, and consumption has increased, but the addition to price and the large demand which would, it was thought, naturally follow, have not as yet resulted. It would, however, be premature to suppose that retailers and consumers have reaped all the benefit of the reduction, and that no part of it is likely to reach importers of tea. Their future position will be improved, and a more speedy, and perhaps in the long run, a more profitable realisation would have taken place, if, instead of allowing themselves to be carried away by the excitement inseparable from fiscal changes, they had directed their attention to the real position of supply, and to the actual wants of the trade. To any one at all conversant with such matters it must have been evident that when the duty-paid stocks of tea held by retailers were as large as they were proved to have been by the unanimous outcry raised for a postponement of the reduction in duty, the bonded stocks held by them must also be considerable, and therefore that they would not be likely to buy for some time unless a great inducement was held out to them to do so. But this very obvious inference was generally lost sight of, and the brief period of excitement during which the trade would have bought freely at any moderate advance was suffered to pass away unimproved, in the hope of obtaining, at some unknown period, still higher rates. On the part of the trade it was felt that the demands of importers were not warranted by circumstances, being based upon an exaggerated estimate of increased consumption at home and a doubtful export demand, while, on the other hand, heavy arrivals and a year's stocks in the

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country were used as arguments against any great rise in price. But the question was further complicated by the receipt of telegrams announcing pecuniary difficulties in China, and on these fresh arguments were founded both for and against an advance. It was stated that the crippled condition of some of the mercantile houses would interfere with shipments; that the first arrivals of the new teas would, in consequence, be much later this year; and that, from the same cause, the total exports of the season would be considerably restricted. These statements do not appear to have exercised much influence on purchases; indeed, rumours of short supply have been so often circulated, and so seldom followed by any actual scarcity, that the argument has lost its force. It was well known that China produced annually far more tea than she could consume at home, and that to the extent of the reduction of 6d. per lb. we were in a position to compete with the Chinese consumers themselves for the entire crop, and probably to outbid them; at any rate, the great bulk of the excessive production was certain to be sent to this country, as England had always been her largest and wealthiest customer. This certainty was further increased by the knowledge that the news of the reduction of duty, and consequent rise in price here, would be received in China about the middle of May, and that an inducement, sufficiently powerful to counterbalance the depressing effect of last year's losses, would thus be held out to shippers. China, too, was no longer the only source of supply. Japan had contributed largely of late years, while cultivation was extending rapidly in India, and large consignments were known to be on the way from that country. Under these circumstances, grocers, who had been willing to buy forward when prices were low, declined to purchase at the extreme advance, resolving to use up the stocks they had already bought before they again entered the market; and, as even now many of them are known to hold as much as they can sell in six months, it seems probable that they may be able to continue for some time this passive resistance to the demands of importers. These last do not appear to be disposed to yield, and it remains to be proved which side will have to give way first. Buyers, however, seem to have the advantage, and to hold the result very much in their own hands; the more so as recent advices do not confirm the statements made at the beginning of May as to the probability of the new season's shipments being later than last year. Two cargoes were dispatched from Foo Chow at the usual time; and though the opening price was higher, this has been more than counterbalanced by the differences of freight and exchange. When one leading argument in favour of a particular theory falls through, the other reasons urged in support of it are naturally regarded with some suspicion; and very little anxiety will now be felt as to the shipments of the present season being deficient. There is little probability of business improving till prices are lower, as grocers appear to be in a position to wait for more favourable terms, and are quite disposed to exercise more care in purchasing in proportion as retail prices are reduced, while the cost of delayed realisation is thus all thrown on the importers, who are losing interest on capital, and are incurring accumulated dock charges, besides injuring future prices, by allowing stocks to increase.

The Board of Trade Returns, just published, state the official stock on 31st May to have been 121,576,792 lbs., and even if the most liberal deduction is made for deliveries during the month of June, there must still be as much tea on hand as at this time last year. As it is probable that clearances at the new rate of duty were somewhat in excess of requirements, the stock will not be very much diminished during the month of July, and even when allowance is made for larger deliveries during August and September, no formidable decrease is likely to be exhibited when the new season's shipments begin to arrive.

Legal.

RE THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, AND JAPAN (LIMITED) AND THE COMPANIES' ACT, 1862.

(Before Vice-Chancellor Sir W. P. WOOD on the 6th inst.)

This was an application on behalf of Mr. Robert Montgomery Martin, under section 35 of the Companies Act, 1862, to have the register of the company rectified by striking out his name, which was entered in respect of 200 shares in the company. Two similar applications have been made with respect to this company within the last fortnight,—one at the Rolls, by a Mr. Los, the other in this court, by a Mr. Higgs, and in both instances the register was ordered to be rectified by expunging their names. The cases, which arose out of an amalgamation between the Imperial Bank of China, in which these gentlemen were shareholders, with the Bank of Hindustan, of which they did not choose to become members, are reported already. On the same day on which notice of motion in the present case was served the directors of the Bank of Hindustan, passed a resolution for removing from the register the names of 40 persons including Mr. Martin, in consequence of these decisions in the Court of Chancery.

Mr. Rolt, Q.C., and Mr. J. N. Higgins, in support of the motion, contended that the directors had no power to do what they had done, and that Mr. Martin was entitled to have the protection of an order of the Court, according to the provisions of section 35 of the Companies Act, 1862.

Mr. Giffard, Q.C., and Mr. Eddis, for the bank, argued that the applicant had no longer any *locus standi*, and that he ought not to have proceeded with his motion after receiving notice that his name had actually been struck off the register.

The Vice-Chancellor said that Mr. Martin was entitled to such indemnity as the Court could give him. It had been argued that even the order of the Court would not protect him against other shareholders, in case they could show that he ought still to be regarded as a member of the company; but his Honour considered that this was an incorrect view, and that his order would be binding on the other shareholders, although, perhaps, it might not be so as regarded creditors of the company. To hold anything else would be a most disastrous doctrine for companies, for it would imply the right of every individual shareholder to appear on such an application as the present. On the other hand, it was certain that the company was not bound by the act of the directors in removing this gentleman's name. The order now asked must therefore be made, and the company must pay the costs of the application.

Naval and Military.

It was generally expected by the public, when the American Monitor first appeared in our waters, that the Admiralty would take steps to produce a vessel on similar principles, so as to place our navy on a par with that of the United States. But, amid all its experiments and reconstructions, the Admiralty has never yet attempted to build a ship upon this model; and recent experience would seem to indicate that the authorities have acted prudently in declining to burthen the country with the cost of a fleet of Monitors until their qualities had been fairly put to the test. Mr. Ericsson's design, although doubtless an ingenious one, has turned out practically a failure. The original Monitor, after a short career of mingled failures and successes, went to the bottom, and others built on her model have since followed her. It would seem to have been reserved for Captain Coles so to elaborate and perfect the system of "central armament" as to produce an iron-clad vessel perfectly manageable and seaworthy, and able safely to carry guns of enormous calibre—600-pounders, for instance, which Sir W. Armstrong avers will be none too large to carry a charge sufficient to penetrate the side of a first-rate iron-clad vessel.

Major-Gen. Lord W. Paulet, K.C.B., gives up the command of the South-West Military District and the Lieut.-Governorship of the garrison of Portsmouth to his successor, Lieut.-Gen. Sir George Buller. Lord William Paulet succeeds Sir James Yorke Scarlett at the Horse Guards in the office of Adjt.-Gen.

Rear-Admiral George Elliot, Superintendent of Portsmouth Dockyard, next on the list of rear-admirals for promotion, has resigned his appointment at Portsmouth with the intention of offering himself to the constituency of Chatham as a candidate for their suffrages in the Conservative interest at the ensuing election.

The Hindostan, sailing hired transport, has arrived at Spithead from Hong Kong, which she left on the 23rd of February. The troops she had on board consisted of the 6th battery of the 12th brigade of Royal Artillery, comprising Lieuts. Cane and Ellerby, Assist.-Surg. Longbeard, and 103 non-commissioned officers and men, 91 time-expired and invalided soldiers, 3 naval officers, and a few naval invalids, with some women and children belonging to the troops. Sixteen men and two women died during the voyage. The Royal Artillery were sent into quarters in Fort Elson, near Gosport; the invalids to the Royal Victoria Military Hospital at Netley, and the time-expired men to the depots of their respective regiments. The naval passengers and invalids were sent to Her Majesty's ship Victory, and the Naval Hospital at Haslar. This vessel brings also several guns of varied calibre, part of our captures in Japan.

Dr. Robert Bernard (1845) has been promoted to the rank of Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals, and will proceed immediately to Hong Kong, to take charge of the naval medical department in that settlement. Dr. Bernard's pay will amount to £500 per annum, whereas that of an officer of the same rank in the Army would be £1,000. No wonder the military service is more popular than the naval with professional men.

The Turret-ship Commission have reported against the construction of a vessel on Captain Cowper Coles' design, which they objected to chiefly on account of its being for a one-turret ship; and it is stated that they prefer two turrets combined with a fixed battery; so it will doubtless be decided to build the Hercules on Mr. Reed's plan, which, as we said in a former number, has a turret at each end of the ship.

The scheme by which the Duke of Somerset and his colleagues intend to abolish the rank of master in the Royal navy was laid on the table of the House of Lords on Tuesday. It has not as yet been printed, although, as a matter of course, it will be so immediately. We are, therefore, only able to deal very shortly with the supposed contents of the document. Their lordships have decided that in the face of the high qualifications which are required in our days from young officers before they can be promoted to the rank of lieutenant, it is absolutely wrong that attainments of the kind should be unavailable for the use of the public after they have been awarded their commission. It has, therefore, been resolved that while the whole responsibility connected with the safe navigation of Her Majesty's ships shall devolve upon the captain, he shall be assisted by a navigating officer taken from the class just mentioned. We regret to find that it is not intended to do much for the staff commanders and masters now on the list. We fear that these gentlemen will be called upon to serve in their present rank until death or retirement places them beyond the reach of their lordships.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL GORDON, C.B., Royal Engineers, has been appointed to proceed to Dover for active service.

Monetary and Commercial.

At the half-yearly meeting of the directors of the Thames and Mersey Marine Insurance Company (Limited), held in London, an interim dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, and a bonus of 5 per cent., were declared, free of income-tax, being together at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum for the half-year ending 30th June.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Union Bank of London, Mr. Northall Laurie in the chair, the report stated the available total, including £61,375 brought from the previous account, to be £206,255, and recommended a dividend and bonus at the rate of 30 per cent. per annum, leaving, after an appropriation of £5,000 to the building fund, £21,255 to be carried forward. A vacancy in the direction, caused by the resignation of Mr. T. A. Gibb, was filled by the nomination of Mr. Scrimgeour, who has hitherto from the foundation of the establishment, for twenty-six years, acted as general manager,

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with a zealous rectitude that was among the main causes of its success.

It appears that telegraphic communication with India is suspended, and it is feared that the difficulty on this occasion is through some break or fault in the Gulf cable.

The half-yearly bullion tables, prepared by Mr. F. M. Page, show that the export to China was £422,509, against £888,911, in 1864; to Singapore, Penang, and Batavia, £356,472, against £403,171; to Ceylon, £7,886, against £50,725. The total to all parts of India and China (with Alexandria) being £3,500,756, against £13,111,405, in 1864.

Another agency institution has been formed under the title of the "United Service Company," which is intended to absorb the agency business now conducted by Messrs. Saunders, Otley, and Morgan. The capital is fixed at £500,000, in 50,000 shares of £10 each; and the directors comprise first-class civil and military officers.

Owing to the failure of Messrs. Scott, Berland, and Co., the firm of Messrs. J. Samuels and Co., merchants, of Manchester, have been obliged to suspend payment. The liabilities are stated at £80,000. The liquidation will, it is expected, prove satisfactory.

The annexed circular has been sent to the shareholders in the China Steam and Labuan Coal Company (Limited):—

Sir,—The directors having had inquiries from some of the shareholders as to the reason for making the recent call, the board beg to inform them that the call was required not in consequence (as some shareholders think) of the depreciated price of the shares, but to carry out the original objects and intentions of the company. The directors think it desirable to let all the shareholders know that their hopes, as regards the future prospects of the company, have not been in any way lessened, and they are of opinion that the objects of the company offer a most legitimate source for investment, and, with careful management, will result in success; but they cannot possibly control the value of the shares in the market, and at the present moment the nominal market price of a share is no criterion of its value. The board have engaged a marine superintendent of ability and experience, who proceeded to China by the last mail, and as soon as he has had time to make himself acquainted with the position of affairs abroad he will make a detailed report for the information of the shareholders. As regards the Labuan property, a deputation of the directors have had an interview with the Secretary of State for the Colonies with reference to a concession of lands and other privileges connected with the construction of the railway from the coal pits to Victoria Harbour, and these negotiations are proceeding very satisfactorily, and when concluded will be of great advantage to the company. The present price of good steam coal at Hong Kong and Shanghai would leave a considerable profit on coals shipped from Labuan to those ports, and as soon as the short railway, seven-and-a-half miles, is made to Victoria Harbour, it will enable the company to ship coals in such quantities as to meet any reasonable demands. I may add that all the steamers are profitably employed, and if you will at any time favour me with a call, I shall be happy to show you all the reports, and afford any other information in my power —I am, &c., H. WALLER PLATT, Acting Secretary.

The bills have been returned of Messrs. Watson, Bogle, and Co., shipping merchants, of Manchester, a firm connected with Messrs. Scott, Bell, and Co., whose stoppage has been announced.

The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Company have appointed Mr. W. H. Vacher, late of Gilman and Co., China, as their special agent in London. The address is at present at Gresham House, Old Broad-street. The bank, as previously announced, draw on the London and Westminster Bank.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£79,143
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£5,500
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£166,242
Singapore	£3,007	£202,650
Penang	—	£3,500
Yokohama	—	£6,165

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£57,966
Penang	—	£4,508
Hong Kong	—	£47,000
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£31,151
Yokohama	—	£7,536

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£56	—
To Saigon	—	£80,157
To Batavia	£2,132	—
To Hong Kong	—	£14,880
To Shanghai	£80	£59,183

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce	£3 17 9	
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0	to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4	
Silver in Bars	0 5 0¼	
Mexican Dollars	0 4 11¼	

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Foo-chow Congous: In dust and broken leaf we hear of hardly any transactions, and all grades above these up to medium kinds are only saleable here and there at the reduced prices established at the public auctions; fine and finest are scarce, but the business in these kinds is quite of a retail character. Black Leaf: There have been several new parcels offering out of the late arrivals, but mostly of common to fair quality, for which it is impossible to obtain biddings; in medium and fine the transactions have been most limited. A few boxes "overland," of new Tayshan-make and fine quality, sold in public sale at 3s. per lb. Flowery Pekoes have been cleared off at the auctions at extremely low rates. In Scented Teas we have nothing new to notice. There have been several parcels of coloured Japan Teas on offer, but they are not of the class of late in demand. True Greens: A few parcels have been sold at full rates, but the bulk of the late arrivals are not yet on the market. At the public sales that concluded on the 10th instant, 34,474 packages were sold. An Indian sale was held on the 13th and 14th instant, consisting of 3,750 packages, of which 2,913 have been sold. The sales haveg one very heavily, and at a reduction of 2d. to 4d. per lb., the broken kinds being mostly withdrawn in the absence of offers. A China sale is advertised for the 18th instant; so far, only about 10,000 packages are printed, mostly "without reserve."

SILK.—According to a circular of Messrs. Arles Dufour and Co., of Lyons, the apprehensions of a bad silk crop, which for several months have influenced business, and caused a continual rise in prices, are confirmed. The European crop of 1865 may, it is said, be looked upon as the most disastrous since the breaking out of the disease. It is difficult to ascertain the mean price for the present year, on account of the great disparity in value of the various races of cocoons. The Japanese races are the only ones of which the success has been nearly universal, and, taking these for a basis, the season opens with quotations from 20 to 30 per cent. higher than those current at the corresponding period of last year. Indeed, for certain qualities they are even above those of 1857. Still it is felt desirable that producers should be on their guard—first, against the dangers arising from a probably diminishing consumption, on account of extreme rates; secondly, against the probability of a much larger importation from China and Japan, which, according to the last advices, may be double that of last year; and, lastly, against the equally great probability, on account of the success of the Japanese seed, of an abundant crop in 1866.

		s.	d.		s.	d.
CHINA:—Tsatlee,	No. 1 ...	33	0	to	33	6
„	No. 2 & 3 ...	31	0	to	32	0
„ Hangchow	...	27	0	to	28	0
Yuenfa and Haimin,	No. 1 ...	27	6	to	—	
„	No. 2 & 3	25	6	to	26	6
Taysaam,	No. 1 ...	28	0	to	—	
„	No. 2 & 3 ...	25	6	to	27	0
Long Reel	...	22	0	to	24	6
Canton ...	...	None.				
Thrown ...	...	None.				
JAPAN:—Mibush,	No. 1 ...	34	0	to	35	0
„	No. 2 & 3	31	6	to	33	0
Idah Bricks,	No. 1 ...	31	0	to	32	0
„	No. 2 & 3	29	0	to	31	0
Sodai,	No. 1 ...	30	6	to	31	6
„	No. 2 & 3 ...	29	0	to	30	6
Oshu, re-reeled,	No. 1	30	0	to	31	0
„	No. 2 & 3 ...	27	6	to	30	0
Koshu, Selé	...	28	0	to	30	0
Hatchojee Tussah	...	13	6	to	27	0
Aechezan slips	...	27	0	to	29	6
Mashtah do.	...	27	0	to	29	6

COTTON.—Prices are irregular, the market having been very quiet, with little business done. An advance of ¼d. to ½d., obtained at the very close of the week ending the 8th inst., has been mostly lost. We have no sales of China to report in the London market, but 80 bales Japan, fair, went at 12d. The stock of China and Japan in London on the 13th July was 5,020, bales against 31,435 same time last year; the total stock of all kinds being 63,568 bales, against 80,021 in 1864. The stock afloat to Europe on the 14th is 17,910 bales China, and 826 bales Japan, against 73,085 bales of the former, and 9,126 bales of the latter last year. The stock of cotton in Liverpool on the 14th was 360,527 bales, against 212,177 bales last year. At Liverpool there was similar advance to that noted above, at the very close of the week ending the 8th, but the higher figure has been lost during the present week. In China and Japan the current qualities command full prices, while the better descriptions are rather dearer. Middling Orleans is quoted at 19¼d. and fair Dhollerah at 14d. per lb.

SUGAR.—The buoyancy observable at the date of our last has not since continued, and the business done has been on a less extensive scale; prices, however, have been fully supported. 3,822 bags Penang were held for firm prices, and barely two-thirds were taken, fine brown to low yellow 30s. to 31s. 6d., low middling and middling yellow 32s. to 33s. The only transaction reported on the spot by private contract since the 7th is 4,000 bags unclayed Manila at 27s. At public sale on the 14th 537 bags common brown, Siam sort, fetched 25s. 6d. to 26s. 6d.

COFFEE.—The public sales of plantation Ceylon have amounted to 1,100 casks, 630 barrels and bags, which at the opening went off without spirit, but a slight reduction being submitted to, buyers afterwards purchased more freely, and the whole quantity offered has been sold; fine ordinary to low middling, 78s. to 83s.; middling to good middling, 84s. to 88s.; 244 casks 2,180 bags Native were about half realized, at rather easier prices, good ordinary mixed, 66s. 6d. to 67s.; real good ordinary, 68s. to 69s.; fine ordinary, 69s. 6d. to 70s. At auction 1,428 bags Singapore sold as follows:—Mixed Bonthyne, 72s. 6d. to 73s.; common to good Campar, 60s. to 64s. 6d.; fair Siam, 66s. 6d. to 68s., and Bally, 57s. 6d. to 58s.

HIDES.—The quantity of East India offered at the first public sales of the present month was not large, and consisted almost wholly of middling and inferior qualities only suitable for export, for which there was a fair demand, clearing the greater part at from last sale prices to an occasional

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slight decline on hides of heavy average. 4,058 Singapore and Penang Cow Hides offered, 2,344 sold; Light, 6d. to 7d. per lb.; Heavy, 4¼d. to 5¼d. per lb.; Thirds, 4d. to 4¾d. per lb. 3,348 Singapore and Penang Buffalo Hides offered and sold at 5⅜d. to 5½d. per lb. for best; 5d. to 5⅜d for seconds, and 4½d. for light

RICE.—Continued quietness has prevailed in this market, buyers appearing indisposed to operate beyond their most immediate wants, and the sales reported do not exceed 5,000 bags. At auction, 915 bags Java (of 1862 import) and 3,000 bags Nakrenzie, meeting scarcely any offers, were withdrawn.

PEPPER.—In public sale the sound part of 1,008 bags good Black Singapore was held for 3¼d., and afterwards taken at that price, with the damaged portion at allowances. Privately, about 3,000 bags have been sold at steady rates—Singapore, 3⅜d.; cash and short prompts, Penang at 2⅝d. to 3d.

CASSIA LIGNEA is taken in moderate quantities at full prices, low middling to good 81s. to 85s.

CLOVES.—Only 15 cases Penang have been brought forward, which were withdrawn at 1s. 2d.

SAGO.—1,142 boxes, in public sale, were mostly realised at about former rates:—Fair medium, 18s. 6d.; fine, 20s. to 20s. 6d.; fair large grain, 21s. 6d. to 22s.; very good, 23s. to 23s. 6d. Flour has been purchased by private contract at 14s. 3d. to 14s. 6d.

COCOA-NUT OIL.—The market has been steady, but the demand is not very active; holders, however, are firm. At auction 7 casks of Ceylon only were offered, which were sold at 42s. to 42s. 3d., the quality being rather inferior, prompt one month.

CUTCH.—Demand steady, at 24s. to 25s. according to quality.

HEMP.—Firm; at £29 to £31 for roping Manila.

TIN.—Straits, cash, £91; Banco, £94 per ton.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
July 5	Deal	Shanghai	Benvenue	Keay.
— 6	London	Colombo, &c.	Attila	Brown.
— 7	Falmouth	Akyab	Colma	Ipland.
— 7	Deal	Batavia	Tonia	Werner.
— 6	Off Dover	Rangoon	Everhard Delius	Hohnholz.
— 6	Off the Wight	Singapore	La Serena	Beal.
— 5	Texel	Padang	Padang Packet	Huidekoper.
— 5	Do.	Banjoewangie	Oceaan	Smit.
— 5	Do.	Do.	California	Leonhard.
— 4	Brouwershaven	Do.	Susanna Johanna	Peters.
— 5	Do.	Do.	Cornelia	Romyn.
— 5	Do.	Do.	Burgmr. v. Middelburg	Hoek.
Jun. 17	Havana	Macao	Nouvelle Pallas	Daban.
— 19	Do.	Do.	Avon	Falcon.
— 26	New York	Shanghai	Finella	Murray.
July 7	Deal	Batavia	Tagal	
— 7	Do.	Do.	China	Horner.
— 8	London	Shanghai	Countess Russell	Thompson.
— 7	Texel	Pasaroeang	Jacoba & Christina	
— 7	Brouwershaven	Padang	Isaac da Costa	Kleyn.
— 8	Do.	Banjoewangie	India	Vonck.
— 4	Gibraltar	Singapore	Lotus	Henningsen.
— 9	Hamburg	Batavia	Adelaide	Koch.
— 9	Cuxhaven	Do.	Mauritius	Holst.
— 12	Falmouth	Akyab	Carlota	Thuren.
Jun. 1	Havana	Macao	Queen of England	Fortunato.
July 13	London	Colombo	Santiago	Wilson.
Jun. 21	Demerara	Canton	Seville	Smith.
July—	Queenstown	Maulmain	Mangerton	Miucks.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
July 2	Hamburg	Singapore	Fontenoy	Zwanck.
— 3	Soderhamn	Java	Hosten	
— 6	Cardiff	Singapore	President Plate	Julius.
— 7	Newport	Galle	Sir James	Austin.
— 7	Sunderland	Shanghai	Seawfell	Hender.
— 6	Newport	Galle	Annie Roylston	Peterson.
— 11	London	Shanghai	Anglo Saxon	Plummer.
— 11	Falmouth	Yokohama	Maravi	Anderson.
— 12	London	Sunderland & Galle	Albyn's Isle	Burgess.
— 10	Sunderland	Shanghai	Prince Alfred	Thurkell.
— 12	Cardiff	Do.	Sailor's Home	Bryant.
—	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Vanda	Thompson.
May 22	Valparaiso	Do.	Frances Palmer	Lamb.
July 14	London	Yokohama	Chanticleer	Fraser.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Scindia. For Shanghai: Laurel, Jubilee, Dilkhoosh, Lansdowne. For Hong Kong and Canton: Sydney Eggers, Crest of the Wave. For Singapore: Courante. For Singapore and Penang: Bride. For Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius, and Batavia: Konig Willem III. For Colombo: Crixea, Thames, Charlotte Ann. For Colombo and Cochin: Star of the Mersey, John Bunyan. For Colombo and Galle: Strata Florida. For Galle, Beypore, Calicut and Mangalore: Atalanta.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Eliza Hands. For Shanghai: Aerolite, Lockett. For Singapore: Carn Tual. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Bulgersteyn. For Manila: Cinco Hermanos, Aureliana, San Luis. For Penang: Avery. For Ceylon: Star of Devon.

At GLASGOW.—For Japan: Fusi Yama. For Singapore and Penang: Foam. For Batavia and Sourabaya: County of Lanark. For Ceylon and Madras; Thomas Mitchell, Queen of Trumps.

At GREENOCK.—For Hong Kong and Canton: Ariel.

At NEW YORK.—For Shanghai: Horatio. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Anna Kimball. For Hong Kong: Benefactress. For Hong Kong and Singapore: Harmon.

At BOSTON.—For Hong Kong: Santee.

SPOKEN.

ROBIN HOOD, Sunderland to Shanghai, May 30, 2 N., 29 W.
JOHANNA ELIZABETH (Dut. b.), Batavia to Amstm., May 6, 35 S., 23 E.
PANIC, New York to Singapore, May 15, on the Equator, 23 W.
MARIA VERONICA, Amsterdam to Samarang, May 29, 3 N., 27 W.
GEBROEDERS, Cardiff to Singapore, June 2, 5 N., 25 W.
GUURTJE AND MARIA, Cardiff to Manila, May 31, 7 N., 23 W.
NORTHERN LIGHT, Colombo to London, May 6, 35 S., 18 E.
ISIS, Amsterdam to Batavia, May 14, 6 N., 22 W.
PRINCES AMALIA, Rotterdam to Batavia, May 15, 7 N., 24 W.
TAYLOR (?) (Dut.), Rottm. to Bat., 34 days out, May 27, 5 S., 28 W.
MEDINA (?) (brig.), Manila to Fal., 95 days out, June 6, 24 N., 36 W.
AUSTRALIE, Amsterdam to Batavia, May 5, 2 N., 27 W.
GLENGARIFF (?) (s.), Col'bo to Lon. 46 days out, April 18, 28 S., 45 E.
JEDDO, Reval to China, June 23, 46 N., 16 W.
KONING WILLEM II., Amsterdam to Batavia, May 31, 6 N., 24 W.
CANADIAN, London to Hong Kong, June 24, 45 N., 13 (?) W.
2 GEZUSTERS, Shields to Sourabaya, May 23, 6 N., 23 W.
NUEVO GIACOMO, Padang to Rotterdam, June 24, 31 N., 31 W.
FINZEL (barq.), Liverpool to Shanghai, May 8, 37 S., 15 E.
QUATRE BRAS (Dutch barq.), Ams. to Macassar, Apl. 3, 26 S., 19 W.
THUSNELDA (Brem. barq.), Sndlnd. to Sngpre. March 25, 2 N., 24 W.
SIMON HOBLEY (barq.), London to Japan, May 1, 34 S., 21 W.
MARY LAWSON (barq.), Colombo to London, May 31, 23 S., 56 W.
JAS. RUSSELL, London to Hong Kong, July 4, 44 N., 11 W.
ALBRECHT BEYLING, Rotterdam to Singapore, June 2, 10 N., 26 W.
GEBRODERS, Banjoewangie to Amsterdam, May 29, 6 S., 16 W.
HUNTER (barq.), Colombo to London, June 29, 32 N., 32 W.
SOVEREIGN OF INDIA, H. Kong to Portsmouth, April 25, 2 S., 107 E.
HENRY HARBECK, Philadelphia to Shanghai, May 12, 20 N., 115 E.
A vessel (supposed the WHITE ADDER, Lon. to H. Kng., off Paulo Sapato.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

The export market has been devoid of any particular feature, owing, however, to the scarcity of available tonnage now offering at the various coal ports for the leading ports in China, high prices have been obtained in coal charters. Homewards, business is still much restricted.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Hankow: 60s. meast. To Amoy and Foo-chow-Foo: 50s. weight, 40s. meast. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Manila and Labuan: 50s. weight or measurement. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 35s. weight or measurement. To Bankok: 60s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £43 and £2. 2s. For Shanghai: £52 and £2s. 13s. 6d. For Manila: 34s. to 35s. For Batavia: 24s. to 26s. For Singapore: £27 to £28 and £1. 8s. For Galle: £29 to £30 and £1. 6s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty having invited tenders for the conveyance of 64 tons naval stores, including a few combustibles, from the river Thames to Trincomalee, have accepted the Charlotte Ann for that purpose.

CASUALTIES.

The Etienne, Abeille, which sailed 28th May from Mauritius for Singapore, put back on the 1st June, leaky. The following notice has been posted at Lloyd's:—The Peep-o'-Day, Fentll, from London to Shanghai, was spoken Dec. 15, in lat. 35 S., lon. 17 E., and has not since been heard of.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At MAURITIUS.—May 20, from Sourabaya, Margaretha, Muller; June 4, from Singapore, Conference, Reid; 4, Shaftesbury (s.s.), Aitken, sailed for Singapore.

On Friday the 17th inst. there was launched from the building-yard of Mr. Archibald Denny, Dumbarton, a tug paddle-steamer, named the Court Hey—so called after the seat of Mr. Robertson Gladstone, of the firm of Gladstone and Co., of this town. The following are her dimensions:—Length of keel and forerake, 160 feet; breadth of beam, 25 ft.; depth moulded, 15 8-12ths feet. She is to be fitted with a pair of oscillating engines, having feathering floats, of 200-horse power nominal, and is intended for the towing flotilla of Messrs. Gladstone, Wylie and Co., Calcutta.

The Japan, a steamer of 600 tons burden, 180 feet by 26 feet and 15 feet, built for the East India trade by Messrs. Hedderwick and Co., of Govan, has made a trial trip between the Cloch and the Cumbrae Lights. The steamer, which is fitted with a pair of direct-acting engines, of 85-horse power, nominal, by Messrs. J. Howden and Co., "ran the lights" in 81 minutes, being at the rate of 10·12 knots per hour.

An iron screw steamer, built and engined by W. Simons and Co., was launched on the 11th instant from the London Works, Renfrew. She is of 900 tons and 120-horse power, fitted with surface condensers, steam winches, and every recent improvement. She is named the Count Von des Bosh, and is the property of the Netherlands Steam Navigation Company. She has a full poop, fitted up with cabins in rosewood, teak, and maple.

There was launched on the 13th instant from the yard of Messrs. Vernon and Sons, Brunswick Dock, Liverpool, an iron screw steamer, named the Nerbudda, built for Messrs. Reynolds, Mann, and Co., and intended for the East India trade. Her dimensions are—length, 260 feet; beam, 34 feet; depth, 21 feet 6 inches. She is registered as a vessel of 1,474 tons O.M.

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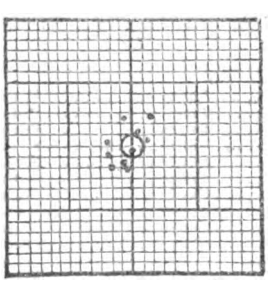

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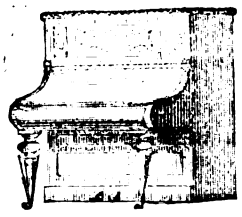

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BEGS most respectfully to remind the Nobility, Gentry, and his connections abroad, that he has just completed his extensive new Premises in PICCADILLY, where in future he will have the largest STOCK of first-class SADDLERY, HARNESS, and WHIPS in the World. Every Article will be made on the Establishment, and by first-class Workmen. First quality Hunting Saddles, complete, Five Guineas each; if booked Six Guineas.

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WILLIAM VAUGHAN MORGAN, Esq. (of the firm Saunders, Otley, and Morgan), will join the Board on the completion of pending arrangements

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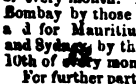

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MESSINA, ALEXANDRIA, ADEN, POINT DE GALLE (Ceylon), PONDICHERRY MADRAS, CALCUTTA, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, SAIGON, HONG KONG, and SHANGHAI.

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*** Passengers eastward of Suez securing their berths in London are entitled to the conveyance of their luggage free to Marseilles.

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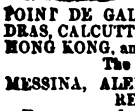

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CHINA and JAPAN.—The following splendid first-class clipper SHIPS will be despatched as under:—

Port.	Ship.	Class.	Dock.	Last Ship. Day.
Shanghai ...	Laurel ...	A1 13 yr.	E.I.D.	July 20.
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Hong Kong & Whampoa ...	Crest of the Wave ...	A1 13 yr.	E.I.D.	With des.
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ROBERTSON and CO. will despatch the following first-class VESSELS to their respective destinations. They are well adapted for their several trades, and are confidently recommended to their friends:—

Destination.	Ships.	Docks.	To Sail.
Shanghai	James Shepherd ...	W.I.D.	With des.
*H. Kong & Foo Chow	Maiden Queen ...	W.I.D.	With des.
Kanagawa & Nagasaki	Scindia ...	E.I.D.	With des.
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Destination.	Ships.	Tons	Class.	To Sail.
Shanghai ...	Aerolite ...	911	A 1 9 yrs.	About July 15
Shanghai ...	Lockett ...	518	A 1 14 yrs.	Aug. 15
Hong Kong & Whampoa ...	Ariel	850	A 1 14 yrs.	July 31
Ditto	Sir Lancelot... Childwall	850	A 1 14 yrs.	Aug. 15
Calcutta ...	Abbey ...	1227	AA 1 ...	July 31
Bombay ...	Tythonus ...	1152	A 1 12 yrs.	July 31
Batavia & Soulabaya ...	Bulgersteyn...	577	5-6ths. 1.1.	July 25

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Port.	Ships' Names.	Class.	Docks.	Sails.
Bombay ...	Dilbhur ...	A 1 14 yrs.	E.I.	July 15
Kurrachee ...	Hampton Court ...	3-3ds 1.1 A1	L.	About July 25
Rangoon ...	Leopold ...	3-3ds 1.1 A1	L.	Aug. 1
Rangoon ...	Oliver Cromwell ...	A 1 red.	S.K.	Aug. 20
Galle, Beypoor, Calicut, and Mangalore ...	Atalanta ...	A 1 13 yrs.	W.I.	Aug. 10
Adelaide ...	Venetia ...	A 1 7 yrs.	L.	Aug. 10

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FOR COLOMBO and CEYLON, direct, having the greater portion of her cargo engaged, and will have immediate despatch, the beautiful clipper ship THAMES, A 1 thirteen years; registered 444 tons. THOMAS FRASER, Commander; loading in the West-India Docks. This splendid vessel has a full poop, with accommodations of the first order for the comfort and convenience of passengers.

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With Immediate Despatch.

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Printed for the Proprietors by WOODFALL and KINDER, Milford-lane, Strand, W.C., and published by JOHN ELLISON, at the Office of the "LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH," 12, George-yard, Lombard-street, E.C. in the parish of St. Edmund the King.—Monday, July 17, 1865.

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 180.] LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 31, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London 17th July.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	March 10		May 18
Nagasaki			„ 19
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			1
Tien-tsin			„ 2
Chefoo			„ 18
New-chwang			„ 21
Hankow			„ 15
Kiu-kiang			„ 18
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	March 26	May 12	23
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 25
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	April 17	„ 29	„ 30
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	March 27	„ 12	„ 23
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			
SIAM— Bangkok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			June 2
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	April 26	„ 30	„ 7
Penang	„ „	„ 28	„ 9

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Massilia, from Southampton, July 20.—To Hong Kong: Staff-Commander Thain, R.N., Mr. R. S. Syer, Mr. and Mrs. Davies, Dr. R. Bernard, R.N. To Shanghai: Mr. Scheidt. To Ceylon: Rev. G. Middleton, Mr. A. C. Hoare, Maj.-Gen. Hodgson, Lieut.-Col. Young, Capt. Napier, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Brown and infant, and European female servant. To Singapore: Mr. E. J. Smith, Mr. Souper. To Calcutta: Capt. G. L Fraser, Mrs. Adams, Surgeon-Major Gibant, Assistant-Surgeons Giraud and McLean, Surgeon Hooper, Mrs. Gibant, Mr. P. K. Hyndman, and six second class passengers. To Madras: Miss G. Goad, Mr. K. T. Best, Lieut. R. W. O'Grady, Dr. J. C. Burton, and two second class passengers. To Alexandria: Col. and Mrs. Stanton, Mr. Unincke and female servant, Miss Donahey, Mr. M. Bell. To Malta: Mr. W. Roskelly, and two second-class passengers. To Gibraltar: Mr. C. Morgan, Master Cresswell, Mr. Pasnet and one second-class passenger.

From Marseilles, July 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. S. Fyfe, Mr. F. Troncoso, Mr. I. A. Tuton. To Singapore: Mr. Hoffmann. To Shanghai: Mr. E. B. Drew, Mr. R. Geller, Mr. and Mrs. Hughes. From Suez.—To Shanghai: Mr. M. Archer Shee, jun. To Calcutta: Mr. and Mrs. Duff, Capt. A. D. Vaurenen, Mr. T. W. Brookes, Mr. J. Maxwell. To Madras: Mr. G. Short, Col. and Mrs. de Saumarez, Mr. Drury, Rev. C. J. Goodhart. To Malta: Lieut. J. P. Jones.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Aug. 4.—To Shanghai: Mr. Landale. To Hong Kong: Mr. W. Macfarlane. To Ceylon: Mr. G. Studdart. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. W. Hulse. To Singapore: Mr. Leveson.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Aug. 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. H. P. M'Clatchie, Mr. M. O'Brien. To Hong Kong: Mrs. Tomlin, Mrs. Emilius Hughes, Mr. Rennie. To Ceylon: Mr. F. M. Evans, Mr E. W. H. Holdsworth, Mr. John Wodehouse. From Marseilles, Aug. 28.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. M'Lean.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Sept. 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. W. Foster. Mr. W. Gaskell. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Fitzroy, Mr. Bloor, Mrs. G. Stanford and infant. From Marseilles, Sept. 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Davidson, Rev. J. S. and Mrs. Burdon. To Shanghai: Mr. R. J. Forrest, Mr. Herbert and friend. To Galle: Mr. W. Hudson. From Suez.—To Shanghai: Sir Rutherford and Lady Alcock and Miss Alcock.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Sept. 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. Henderson. To Ceylon: Mrs. Claughton, Rev. A. and Mrs. Young. From Marseilles, Sept. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Brackenbury.

Per French mail steamer Mœris, from Marseilles on the 19th inst.—To Singapore: Messrs. Authon and Hamscheld, Mr. and Mrs. Danesberg and infant.

THE INCOMING MAILS.

The incoming mails, due in London on the 27th inst., did not arrive at Suez until that day, and will consequently not be delivered until Monday the 7th August. The French mail, with ten days' later news, is also due here on the 7th.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

Two telegrams have been received from Shanghai, one announcing the loss of the British schooner *Satsuma* (belonging to Messrs. Glover and Co., of Nagasaki), on the Japanese coast; the other, stating in few words that "Civil war had broken out in Japan." Taking into consideration the disturbed state of the internal politics of Japan during the whole period of our intercourse with that country, we attach about as much significance to this telegram as we should to one which announced that "a rebellion had broken out in China." When the intelligence comes to us in a tangible form, it will most likely prove that Choshiu, unwilling to submit to the confiscation of his territory without another effort to retrieve his position, has once more arrayed his forces for a last desperate attempt to throw off his allegiance to the Tycoon.

The arrival of the Southampton Mails has placed us in possession of our files of Japan papers, and enables us to give a few additional items of intelligence.

YOKOHAMA.

At this port the swamp at the back of the foreign settlement was becoming a source of grave anxiety to the residents. As the heat of the weather increased, the effluvia arising from it were becoming so offensive that great fears were entertained of an outbreak of cholera, or some other epidemic. It appears that the Government had long ago agreed to fill it up, but had, as usual in such cases, invented an endless series of excuses for delaying the fulfilment of their compact, and there now seems no hope of the work being completed before the intense heat of the approaching summer converts the swamp into a hot-bed of pestilence.

The Tokaido, or high road leading from Miaco to Yedo, had for some weeks been a scene of continued excitement owing to the number of officials of high rank who had passed along it, with large retinues, on their way to the capital. Most of them seemed to be peaceably disposed, but on one occasion a party of foreigners who were riding on the Tokaido narrowly escaped coming into collision with the armed men forming one of these processions.

The *Japan Herald* confirms the statement alluded to in our last issue, that an indemnity of three millions of dollars had been agreed upon, as compensation to the several Powers concerned, for the expenses of the Simonoseki expedition. It was reported that in order to defray this, the Tycoon had decided to confiscate and dispose of the territory of the Prince of Nagato, and that the latter was preparing for a stout resistance against any encroachment on his domains.

Several audacious robberies had occurred in the foreign settlement, supposed to be the work of the Chinese "rowdies" who had lately flocked to the place in great numbers from Hong Kong and Shanghai. Vessels arriving from those ports had brought over numerous Chinese passengers of a very low class, who, not being amenable to the authority of any of the Consuls, were becoming quite a nuisance to the residents.

After many meetings and unsatisfactory discussions as to the best mode of governing the internal affairs of the settlement, a Municipal Committee had at last been formed, and invested with the necessary powers. The committee consisted of

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Messrs. Kingdon, Gay, and Piquet. It is, however, understood that this is only a temporary arrangement, and that efforts are being made to hasten the formation of a Municipal Government on a solid and permanent foundation. The state of the swamp, above referred to, alone presents a difficulty requiring prompt and energetic action on the part of the Council.

Prince Satsuma has planted forty thousand mulberry trees during the past year, a significant fact, which shows his estimation of foreign commerce. He is also making considerable preparations for the improved manufacture of sugar at the Loo-choos, and is said to have engaged a Scotch overseer to the works there, and imported the latest improved machinery.

If reports be true, the local Daimios in the southern portion of Japan are all anxious to open their ports to foreigners, and to give them every encouragement and protection in their trading operations. A hope has been expressed among them, that the Treaty Powers will make further treaties with the Mikado direct, as, they assert, he would quickly consent to extend the foreign trade all over the island. Choshiu is also greatly in favour of foreign trade extending to his ports, but he declares the Tycoon will not consent.

The suicide of a soldier of H.M.'s 20th Regiment, under very distressing circumstances, had thrown quite a gloom over the settlement. About seven o'clock on the evening of the 12th of May, the unfortunate man (who had that morning reported himself unwell to his commanding officer) went to his knapsack in the barrack-room, unbuckled it, took out his razor, buckled up his knapsack again, walked up to the looking-glass, and drew the razor across his throat. His coolness and determination were evidenced by the effect. He cut through the jugular vein and windpipe, staggered into the middle of the room and died almost instantaneously. The evidence adduced at the inquest tended to show that the deceased had been subject to fits and had been for some time in a depressed state of mind. A verdict of "temporary insanity" was accordingly returned.

The *Japan Herald* gives the following account of an unexpected "naval engagement," that must have afforded much amusement to all but the sufferers:—"On the 26th instant a signal was made from H.B.M.S. *Conqueror* that 'her boats were about to attack H.B.M.S. *Osprey*, and that the latter must defend herself.' Accordingly the boats of the *Conqueror* being lowered, about 150 men were ordered into them. On reaching the *Osprey* they received the command to fire in blank cartridge into her and attempt to board. The *Osprey* literally defended herself, and the boarding party was opposed so vigorously, that several of them sustained very severe injuries. Rumour, indeed, had it, that one man had died of his wounds; but on inquiry on board we find this is a mistake. An official investigation took place on Thursday, the result of which has not yet transpired. It is stated that the commander of the *Conqueror* exceeded his orders.

From the same journal we extract the following report of an interesting case in the Consular Court, before Marcus Flowers, Esq., H.B.M.'s Acting Consul:—

James S. Downie, Agent for Messrs. Fletcher and Co., v. Thomas Silk, Master of the barque *Eleanor*, and C. S. Hope.

In this case the plaintiff claimed delivery of 53 boxes of tin plates, balance of 1,000 boxes shipped by A. Campbell, of London, in the *Eleanor*, the goods being deliverable to Messrs. Fletcher and Co. at Yokohama, as per bill of lading. Messrs. E. L. Budd and Co. claimed the goods as belonging to themselves, and authorised Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., of China and Japan, to stop the delivery of the goods to Messrs. Fletcher and Co. Mr. Hope, the agent of Jardine, Matheson and Co., applied for an injunction to stop the delivery of the balance of the goods, and put in, in support, the order of Messrs. E. L. Budd and Co.

The captain of the *Eleanor* acknowledged the bill of lading, but did not know who A. Campbell was. He stated that he had already delivered 947 boxes of the 1,000 to the order of the bill of lading, and delayed the delivery of the remainder by order of the Consul.

Mr. Hope being called upon to show cause why the injunction placed on the goods in the captain's possession should not be removed, and delivery given to Messrs. Fletcher and Co., referred to the letters of Messrs. E. L. Budd and Co., and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., which he had put in.

Mr. James S. Downie stated that A. Campbell, who shipped the goods, was the head partner in the firm of Fletcher and Co., in London.

Decision: This matter is easily decided from the clearness of the law and the evidence in the case. The bill of lading is the only document of title which can be acknowledged, and that clearly states that the goods had been shipped by A. Campbell, who is shown to be the head partner of Fletcher and Co., in London. There is nothing in the bill of lading to show that Messrs. Budd and Co. had or has any property in the goods; and even if the bill of lading showed that the goods had been shipped by E. L. Budd and Co., the circumstances of this case would be sufficient to defeat their right to stop the 53 boxes now in question; for the law says that, when part of goods sold by an entire contract has come into actual possession, the vendor's right to countermand is wholly at an end, and cannot be exercised over the residue which may not have been delivered. Independently of this, however, the bill of lading of itself is quite sufficient to support Messrs. Fletcher and Co.'s claim; and the master of the *Eleanor* is ordered to deliver the goods to Messrs. Fletcher and Co.—Defendant to pay costs.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

The report from Manchester is as follows:—Grey Shirtings, 7lb., 12s. to 12s. 6d.; 8¼lb., 15s. to 15s. 6d. Cotton Yarn, Nos. 16-24, 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN TABLES.—July 21, off Dungeness, from Java, Catherina Maria, Cornelia Henderika; New York, from Manila, Alhambra.

DEPARTURES.—July 17, from Hamburg, for Hong Kong, China; 18, for Shanghai, Malvina Vidal; 21, from Jersey, for Swansea and Shanghai, Georges; 22, from Cardiff, for Hong Kong, Madeira; 24, from Liverpool, for Shanghai, Aerolite; 24, from London, for Shanghai, Laurel; 25, Jubilee.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

ANNESLEY—On the 16th July, at 5, Leinster-terrace, Hyde-park, the wife of the Hon. Sydney Annesley, of a son.

FENNELL—On the 19th July, at Newlands, Regent's-park, Southampton, the wife of Arthur Fennell, Esq., of a son.

ORMISTON—On the 24th July, at Rhyl, Mrs. Walter Ormiston, of a daughter.

TOWSE—On the 22nd July, the wife of William Beckwith Towse, Esq., of Fishmongers'-hall, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

FORBES—On the 16th July, on board the Nyanza, on his way home from China, in his 31st year, Murdoch Forbes, Esq., eldest son of John Forbes, Esq., Haddo, near Huntly, N.B.

THE NEW GOVERNOR FOR HONG KONG.

The post of Governor at Hong Kong, we hear, has been offered to and accepted by Sir Richard Greaves McDonnell, Lieut.-Governor of Nova Scotia.

SHIP LAUNCHES.

A beautifully-modelled ship, named the Western Chief, was launched from the building-yard of Mr. R. Hill, Catte Down, Plymouth, on Monday, July 24. She was named by Mrs. J. P. Hill, the wife of the Commander, and is intended for the China and Japan trade. Tonnage, 750 38-100. Dimensions:—Length, 170 feet 6 inches; beam, 32 feet 3 inches; depth of hold, 19 feet 4 inches.

Messrs. Charles Connell and Co. launched from their west shipbuilding yard at Overnewton a composite clipper ship, of the following dimensions, viz.:—Length of keel and forerake, 192 feet; breadth of beam, extreme, 32 feet 3 inches; depth of hold from top of floors, 20 feet 1 inch; register tonnage, 820 tons; builder's tonnage, 952; classed 14 years A 1 at Lloyd's. She was named the Taitsing by Mrs. Finlay, of Langlands, Kilbirnie, and is owned by Messrs. Jas. Finlay and Alex. Longmuir, and is intended for the China trade.

A barque named the Jane Avery has been launched from Messrs. Taylor and Scouler's yard, South Dock, Sunderland, for Jane Avery and Son, of North Shields. She is 140 feet in length; breadth, 28 feet, and depth, 17 feet, and of 500 tons O.M. She is intended for the Ceylon trade.

CHINA GRASS.

Some months ago the Chamber of Commerce of Rouen, in seeking for a substitute for cotton, thought of China grass, and some of the fibre was spun and mixed with cotton in various proportions. A number of specimens of tissues produced, which were exhibited at Rouen and also in England, created a decidedly favourable impression. Tissues of China grass are well known in the commercial world, especially in the form of fine muslin and gauzes, but those produced at Rouen are of a different character – drills, white and coloured, for trousers, long-cloth for soldiers' wear, and other kinds. Two Frenchman, named Mallard and Bonneau, occupied themselves in perfecting a process for preparing the fibre; a spinner named Legheer mixed it with cotton to the extent of 40 to 60 per cent.; the yarns were woven by a Rouen manufacturer, and the Chamber of Commerce of Rouen reported most favourably on the matter.

The report declared that China grass was really a substitute for cotton; that it had far more affinity for dyes; that when mixed with cotton it gave greater strength and durability to the tissues than those which pure cotton possessed; that in spinning, weaving, dyeing and printing, the same machinery and the same modes of proceeding were applicable in both cases; that when used alone it produced goods of a new type, partaking somewhat of the qualities both of cotton and linen; and, lastly,

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that the shrinking and loss of weight from the operations of bleaching and dyeing were no more, and in some cases less, than in the case of goods produced from the best Louisiana cotton. As regards price, it was stated that the cost of the China grass when prepared for spinning was less than sevenpence a pound. This report was drawn up and published in December last. Since that period the Rouen Chamber of Commerce and a number of persons interested in cotton manufacture have made further experiments, with results, as recorded, of the most encouraging description. Specimens of drills of various kinds, and dyed of various colours, have been produced, in which China grass and cotton were mixed in the proportion of 55 per cent. of the former to 45 per cent. of the latter, and have been declared to excel ordinary drills in every respect, especially as regards the lustre of the surface. The new reports state that China grass works almost without waste and costs less than three shillings per kilogramme of the tissue, while pure cotton costs nearly five shillings per kilogramme; and a mixture of the two fibres, like those just named, to less than four shillings per kilogramme, or about twenty-two pence the English pound. The spinner and weaver who have produced the specimen, alluded to express themselves prepared to take any quantity of the material and yarn to the extent of a ton a day; and the former declares that he is prepared to devote himself entirely to the working of China grass, which, he says, can be employed by itself, or in the proportion of 60 to 75 per cent. with great economy. If these reports be not all painted *couleur de rose*, it appears that the want of a sufficient quantity of the raw material is the only thing which hinders the immediate development of the China grass trade. A company, consisting principally of leading men in the cotton manufacture has been formed with the view of establishing works for the preparation of the fibre at Rouen, and also of taking measures for securing an import of the material from the East, and for the encouragement of its growth in France and Algeria. It is said to flourish well in the latter country, and to exhibit no difficulty whatever in acclimatising itself in the former. It appears that when the Emperor was at Algiers his attention was specially called to some that was growing in the Jardin d'Acclimatation, and that he exhibited great interest in the subject, and this fact has doubtless given a spur to the manufacturers and others who have taken the matter in hand. The people of Rouen are wise in increasing the number of the baskets in which they carry their eggs; they have suffered deeply by their too absolute dependence on cotton, and if China grass is to be had at a remunerative price in any part of the world, it will be a great boon to them as well as to others. The importation of a few hundred bales will soon settle the question of price with regard to the foreign fibre, which alone can be of immediate interest; for the produce of France, Algeria, or elsewhere nearer home, however great or cheap it may possibly become hereafter, cannot be calculated upon for an immediate supply of any extent.

TEA.

(*Travers' Circular, July* 15.)

The general election has seriously impeded business, especially in the large manufacturing towns, in some of which disturbances of a serious character have occurred. The London season is virtually finished, and the town is already beginning to empty, but notwithstanding these satisfactory reasons for the continuance of a delay to trade that began with the first intimation of a lower duty, the united purchases made by the retail trade of wholesale houses during this month appear to have been more considerable than have lately been imagined, and the deliveries during the month of June were likewise large. Indeed, according to present appearances, the reduction of duty seems to have fulfilled every rational expectation which was formed with regard to it. The official figures are not yet published, but the estimated deliveries for June show an excess over the corresponding month of last year of 7,000,000 lbs., and the surplus stock is, in consequence, very much reduced; it is not now materially larger than it was at this time last year. Consumption at home apparently increases, not in an exceptional or spasmodic manner, but under conditions of social prosperity, and with low retail prices such as are likely to render the increase progressive; while an extraneous encouragement is afforded by the prospects of the export trade, which are more hopeful than they have been for some time. But perhaps a careful examination of facts will exhibit matters in a somewhat different light, and leave less cause for congratulation upon the immediate consequences of a measure which must ultimately exercise a most beneficial influence. Deliveries last month were decidedly exceptional, and may be said to have been both retrospectively and prospectively out of the ordinary course of the trade. On the one hand, the clearances during April were small, and in May merely nominal—thus leaving some arrears to be made up; while, on the other hand, uncertainty as to what the demands of the public might actually be, and a desire to figure advantageously in the Customs' returns, caused clearances to be made far in excess of immediate wants, the effect being to restrict deliveries for several months to come. The estimated London duty-paid deliveries for the six months ending 30th June, 1865, are scarcely more than 2,000,000 lbs. larger than for the same period of 1864, and though the amount sent coastwise, under bond, is for the same period nearly 4,000,000 lbs. in excess, it does not of necessity follow that all this has as yet passed into consumption, nor is it improbable that by the end of September the relative excess in delivery may be considerably smaller. The importance of the fact that the stock has now been reduced nearly to the level of this time last year will be greatly diminished when it is remembered that 1864 was, as regards tea, a year of excessive import, that the stock at the end of June was larger by several million pounds than it had been at the same period of any previous year, and that there is still nine months' stock in the country after every allowance has been made for increased consumption.

(*Travers' Circular, July* 22.)

The elections are now nearly over, but the excitement attending them has not been favourable to business, and it is probable that some weeks may yet elapse before this has entirely subsided; at present there seems to be little likelihood of any immediate change for the better. Greater and more prolonged excitement appears to have been caused in the provinces than in London, as might be expected, attention in small communities being more readily diverted by any unusual occurrence that breaks the common routine of every-day life and concentrates notice fort the time on public affairs. The same influences affect, though in a lesser degree, the great centres of commerce; but in these the machinery of business is so perfect, and its subdivision so minute, that the results of any disturbing cause are not so apparent as in smaller communities, where the entire control of trade is vested in few hands. It would seem that the elections have affected this market more than that for any other article of produce; indeed, the trade in tea appears to be particularly sensitive to the influence of passing events, and the article itself seems to be still regarded more as a luxury than as a necessary of life. It is not easy to estimate the effect which any general out-door excitement, accompanied as it usually is by the free use of other stimulants, has upon the consumption of tea, but it must be considerable enough to diminish for the time the sales made by grocers, and, as a consequence, the necessity for their laying in fresh supplies. The experience of late years has shown that purchases of tea have as a rule been made in advance, either with a view to secure some real or fancied advantage of market value, or from an idea that some particular description, at one time on offer, might not be again obtainable, and great encouragement to buy forward is held out by the long credit of three months allowed on tea, while sugar and all the other articles principally dealt in by grocers are sold on shorter terms; thus the former was, and is still, amongst many of the older members of the trade, bought long before it is actually required, while the latter is purchased from hand to mouth. Although the further shortening of the credit allowed by refiners on sugar may eventually alter this practice, the change has not been long enough in operation to bring about any material reduction in the stocks of tea held by grocers, as compared with their usual stocks of a year or two since; still this may be to a degree accounted for by the cheapness of money for three months after the reduction of credit on sugar, and the ease with which extension of time, on the old terms of two months, could be obtained. Thus the influence of the shortening of credit was to a great extent counteracted by an easy money market and the temptingly low price of tea. But the grocers' stocks are, in spite of the recent large deliveries, still heavy enough to make them indifferent to their further augmentation, at least till after the elections are over. On the whole, although the elections may have injured for the time the business of the regular trader, it must not be forgotten that by finding temporary employment and remuneration for many persons who have no regular income, large sums of money are circulated, and the power to purchase necessaries and luxuries is in consequence increased, so that there is a fair prospect of the loss being made up by subsequent larger sales.

Meanwhile demand is still deferred, and it seems likely that its increase will be spread over a longer period, and be much more gradual than was at first anticipated. Even those who were most sanguine as to the effect of the reduction must, by this time, be aware that its results are to be traced rather in a steady augmentation of deliveries and a greater equality of value than in excited markets and speculative prices. The simultaneous rush which was predicted might have occurred had trade stocks been low, and had prices continued moderate, but as the very reverse of this was the case, there was no necessity and little temptation to purchase; everybody in consequence held off, and time was afforded for the excitement to cool down. It is not probable that demand during the next two months will be very large, as the practice of autumn travelling, which has of late years become so general, will cause great numbers of the middle and upper classes to be absent from England during August and September, and these are, in proportion to their numbers, by far the largest consumers of Tea. Harvest operations will also be going on, and are more likely to add to the revenue through the medium of the Excise than through that of the Customs, more beer than tea being consumed during a hot day's harvesting. As regards supply, the news brought by the last mail from China is on the whole of a satisfactory character, and seems to prove that no scarcity need be apprehended. It is true that the rebels are still in force in some of the tea districts, but their vicinity appears to exercise wonderfully little influence, and to increase rather than to diminish the prospects of an abundant supply. It is stated that the people, being cut off by the presence of the rebels from other means of employment, are obliged to engage, in unusual numbers, in the tea trade, while the market having opened early, money has been quickly circulated, and production is not retarded by want of funds. The opening price having also been higher than it was last year, manufacturers will be further encouraged to push forward large quantities from the later crops, and as numerous sailing vessels and one steamer are reported to be waiting for cargoes, it seems probable that the shipments of the present season will not be below the average, and that they will reach this country about the usual time, instead of being several weeks later, as was at one time anticipated; in confirmation of this, later intelligence was received by telegraph some weeks ago, stating that the first two vessels of the season had been despatched from Foochow at the usual time. As regards quality, the news brought by the mail is not so satisfactory. So far as it was possible to judge from the first samples of the new crop received at Foochow, all the worst faults of last season's shipments appeared to have been repeated, if not exaggerated. This is no doubt owing to hasty preparation, partly caused, it may be, by the proximity of the rebels, and partly by a desire to reach the market early, and so to obtain a higher price; it is to be hoped that subsequent arrivals will exhibit more careful manufacture, as fine tea is much wanted here, and will well repay the value of any extra expense incurred in preparation. This fact must be so patent to importers that it is scarcely necessary to enlarge upon it, as it is well known that the heavy losses which resulted from the shipments made last season may be attributed rather to general inferiority in quality than to superabundant supply. The importance of India as a competitor for the supply of this market seems as yet to be scarcely recognised in China, and even to be totally ignored; but those who ship from the latter country may rest assured that unless the quality of their imports improves, and comes up to the standard of three years ago, they will be left behind in the race, as fine tea will, under the new rate of duty, be more in demand here than ever. Production is extending so rapidly in India, under the

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influence of European skill and energy, that the exceptional prices at present paid for its teas cannot long be maintained, and ere many years have passed the two competitors will meet on equal terms in this market, where, with the strict justice that is inevitably awarded in all large markets in valuations and sales, the preference will of course be given to the tea which combines the requisites of fine flavour and great strength.

THE LATE MR. RICHARD THORNTON.

The will of this gentleman, so well known at Lloyd's, the Jerusalem Coffee-house, and almost every commercial establishment in the city, and who died a few weeks ago, leaving the enormous wealth of £3,700,000, was proved at Doctors'-commons on Friday the 21st instant. It contains the following bequests:—£1,000,000 to Mr. Thomas Thornton, who likewise is to inherit the deceased's estates; £1,000,000 to Mr. Richard Thornton West; £500,000 to be divided among other relations and friends; a handsome provision for Mr. Neal and other of the deceased's clerks; £100,000 to be divided among all the charities, hospitals, asylums, and benevolent institutions in London. To the Leathersellers' Company, of which he was father, £5,000; to Christ's Hospital, £5,000; to Christ's Hospital for Hetherington, £10,000, and the Charity for the Blind, £2,000; St. Thomas's Hospital, £2,000; Guy's Hospital, £2,000; Bethlehem Hospital, £2,000; St. Luke's Hospital, £2,000; Magdalen Hospital, £2,000; Orthopædic Hospital, £2,000; London Hospital, £2,000; St. Mark's Hospital, £2,000; Incurables' Hospital, £2,000; Dreadnought Hospital, 2,000; Victoria Park Hospital, £2,000. Asylums, institutions, and societies:—City of London Truss Society, £2,000; National Lifeboat Institution, £2,000; Merchant Seamen's Orphan Asylum, £2,000; London Orphan Asylum, £2,000; Infant Orphan Asylum, £2,000; British Orphan Asylum, £2,000; Female Orphan Asylum, £2,000; Deaf and Dumb Asylum, £2,000; Indigent Blind Asylum, £2,000; Asylum for Idiots, £2,000; Asylum for Fatherless Children, £2,000; Ladies' Charity School, £2,000; St. Ann's School, £2,000; National Benevolent Institution, £2,000. Other bequests:—To the minister and churchwardens of Merton, for the erection of schools and apprenticing the poor children educated there, £10,000; to the ministers and churchwardens of the churches in the villages of Burton and Thornton, for the maintenance of schools erected there by the late Mr. M. Thornton, £10,000; for the relief of the poor at Merton, £1,000; for the relief of the poor at Burton, £5,000; to his nurse, £1,000; his coachman, £500; his gardener, £500; his under-gardener, £200. The will also contains bequests to other parties and acquaintances. It is represented that the probate duty of the will cost £42,000, and the legacy duty will amount to upwards of £100,000.

Mr. Thornton's career as a merchant in the City was most extraordinary. He was the son of a north country gentleman, and was born in 1776 at Burton, a village in Lonsdale, Westmoreland. The tourist to that sequestered region will find a handsome monument of Mr. R. Thornton's attachment to his birthplace in the Charity School, which he built at a cost of £40,000, and endowed, for the lodging, boarding, and teaching of poor children in the parishes of Burton and Thornton. He was educated at Christ's Hospital, and on leaving school he entered into business at Southwark; but very few of the oldest City men can remember Mr. Thornton's first start in his commercial career. The circumstances of that time were very different to our conditions in later days. It was during our great war with the French Empire, when England was excluded from the markets of Europe, and when the continental trade was of immensely great importance to us, that Mr. Thornton, who was then carrying on business in partnership with his brother as a general merchant and ship-broker, threw himself, with fearless resolution, to break through the prohibition of English trade with the continent. Napoleon had made the most desperate efforts to destroy the whole of our foreign commerce. To enforce his decrees an entire division of the French army, under the command of General Rappe, was stationed at Dantzic, and every port in Northern Germany was jealously guarded. On one occasion Richard Thornton was on board a vessel of his own, entering the Baltic, when she was encountered by a Danish gunboat, and the story goes that the Englishman, carrying a gun or two of his own, as was not unusual with merchantmen in those days, refused the summons to surrender, and showed fight, victoriously beating off the Dane after a vigorous cannonade. In that year, 1810, he got a commission from the Admiralty to purchase as much hemp as could be procured from Russia for the rigging of our fleet. This errand was, of course, attended with some personal danger, since all the English had fled from or had been expelled from Riga and St. Petersburg. But Richard Thornton was not likely to be deterred by such risks. He landed at Memel, and succeeded in obtaining and conveying to England many thousands of tons of hemp for the use of our Government, in spite of difficulties which would have baffled any ordinary man. A splendid recompense awaited him two years afterwards. An express communication reached him from his brother, who was in that country at the time of the French invasion in 1812. He was apprised of the fact of Napoleon's retreat from Moscow three days before it was known either to our Ministers or to any other persons in London, and he profited by it to something over £200,000. The civil war which broke out, with a short interval, in the kingdoms of Portugal and Spain excited Mr. Thornton's sympathy. He saw the utter rottenness of the Miguelite pretensions in Portugal as well as of the Carlist party in Spain, and he judged that by subscribing towards their overthrow he might do a good act and make a good thing of it. Military munitions were laid up in the Azores, to be ready for the use of Don Pedro's adherents, either to replace him or his daughter on the Portuguese throne. It was Mr. Thornton who advanced a great deal of the money for these preparations, and who, when Don Pedro's army took the field, contracted for its equipment, finding everything the soldiers required. That enterprise was successfully concluded in 1834 by the friendly intervention of the English Government. Yet scarcely had our young *protege* got safely seated on the throne of Lisbon than we had to assist another infant Queen against another pretender. Mr. Thornton did not hesitate to take the odds in favour of the Spanish heiress, as before of the Portuguese. He contributed much to the raising of the first loan on her behalf, and what with his claims as a bondholder, heavy debts which they owed him, &c., he was a creditor of the young Peninsular Government of not less than two millions sterling. With this immense stake he never failed among the Peninsular bondholders to avow his own opinion that those Governments would ultimately redeem their credit. Mr. Thornton's personal services to the Portuguese Government were acknowledged by conferring on him the rank of a Knight Commander of the Order of the Tower and the Sword. Mr. Thornton was a member and underwriter at Lloyd's since the year 1798. Scorning the precautions of ordinary underwriters, who are in the habit of dividing their responsibilities with one another, so that the loss of a single vessel and her cargo would fall, perhaps, on twenty or thirty persons, Mr. Thornton has taken a leonine share of the most tempting and lucrative hazards. No other man would be disposed, even for a premium of 70 per cent., to undertake the insurance of £100,000 on one bottom. Mr. Thornton, until his retirement from that scene of action, was beyond comparison the greatest man at Lloyd's, and, though single-handed, his operations rivalled those of the great marine insurance companies which have flourished so largely in these days. Previously to the late war with Russia he would sometimes insure for the Imperial Government such a thing as a steam frigate built in the English dockyards, and once, it is said, having entered into a similar liability towards that of another foreign State, on being asked by a friend how he could insure the fleets of the different European kingdoms, he replied, "Oh, if they lose the men-of-war that I have insured I can pay for them in their own bonds." Besides, being the largest holder of Consols in England, Mr. Thornton was also one of the largest holders of foreign securities. He was noted for the extent and multiplicity of his investments, as well as for his dexterous use of such opportunities as have frequently been presented by the variable moods and opinions of the Stock Exchange. But ordinary trade had not been Mr. Thornton's only resource. He sometimes won largely on the affairs of the turf, and at other times has taken considerable bets on the result of a military campaign or a ministerial crisis. During our war with Russia it is said he laid the sum of £10,000 against £500 with a well-known Greek merchant that the price of Consols, which was, of course, somewhat declining, would never fall below 85 until the conclusion of peace. One dark morning, in the winter which found us in a shocking mess at Sebastopol and Balaclava, the price actually came down to 85⅛, and those who had envied Mr. Thornton's invariable luck were rubbing their hands at the prospect of his defeat. But Consols fell no lower, and Mr. Thornton pocketed the modest stake of his antagonist, having risked such odds against it. Before closing we should refer to his acts of charity and beneficence as a fitting accompaniment of such good fortune. The schools which he has founded in his native village far away in the dales have already been noticed. But there is another pleasing trophy of his liberality—a double row of almshouses, neatly built, and situated in a very pretty, open garden at the edge of Barnet-common, just outside the neighbourly little town. The Leathersellers' Company, which boasted him as the father or senior member, erected one block of these houses in 1838 with money given by him when he filled the office of master in that worshipful guild. A second donation of his, in 1850, enabled them to build a new range of these comfortable lodgings, in which altogether thirteen aged men and women enjoy a stipend each of 10s. weekly, with coals and candles. Every year he used to go to Barnet with the worshipful master and wardens, in the last week in May to shake hands with the poor old pensioners, to compare their length of years with his own, and then to dine in good old English fashion with his colleagues in that ancient corporation. Such was the dignity and recreation of a London merchant of the old school.

VISITS OF AMERICAN VESSELS TO COCHIN-CHINA.

(To the Editor of *The London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—In Du Ponceau's work upon the Chinese Language, I find a statement that the two ships with which Captain White went to Cochin-China in 1819 were the first American vessels that had ascended the river Donnai in that kingdom; but the honour—such as it is—belongs to the ship *Arab*, Benjamin Lander, master, owned by John Derby, Samuel G. Derby, and John Prince, which sailed from Boston for Cochin-China the 17th of March, 1803, with 40,000 Spanish dollars, and goods valued at 2,311 dollars, and not succeeding, went to Manila, returning from thence in the summer of 1804. This was the first American ship that visited that country.—Yours respectfully, SKIPPER.

United Service Club, July 18th, 1865.

THE SIGN FOR PER CENT.

(To the Editor of *The London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—Having resided for many years in different parts of the Continent, and during that time had commercial and financial dealings with most countries on the face of the globe, I have often been forcibly struck with the unaccountable fact that the English press, without one single exception to my knowledge—even among those specially devoted to different branches of trade—should totally ignore a little conventional sign generally used by merchants in all countries and even in newspapers printed in all languages, even in Russian and Greek. I allude to the common conventional signs of % and ‰, to represent what you print at full length as "*per cent.*" and "*per mille.*" This is the more surprising in a country where if "brevity is the soul of wit," it is equally applicable in commercial correspondence, indeed one of the principal rules of which is to condense what one has to say into as few words as possible.

As in England all merchants connected with foreign countries are familiar with these abbreviations, and no doubt they are also well understood by retailers. I see no reason why they should not be generally introduced by the English press, and I should be glad to see you take the lead, as by these signs you would be not the less understood by your readers, and it would save space in your columns.—I remain, Sir, &c.,

A BRITISH MERCHANT RESIDING ABROAD.

Berlin, July 10, 1865.

* [The signs are used in all mercantile letters and circulars. but sometime are distasteful to printers.—*Ed.*]

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OPENING OF THE NEW SEASON TEAS.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—The news which this mail conveys to England is important, that is, as regards this port. You will have noticed the alarming advices which recent mails from home have repeatedly brought us respecting the serious failures of large houses, and the unsatisfactory state of the *tea trade*, which one would have imagined was sufficient to make *everybody* more careful than usual how they transacted business in future, more especially in tea; but I regret to say such warnings seem to have been entirely forgotten, at least so it appears, as on the 18th inst. the tea market was opened by a foreign firm purchasing 8,000 chests at 32 taels!! I need not say this took all by surprise, because the musters shown of the new crop prove the teas to be inferior to last season's both in make and liquor, and the quantity *then* on the market did not exceed 20,000 chests; therefore all anticipated lower prices by holding back, and allowing stocks to accumulate until the end of the month, which course would have been beneficial to all foreigners interested, and teamen would have been glad to accept 5 to 6 taels below the rate at which the market was opened. By this firm buying so soon prices are actually above opening rates of last year; and, looking to latest home advices, it will be fortunate if these teas pay. The Fiery Cross will be towed to sea by the steamer, Chanticleer, on Wednesday morning, the 24th inst., and the Serica at the same time by the steamer Vulcan, so we shall be anxious to know which reaches home first, as they are both splendid vessels. They receive £4. 10s. per ton, and the first to arrive receives £1 extra. The Yangtsze and Ziba will leave during the week; they load at £3. 10s., and 10s. extra for first ship home.

The following are the ships now here and wanting tea cargoes:—Childers, Black Prince, Young Lochinvar, Flying Spur, Belted Will, City of Aberdeen, and Min. Loading for Shanghai:—Phillip Nelson and Gossamer. Left for Shanghai:—Reindeer, Water Witch, Oliver Cutts, Japanese, and Tycoon.

The present mail also takes the news of the evacuation by the rebels of the City of Changchow (near Amoy). Whether they have been starved out or not is unknown. Just before leaving they set fire to the city.

Foochow, 22nd May, 1865.

* Arrived too late for insertion in our last number.—ED.

Naval and Military.

The staff commanders and masters of the Royal Navy are not disposed to agree with the contents of the memorandum submitted to the House of Lords just previously to the dissolution of Parliament. They must in the course of nature "die out," but they are not disposed to part with life until they have repeated opportunities of protesting against the contemplated regulation by which they are to be doomed to remain in *statu quo* whilst those now junior to them are permitted to rise in their profession, and so become in a few short years their superior officers.

The Turkish frigate Osman Ghazy, Capt. Arib Bey, which arrived in Plymouth Sound from Greenock will receive her armament at Hamoaze. One of her Armstrong guns, sent by the South Devon Railway, weighs 12 tons. The Turkish Ambassador, M. Musurus, is expected at Plymouth to inspect the frigate.

Lieut.-Col. Austen, 2nd division depot brigade Royal Artillery, Woolwich, Lieut.-Col. Rotton, and Capt. Manderson, have been placed under orders at Woolwich, to hold themselves in readiness for services in India, to take their departure probably in September next. Lieut.-Col. Reilly, C.B., B brigade Royal Horse Artillery, at Woolwich, has received orders to enter upon a course of gunnery instruction in command of his troop, at Shoeburyness.

The left wing of the 26th (Cameronians) Regiment embarked for Bombay at Portsmouth, on board the hired sailing transport Cospatrick, Commander Elmslie, R.N.R., in the following strength:—Capts. C. R. B. Calcott, in command; G. E. P. Trent, J. Armstrong, G. S. Hamilton, and T. Lawson; Lieuts. L. Cubitt and W. B. Burton; Ensigns L. Clark, G. H. Wilson, F. S. Alexander, J. Macfarlane, and J. B. Clark; Asst.-Surg. J. Johnston, in medical charge; three officers' wives, 348 non-commissioned officers and men, thirty-four soldiers' wives, and forty-six children. The embarkation was effected at an early hour in the morning, under the superintendence of Captain R. Locke, Embarkation Officer to the Hon. Council of India, and the Assistant Quartermaster-General of the South-West District, and in a manner highly creditable to the discipline of the regiment. Lieutenant-General Sir George Buller, K.C.B., Lieutenant-Governor of Portsmouth garrison and the general officer in command of the South-West Military District, paid a visit to the ship in the forenoon, and, after the men had been told off to their respective messes on board, the Cospatrick was towed out of the harbour in the evening to Spithead and afterwards sailed for Bombay.

Sir Hope Grant has arrived in London from India, and will shortly enter upon his duties as Quartermaster-General. From the gallant General's antecedents we may hope that the movements of troops will be conducted with more consideration for the pocket and comfort of the soldier, as well as for the pocket of the taxpayer, than has been shown in very many instances by his predecessor.

Captain John E. Commerell, who served in the Snake and in the Fury on the China station from 1858 to 1861, has been appointed to the command of the Scorpion, cupola ship.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, July 13.

At last the Second Chamber of the States-General opened the discussions about the Bill abolishing the stamp duty on newspapers, and to levy stamp duties on commercial bills and receipts to cover the 600,000f., which amount would be lost by the treasury when the tax upon knowledge should be abolished. A good many of the members agreed with the first proposal, but they declined to consent to laying a tax upon the trade instead of upon the Press. It was also probable that an amendment contrary to the ideas of the Minister would be voted with a large majority. After a long and animated discussion, Mr. van Nierop proposed such a motion, which was approved of by 50 against 16 votes. After this *votum*, the Minister felt himself obliged to revote the whole Bill. I need not say that a general indignation prevails in the whole Press, and there is not one of our contemporaries dares to defend now the *quasi* Liberal Government. After this defeat, it is very probable that Mr. Betz will resign.

The other Parliamentary business will be very unimportant, and within a week the Chambers will take the recess till a part of the members meet again to be present at the closing of the session.

The Prince of Orange started last Sunday, *via* Calais and Dover, for London. The rumour that a marriage between H.R.H. and Princess Helena of England is the aim of his voyage becomes more and more probable.

The Government of Japan again ordered of one of our iron-manufactories a large quantity of machinery and utensils.

One of the eminent men who improved the cultivation of bark (*quina*) in our East Indian Possessions certainly was Dr. J. D. de Vry, who returned some months since in consequence of his bad health. It is generally regretted that he was obliged, by this reason, to ask his dismissal, which was most honourably granted yesterday.

Some days ago a *brochure* was published, wherein it is stated that some persons of high rank have laid before the Government a very important plan. Messrs. G. Suermondt, H. Hope Loudon, E. A. Haitink, G. H. Uhlenbeck, J. van Swieten, R. W. Besier, A. P. Godon, Hendrik Muller Szoon, and L. Earl van Bylandt, intend to establish a company, with a capital of 50 millions of guilders. They made the proposal to the Government to yield to the company for 99 years the coffee-grounds and plants of West Java, that is, the residencies of Bantam, Krawang; the regencies of Preanger and Cheribon, besides the grounds which are fit for the cultivation of coffee. The company will pay for this concession the net profits which our Government obtained during the years 1851—1860 from these grounds, and which are estimated to amount to 35,000,000f.—so that a capital of 15,000,000f. will remain for disposal by the company. Moreover it is proposed to redeem the obligatory cultivation and *heerediensten*, except those rendered to the *desfas* (services which must be rendered by the natives), of the workmen, at the rate of f.12.50 per year, and per family of three persons on average. The *exploitation* of the cultivation of coffee will be done voluntarily and for a good salary. The native, however, who leaves the company will again be subjected to obligatory cultivation and *heerediensten*. The company believes that with 50 per cent. of the actual workmen the best results will be obtained, similar to those in Ceylon. The Government will be free to levy land-taxes on the rice-grounds of those residencies, which naturally remain the property of the population; likewise the land-taxes may be levied in the regencies of Preanger. The company proposes to improve and augment the cultivation of rice, to provide for the wants of the population. A land-tax of 15f. per *bouw* of coffee-ground will be paid by the company to the Government. This, accumulated with the export duties, will not only assure the State receiving the averaged yearly profits, but it is quite certain that within a short time this profit will be surpassed 2,500,000f., that is by nearly 50 per cent. per year. When the cultivation is improved and augmented the company will sell their rights upon little parts of the coffee grounds to the natives, according to the stipulations of the Government. Negotiations are opened with the Trading Company to sell the coffee which will be produced in Holland, so that the Dutch coffee market will be assured.

If the Government is of opinion that this plan embraces too much, then these gentlemen will be content to make an experiment with the regencies of Preanger.

I need not say that this plan meets with much opposition by the Conservative press, which is much afraid that the Government will lose their rights upon the grounds of Java.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Only small quantities were brought into the market, so that the transactions are very unimportant. Only 1,200 bags of Java, ex

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Ortelius, changed hands. The market closes, however, very firm with unaltered prices.

TEA.—The market is firm but inactive.

SUGAR.—There is a better demand, and a good business is done at ½f. to ½f. 1,074 kr. Java, No. 14, were sold at 32f., and 1,644 kr. do., No. 12½, at 31f. Holders now decline to operate at this quotation.

SPICES.—With more inquiry, but sellers decline to operate without an advance. The quotation now is: Nutmegs, No. 1, 70c. to 72c.; No. 2, 62c. to 63c.; Mace, D., 63c. to 65c.; E., 62c. to 63c.; Cloves, No. 2, 25c. to 25½c.; Cinnamon, No. 3, is paid with 99c. to 100c.

TOBACCO.—In an unaltered condition.

COTTON.—The market was not animated, and only a few parcels E.I. were sold at unaltered prices.

BANCA TIN.—500 slabs were sold at 56f., which is the nominal quotations.

INDIGO.—The market is firm but inactive. Within a few days 1,400 chests private import will be offered on sale.

ARAK.—A fair business was done last week, viz.:—100 casks Sourabaya ex Nordstein, 80 casks and 40½ casks; ditto, Catharina Maria, 77 cases, Batavia ex Bilderdyk.

MONEY.—The demand for money is quiet at 3 to 3½ per cent., and the supply superabundant. Dutch stock firm, 2½ per cents., 63½; 3 per cents., 75⅛; 4 per cents., 97⅛; Handelsmaatschappy, 146¾; Central Railway, 35; shares ditto, 122½; Indian Railway, 90⅞.

CHANGES.—London, 3 mo., f.11.78; 2 mo., f.11.81; short, f.11.87; Paris: 3 mo., f.46.75; 2 mo., f.46.87; short, f.47.15; Antwerp, 3mo., f.46.65; Hambro', 3 mo., f.34.90; 2 mo., f.34.98; short, f.35.10; St. Petersburg, 3 mo., f. 15.2; Vienna, 3 mo., f.105.25.

SHIPPING.—ARRIVALS.—July 8, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewanjie, India; 7, at Texel, from Passaroean, Jacoba and Christina; 8, from Batavia, China; from Banjoewangie, Tagal.

The Trading Company chartered the following twenty-two ships, to convey produce from Java to Holland:—

For Rotterdam: Professor van der Boon Mesch, Capt. J. van Zanten; Minister Fransen van de Putte, D. Forbes Browning; Maria Elisabeth, W. van der Valk; Gouverneur van Swieten, H. Singer; Bilderdijk, A. Vietor; Johannes Martinus, C. Dalloyaux; Vesta, ———.

For Amsterdam: Zeenimph, Capt. F. Schipper; Jan van Brakel, D. de Roever; Padang Packet, P. Huidekoper; Anna, P. R. Bok; Nederland and Oranje, J. Bouwmeester; Jan Daniel, H. van I. Jsendoorn; Cortgene, W. Wemmerus; Tjilingsie, P. Ouwehand; Bonie, J. W. Moller; Robertus Hendrikus, R. H. Mulder; President van Rijckevorsel, T. Vogelesang.

For Schiedam: Candati, Capt. D. B. Bosscher; Hugo Grotius, J. Immerzeel.

For Dordrecht: Kosmopoliet II., Capt. J. Bouten; Kosmopoliet, Koning.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From JAVA, per Isaac da Costa, Mr. J. K. Sheltens and family; Mr. M. W. van Gerkam and family; per Jacoba and Christina, Mr. L. A. Dittlop Tjassens; per India, Messrs. P. Wensel and family; J. G. Masee and family.

ROTTERDAM, July 23.

The Queen returned to-day from her trip to England, and started immediately for the Hague. As to the Prince of Orange, he will remain for some time in London, and then proceed to Scotland to enjoy the pleasures of the shooting season. The rumour so widely spread about an intended marriage with the Princess Helena may now be regarded as unfounded. Some of the continental journals, however, persist in believing that our Prince is gone to London upon an interesting errand, and they add that the Queen is very desirous of the match, and of seeing her son "settle" himself. It is perhaps possible—as the *Europe* says—that the Prince decidedly wants "settling down;" but it is not fair of that paper to give currency to such a *canard*. The Second Chamber of the States General ended their session for this year on the 19th inst. The members met 113 times, and undoubtedly much was done in a liberal sense; but there remains still so much to do that the Opposition paper—we have only one—reiterates that our Cabinet did nothing at all, and what it did do had better not have been done.

The last sittings of the Second Chamber were very interesting. The Commercial Treaty with France was approved unanimously, save by one vote, that of Mr. Wintgens. The attitude taken by the Opposition was very strange indeed, when the discussion on the treaty began. Mr. Rochussen, one of the Conservative leaders, made such an attack upon the Cabinet, that the President was obliged to censure him, which was applauded very warmly by the members. It would be useless to indicate all the complaints of the Opposition. One member lamented that no more than 26 kilos. of Java tobacco were imported into France for the use of the *regie;* another told us that the importation of Java coffee there since 1860 had decreased by 10 millions of pounds, and now was reduced to 4 or 5 millions of pounds; a third regretted that the Government had granted the demand made by that of France for a decrease in the wine duties. Every member of the Opposition made a more or less severe attack; and all except one voted for the treaty, which, without any doubt, will be approved also by the First Chamber.

Some time ago two London houses—Irving, Ebsworth, and Holmes, and Kemble, Trower, and Co.—bought of the sugar-refiners, Wythoff and Zoon, at Amsterdam, a considerable quantity of sugar on a warrant *(entre potdok-ceel)*. Four months elapsed from the time the sugar was duly paid for before the refiners stopped payment. One of our old sugar laws gives the Government a preferential claim in such a case, so that the sugar which the London house bought and paid for, but which still lay in the Amsterdam docks in the name of the refiners, became the property of the Government for duties owing by the Messrs. Wythoff and Zoon. The Government, however, acknowledged the injustice of this, and proposed to the Second Chamber to make restitution to the London houses of about half the amount produced by the sale of the sugar at auction. This proposal was carried unanimously, but I regret that not one of the members made a motion to indemnify the London houses *in toto*, and I am astonished that none of your contemporaries has published anything relative to this important commercial question.

The First Chamber of the States General, which has been again reinforced at the late election by some Liberal members—amongst them Mr. Duymaer van Twist, formerly Governor-General of the East Indies—will meet again on the 31st.

In my last I mentioned some particulars about the Company for the cultivation of coffee in West Java. The *Arnhemsche Courant* has since stated that the Minister for the Colonial Department had rejected the plan, but I can assure you that, notwithstanding there are very many difficulties, the Minister did not reject the proposal at all. On the contrary, many Indian specialities have been consulted with regard to it, and also with regard to the law relative to Indian cultures in general.

Our eminent archivist, Dr. C. Bakhuizen van den Brink, died suddenly at the Hague a few days ago.

The King will return from his trip to Lucerne on the 15th of August.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The market is in an unaltered condition, and very firm. About 6,000 b. Java were sold at 45½ to 45¾, besides 1,600 b. Padang ex Padang Packet, at prices that did not transpire. A cargo of 2,600 b. Santos, per Henri, came into the market, but until lately very little of this lot was sold. The 786 b. and 298 casks Native Ceylon offered in auction were partly sold at 42½ to 43¾ c.

SUGAR.—The general attention was fixed upon the auction of the Trading Company, consisting of 70,650 kr. The whole quantity was sold, notwithstanding only 20,000 kr. were taken for export, at 29f. to 35f.; being for the low numbers 1f., and for the higher numbers ½f., under the May prices. The market closes very firm, and without sellers. The private importers decline to operate without an advance.

TEA.—Market unaltered; prices are firm, but there is no stock.

RICE.—Without transactions of any importance.

SPICES.—Very dull, in consequence of the communication that the Trading Company will offer at auction, on the 25th of August, the following important quantities:—2,910 casks Nutmegs, 740 casks Mace, 1,720 casks Cloves, 1,612 fard. Cinnamon, 1,619 c. black Pepper, and 200 chests Soya. Notwithstanding, it was positively asserted that the company should not offer any spices before August, 1866. The market became dull, and much was offered in the second hand at lower prices. Only Cinamon is paid in full, and there is much demand for No. 3 at 100 per cent.

TOBACCO.—The trade being occupied inspecting the parcels which will be offered in auction on the 2nd of August, and which consist of 2,698 p. Java Blitar, 406 p. Java BB, 1,793 p. Java Nauta Blitar, 483 p. Java LBP, 227 p. Java SS, 119 p. Java S, and 344 p. GB; the transactions are of no importance; the prices remain unaltered.

COTTON.—After a fair business was done for export the market closed heavy.

HIDES.—There is much demand at higher prices by want of stock. 1,121 p, Buffalo ex Nederland and Oranje, and 537 p. do. ex Isaac da Costa were sold. Within a few days some thousand p. Java Ox and Buffalo are to be offered by inscription.

INDIGO.—There is much demand for speculation, but holders decline to operate without an advance. About 110 chests ex Quartet were sold at prices that did not transpire, but which are thought to be 25 c. higher.

SAPAN WOOD.—100 pieces ex Jacoba Christina were sold at firm prices.

BANCA TIN.—With much demand, and a fair business. About 5,000 slabs were sold at 55½f., holders then declined to operate without an advance of ¼f., which price was paid for 500 slabs; the trade now demands 56f. About 2,500 slabs Billiton tin were sold at 55f.

DRUGS.—The market is very dull.

RATTANS.—The Trading Company offered at auction 89,500 bundles; for Bandjermassing f.12.10 to f.16.80 was paid; for Padang, 12f. to 14f.; for Koetie, f.13.80 to 14f. All was sold. There was also much inquiry in the private trade; 150 piculs ex Quartet, 200 piculs ex Burgemeester van Middelburg, 150 piculs per Reflect, 60 piculs ex Jacoba Christina, and 292 piculs ex Padang Packet were sold.

ARACK.—There is a good demand at former prices; 30 casks ex Oceanus, and 120 casks Batavia ex Elizabeth were sold.

MONEY.—Very easy; in the open market only 2½ per cent. is paid, which has not been the case since 1863. Bank discount—for bills, 3 per cent.; for acceptances, 3½ per cent. Business on the Stock Exchange was absolutely prostrate. There is no demand for stock, either for investment or

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on speculation, and in the absence of business adverse impressions have acquired more force than would belong to them in ordinary circumstances. Only the Four per Cent. Dutch made an exception, because there was much sold for account of the Government. Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents., 63¼; Three per Cents.,. 74⅛; Four per Cents., 98⅜; Trading Company, 144½ (in much demand on foreign account); Indian Railway, 91½; Dutch Rhenish Railway, 111; do. Shares, 338f.; Central Railway, 37; do. Shares, 123; Comp. Expl. State Rail., 91½; Indian Bank, 84; Neth. Bank, 240 (the highest price ever paid); Rotterdam Bank, 94½; Credit Mobilier (Dutch), 62. The Indian Gas Company announces a dividend of 5 per cent. 'Changes: London, 3 mo., f.11.79½; 2 mo., f.11.82½; short, f.11.88½. Paris, 3 mo., f.46.80; 2 mo., f.46.93; short, f.47.15. Antwerp, 3 mo., f.46.77; short, f.47.12. Hambro', 3 mo., f.34.92; 2 mo., f.35.03; short, f.35.30. St. Petersburg, 3 mo., f.152.

SHIPPING.—ARRIVALS.—July 15, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, May Queen; 18, at Texel, from do., Gebroeders; from Padang, Zaanstroom; from Banjoewangie, Aldeboran; 21, at Brouwershaven, from Padang, Maarten van Rossum; 23, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Catharine Maria; 22, at Texel, from do., A. Bang.

READY TO SAIL.—At Brouwershaven, Constantia, for Batavia.

DEPARTURES.—July 15, from Texel, for Sourabaya, Senior; for Samarang, Alblasserwaard; 17, from Brouwershaven, for Batavia, Doelwyk; 21, from Brouwershaven, for Batavia, Bezoekie; from Texel, for Batavia, Tjilingsie, Helena, and Anna; Telanak, for Japan, Bantum; from Veere, for Batavia, Zeepaard.

LOADING AT AMSTERDAM.—For Kanagawa and Decima: Hermine, Gloria, Maria Elizabeth, de Zwaan, China; for Padang: Excelsior, Anna, and Jeannette, Helena; for Batavia: Azia; for Batavia and Samarang: Vertrouwen; for Batavia and Sourabaya: Henrietta Geertruida, Jan van Branel, Quartet; for Samarang: Mathilde, Padang Packet; for Sourabaya: Bellatrix, Presto; for Macassar: Presto; for Singapore and Hong Kong: Henderika.

FREIGHTS.—Quotations at Messrs. Fauchey and de Vletter, shipbrokers, at Rotterdam:—For Batavia, Nederlands, and Oranje, 755 tons, Constantia, 741 tons, Cornelis Bernand Edward, 850 tons; for Batavia and Sourabaya, Hugo Grotius, 673 tons, Boni, 575 tons, Johanna, 713 tons, Ary Scheffer, 754 tons; for Batavia and Samarang, Robertus Hendrikus, 753 tons, Susanna Johanna, 498 tons; for Samarang, Doelwyk, 824 tons, Bilderdyk, 754 tons, Kappyboom, 1,280 tons, Jan Daniel, 635 tons; for Kanagawa, Maria, 380 tons. Freights unaltered.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From Java, per Zaanstroom, Mr. W. F. Godin and family, Messrs. H. F. Ferhilst and family, L. Fuflo, F. Bartolome, and J. Bakker.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

To Java, per Bezoekie, Messrs. J. C. P. Evers and family, J. C. Schultz and family, Mrs. Prehn-Raes and family, Mr. J. van. Deun, Miss J. Bloch.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

JULY 23.

Since my letter of the 6th inst. I have perused the German translation of the Report therein mentioned, published by the Danish Government, on the trade with China, with a view to encourage the Danes to take part in the commerce of that country. Denmark, however, not being a manufacturing State, and there being no outlet in the East for their own home produce, which is almost exclusively confined to cattle, grain, and butter, it is difficult to see what inducement the Danes can find to trade with China. Their mercantile navy has been so crippled by the loss of Schleswig and Holstein, in consequence of the events of last year, that the merchant vessels belonging to the kingdom proper are reduced to very small dimensions in point of numbers, and even these find profitable employment in conveying the produce of the country to England and other European States, so that there is but little margin for enterprising shipowners to incur the risks and uncertainties of opening up a new business by their forced participation in the carrying trade to the Far East. And yet it is to this object that the "Report" is evidently driving at; for it gives at full length copies of charter parties for rice cargoes, and recommends captains to furnish themselves with letters of credit at the rice shipping ports to enable them to purchase a cargo of grain for ship's account, should no suitable charter be obtainable, which will be sure to meet with a ready sale, and pay a remunerative freight. The Report gives a deal of statistical detail of the trade of Shanghai and the other open ports, as well as much about Hong Hong, its port and harbour regulations, and those concerning the coolie passenger traffic; and even hints at the advantages of associations for joint operations on an extensive scale, as a means peculiarly beneficial under present circumstances; and it was no doubt in reference to this semi-official recommendation that I not long ago had to report to you that a provisional committee had been formed at Copenhagen under the presidency of Vice-Admiral Steen Bille, for the purpose of concocting means to execute the idea, and from a sort of Danish-Chinese Shipowning Company. As a further inducement to Danish shipowners to profit by the advantages opened to them by the conclusion of the treaty with China, the "Report" speaks rather grandiloquently of the number of Danish vessels that visited Chinese ports in the year 1863, but the *prestige* is considerably weakened, if not altogether lost, by glancing at the list, tonnage and nationality of the vessels at pp. 73-75, for out of the total of 81 vessels of 9,628 lasts (one Danish last equal to 2¼ English tons), it appears that 44 vessels of 5,119 lasts—or more than half—were owned in ports of the Duchy of Schleswig, which now no longer wear the Dannebrog flag; 25 vessels of 3,003 lasts belonged to Holstein, which vessels also now sail either the Schleswig-Holstein flag or that of Prussia, and only twelve vessels of 1,506 lasts were owned at ports belonging to what little is left of Denmark Proper. To ensure the anticipated success, it would appear to be absolutely necessary to organise an adequate system of paid consuls to take care of the interests of their countrymen and speedily redress their grievances, without which no great increase in their navigation of Chinese ports can be expected, for the Danish shipowners are quite as long-headed and keen as those of any other nation. In the present state of affairs there are, it is true, honorary Danish consulates at some of the opened Chinese ports, but in the absence of Danish merchants established there, they are held by foreigners—chiefly partners in English mercantile firms; for as the "Report" confesses with singular *naivete*, "that besides one single Danish house at Hong Kong there are in all the ports of China but three Danish partners in three different foreign houses, none of which are in direct mercantile communication with Denmark." It is, perhaps, with a view to effect an improvement in this respect that I perceive in the Copenhagen *Official Gazette* the recent appointment—it is dated July 14—of Mr. G. J. Helland to be Consul at Hong Kong for H.M. the King of Denmark.

Further particulars fully confirm the melancholy loss of the Hamburg vessel the *Alster*, while at anchor in Apia harbour, as mentioned in my last. She was loading there for this port, and had 120 tons of cocoanut oil on board when she went down, all hands being lost except one seaman saved.

The Russian Consul at Hakodadi has sent home to his Government some specimen boxes of Japanese silkworm eggs as a trial, and asks permission to make purchases on a large scale for distribution among the silk growers in the South of Russia, where he thinks they would be pre-eminently successful from the similarity of the soil and climate.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Since the departure of last mail the market is in a state of much inactivity, not so much from want of purchasers as absence of the finer descriptions, which are most in demand. Prices are well supported. Sales, 24,000 bags.

SUGAR.—Raw in a more lively condition, and prices generally 8 sch. bco. higher. Among the sales were 10,000 bags of clayed Manila, and 2,000 bags of East India, both for arrival, as well as 1,000 bags White Batavia and 5,700 bags clayed Manila, ex warehouse. Refined looking up; sales, 15,000 loaves.

RICE.—Market rather quiet, but prices well supported, and in some cases higher. A cargo of 6,000 bags Bengal, ex *Metis*, from Calcutta, lately to hand, was sold by private contract.

SPICES.—Cassia Lignea firm. Ginger dearer and still rising. In Pepper no alteration.

TEA.—Calm, purchases being only made for consumption. Among the sales by importers were 1,000 packages Imperial and Gunpowder ex Welf.

DRUGS.—Refined Camphor has been sold at a cheaper figure. Starannis is again higher, and there is none to be had now under 19 sch. bco. Of Galangal root 100 bales ex Fidelio have been sold at full prices.

SPELTER.—There is a lull in the demand, and to effect sales concessions must be made; but as the stocks here are small, and but few parcels *en route*, holders are not anxious to sell. The only sales reported are:—

2,000 centners,	loco	..	14 mks.	14 sch.	to	15 mks.	
2,500 „	different periods	..	14 „	15 „		15 „	
1,000 „	August and Sept.	..				14 „	14 sch.
1,000 „	Sept. and Oct.	..				14 „	14 „

Silesian is quoted 15 marks sellers.

SHIPPING.—ARRIVED.—Colima, from Akyab.

SAILED.—Malvina Vidal to Shanghai; Carl Ritter, to Hong Kong.

COURT OF BANKRUPTCY, JULY 25.—RE SIR JOSEPH ABRAHAM DOUGLAS, KNT.—The bankrupt was described upon his own petition, as of No. 2, Apsley Cottages, Peckham, Staff Commander in Her Majesty's Navy. The liabilities were only £194, and the only probable assets consist of half-pay and a pension received by the bankrupt from the Government for services in China and elsewhere. Mr. Aldridge appeared for the official assignee. Mr. Denny appeared for the bankrupt, and contended that as the opposing creditors had detained Sir Joseph in custody for a considerable period, it was not reasonable that they should apply to the Court to set aside any portion of the bankrupt's small income of £130 a year. Mr. Registrar Winslow said that he felt bound, as the law stood, to make an order for payment out of the bankrupt's income. He should make a similar order to that made in the case of Jackson by the late Lord Chancellor. He thought that the bankrupt ought to set aside £20 a year for five years. This order would be made subject to the approval of the Lords of the Admiralty. Order accordingly.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A REGISTER is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the FAR EAST and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, *and other parts of the* FAR EAST, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

Subscription 54s. per annum. including Postage. Export Supplement 12s. extra.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, JULY 31, 1865

THE REMNANT OF TAIPINGS NEAR AMOY.

ACCOUNTS from Amoy convey the satisfactory intelligence that the remainder of the Taiping rebels, who had made a formidable stand at Chang-chow under the leadership of a chief styling himself the TSZE WANG, have evacuated that city, and no longer threaten the safety of the treaty port. The news of this movement reached us in due course by the last mail, but the details were not then published, and we anticipate further advices by private information. It will be in the recollection of our readers that after the fall of Nanking, a large body of the insurgents who had escaped from that city joined a number of others from the small posts they evacuated, and marched southwards to Chang-chow, a large district city, situated on a river within twenty miles of Amoy. That city they captured on the 14th October, 1864, obtaining admission through the gates in disguise, which they closed and commenced an indiscriminate slaughter on the unoffending inhabitants, spreading, as usual, rapine and bloodshed around, taking the young women as cooks and mistresses, and the able-bodied men to make slaves of them, while the sick, old, or infirm, they slaughtered without mercy. The leader of this horde, to his credit be it said, endeavoured to restrain his men but without avail. After he found the insatiate vengeance and lust of this remnant of the Taipings subdued, he endeavoured to restore something like quietness in the city, and partially succeeded. He also made overtures to the British Consul and other foreign authorities at Amoy to open up trade with Chang-chow, which, of course were rejected. At the same time, a strict neutrality was maintained, leaving the Imperialists to fight their own battles, and reserving the naval force in harbour for the protection of foreign residents. As the trade of Amoy was materially affected by this last stronghold of the rebels, the Foreign Maritime Customs established a blockade lorcha on the river, to prevent the importation of munitions of war, or foreign adventurers joining their ranks. These precautions were but inefficiently carried out, as many Europeans and Americans succeeded in reaching the head-quarters of the TSZE WANG, who gladly accepted their services. Among these were some renegades from the disciplined Chinese force disbanded after the fall of Soochow, led by a Prussian named ROHDE, who intended to form a similar corps among the rebels. And, what was of greater importance, the notorious BURGEVINE was on his way to join them, when he was captured.

Meanwhile the supine Imperialists were roused to the necessity of sending a strong force for the reduction of Chang-chow, under the command of General KWO-SUN-LIN; also Colonel KIRKHAM, an efficient officer during GORDON'S command of the Quin-san force. The former kept the enemy in check for some months, but failed to effect any material operation in weakening his position, excepting in cutting off his supplies. Whether these were becoming scarce, or from their own suicidal system of devastation, the place was impoverished, does not appear, but after holding the city for seven months they evacuated it on the 15th May. This they had been doing for a week previously, unknown to the Imperialists, who discovered the fact, while making an attack on the stockades erected by the rebels outside the walls. These were captured with but little resistance, the few defenders having set them on fire and fled into the city, which was also evacuated at midnight, the blazing houses lighting them on their march. On leaving they separated into three columns, and were followed by the Chinese General and his army, when the rebel forces surrounded and cut them off, but with what result is not yet known. Next day our informant visited Chang-chow, and states:—"On entering the "city the morning after evacuation I found it burning and in "one mass of ruins. What the rebels had not demolished they "set on fire, so that the destruction of the entire city is "complete. There has been very few killed or captured, but "inside the walls the stagnant pools are full of dead bodies. "The whole of the Europeans have left with the rebels, who "have gone further south in the direction of Tong-san, a city "on the coast, which they intend to capture if they can. On "their route they have taken some small towns. In the house "occupied by the Europeans an order-book was found containing the names of many men late of the Quinsan force, who "were appointed to posts in the rebel army by their leader "ROHDE."

On the day previous to the evacuation of Chang-chow Colonel KIRKHAM was at Amoy, with a portion of his contingent, aiding the authorities in enforcing the blockade against foreign rowdies and unscrupulous traders with the rebels. There he received information that BURGEVINE, who had been deported from Shanghai, was in a schooner just arrived from Formosa. After communicating with the Commissioner of Customs at this port, he went on board with two officers, but found that he had gone ashore. However, he saw an American negro, whom he knew was to pilot the schooner up the river. At first he denied it, but after a little confessed, and stated that they intended sailing up that night, and if KIRKHAM kept a good look out from the blockade vessel he would see them. This was done, and BURGEVINE with another foreigner were captured about midnight, and handed over to the custody of the Customs authorities, as they had established the blockade. These again delivered them over to the Chinese General, who kept them prisoners in his camp for three days, and then sent them to the Taotai of Amoy. Here the American Consul demanded BURGEVINE to be given up, as he was a citizen of the United States, but the mandarins would not comply, and conveyed him overland to Foochow. At this the Consul and American residents made a threatening demonstration; the former stating that he would order up a ship of war to the port and demand satisfaction. Such is the purport of our news connected with this remnant of the Taipings in arms; and as they contemplate forming a junction with the disaffected Triad rebels in the province of Kwang-tung, it is probable that the south of China may again be desolated by these scourges of the empire and of humanity.

POSTAGE—FRANCE, CHINA, JAPAN, &c.

THE Imperial Government has just published an elaborate table of the rates of postage to be paid on letters, newspapers, and other matters passing between certain places in the East, and between the East and Europe. The charge for letters between Shanghai and Yokohama is fixed, if prepaid, at 50c the quarter ounce (7½ grammes); if sent unpaid, 70c. Between France and Algeria, or the French *bureaux* in Turkey, or Egypt and Yokohama, 70c. if prepaid, and 90c. if unpaid. Between the French postal agencies in America and Yokohama, f.1.60 per quarter ounce, whether prepaid or not. Letters insufficiently paid will be charged, as at present, as unpaid letters, allowance being made for the stamps. Registered letters, 50c. in addition, but must be fully prepaid. Newspapers, periodicals, books, music, engravings, and printed matter of all kinds, between Shanghai and Yokohama, 10c. per 40 grammes. From France, Algeria, Turkey and Egypt, to Yokohama—or from Yokohama to Turkey and Egypt, 13c. From Yokohama to France and Algeria, 16c. per 40 grammes. Samples may be sent either by French or English mail boats between France, Algeria, and Yokohama, for 13c. the 40 grammes, with the usual restrictions as to value and mode of address. Letters passing between Yokohama and the French colonies and establishments in India and China, Bourbon, Madagascar, and Mayotte, 60c. per quarter ounce; between Yokohama and other French possessions in communication with Japan, f.1.60; between Yokohama and the British possessions in Asia and Mauritius, 60c.; between Yokohama and Malta,

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Greece, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Belgrade, Holland, and Great Britain, f.1.20 ; between Denmark, Sweden, Russia, Moldavia and Wallachia, the United States, Brazils, the West India Islands in general, Newfoundland, and Canada, f.1.60. In the preceding cases, prepayment is optional ; in the following, it is obligatory :—Between Yokohama and the Seychelles Islands, 60c. ; between Yokohama, Spain, Portugal, Gibraltar, and Servia (with the exception of Belgrade), f.1.20 ; between Yokohama and other ports beyond sea, 60c. per quarter ounce. Letters may be registered to or from all or nearly all of the first set of places just mentioned by paying double postage. Printed matter may be sent between Yokohama and the French and English possessions in India and China, Mauritius, Bourbon, Mayotte and Madagascar, Seychelles, the ports of Greece, and the other States of Europe, with the exception of Great Britain and Malta, for 15c. per 40 grammes ; between Yokohama and other French Colonies and possessions, and other ports beyond sea, 25c. ; between Yokohama, Great Britain and Malta, 20c. The French Post-office is very particular about the making-up of registered letters ; there must be two seals at least, and these must be from the same stamp and must secure all the folds of the envelope, and no article in gold or silver, or anything liable to customs duty can be enclosed ; on the other hand, in the case of a registered letter being lost, the French Post-office pays a fine of fifty francs. In consequence, however, of the arrangements of our own Post-office, registered letters passing between Yokohama and Great Britain, or any British Colony or Possession, are not protected by the penalty. Surely this question of indemnity for registered letters when lost deserves reconsideration in St. Martin's Le Grand.

REDUCTION OF DUTY ON RUSSIAN CARAVAN TEAS.

THE reduction of the Russian customs duty on seaborne teas led us at the time to anticipate an abatement of rates on caravan teas, whether brought to Kiachta or over the Orenburg frontier by way of Tashkend and Troitsk. This fresh adjustment, by which low qualities of those teas are admitted at 35 copecks or 1s. 6d. per lb., and superior descriptions at 50 copecks or half a rouble per lb., is not likely to lessen the progressive rate of our exportation of fine and medium to the Baltic, the Black Sea, or to Prussia for transportation to the neighbouring Russian provinces. Its main effect will be to equalise more completely the terms on which the Russian consumer will choose as between caravan and seaborne importations ; for although the duties on the former are lower, the difference would seem not unreasonable, having regard to the more expensive transport by the land route. The caravan tea trade, so far, has been regulated less by Russian requirements for Asiatic produce than Asiatic requirements for Russian goods, or such goods as Russia chose to furnish ; but for the enormous profits on those goods, the overland tea trade would have been manifestly a losing one. Such being the conditions, the quantity of tea thus imported, or which enters into the exchanges, is not to be affected very materially by the announced reduction. The Bokharians and traders of Kokan, encouraged by the grant of long credits to purchase goods in the Russian markets, and maintaining constant communication with Chuguchak, Kuldjei and Kashgar, carry thither Russian cloths, and return laden with bags of green and black tea as the cheapest currency with which to discharge their obligations. A reduced duty, in the absence of the competition now created by seaborne importations, would be in their favour, but not otherwise, as it excludes them from proportionately enhancing the value of the article. So with the Siberian and Chinese traders at Kiachta, though in their case the exchange is more direct than in Central Asia. The caravan tea to which the lower duty applies cannot be placed in the Russian markets at less than 4s. 6d. per lb.—a price at which we could readily compete even with our medium teas were a differential duty established in their favour, that is to say, at the same figure which Russia is prepared to levy on seaborne teas imported directly from the country of production. We thus offer a superior article to the average caravan teas at the same price, and so forward a purpose Russia has in view, the improvement through competition of the quality and preparation of her Asiatic overland supplies. Thus alone, too, can the demand among the mass of her population be immediately and rapidly stimulated. The premium she offers on direct importations will not, under existing conditions, be responded to.

GENERAL PRUYN, the U.S. Minister in Japan, who lately returned from that country, has visited Paris, previous to his return to Washington. During his stay there he stated that the Tycoon was most favourably disposed towards the foreign Powers.

A PARIS PAPER announces that the Court of Peking has issued a decree authorising the construction of a railway from Shanghai to the capital of China. This decree is said to be signed by the Empress. It is also announced that the King of Siam has resolved on the reorganisation of his fleet, and has sent an order to France for the construction of a corvette, and of four armed vessels of lighter draught. This is not at all probable, seeing that the cost would be more than the Siamese could meet.

IT is stated in the Paris paper *La Finance* that the British Government intend to send a political agent to the Korea. We cannot at present state if there is any truth in this statement, but the opening for such a mission was noticed in our issue of the 27th Feb.

SIR RUTHERFORD with Lady ALCOCK and Miss ALCOCK proceed by the mail of 10th Sept. MR. FITZROY, formerly Secretary to Lord Elgin's Embassy, and since Commissioner of the Chinese Customs, returns to Shanghai by the mail of the 10th Sept. MR. JOHN DENT returns by the mail of 10th or 26th August.

Literature.

Literature will be nobly represented in the next Parliament. For many sessions London has not been able to boast of such representatives as it has just returned. The name of Mr. Mill is in itself sufficient to reflect literary dignity on the whole body of members. Mr. Torrens is well known in literary circles as a vigorous political writer in the *Daily News*, *Examiner*, and other weekly and quarterly journals ; he is also the author of two solid volumes on the "Industrial History of Free Nations," and of another valuable work on the "Use and Study of History." Mr. Hughes, the well-known author of "Tom Brown's School Days," is not merely an amusing writer, but a political economist of a high stamp. Mr. Goschen, who is again returned for the City, is a young man who, besides having taken high honours at Oxford, is the author of a remarkable book on the "Theory of Foreign Exchanges." Mr. Lawrence Oliphant, who represents the Stirling Burghs, is well known as the author of a valuable account of Lord Elgin's Mission to China and Japan. In addition to these, Mr. Layard is again returned for Southwark, and among the other boroughs we find a considerable sprinkling of literary names, many of which (like those for instance of Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, Mr. Gladstone, and Mr. Disraeli) are already familiar in the reports of debates. On the whole, however, the new Parliament will be decidedly more literary than any of its predecessors.

The Edinburgh Review for July contains an interesting article headed "China and Japan" which embodies a review on the lately-published works of Messrs. Michie and Lay, and Sir Macdonald Stephenson. The writer, deploring the disintegrated condition of the Chinese Empire, advocates the construction of railways and telegraphs, and the organisation of a small but effective standing army disciplined and armed on the European system, as the only means of arresting the progress of that gradual decay which seems to threaten total dismemberment as the ultimate destiny of the Empire. "Nothing," he says, "would so certainly or rapidly tend to its restoration to more than pristine wealth and population, at the same time that it would multiply the power of the Peking Government to destroy its enemies, and the enemies of all peace and civil Government, as a well-combined system of railroads and telegraph lines." With reference to Japan, great credit is awarded to Sir Rutherford Alcock for the bold and vigorous policy initiated by him, to which is attributed the satisfactory footing on which our relations with that country have recently been placed.

We have received the second part of the first volume of the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*. It contains several interesting papers, but none specially bearing on China or the remote East. The *Journal of the North China Branch* of the Society, for December, 1864, has also reached us, and is full

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of interesting matters. Notes on the City of Yedo, narratives of overland journeys from Canton to Hankow, and from St. Petersburg to Peking, and a paper on the Medicines and Medical Practice of the Chinese, form the most important portion of its contents.

THE WIMBLEDON MEETING.—On Saturday, the 15th inst., the China Challenge Vase was shot for. The conditions of the match having been left to the determination of the Council, great curiosity was naturally felt as to the ultimate destination of so valuable a piece of plate. The decision arrived at was that it should be placed in the hands of the Lord-Lieutenant of the winning county from year to year, and that £100 should be annually divided among the more successful of the competing squads, consisting of ten men drawn from every county desirous of entering. Several designs for the vase have been submitted, and the selection is under consideration by a committee. Thirty-two counties competed for it, the following being the four highest scores:—

County.	200 yards.	500 yards.	Total.
Somerset (win vase and £50) ..	134 ..	129 ..	263
Lanarkshire (win £25)	125 ..	130 ..	258
Suffolk (win £15)	126 ..	128 ..	254
Warwick (win £10)	133 ..	116 ..	249

No decision had then been arrived at as to which of the various designs which had been sent in for this cup should be adopted; but at the distribution of prizes on the 22nd inst., Lord Elcho stated that the smaller cup (value £100) which had been sent home to the London Scottish, at the same time that this larger contribution was forwarded to the National Rifle Association, had proved to be of such novel design, and so much superior in workmanship to what could be procured at home for the same money, that the committee had determined to have the more valuable cup likewise prepared in the Celestial Empire.

Monetary and Commercial.

The biddings for 25,00,000 rupees (£250,000) in bills on India, took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were—To Calcutta 17,76,000 rupees, to Bombay 5,50,000 rupees, and to Madras 2,24,000 rupees. The minimum price was, as before, 1s. 10¼d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 10⅜d. on Bombay. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 1s. 11⅛d. will receive about 54 per cent., and on Bombay at 2s. in full.

In consequence of a cab accident to Mr. Antrobus, the meeting of the creditors of Messrs. Lindsay and Co., China, has not yet been convened.

A company is in formation for carrying on the business of wholesale tea-dealers, on much the same principle as Peek's and Travers's.

Telegrams announcing the opening of the new Teas at Hankow have been received, and much dissatisfaction is expressed at the prices paid, which are estimated at 2s. 5d. laid down in London.

At the meeting of the London Joint-Stock Bank, the available total was stated to be £123,125, and a dividend and bonus equivalent to 18 per cent. per annum were declared, leaving £25,925 to be carried forward. The paid-up capital is £1,080,000, and the reserve £309,615.

The report of the Consolidated Bank shows an available total of £61,812, including a previous balance of £1,827, and recommends a dividend and bonus for the half-year at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum, and the appropriation of £10,000 to reserve, which will thus be raised to £70,065, leaving £6,812 to be carried forward.

The report of the Alliance Bank states the available balance to be £27,653, and recommends for the half-year a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, and the application of £1,000 towards preliminary expenses, leaving £4,485 to be carried forward. The directors state that the position of the bank has materially improved since the last half-yearly meeting, but that, "with respect to the account specially referred to in their last report, they do not feel themselves in a position to determine the amount which will be required from the reserve fund to meet the loss that may arise thereon, as some time must elapse before the value of the securities and estates affecting it can be ascertained."

The first general meeting of Reuter's Telegram Company (Limited) was held on the 24th inst. The report, which was unanimously adopted, states that the directors have to congratulate the shareholders upon the satisfactory results which have attended the business of the company during the short period that has elapsed since its formation. The company bought the business of Mr. Reuter at a price based upon the estimated revenue for the past three years, with its prospective increase, and the shareholders are informed by Messrs. Quilter, Ball, and Co.'s report, that the actual net profits during that period exceeded considerably the average amount on which their contract was based. It is anticipated by the directors that the dividend may hereafter be increased, and a sufficient surplus appropriated to a reserve fund. The profit for the six months ending the 30th June last, amounts to £6,645. 10s. 11d., out of which a dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. was declared, payable on the 31st inst. After payment of all charges and writing off £200 from the preliminary expenses, there will remain a balance of £2,442. 5s. 2d. to be carried forward to the next account. A vote of thanks to the chairman, Mr. John Dent, terminated the proceedings.

The following in reference to the *Peep o'Day*, which left London for Shanghai on the 21st Sept., has appeared in the daily papers. The ship *Peep o'Day* outward bound to Shanghai, and on which some sixty to eighty guineas prem. of insurance had been paid on account of lengthened voyage, was posted at Lloyd's as a missing ship—*i.e.*, considered as lost. The announcement being considered by the underwriters premature, they protested, and the notice was taken down, but the next day, through the intercession, it is reported, of either the broker or the owner of the ship, she was again posted, notwithstanding a general belief that the ship was not even out of time, and a great injustice to the wives and families of those serving on board, as their allowances were stopped from that moment. This was confirmed on the arrival of the mail, the ship having been spoken by the *Gloucestershire*, in lat. 22 S., long. 110 E., and 179 days out. The cause of her long voyage was attributed to the foulness of her bottom. She is an iron ship, and would not steer; besides, some of her crew were laid up with scurvy. She was supplied with provisions and then proceeded for the Straits of Lombock.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Massilia*, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was:—In gold, to Alexandria, £16,000; to Madras £649. In silver, to Calcutta, £45,700; to Hong Kong, £12,750; to Shanghai, £19,150; to Sydney, £200. Total,—In gold, £16,649; in silver, £77,800.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices July 17.
£20	Asiatic Bank Company, issued at £15 prem., £7. 10s. paid up. .	£5	—	—
50	Agra and Masterman's	25	55 to 57	57 to 59
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	25 to 27	25 to 27
20	Do. New	All	—	—
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	46 to 48	45 to 47
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	15 to 18	17 to 20
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (10 pd.)	All	—	—
20	Eastern Exchange	5	1 dis. to par	1 dis. to 1 par
50	London Joint Stock	15	47 to 49	49 to 51
100	London and Westminster . . .	20	93 to 96	97 to 99
25	Oriental Bank Corporation . .	All	52 to 54	52 to 54
50	Union of London	15	50 to 52 xd.	51 to 52 xd.
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan . .	25	9 to 7 dis.	7 to 5 dis.
100	Do. Issued at 2 pm.	25	9 to 7 dis.	7 to 5 dis.
100	Do. New	15	9 to 7 dis.	6 to 8 dis.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi . . .	10	4 to 3 dis.	4 to 3½ dis.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	30¼ to 31¼	31⅛ to 32⅛
100	Bank of London	50	142 to 145	141 to 144
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India .	4	¼ to ½ pm.	¼ to ½ pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3½ to 4½	3½ to 4½
50	P. and O. Steam Company . .	All	76 to 78	74 to 76
50	Do. New	35	19 to 21pm.	18 to 20 pm.
20	China Steamship & Labuan Coal Co.	5	—	—
5	Bombay Gas	All	5 to 5¼	5 to 5¼
10	Hong Kong Gas	All	1 to 2 pm.	2½ to 1½ dis.
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal. . .	10	3½ to 2½dis.xd.	3½ to 2½ dis. xd
2	Indian Carrying Company . .	1	½ dis.to par.xd	½ dis. to par
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal. .	All	19 to 20	19 to 20 xd.
1	Oriental Gas	All	1½ to 1⅝	1½ to 1⅝ xn.
10	O. Inland Steam	All	2 to 3	2 to 3
100	West India Steam Company . .	60	113 to 115	111 to 113
20	Ceylon Company	7	2½ to 3½ pm.	2½ to 3 pm.xn
20	International Finance Society .	5	½ to 1 pm.xd.	1½ to 1½ pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	1½ to 1½ pm.	1½ to 1½ pm.
50	London Financial Association . .	15	7 to 7½ pm.	7 to 7½ pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	1¼ to 1 dis.	¼ to ½ dis.
20	Société Financiére d'Egypte . .	10	3⅜ to 3½ dis.	3⅜ to 3⅝ dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company . . .	All	15 to 15½	15½ to 15½ xd.
10	Upper Assam Tea	3½	3 to 4 pm. xd.	3 to 4 pm.
10	Do.		19 to 21 xd.	19 to 21

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—The official returns of clearances for the six months ending 30th June, are now published. The total amounts to 64,152,246 lbs. against 60,216,121 lbs. last year. The increase in home consumption is 4,882,735 lbs., but there is a falling off in exports of 946,610 lbs. In low broken-leaf and dusty kinds of Congou prices have ruled rather lower, especially at public sale without reserve; those with leaf up to 11d. per lb. have been inquired for. Fair to good common have been neglected, but prices remain nominally the same. Common to fair flavory kinds have sold at a further decline of ½d. to 1d. per lb. at public auction; privately there is no demand. A few finest Kaisow have fetched 2s. 6d. Common to fair black-leaf kinds have sold ½d. per lb. lower; the medium kinds have given way 1d. per lb. for the few sales which have been made, while

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fine to finest are quoted somewhat nominal in the absence of inquiry. In Tayshans and new-make Canton kinds there is no new feature to notice. Oolongs continue difficult of sale. Good to fine Souchongs have been in moderate demand at about previous rates. Flowery Pekoes are only saleable at very low prices. In Scented Teas there is not much doing, medium kinds have become scarce; but even for these the inquiry is only partial, prices showing but little change. Common to fair uncoloured Japans are difficult to sell; the finer kinds are wanted, and for the few of these offering, higher prices have been paid, Indian Teas have given way materially, a large portion of the late marked advance has been lost, common to good kinds selling 2d. per lb., and finer kinds 2d. to 4d. per lb. lower. In Green Teas there has been a considerable amount of business done, several invoices from recent arrivals having been placed on the market. Japan kinds have not sold so readily, the qualities offering being undesirable. Common to fair Country kinds have sold at a decline of 1d. to 2d. per lb., but the finer kinds, especially of Moyune, have been fairly supported, there being still a moderate demand for export. Common to fair Canton Gunpowders have sold lower at public auction. Young Hysons are still without inquiry. On the 18th instant 12,240 packages China Tea were offered, and 9,033 packages were sold, all being printed without reserve. Further sales of Indian Tea begin to-day.

SILK.—Quotations are nominally Tsatlee No. 1 at 32s., Mibash No. 1 at 33s., holders being firm.

COTTON.—The market opened for business the week ending Friday, the 21st, with an improved demand, which gradually increased with advancing prices until the 18th, when it met with a check, and the business afterwards was moderate. Prices, which during the early part of the week had risen ¾d. to 1¼d. per lb., again receded about ½d., China and Japan being about ½d. per lb. dearer than on the 14th. We note sales in London during the week of 230 bales of China at 5½d. to 11¼d., low to fair; and 470 bales Japan at 12d. to 12½d. for fair. The market assumed a stronger tone on Saturday, the 22nd. A large business resulted, which would have been more but for the firmness of holders; and prices were quoted ¼d. to ½d. per lb. higher. On Monday, the 24th, the advices from America still further strengthened the market, and a good business was done at Saturday's rates; 50 bales of China went at 12½d., fully fair. Closing quotations: China, middling fair, 11½d.; fair, 12d.; good fair, 12½d.; Japan, middling fair, 11¾d.; fair, 12¼d.; good fair, 13¼d. The stock in London on the 20th July of China and Japan was 4,759 bales, against 29,198 at the same period of last year; the total stock in London being 63,196 bales, against 70,447 last year. Of cotton afloat to Europe on the 21st July there was 22,822 bales of China, against 73,085 last year; and 826 bales Japan against 9,126 last year. The total stock at Liverpool on the 21st inst. was 333,600 bales, against 184,900 same time last year. The Liverpool market has exhibited the same phases as those noted above.

SUGAR.—The market closed firmly on Friday, the 21st, at the full rates of the 14th. On the 21st 3,000 bags Clayed Manila were sold privately at 30s. The business this week has been of moderate extent, and prices are very firm.

COFFEE.—The tone of the market has been quiet since our last, and rather easier rates have in most instances been acceded to. Public sales of Plantation Ceylon have passed off with only a moderate competition at prices rather in favour of the buyer, fine ordinary to low middling 78s. to 82s. 6d., middling to good middling coloury, 83s. 6d. to 89s. Of native, only about half offered was sold at a decline of 6d. to 1s. per cwt., good ordinary 67s. 6d. to 68s., fine ordinary 69s. to 70s., small 66s. to 66s. 6d. At auction 547 bags fine ordinary Java went at 73s. to 75s.; 1,181 bags Singapore were taken at 73s. to 73s. 6d. for fair Bonthyne.

RICE.—We are still unable to report any increase of demand for this article, but a firm tone prevails, and in the scanty amount of business done on the spot, white Bengal has commanded stiff rates—viz., about 2,000 bags middling to good quality, at 13s. 9d. to 14s. 9d., besides which 9,000 bags middling Nakrenzie have been sold at 9s. 6d. cash, and 3,000 bags Bassein at 9s. 1½d. A floating cargo of Nakrenzie, 550 tons, has been sold for the Continent, at 10s. 6d. On the 21st, at public sale, 4,124 bags White Bengal, of the new crop, were bought in, but about two-thirds have since been placed; good bold white, 15s. 6d. to 15s. 9d.

CAMPHOR.—We have again been without business in this drug on the spot. 60 cases China at auction retired 500 tubs Japan are reported for arrival at £5. 7s. 6d. per cwt., and further quantities offering upon the same terms.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Rather better: of 591 cases at auction, about half sold at 81s. to 84s. per cwt. for first pile, good but slightly mouldy. Moderate business privately. Buds: Nothing of any consequence doing.

COCOA NUT OIL.—This market has been very firm, with moderate business for export in both Cochin and Ceylon, up to the quotations of £45 for the former, and £43 for the latter. Only 76 casks Sydney at auction.

DRUGS.—Cubebs firm; 86 bags at auction mostly sold at 83s. to 85s. per cwt. for good. Dragon's Blood and Galangal Root: Nothing doing in either. Rhubarb: Recent importations, 119 cases offered at auction, and all sold; flat, of fair quality, at 5s. 5d. to 5s. 7d. per lb., and round 5s. 2d. to 5s. 4d. 31 cases (various small parcels) retired.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Quiet; 3 cases Siam, and 31 cases Sumatra at auction all retired. Damar: Very firm; 194 cases sold at auction at 50s. to 50s. 6d. per cwt. for good picked, and 45s. to 46s. good in sorts. Gamboge: Nothing doing.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Continues very quiet, without change in value; little business done privately, and not any at action.

HEMP (MANILA)—Has brought rather more money; sales to a limited extent reported privately at £30 to £31. 10s. per ton for common to good roping. No auctions held.

HIDES.—The quantity of East India Hides at public sale on the 20th was moderate, and the proportion of good quality larger than for some time past. For these there was a good demand, principally for home use, at ¼d. to ½d. per lb. above late prices, and in a few cases an advance of 1d. per lb. was obtained for the best descriptions. The export demand was limited, and middling and inferior hides in consequence barely realised former prices. 1,596 Singapore cow hides offered and sold, light 4d. to 5½d. per lb., heavy 4d. per lb.; 2,552 Singapore buffalo hides offered 1,993 sold at 5d. to 5½d.; 2,688 Java buffalo hides offered 1,458 sold, heavy 4¾d. to 5½d. per lb.

HORNS.—8½ tons Siam Buffalo sold at auction at 43s. 6d. to 44s. per cwt. for 3 lbs. average.

INDIA RUBBER.—Remains firm, but without trade of consequence. 185 packages Assam at auction, sold at 8d. to 10d. for middling to fair.

JAPAN WAX.—Very little doing: some inquiry for fine.

OILS—Anniseed: Quiet, moderate business done at the lower quotation of 7s. 6d. per lb. Cassia: Very flat; 13 cases at auction retired at 8s. per lb., at which price there were no buyers.

PEPPER.—Black: Singapore the turn lower: Penang steady: 3,934 bags Singapore at auction, mostly sold at 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb.; and 570 bags Penang sold at 3d. White: Very dull; 1,216 bags Singapore offered at auction, and very few sold at 5¼d. to 5⅝d. per lb. for middling.

SPICES.—Cinnamon (Ceylon): We quote 1st sort, 1s. 4d. to 2s. 4d. per lb.; 2nd, 1s. 3d. to 2s. 2d.; 3rd, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 9d.; and 4th and Jungle 10d. to 1s. 4d. The Quarterly Sales will be held on Monday, the 31st inst. Cloves: Very quiet for all sorts; 15 cases Penang, and 160 bags Zanzibar at auction, all retired. Mace: Firm; only 6 cases Penang at auction, sold at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. per lb. for good reddish. Nutmegs: Steady; and 61 cases Penang at auction sold at 10d. to 1s. 4d. per lb., for inferior small to middling medium.

SAGO.—A parcel of old import, 915 bags, at auction, retired at 17s. per cwt. Flour: Steady; 2,409 boxes at auction mostly sold at 19s. 6d. to 20s. 6d. per cwt. for good to fine small, and 18s. 6d. to 23s. middling to fine large.

SHELLAC.—Fine Orange of approved marks alone maintains its value, all other kinds are depressed and cheaper. 957 chests at auction, about one-third sold, Orange at 80s. to 97s.; Liver, 62s. 6d.; and Native, 73s. to 74. Our reduced quotations accepted privately.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Is better: 691 bags and 25 tons loose at auction mostly sold at 19s. to 21s. per cwt., for ordinary to middling mixed and drossy. Privately good quality has been sold at 25s. 9d. to 26s., and very superior 26s. 6d. Gambier: Remains very flat, with limited private business upon former terms: 815 bales at auction, all retired.

TIN.—Straits have fallen £2 per ton, sales to some considerable extent having been made at £90 to £91 cash; Banca has sold at £94; and at these rates the metal is now firm, with free buyers of the former.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Galls: Market for all descriptions remains quiet, prices generally drooping; of 100 pockets Bombay blue, at auction, 20 pockets only found buyers at £9 per cwt. Arrivals of Japan. Sales advertised of China. Musk: Recent arrivals, 128 tins Tonquin offered at auction, and nearly all sold, with excellent competition, at 28s. to 30s. 6d. per oz. for good selected, 18s. 6d. to 21s. 6d. middling rough, and 11s. to 11s. 6d. inferior pickings; 6 tins grain retired. Rattans: Firm, but nothing doing. Ebony Wood: Remains very flat; 11½ tons Ceylon sold at about £5. 17s. 6d. to £6. 6s. per ton. Sapanwood: Firm; 22 tons Siam at auction sold at £12. 2s. 6d. to £12. 15s. per ton; and 6 tons Ceylon at £9. 10s. Moderate business privately. Mother-o'-Pearl Shells: Firm, but nothing doing. Soy: Continues very quiet, and no business. Star Anniseeds: Very scarce, and much wanted. Sticklac (Siam): Quite neglected; no auctions. Sales advertised. Tortoiseshell: Nothing doing. Turmeric: No China offering; nothing doing in Java. Vermilion: Scarce, and business limited in consequence.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 15s. to £8; nail rod, £8. 10s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10. 5s.; sheets, single, £10. 10s. to £11; Staffordshire bars, £8. 15s. so £9; rails, £7 to £7. 5s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £15.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £91 per ton; yellow metal, 7½d. to 8d. per lb.

TIN.—94s. for block; 95s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 28s. 6d. to 29s. 6d.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £19 to £19. 5s.; W.B., £21; shot patent, £22. 10s.; sheet, £20; spelter, £22. 5s. to £22. 10s.; zinc, English sheet, £27. 10s. to £28; quicksilver, £8.

The following is from the circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—We have scarcely any alteration in the quotations for metal to report since the date of our last circular. The market remains inactive.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£98,293
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£5,500
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£178,992
Singapore	£3,007	£202,650
Penang	—	£3,500
Yokohama	—	£6,465

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£57,966
Penang	—	£4 508
Hong Kong	—	£47,000
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£31,151
Yokohama	—	£7,976

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£56	£10,000
To Saigon	—	£105,830
To Batavia	£3,966	—
To Hong Kong	—	£14,880
To Shanghai	£80	£62,183
To Yokhama	—	£2,184

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GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce	£3 17 9		
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0	to	3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4		
Silver in Bars	0 5 0¼		
Mexican Dollars	0 4 11½		

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
July 16	Falmouth	Akyab	Ironsides	Vaux.
— 4	New York	Hong Kong	Europa	Feester.
— 16	Falmouth	Maulmain	John Patten	Emmons.
— 16	Do.	Do.	Denmark	Smith.
— 16	Liverpool	Shanghai	John Nicholson	Heffernan.
— 16	Do.	Do.	Queensbury	Bruner.
— 17	Deal	Colombo	Hunter	Irvine.
— 15	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	May Queen	Mundt.
— 18	Deal	Singapore	Betty Perlbach	Blohm.
— 15	Off the Wight	Penang	Zaanstroom	Schaap.
— 15	Do.	Banjoewangie	Aldebaran	Dryver.
— 4	New York	Hong Kong	Diana	Bruns.
— 19	Liverpool	Shanghai	Blackwood	Cappon.
— 17	Off Plymouth	Java	L. A. Bang	Failenius.
— 18	Texel	Banjoewangie	Gebroeders	Arbman.
—	St. Lawrence	Shanghai	Shelburne	Lowe.
— 21	Deal	Colombo	Hollinside	Kidland.
— 20	Liverpool	Shanghai	Spirit of Trade	
— 21	Deal	Do.	Grenadier	Miller.
— 22	London	Yokohama	Gabalva	Fraser.
— 23	Deal	Singapore	Orinoco	Schoof.
— 22	Do.	Penang	Alice	
— 21	Brouwershaven	Padang	Maarten v. Rossem	Gerrebrands.
— 13	Lisbon	Akyab	Venus	Roza.
— 21	St. Nazaire	Singapore	Emile	Blanchet.
— 18	Santander	Manila	Jose-y-Matia	Ron.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
July 13	Sunderland	Shanghai	Prince Alfred	
— 15	London	Do.	Dilkhoosh	Bissett.
Jun. 20	Madeira	China	H.M.S. Serpent	
July 17	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Sydney Eggers	Richardson.
— 18	Do.	Colombo & Cochin	Star of the Mersey	Thomas.
— 16	Nieuwe Diep	Batavia	Alblasserwaard	Zack.
— 18	Cardiff	Shanghai	George Canning	Harris.
— 18	Sunderland	Galle	John Ritson	Gibson.
Jun. —	Rio Janeiro	Japan	Passe-partout	Porrett.
July 17	Amsterdam	Batavia	Senior	Bakker.
— 20	Sunderland	Shanghai	Cotherstone	Patterson.
— 20	Do.	Do.	Kirkland	Colledge.
— 20	Do.	Galle	Cambridge	Dennison.
— 22	London	Colombo	Crixea	Taylor.
— 22	Shields	Singapore	Newcastle	

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Scindia. For Shanghai: Laurel, Jubilee, Lansdowne. For Hong Kong and Canton: Crest of the Wave, Dilpussund. For Singapore: Couranto. For Singapore and Penang: Bride. For Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius, and Batavia: Konig Willem III. For Colombo: Thames, Charlotte Ann. For Colombo and Cochin: John Bunyan. For Colombo and Galle: Strata Florida. For Galle, Beypore, Calicut and Mangalore: Atalanta.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Eliza Hands. For Shanghai: Aerolite, Lockett. For Singapore: Carn Tual. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Bulgersteyn. For Manila: Cinco Hermanos, Aureliana, San Luis. For Penang: Avery.

At GLASGOW.—For Batavia and Sourabaya: County of Lanark. For Ceylon and Madras; Thomas Mitchell.

At GREENOCK.—For Hong Kong and Canton: Ariel.

At NEW YORK.—For Shanghai: Horatio. For Hong Kong and Shanghai: Anna Kimball. For Hong Kong: Benefactress. For Hong Kong and Singapore: Harmon.

At BOSTON.—For Hong Kong: Santee.

SPOKEN.

WHITE ADDER, London to Hong Kong, April 27, in the Straits of Sunda.
HER MAJESTY (ship), Shanghai to Liverpool, May 5, 28 S., 42 E.
LORENZO, Macassar to London, May 2, 35 S., 26 E.
GABALVA (Ham. barq.), Japan to London, May 29, 35 S., 16 E.
JULIE, Amsterdam to Japan, June 16, 8 N., 24 W.
PEEP O'DAY, London to Shanghai, 214 days out, April 21, off Anjer.
No. 5,681 (Isis) (?) (Dut. ship.), Amstm. to Bat., May 24, 18 S., 34 W.
VAN DER PALM (Dut. bq.), Batavia to Rotterdam, May 24, 29 S., 41 E.
PRINCE ARTHUR (barq.) Hong Kong to Liverpool, June 15, 23 S., 3 E.
GEBROEDERS (Dut. brig.), Bat. to Amstm., June 26, 33 N., 34 W.
RED GAUNTLET, Liverpool to Foo-chow-Foo, May 22, 23 S., 29 W.
PAULINA CONSTANCE FLORENCE, Amstm. to Padang, June 8, 14 N., 25 W.
RESOLUTE, Shanghai to New York, June 2, 35 S., 20 E.
JAN. V. SCHAFFELAAR, Banjoewangie to Holland, May 28, 18 S., 3 E.
RALEIGH (ship), Colombo to London, April 23, 21 S., 73 E.
TAMANA, (ship), from Manila, May 17, 35 S., 27 E.
NORTH CAPE (Norw. ship), Cardiff to Manila, 72 days out, 34 S., 7 E.
WESTBOROUGH, Colombo to London, June 4, 34 S., 15 E.
ABERGELVIE, Colombo to London, June 19, off St. Helena.
OCEAN (ship), Canton to London, April 21, off Anjer.
JOHANNE KALKMAN (barq.), Samarang to Amstm., June 10, 26 S., 7 E.
SHEPHERD, Colombo to London, June 17, 18 S., 2 W.
BLACKWOOD, Shanghai to Liverpool., June 6, 5 S., 19 W.
LIBRA, of Rottm., Amsterdam to Japan, May 12, 8 N., 108 E.
COLLINGWOOD (ship), Newcastle to Shanghai, April 30, 6 N., 107 E.
MARTEN VAN ROSSEM (Dt. bq.), Padang to Rottm., June 5, 5 S., 17 W.
WAALSHOOM (Dt. bq.), Amstm. to Japan, March 31, 2 S., 107 E.
ROYAL YARE (?) Lon. to Shanghai, 40 days out, lat. 20 lon. 36.
ADMIRAL LYONS, for Hong Kong, 11 July, 45 N., 8 W.
HENDRINA, Banjoewangie to Rottm., June 29, 30 N., 40 W.
W. W. SMITH, Liverpool to Shanghai, April 8, in the Java sea.
BATAVIA, Shields to Batavia, June 19, 7 N., 26 W.
CASTLETOWN, London to Yokohama, June 19, 7 N., 26 W.
PRUDHOE, (barq.), for Hong Kong, July 9, 37 N., 13 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

The demand for coal ships to China has somewhat fallen off since our last impression, and rates are lower, other freights remain without alterations.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 35s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £40 and £2. 2s. For Shanghai: £52 and £2. 12s. 6d. For Manila: 34s. to 35s. For Batavia: 24s. to 26s. For Singapore: £32 and £1. 8s. For Galle: £29 to £30 and £1. 6s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Off ASCENSION.—June 24, from Sourabaya, Antelope.

At ST. HELENA.—May 27, from Padang, Marten v. Rossen, Gerrebrands, and sailed 29 for Rotterdam; 28, Zaamstroom, Schaap, and sailed 29 for Amsterdam; from Penang and Simon's Bay, Alice, Hernod, and sailed 29 for London; 30, from Batavia, Johanna Elisabeth, Duinker, and sailed 31 for Amsterdam; 31, from Banjoewangie, Rudolf, Miensma, and sailed 1st June for Rotterdam; 6, from Batavia, Java Packet, Hellingman, and sailed 7 for Amsterdam; 7, from Macao, Camoens, Santos, and sailed 8 for Havana; 8, from Manila, Reina de los Angelos, Vildosola, and sailed 10 for Cadiz; 9, from Shanghai, Her Majesty, Seymour, and sailed for Liverpool; 10, from Banjoewangie, Eva Johanna, Hordyk, and sailed for Middelburg; 16, from Padang, Argo, Ankringa, and sailed for Rotterdam; 18, from Banjoewangie, Medea, from Batavia, Drenth—both sailed 19 for Rotterdam, Maria Anna, v. Monnom, and sailed 20 for Rotterdam; from Manila, Margarita, Mas, and sailed 19 for Alicante; from Penang, Dunmore, Robertson, and sailed 20 for London; 19, from Foo-chow-Foo, Maiden Queen, Smith, and sailed for London; from Pasaroeang, Emilie, Lundstrom, and sailed 21 for Stockholm; from Sourabaya, Regina Maria, Ouwehand, and sailed 20 for Middelburg; from Canton, Philippine, Sanderson, and sailed for London; from Pasaroeang, Emma, Broberg, and sailed 21 for Falmouth; from Batavia, Ouderkerk, a.d. Amstel, Dingemans; from Manila, Angela, Onate, and sailed 20 for Santander; from Shanghai, Agamemnon, George, and sailed 20 for Liverpool; from Canton, Arima, Kerr, and sailed 20 for Demerara; from Sourabaya, Antelope, Tornstrom, and sailed 19 for Falmouth; from Batavia, Johannes Anthonius, v.d. Straaten, and sailed 21 for Rotterdam; 20, from Manila, Indian, Lagus, and sailed for London; from Penang, Devonvale, Brown, and sailed for London; from Java, Theodora Machtilda, v.d. Wyck; from Ceylon, Winlow, Howard; from Singapore, Carl Julius, Bockhoff, and sailed 22 for Falmouth; from Manila, Dos Hermanos, Tuton; from Ceylon, Planet, Jenkins; from Manila, Maria Delora Espana (?), Castello; 21, from Java, Hollandia, Wap; 22, from Tjilatjap, Schelde, Hoffman, for Amsterdam.

At TABLE BAY.—June 9, from Singapore, Alexandria, Small, and sailed 12 for London.

At SIMON'S BAY.—June 3, from Hong Kong, Sovereign of India, Scott; 8, from Marseilles, Duplex (s.), Meligan, and sailed 11 for Singapore; 9, from Batavia, Adolf Hertog von Nassau, Uhtenbeck, for Holland.

At MAURITIUS.—June 8, from Singapore, Frederica, Blyth; 15, Corea (s), Russell, sailed for Singapore.

At REUNION.—June 16, from Manila, for Nantes, St. Vincent de Paul, Langostine.

CASUALTIES.

The Passe Partout, from Sunderland, for Japan, put into Rio Janeiro prior to June 23, short of water.

The Johanna Maria, Wilhelmie, from Banjoewangie, to Rotterdam, put into Mauritius June 9 for repairs, having on the 16th April, in lat. 22 S., lon. 73 E., experienced a severe hurricane, which lasted several hours, and on May 9 sprung a leak. On the 13th and 14th, the leak increasing, she threw over part of her cargo, and on the 18th, in lat. 37 S., lon. 27 E., met with hard gale and sprung her mainmast.

During the gale at the Cape of Good Hope on May 17, the Fernande, from Bordeaux for Singapore, with a general cargo, was stranded. Part of her cargo was saved and would be sold. She had put into the Cape for repairs.

The Beatrice, Martin, of and for London, from Shanghai, put into St. Helena May 28, leaky; she discharged the whole of her cargo and prepared to be hove down. It was found upon examination that all her false keel was gone, her main keel injured, and part of her cargo damaged by sea water.

The Ida Willemina, Rotgans, of and for Rotterdam, from Batavia, put into St. Helena June 2, leaky in her topsides; having discharged 1,000 bags of coffee, she was repaired, and on the 13th June sailed for her destination.

The Carioca, from Bombay for Liverpool, arrived at St. Helena June 19, and in getting under weigh on the afternoon of the 21st she dropped down on the Hollandia, Wap, of and for Rotterdam, from Java, which vessel sustained trifling damage.

The Zaanstroom, Schaap, from Banjoewangie, arrived at Texel July 18, leaky, and with other damage.

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THE AGRA and MASTERMAN'S BANK (Limited).

(Established in 1833.)

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up Capital £1,500,000 (one million and a-half sterling).

Subscribed Capital, £3,000,000 (three millions sterling).

In 20,000 Shares of £100 each, and 20,000 Shares of £50 each.

Number of Shareholders, 908.

Reserved Fund, £500,000.

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MANAGER.
Robert Hunter, Esq

Branches in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee, Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Sydney, Melbourne.

Current accounts of firms and individuals are kept at the head office, on the terms customary with London bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received at seven days' notice of withdrawal, at rates fluctuating with those of the Bank of England; and for longer periods at fixed rates, particulars of which may be obtained upon application.

Sales and purchases effected in British and foreign securities, in East India stock and loans, and army, navy and civil pay and pensions realised.

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Letters of credit and circular notes issued, payable at the chief cities of Europe and Asia, and also at Cairo and Alexandria.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England.

The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)

Branches and Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo Kandy, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Point de Galle, Manila, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow, Nagasaki, and Kiu-kiang.

Deposits received at ten days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed period, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued and Bills negotiated payable in India China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government loan notes effected so that the interest may be paid in England. Every other description of Banking and Agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

PORT OF AMOY.

SHIPOWNERS, AGENTS and COMMANDERS are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING and SPARRING VESSELS, and for CLEANING and PAINTING Iron and Steam Ships.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, is in complete working order, and at average spring tides can take vessels drawing 16 to 17 feet water. The Dock is fitted with a Caisson Gate and with a Centrifugal Steam Pump of great power ensuring despatch in all states of the tide. An ample stock is kept on hand of Timber, Oregon Spars, Sheathing Copper and Yellow Metal, and of every description of material for Dockyard use.

The premises comprise an Engineer's Workshop, Brass Foundry, a large Smithy and Carpenter's Workshops, and the works are superintended by Resident Europeans, viz.: a Shipwright, an Engineer, and a Blacksmith. Dry Godowns for the reception of vessel's stores, &c., when requiring to discharge them.

Amoy, March, 1865.

HONG KONG and SHANGHAI BANKING COMPANY (Limited).

CAPITAL, $5,000,000.

HALF ALREADY PAID-UP.

HEAD OFFICE—HONG KONG.
V. KRESSER, Manager.

Has at present Agencies and Branches at—

Shanghai.	Calcutta.
Singapore.	Bombay, and
Manila.	London.

LONDON OFFICE—25, OLD BROAD-STREET.
W. H. VACHER, Agent.

ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.—

Incorporated by Royal Charter. Authorised Capital, £2,000,000. Paid-up Capital, £500,000.

Head Office—No. 4, Lombard-street.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Melbourne.

The Corporation grant drafts and negotiate bills of exchange payable at the above places, issue letters of credit, and conduct every description of banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian securities, the receipt of dividends, &c. and undertake the safe custody of securities. They also receive deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of interest and exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

THE UNDERSIGNED LICENSED PILOTS

FOR THE

PORT OF SHANGHAI, CHINA,

BEG to inform SHIPMASTERS that their Schooners DANIEL WEBSTER and A. J. WESTEWELT will be found at the OUTSIDE PILOT STATION on the YANG-TZE-KEANG, with thoroughly qualified PILOTS on board. The schooners distinguishable by being painted white, and having the word Pilot on the mainsail.

To regular traders the undersigned are known to be among the oldest and best Pilots on the River:—

DANIEL MARTIN.	JOSEPH SHERMAN.
ALEXANDER SMITH.	JOSEPH CARGILL.
JOHN COATES.	JOHN KURSH.
EDWARD BRAND.	

TUPPER AND COMPANY.

MANUFACTURERS OF PATENT GALVANISED IRON, in Sheets, Tiles, Iron Roofs Sheds, Cisterns, Pails, Gutters, Wire for Fencing, &c.
WORKS AT BIRMINGHAM AND LONDON.
OFFICES: 61A, MOORGATE STREET, LONDON.
Merchants' orders executed with despatch.

WILLIAM BOLTON, 146, HOLBORN BARS, LONDON.

(FORMERLY DYMOND AND CO.)

MANUFACTURER of Pure Chemicals for Photography and Chemical Research, Experiments, &c., and of all Pharmaceutical Preparations.

Aniline and its Colours, Benzole, Bicarbonate, Hyposulphite, and Silicate of Soda, Chlorate and Silicate of Potash, Phosphorus, &c.

Manufacturer of and dealer in Photographic, Chemical, Philosophical Electrical and Galvanic Apparatus.

Sole Proprietor of Bolton's and Dawson's New Negative Collodions and Hardwich's improved do. BOLTON'S Sulphate of Amorphous Quinine, and BOLTON'S Pure Benzine.

Agent for Ross's and Dallmeyer's Lenses.

Medical Glass, Porcelain, Enemas, Surgical Instruments and appliances.

Sole Export Agent for the Wothlytype Collodion and Paper, and dealer in all miscellaneous articles now sold by druggists, photographers, opticians, &c., &c., in India, China, and the Colonies.

W. BOLTON advises parties when indenting to include all articles they may require of a general character, or such as may not be detailed in his Special Lists and Catalogues.

(ESTABLISHED 1770.)

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up capital, £750,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES.

Bombay.	Colombo.	Penang.	Hong Kong.	Yokohama
Calcutta.	Kandy.		Shanghai.	
Madras.	Galle.	Singapore.	Hankow.	Mauritius

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at the places above mentioned, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the Overland Route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

No. 52, Threadneedle-street, London, E.C.

THE CREDIT FONCIER and MOBILIER of ENGLAND (Limited).

Authorised capital	... ...	£4,000,000
Capital subscribed	... ...	2,000,000
Capital paid-up	... ...	500,000
Reserved Fund	... ...	200,000
Dividend Reserve Fund	...	70,000

DIRECTORS.

The Right Hon. JAMES STUART WORTLEY, Governor.
JAMES LEVICK, Esq., Merchant, King's Arms-yard. } Deputy
JAMES NUGENT DANIELL. Esq., Chairman of the Alliance Bank (Limited). } Governors.
James Childs, Esq., London.
Alexander Dunbar, Esq., Old Broad-street, London.
Charles Ellis, Esq., Lloyd's.
Adolphe Hakim, Esq. (Messrs. Pinto, Hakim Brothers, and Co.), London.
The Hon. T. C. Haliburton, M.P., Chairman of the Canada Agency Association, London.
William Harrison, Esq. (Messrs. Young, Harrison, and Bevan), Director of the Thames and Mersey Insurance Company.
Richard Stuart Lane, Esq. (Messrs. Lane, Hankey, and Co.), London.
Charles E. Newbon, Esq., London.
Henry Pownall. Esq., J.P., Russell-square, London.
Joseph Mackrill Smith, Esq. (J. Mackrill Smith and Co.), Old Broad-street, London.
Edward Warner, Esq., M.P., London.
John Westmoreland, Esq. (Director of the Royal Insurance Company), London.
Albert Grant, Esq., Managing Director.

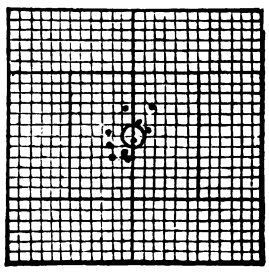
BANKERS.

The Agra and Masterman's Bank (Limited).
Messrs. Smith. Payne. and Smiths.
The National Bank, London, Dublin, and its Branches in Ireland.
The Alliance Bank Limited), London, Liverpool, and Manchester.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Newbon, Evans, and Co., Nicholas-lane, E.C.
SECRETARY.—Alfred Lowe, Esq.
OFFICES—17 and 18, Cornhill, London.

AMMUNITION.



TARGET
12 FEET SQUARE

Represents average shooting at 500 yards with

ELEY'S
BEST
ENFIELD
CARTRIDGES

ELEY'S AMMUNITION
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION FOR
SPORTING OR MILITARY PURPOSES.

Double Waterproof Central Fire Caps, Felt Waddings, to prevent the leading of Guns, Wire Cartridges, for Killing Game, &c., at long distances, Breech-Loading Cartridge Cases of superior quality, for Shot Guns and Rifles.

Jacob's Rifle Shell Tubes, Cartridges and Caps for Colt's, Adams', Deane's, Tranter's, and other Revolvers.

BALL CARTRIDGES

For Enfield, Whitworth, and Henry Rifles; also for Westley Richards', Terry's, Wilson's, Prince's, Deane's, and other Breech Loaders.

"Black Buck Shells," for 10, 12, and 16 Bore Breech Loaders.

The "Metford" Shel Bullet, for Enfield and Whitworth Bore Rifles.

Bullets of uniform eight made by compression from Soft Refined Lead.

ELEY BROTHERS, GRAY'S-INN-ROAD, LONDON, W.C., or of Messrs. SMITH, ELDER, and CO., and their Agents.

Wholesale Only.

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TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND INDIA.

JACKSON & PAINE

(FOURTEEN YEARS WITH COLLARD AND COLLARD)

PATENT PIANOFORTE MAKERS,

PIANOFORTES, WITH ALL THE LATEST IMPROVEMENTS EXPRESSLY FOR EXPORTATION.

13, STORE-STREET, TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD, W,

FACTORY, LITTLE STORE-STREET.

ILLUSTRATED LISTS FORWARDED FREE ON APPLICATION

PRIZE MEDAL INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1862.

BENBOW AND SON'S
PURE GLYCERINE SOAP.

ELDERFLOWER, HONEY, ALMOND, BROWN WINDSOR, &c.; also their celebrated ESS BOUQUET, JOCKEY-CLUB BOUQUET, EXTRACT of VIOLET, and other perfumes for the Handkerchief. Manufacturers of HAIR, TOOTH, and NAIL BRUSHES.

PERFUMERY and POMATUMS of every description made expressly for Foreign Climates.

12, LITTLE BRITAIN, LONDON, E.C.

NOTHING IS MORE REFRESHING THAN

RIMMEL'S

EXTRACT OF LIME JUICE AND GLYCERINE,

Which cleanses and cools the head, and gives the hair a beautiful gloss, without greasing it.

RIMMEL'S TOILET VINEGAR

Will also be found a perfect luxury as an adjunct to the Toilet and Bath, and a reviving Perfume.

RIMMEL'S PERFUME FOUNTAIN,

An elegant ornament for the Drawing-Room, Ball-Room, Dining Table, &c. Price from £1. 10s.

EUGENE RIMMEL,

Perfumer by Appointment to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, 96, Strand; 128, Regent street; and 24, Cornhill, London.

Sold by all Perfumery Dealers.

MONUMENTS, TOMBS, CHIMNEY-PIECES,

THE largest STOCK of MANUFACTURED MARBLE, STONE, and GRANITE in Europe on view at the BRITISH AND FOREIGN MARBLE GALLERIES, WARWICK HOUSE, 124 AND 144, REGENT-STREET.

Manufactories—Carrara, Brussels, Peterhead, and 17, Newman-street, London.

W. H. BURKE and CO., Proprietors.

SOLE AGENTS FOR THE INVERNETTIE GRANITE COMPANY.

HUBBUCK'S PATENT WHITE ZINC PAINT.

THE most durable and beautiful paint known, is cheaper than White Lead, and is proved to be superior for all purposes than the pernicious Lead Paint, and equally adapted for all climates.

Its whiteness is unaffected by bilge water, boiling sugar, or noxious gases.

It is free from any poisonous ingredient, and suited in all respects to the use of the painter.

Each Cask of Pure White Zinc is Stamped "HUBBUCK, LONDON PATENT."

Inferior Zinc Paint, so marked, having been sold in Foreign Markets, the Patentees offer a Reward of FIFTY POUNDS for information which will lead to the conviction, in an English or Colonial Court, of those who have pirated her Mark. Both Exporters and Retailers are liable for its sale.

THOMAS HUBBUCK AND SON,

WHITE LEAD, OIL, PAINT, AND VARNISH WORKS,

24, LIME-STREET, LONDON.

HUBBUCK'S ANTI-CORROSIVE PAINTS

Are very durable, and the most valuable protection to Iron Roofs, Bridges, Piers, Ships and Buildings, exposed to stormy weather and scorching sun; they soon become extremely hard, and do not blister.

They are made of Stone, Slate, Copper, White, Blue, Green, or any other Colour that is desired.

HUBBUCK'S ANTI-OXIDATION COMPOSITION,

For Coating Iron and Wood Ships' Bottoms; a preservative against fouling and corrosion. This Composition is ready for immediate use, and obviates the waste of carrying unmixed Paints, Oils, Driers, &c. It is also applicable to all the purposes of other Paints.

HUBBUCK'S PALE BOILED OIL

less colour than Raw Linseed Oil, is a quick, hard and certain drier for White and Light Coloured Paints.

PAINTS AND OILS PROPERLY PACKED FOR EXPORTATION.

TOZER'S BOOTS AND SHOES,

For Ladies, Gentlemen, and Children, are FIRST CLASS in QUALITY and STYLE, and most ECONOMICAL IN PRICE.

161, NORTH STREET, BRIGHTON,

AND 40, GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON,

Patentee of the Improved Cork Sole Clumped Boots, for Ladies or Gentlemen, for lightness unequalled.

BILLIARD TABLES.

THE ONLY BILLIARD TABLES APPRECIATED IN INDIA, CHINA, AND THE COLONIES, ARE THOSE MADE BY

THURSTON AND CO.,

WHO HAVE SUPPLIED HER MAJESTY'S AND NATIVE REGIMENTS FOR THE LAST FORTY YEAR

14, CATHERINE-STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

BOYVEAU LAFFECTEUR'S ROB.

The only one authorised and adopted in France, Belgium, Austria and Russia.

THIS Vegetable Syrup, prepared and guaranteed genuine by the signature of Dr. GIRAUDEAU DE ST. GERVAIS, is very superior to the purifying syrups. It effects a radical cure, without mercury, in all affections of the skin, scurf, scrofula, &c., and symptoms arising from the acrid state of the humours. The Rob is especially valuable in diseases which have resisted the effect of mercury or iodide of potash. The general entrepot of 12, RUE RICHER, PARIS.

Sold Retail.—London: Joreau, Hannay. New York: Fougera, Gaudelet, Milhau. Gibraltar: Patron and Daniolwich. Malta: Dr. Pirotti, Bugeja, Magri, and Rolando. Esperanza. Alexandria: Bellamore, Galette, Pernie, Bombay; Framjee Nesserwanjee and Co. Singapore: Martin and Little, Batavia: L. Platon and Co. Macao J.D. Freati.

R. L. SOUTHERN AND Co.,

MERCHANTS AND AGENTS,

6, MINCING-LANE, LONDON, E.C.

Bottled Ales and Wines, &c.

"NO BUYERS for the BEST BRANDS, unless RE-PACKED," in consequence of repeated BREAKAGE.—Melbourne Journal of Commerce, Nov. 16. Heating and Breakage entirely prevented, and 15 per cent. saved in Freight of Cases by using SEYMER'S BOTTLE PACKINGS AND COOLERS.

Price 7½d. per doz. Bottlers contracting for large quantities effect so great a saving in labour, &c., that they can supply them at one-fourth less in price to Shippers, who will find it most profitable to order their goods to be so packed in future. In use by all the leading London houses.—T. WHITEHEAD, 37, EASTCHEAP, E.C. Sole Manufacturer.

COWASJEE DINSHAW,

Close to the Landing Place. Depot of

EUROPEAN, CHINA, AND INDIAN WORK.

WINE, BEER, CHAMPAGNE, and SPIRITS of the best quality. Bombay-made Soda Water and Lemonade. Perfumery, Confectionery, Oilman's Stores, and Stationery of every description. Sola Topees and Canvas Shoes, &c., &c., &c.

STEAMER POINT, ADEN.

Drawing and Reading-room free to Passengers.

THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS" ON SALE

UMBRELLAS and SUNSHADES suitable for all Foreign Markets and the Colonies are supplied to Shippers on the most favourable terms by JOHN MORLAND and SONS, Wholesale Manufacturers 50, Eastcheap, London-bridge, City. Silk, Alpaca, Gingham Steel Frames, Canes, Fittings and all kinds of Materials for the Trade. Oiled and japanned silks and cambrics.

CAUTION.

THE GROSS FRAUDS which continue to be practised by obscure manufacturers, more particularly in Germany, by imitating the Labels attached to JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s PERFUMERY, render it imperative upon the Proprietors to Caution the public against such nefarious proceedings, and to request their friends and patrons to purchase only of respectable dealers, who import direct from JOHN GOSNELL and Co., and invite special attention to the address, 12, THREE KING-COURT, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s SELECT PERFUMES.—Ess Bouquet, Royal Yacht Club Bouquet, Jockey Club Perfume, Essence of Wood Violet, Victoria Bouquet, Garibaldi Bouquet, Frangipanni, Military Bouquet, The Bride's Bouquet, Tea Rose, Russian Leather Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Toilet Vinegar, Inexhaustible Salts, Aromatic Vinegar, Aromatic Eau de Cologne.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Prince of Wales Perfume

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Princess Alexandra Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Pomade.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Soap.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Real Old Brown Windsor Soap.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Golden Oil—Moelline—Macassar Oil, Bear's Grease, &c., for the Hair.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Extra Highly Scented Toilet and Nursery Powder.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Stereodesmic or Dentists, Tooth Brushes and Trichosaron Hair Brushes, warranted to purchasers.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Instantaneous Hair Dye.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co's Cherry Tooth Paste is greatly superior to any tooth powder, gives the teeth a pearl-like whiteness, protects the enamel from decay, and imparts a pleasing fragrance to the breath.

NOTHING IMPOSSIBLE.—The Greatest and most Useful Invention of the day, AGUA AMARELLA.—Messrs. JOHN GOSNELL and CO., 12, Three King-court, Lombard-street, London, Perfumers to Her Majesty, respectfully offer to the public this truly marvellous fluid, which gradually restores the human hair to its pristine hue—no matter at what age. The Agua Amarella has none of the properties of dyes; it, on the contrary, is beneficial to the system, and when the hair is once restored one application per month will keep it in perfect colour. Price One Guinea per bottle; half bottles, 10s. 6d.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co., Perfumers to Her Majesty, and by Special Appointment to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, London.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT and PILLS.—EXPERIENCE BEFORE AUTHORITY.—For nearly the third of a century have these remedies stood in the foremost rank for overcoming ulcers, sores, swellings, rashes, and all descriptions of skin diseases. At first the faculty denounced these medicaments, but the experience of sufferers soon overthrew all interested opposition. Those whom Holloway's medicines had cured told other invalids the benefit they had derived from their use; those in their turn tried them, found equally satisfactory results, and thus are these admirable curatives used and prized throughout the habitable globe. The Ointment has always been applied with the most marked success in erysipelas, varicose veins, swelled ankles, and numberless other infirmities by which thousands around us are sorely oppressed.

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ORIENTAL FINANCIAL CORPORATION (Limited).

Offices, 15, Leadenhall-street, London.

Capital, £1,000,000 in 20,000 shares of £50 each

(With power to increase.)

First Issue, 10,000 Shares.

DIRECTORS.

CHAIRMAN—JOHN BROWN, Esq., Culvers Hadham Herts.
R. Russell Carew, Esq., Carpenders Park, Watford.
Major-General Clarke (late Commissioner of Revenue in Oude), Sydenham-hill, Kent.
Robert John Clarke, Esq., Brabant-court, Philpot-lane.
J. H. Crawford, Esq., (late Bengal Civil Service), Chauntry House, Bray, Berkshire.
Robert Lyall, Esq.. St. Helen's-place.
W. B. M. Lysley, Esq. (Director of the Bombay Gas Company), 41, Queen's-gardens, Hyde-park, W.

BANKERS.

Bank of England;
London and County Banking Company; and
The Mercantile and Exchange Bank (Limited).

AGENTS IN INDIA

Messrs. Gillanders, Arbuthnot, and Co., Calcutta.
Messrs. Ewart, Lathom, and Co., Bombay.

REPORT of the Directors to the Second Ordinary General Meeting of Members, held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Friday, the 28th July, 1865.

The directors beg to submit to the shareholders the report of the proceedings since the last general meeting, held on the 27th January, as also the accounts up to the 30th ultimo, duly audited.

In the circular issued by the directors on the 12th May mention was made of their inability, from the want of unanimity in favour of the measure on the part of the shareholders, to carry out the suggestion as to the reduction of the nominal amount of each share. The directors have further to report that none of the proposals for amalgamation which they have had under consideration have as yet come to a successful issue.

With reference to the accompanying accounts the directors have to mention that as against the item of £191,570. 9s. 8d. under the head of "Advances on Securities," the corporation holds collateral security to the nominal value of £333,585.

It will be noticed that it has been deemed advisable to write off a further amount of £1,000 from the preliminary expenses, and this reduces the amount at the credit of profit and loss on the 30th ultimo to £11,372.

Unless otherwise desired by the shareholders, the directors do not intend declaring an ad interim dividend for the past half-year.

As mentioned in the circular above alluded to, the directors have been enabled to place the securities of the Corporation on a more satisfactory footing, but from want of capital the business done elsewhere than in India has been necessarily restricted.

The transactions in Calcutta have been of a satisfactory nature, but the latest letters from our agents in Bombay bring advice of their having been obliged to carry over some of the loans they had entered into.

Looking to the quoted price of the shares, and the natural anxiety expressed by many shareholders on that account, the Directors regret that the suggestion made by them in their circular dated 12th May last, that the shareholders should satisfy themselves respecting the actual worth of the shares by reference to the official records, should have been acted upon by very few of their number.

Since, however, shareholders residing at a distance may have been prevented from availing themselves of the opportunity thus afforded to them, the Directors would now state that if the shareholders should think it expedient to appoint a committee from their own body to inquire into the affairs of the Corporation in every particular, such a course would, probably, be satisfactory to all concerned.

BALANCE-SHEET.—JUNE 30, 1865.

DR.			
To capital, 10,000 shares of £50 each—£500,000—viz.:—			
8,875 shares on which £10 has been called up	£88,750 0 0		
Less calls not yet paid	1,225 0 0		
	£87,525 0 0		
1,125 shares forfeited on which have been paid	4,465 0 0		
10,000		£91,990 0 0	
To amount due on bills payable and on deposits		185,228 13 1	
To sundry creditors		2,033 16 9	
To profit and loss—			
Amount standing at credit of this account, as per annexed statement, viz.	£16,753 5 7		
Less disbursements	5,381 5 7		
		11,372 0 0	
		£290,624 9 10	
CR.			
By advances on securities	£191,570 9 8		
By Calcutta agency	1,062 9 4		
By Bombay ditto	34,250 0 0		
		£226,882 19 0	
By cash at bankers, in hand, and on deposit	£4,217 4 11		
By bills receivable	48,018 4 1		
		52,235 9 0	
By investments		3,150 0 0	
By office furniture		356 1 10	
By preliminary expenses	9,000 0 0		
Less amount written off to profit and loss account	1,000 0 0		
		8,000 0 0	
		£290,624 9 10	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.—JUNE 30, 1865.

DR.		
To current expenses, including salaries, advertising, stationery, rent, directors' fees, and incidental charges at Head Office, as also Calcutta agency	£2,331 5 7	
To amount paid Mr. H. A. Parry on his retirement from the office of Manager	1,000 0 0	
To depreciation in the value of investments	1,050 0 0	
To amount written off preliminary expenses	1,000 0 0	
To balance carried to profit and loss (new account	11,372 0 0	
	£16,753 5 7	
CR.		
By balance from last account	£12,971 3 3	
By gross profits for the past half-year	3,782 2 4	
	£16,753 5 7	

We have examined and audited the above accounts, and find them to be in accordance with the books of the company, and duly substantiated by vouchers. Several of the transactions from which the profits are derived are still pending, and it is impossible to say what some of the securities, held in connection therewith, may realise. We are, therefore, of opinion that the balance of profits shown by the accounts should be carefully dealt with.

JOHNSTONE, COOPER, WINTLE, and EVANS.
3, Coleman-street-building, July 25, 1865.

The Secretary having read the advertisement convening the meeting,

It was resolved unanimously:—

"That the report and accounts now read be received and adopted.

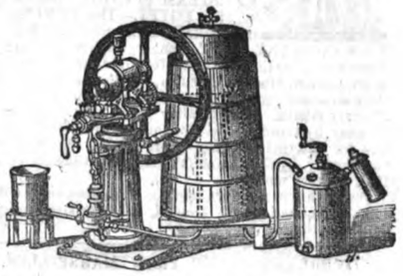
"That the remuneration of the auditors for their services in the past half-year be £25.

"That the best thanks of the meeting be given to the chairman, directors, and secretary for their zeal and attention to the affairs of the corporation."

(Signed) JOHN BROWN, Chairman.
(Extracted from the Minutes.)
J. FRED. PRIGGEN, Secretary.

July 28, 1865.

FURTHER REDUCTION IN PRICE—FIRST QUALITY.



SODA WATER MACHINES.

J. TYLOR AND SONS' EXHIBITION PATTERNS.

JUROR INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1862.
PRIZE MEDALS LONDON, PARIS, AND DUBLIN.

Description	Dozens Daily.	Weight About	Measurement About	Price
Double No. 1	600	20 Cwt.	130 cubic feet	£110 0
Single ,, 1	300	12 ,,	90 ,,	54 10
Ditto ,, 2	200	10 ,,	70 ,,	50 5
Ditto ,, 4	150	8 ,,	55 ,,	41 15
Bottling Machine add	2 ,,	10 to 15 ,,		£8 8 0

No. 5 Machine, 60 dozen daily, to supply counter found tains, weight about 4½ cwt., measurement about 40 cubic feet, £33 5s. Recipes for aerated waters are sent. Wire bottles, corks, acid, soda, whiting, esse nces, &c. Illustrated Catalogues free. Orders executed by any merchant, or on receipt of cash, including shipping charges, by the manufacturers.

J. TYLOR AND SONS, WARWICK-LANE, NEWGATE-STREET, LONDON.

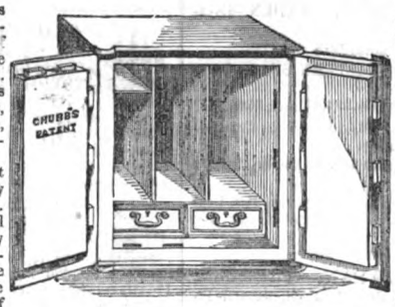
CHUBB and SON.—"For perfection of workmanship and construction of Locks, also for the manufacture of Iron Safes."

Prize Medal awarded, International Exhibition, 1862.

CHUBBS PATENT DETECTOR LOCKS.—The most secure from picklocks and false keys, are strong, simple, and durable, and made of all sizes and for every purpose to which a lock can be applied.

Cash, Deed, and Paper Boxes of all sizes, Travelling Bags, Letter Bags, Writing Boxes, and Desks, all with the DETECTOR LOCKS.

It will be observed that no locks of inferior quality are made by Chubb and Son. The whole of their locks sold to the public at large are exactly the same in security and excellence of workmanship as those supplied to Her Majesty, the Government offices, the Bank of England, Stock Exchange, and other public establishments.



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Kanagawa & Yokohama ...	Fusi Yama...	A1 14 yr.	E.I.D.	With des.

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Hong Kong & Whampoa ...	Ariel	850	A 1 14 yrs.	Aug. 15
Ditto	Sir Lancelot...	850	A 1 14 yrs.	Aug. 30
Calcutta ...	Childwall Abbey ...	1227	AA 1 ...	Aug. 20
Bombay ...	Tythonus ...	1152	A 1 12 yrs.	Aug. 10
Batavia & Soulabaya ...	Bulgersteyn...	577	5-6ths. 1.1.	Aug. 5

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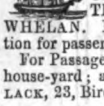

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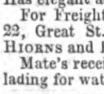

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Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

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THE SEVENTH Volume of this JOURNAL commenced on the 3rd of January, 1865. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 181.] LONDON, TUESDAY, AUG. 8, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	March 26	May 22	May 28
Nagasaki			June 3
Hakodadi			May 6
CHINA—Peking			„ 28
Tien-tsin			„ 28
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			June 1
Kiu-kiang			„ 3
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	April 17	June 3	10
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 9
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	April 26	„ 18	„ 23
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	April 10		„ 6
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			
SIAM— Bangkok			„ 12
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			„ 8
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 15
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	May 17	„ 18	July 1
Penang	„ „	„ 16	„ 3

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By yesterday's mail per P. and O. Company's steamer Pera, arrived at Marseilles August 5.—From Shanghai: Mr. Pickwood, and one 2nd-class passenger. From Hong Kong: Messrs. Edwards and Shaw. From Singapore: One 2nd-class passenger.

Per Poonah, to Southampton, expected to arrive August 10.—From Shanghai: Mr. Prior, and two 2nd-class passengers. From Hong Kong: Mr. Wallis, Dr. Clay, Mr. May, Capt. Collett, and four 2nd-class passengers. From Singapore: Mrs. Bushell, and one 2nd-class passenger. From Penang: Rev. Mr. Burns, Mrs. Burns, and three children, Master Rodyk, and one 2nd-class passenger.

Per Baroda, arrived at Suez July 28.—From Singapore: Messrs. Berwick and Cobb. From Shanghai: Mr. Innis. From Hong Kong: Mr. Vickers. To Malta.—From Hong Kong: Mr. Owen. To Southampton.—From Yokohama: Mr. and Miss Hansard. From Hong Kong: Master H. Noble, Mr. Heywood, Mr. Durbron, and four 2nd-class passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Aug. 4.—To Shanghai: Mr. Landale. To Hong Kong: Mr. W. Macfarlane, Mr. J. D. Rivera, Mrs. Thomas and infant and one second-class passenger. To Singapore: One second-class passenger. To Penang: Mrs. and Miss McLeod. To Ceylon: Mr. G. Studdart, Mr. G. Jackson, Staff Assistant-Surgeon Farquharson, Mr. Kennedy and two second-class passengers. To Calcutta: Messrs. B. Coen, W. Melhuish, J. T. O. Flynne, H. H. Tubb, F.W. Wiesse, J. Campbell, J. Paterson, J. W. Alexander, and J. A. Willmore, Dr. and Mrs. White, Assistant-Surgeon Murray, Surgeon-Major Turnbull, Mrs. Turnbull, Captain and Mrs. Browne and infant, Mrs. Adamson, and nine second-class passengers. To Madras: Mr. and Mrs. Pirrie, Miss Simpson, Mr. R. M. Branson, Surgeons O'Leary and Noott, Mr. H. Neill, Captains W. Thompson and T. O'Neill, Mr. Aikman and two second-class passengers. To Aden: Assistant Surgeon D. Grosse. To Alexandria: Three second-class passengers. To Malta: Rev. C. Clark, Captain Maycock, Mr. C. J. Lowell, Capt. Lyon, Lieut. Palmer. To Gibraltar: Lieut-Colonel C. J. Arbuthnot, Mr. Costello, Lieut.-Colonel Hawes, and five second-class passengers.

From Marseilles, Aug. 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. J. S. Fyfe. To Singapore: Messrs. Watson, J. Brussel, and J. Stewart. To Calcutta: Lieut.-Colonel Wroughton and European male servant, Lieut. and Mrs. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Ironsides, Captain Mallock, To Ceylon: Mr. Grinlinton. From Suez.—To Hong Kong: Mr. W. Hulse. To Singapore: Mr. Leveson.

Per P. and O. steamer Mongolia, from Southampton, Aug. 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. H. P. M'Clatchie, Mr. M. O'Brien. To Hong Kong: Mrs. Tomlin, Mrs. Emilius Hughes, Mr. Rennie, Mr. and Mrs. Manning. To Ceylon: Mr. F. M. Evans, Mr. E. W. H. Holdsworth, Mr. John Wodehouse, Miss Williams. From Marseilles, Aug. 28.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. M'Lean. To Ceylon: Mr. D. B. Lindsay.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Sept. 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. W. Foster. Mr. W. Gaskell. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Fitzroy, Mrs. Black and child, Mr. Bloor, Mrs. G. Stanford and infant. To Singapore: Mr. H. Alabaster. From Marseilles, Sept. 12.—To Hong Kong: Rev. J S. and Mrs. Burdon, Mr. and Mrs. Coxon. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Townsend, Mr. R. J. Forrest, Mr. Herbert and friend. To Ceylon: Mr. J. F. Capelle, Mrs. Ballantyne. To Galle: Mr. W. Hudson. From Suez.—To Shanghai: Sir Rutherford and Lady Alcock and Miss Alcock.

THE MAILS.

The mail due in London on the 27th ultimo, did not reach here until the 7th instant, and was followed by the French Mail on the morning of the 8th. The next P. and O. Mail is expected to be delivered here on the 16th instant, having been telegraphed from Suez on the 6th.

A private telegram direct from Point de Galle, received in London on the 7th, gives the latest dates from China:—Hong Kong, July 12; Shanghai, July 4; Foo-chow-Foo, July 3. Export of tea for the fortnight, 5,000,000 lbs.; fair demand. Rate of freight at Whampoa, 50s. Exchange in Hong Kong, steady at 4s. 5½d.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Our intelligence is down to the 28th of May. The London mail of the 27th of March arrived out on the 22nd of May.

The Tycoon is arming himself, with the intention of attacking Prince Nagato in his own dominions. Several Japanese officers, and amongst them some men of rank, visited Yokohama about the middle of May, and bought large quantities of arms. Most of them were men belonging to the Tycoon's Government, and some were executing orders of Prince Owari, and other Daimios attached to the Tycoon's cause; but all were unanimous in stating that open war was to be declared against the rebellious Prince of Nagato. It was added, but in a more mysterious and less certain way, that the powerful Daimio Satsuma had promised his alliance to his friend and neighbour Choshiu, and that the young Tycoon, in presence of the imminent danger threatening his supremacy, was to place himself at the head of his army, and to prove to the whole empire that he is a worthy son of Gongen-sama, well able to maintain by force the sacred rights attached to the throne which his great ancestor had won by conquest for his family. The latest information is that at Comaba, a village near Yedo, the Tycoon had reviewed 100,000 of the troops that had received orders to march immediately to the dominions of Choshiu.

The *Japan Herald* puts up hearty wishes for the Tycoon's success in the coming struggle, asserting that "the probable consequences of his defeat, would be a long interregnum, a time of trouble and disorder, where club-law would rule Japan, and during which most of the great Daimois would claim to be recognized as independent sovereigns. Foreigners would, in this case, be obliged to enter into relations with Daimios of very questionable legal, and more or less restricted real power; and as it would be impossible to conclude special treaties with all of them, our merchants would live in constant apprehension of such events as led to the late Inland Sea Expedition. A treaty with Satsuma would be worth nothing in Shanghai; the Prince of Choshiu would consider himself in no way bound by any agreements made by the Prince of Owari, and if real security were to be given to our trade, it could only be by appointing Ministers for every principality, and Consuls at every open port; in short, the difficulties arising from the necessity of dealing with so many masters would be almost insurmountable."

Regret is expressed that at this critical juncture the Royal Marines should have received orders to hold themselves in readiness for embarkation on board the *Conqueror*, Captain

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Luard expecting orders by next mail to receive them on board at once and proceed home. The orders understood to have been received by Admiral King were, "to send the Marines home if he could spare them." It was hoped the British Chargé d'Affaires would consider the matter well before they left. However, two companies of the 11th Regiment were expected to arrive shortly after the departure of the Marines.

Mr. Flowers, Acting British Consul, had circulated the following communication from the Governor of Kanagawa, recommending parties to abstain from visiting the places named during the period mentioned :—

To Marcus Flowers Esq., H.M.'s Acting Consul.

The great feast at Nikkodzan is finished. The Mikado's Envoys will be passing along the Tokaido to-day and three following days. They will put up at Yenosima and Kamakura. In compliance with former communications made to you upon the subject, I beg that you will kindly request your countrymen to avoid frequenting these places as much as possible during two or three days. Our Government is anxious to show these Envoys every attention.—With respect, &c.,

Sharishi Simoo-no-Kami.

24th, 4th Month (18th May, 1865.)

The election of Members of the Municipal Council had resulted as follows :—

English : Messrs. Macpherson, Barber, Wilgoss, Macdonald, Kemptner, Kingdon, Miller, Cornes, Hope, Joseph, Elias—11.

American : Dr. Hepburn, Messrs. Schoyer, Schultze, Gay, Benson—5.

French : Messrs. Le Jeune, Piquet, Deveze, Clipet—4.

Prussian : Messrs. Grauert, Schnepel—2.

Swiss : Mr. Morf—1.

Dutch : Messrs. Bruyn, Hegt—2. Total, 25.

Messrs. Macpherson and Hope *have* declined serving, consequently Messrs. Rickerby and Davies *are* elected in their stead.

Robberies are still rife. The house of Mr. E. Loureiro had been entered, and a revolver and gold sleeve-rings stolen ; and on the very same evening Mr. Walsh's office at the English Consulate was relieved of a dispatch-box and postage stamps to the value of $1,000. One circumstance is narrated in connection with these thefts which is very creditable to the Japanese character :—Among the robberies that have lately taken place, one was that of Mr. J. S. Benson, of a quantity of jewellery, &c. A considerable portion of the effects stolen have been recovered through the honesty of a Japanese. His child was literally playing in the gutter, by the Custom-house, when something glittering caught its attention in a small Japanese drain. The child ran to its father, who perceived at once that it was the property of foreigners, and communicated with Mr. Banks, the U.S. Marshal. With a vigilance thoroughly characteristic, Mr. Banks set about investigating the affair, and there is some hope of recovering the whole of the property, and capturing the thief into the bargain. In this case the culprit is proved to be a Japanese.

The Japanese authorities themselves do not appear to be keen "detectives." After they had dismissed a servant charged with plundering, the gentlemen who were his accusers, the very same evening, under a promise of forgiveness, elicited a confession from the culprit, who said that he and another had taken the whole of the missing things and pawned them. This was proved to be true by a messenger who was sent to the various places mentioned by him, bringing back several of the things lost.

On the 24th May, being the Queen's birthday, Yokohama appeared in gala costume. The whole of the vessels in the harbour, were fully dressed ; and on shore it seemed that all who possessed flags displayed them. The house of the French Minister in particular was arrayed with festoons of Japanese paper lanterns ready for the illumination of the evening, but which being of many colours had a gay appearance even by day, and over the principal entrance to the house were the words in large and bold characters "Vivat Victoria Regina." At noon all the men-of-war of all nations and the Japanese forts poured forth a royal salute, which was re-echoed from the seven guns on the heights where the troops in garrison were reviewed by Colonel Browne. In the evening a grand ball was given by H.B.M.'s Charge d'Affaires. The French Minister's house, the French barracks on the opposite side of the creek, and the houses of one or two English residents were brilliantly illuminated.

On Monday next (May 29), says the *Japan Herald*, the 5th day of the fifth month of the Japanese year, a great Japanese holiday will be kept. It is one of five that occur in the year, and which are accordingly called Tanugo or Goseku. The days on which the holidays fall are the first of the first month, the third of the third, the fifth of the fifth, and the seventh. There may be observed, in preparation for this great holiday, flags in form of huge fish, flying over many of the houses in Japanese towns. These fish are supposed to represent the salmon, whose nature is to ascend rivers, leaping over cataracts and falls that would oppose its passage upwards, until it approaches the head of the stream. The emblem is only suspended over houses in which male children have been recently born ; and denotes the desire of the parents that, as the fish constantly makes it way towards the river's source, surmounting the obstacles in its course, so the child may overcome the difficulties of life, and attain the highest promotion in its particular sphere. The corresponding holiday on the third day of the third month is likewise appropriated by those whose ladies have blessed them with daughters. There is then suspended a small Ningyo—or image of the Mikado—and it is supposed to express the hope of the family that the child may never cease in its prosperity on earth until it reach the sublimity enjoyed by the greatest earthly living object of Japanese veneration. On the fifth day of the fifth month the change is made, throughout all this portion of Japan, from cold to warm weather clothing—so exactly is everything regulated among this interesting and remarkable people.

It appears there are more delays in the filling in of the Swamp. The Japanese authorities have lately caused one of the larger bays in the Homogo valley to be laid out for the purposes of rifle practice. The hill as it rises at the end of this bay has been cut and faced, and when the targets are placed will form excellent rifle butts, whilst a broad space has been defined by a deep ditch on each side, for a distance of nearly one thousand yards. It is to be used indiscriminately by Europeans and Japanese, and a portion of the ground when drained and properly grassed is to be made into a racecourse. This is the only part of the scheme objected to. The possession of this makeshift racecourse will give the Japanese Government grounds for postponing the preparation of that we are entitled to by treaty. It was generally understood a fortnight back, says the *Herald*, that the contract had been taken by a Japanese contractor for the immediate filling in of the Swamp—but if our information be correct, this was a fallacy. No such contract has been actually taken, or had not a few days ago—although the Government had called for tenders.

The appeal case of Henry Cook, appellant, *V.* Samuel Powell, respondent, has been decided before Mr. Winchester, the Acting Consul-General. This was an appeal against the decision of the Kanagawa Consular court, in an action in which the plaintiff respondent sued the apellant defendant on an alleged breach of contract to form a Co-partnery, and judgment was given in favour of plaintiff and respondent for five hundred dollars. The judge in appeal stated that he had gone over the pleadings and evidence with great care, and gave judgment as follows :—It is in this case the opinion of the Judge of Appeal, the plaintiff in the original case and the espondent in this appeal has failed to establish the existence of any definite or binding engagement between himself and the defendant and appellant, on which the claim for damages can be supported. The decision of the Consular Court is, therefore not sustained, the award for damages revoked, and judgment directed to be reversed and entered up for the defendant and appellant Cook with costs. Plaintiff and respondent Rowell to pay costs of original suit and this appeal.

Messrs. Alt and Co., of Nagasaki, advertise that they have opened a branch of their firm at this port.

The following is from the market report of the *Japan Herald* :—

Imports.—Since our last report a decided improvement has taken place for manufactured goods, owing to the more favourable exchange of native coin for Mexican dollars. The transactions during the fortnight have not been very large, but our dealers have entered the market more freely, and grey and white shirtings and other cotton fabrics suitable for the present season have found buyers at satisfactory prices. During the last few days the demand has been less brisk and lower prices have been accepted than in the beginning of the fortnight. Camlets have also improved, and the sales made show a slight advance in prices. Metals in general continue dull, and sugar and medicines also show no improvement.

Silk.—The demand for this staple fell off sensibly after the departure of the Peking, but revived since the receipt of the 27th March mail, and prices which were at one time very flat, with a decided downward tendency, are again firmer, more especially for the finer sorts, the growing scarcity of which is every day more conspicuous. The total settlements of the fortnight amount to about 950 bales, making a total for the season of 15,450 bales, against 15,220 at the same time last year. The unsold stock on the market may be estimated at about 660 piculs, composed mostly of the medium and coarse sorts. The weather is favourable for the new crop, which, from all accounts we can gather, is getting on well. The earliest

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bales of the new produce may be expected to arrive on the market in about three weeks.

Teas.—A few small parcels of new teas have been already brought down, but more to try the market than anything else; the whole of them not amounting to more than 50 piculs—consequently they cannot be taken as a criterion of the quality of the new crop generally. Prices, with the exception of medium to good medium descriptions, which we must quote $1 lower, are without alteration. Settlements amount to about 1,200 piculs, leaving a stock of about 3,000 piculs.

Exchange on London, Bank, 6 m/s. st. 4/5¾d. to 4/6d.; Private, 4/6½d. to 4/6¾d.; Documents, 4/7d.

NAGASAKI.

The British barque *Satsuma* was lost on the morning of the 3rd May to the southward and eastward of Cape Namo, about twelve miles from the entrance to Nagasaki. The weather was so thick and the wind so high at the time that it was impossible to conjecture the position of the vessel. A court of inquiry into the circumstances of the wreck sat at the British Consulate on the 5th, but was adjourned to Thursday the 8th of June. No blame is attached to the captain by the owner or the general public. About one half the cargo was saved, and the wreck was sold by auction on the 6th, for the sum of $1,350. She was the property of Mr. T. B. Glover, but had been sold for $23,000 to the Prince of Satsuma, to whom she was to have been delivered immediately after her arrival at Nagasaki.

On the 6th May the American brig *Star* hauled down the American flag and hoisted the Japanese. She was sold by Messrs Glover and Co. to Prince Kaga for the sum of $12,500, cash. The *Star* had been chartered by Chinese to load for Chefoo and Tientsin for $2,000, and she was already nearly full at the time of sale. The Russian brig *Atlantic* was, however, chartered for the same amount, and she was, when our correspondent wrote, engaged in transferring the *Star's* cargo.

The Prince of Ake Zukee paid a visit to the settlement on the 1st June. It seems that he was very anxious to see the saw-mill, and Messrs. Glover's bungalow, where he enjoyed a heavy chow-chow. This was the first time that a Japanese Prince had ever visited a foreigner's house. The Queen's birthday was enthusiastically celebrated. A large picnic was given, and at night several of the bungalows on the hill were handsomely illuminated, Messrs. Glover and Co.'s fireworks being the theme of universal admiration.

HAKODADI.

A fire occurred early on the morning of the 13th April. It arose in the best part of the town, and was not checked for some hours. Five hundred houses and godowns were consumed. Most of the Japanese so-called "fireproof" store-houses stood. Only one foreigner suffered, by having his hotel burned down. The exact cause is not precisely known. Some of the foreign residents aided materially with their fire-engines in arresting the flames.

Under date of the 6th May, we learn the departure of the Russian steamer *Sakhalin* for the Manchourian ports, the *Petrel* for Shanghai on the 4th May, and four whale-ships. The Russian corvette *Bogatyr*, six whalers, and the barque *Ousuri* were announced to leave on the 7th for Nagasaki. On the night of the 3rd a seaman belonging to one of the whale-ships in harbour was killed by some Japanese in a street row. The Consuls had taken up the affair seriously, but the Japanese officials observed a quiet and haughty demeanour, against which all the threats of the Consular body were hurled without effect. The murderer or murderers, as they are called, had consequently not been detected. During the stay of the whaling fleet drunken sailors crowd the streets daily, and the wonder is that no serious accident occurred before. The weather had been somewhat changeable, but on the whole seasonable.

The ship *Lottie Maria*, from Hong Kong, bound to San Francisco, with rice and Chinese passengers, put in on the 18th April, and left on the 28th. She was twice ashore, and not without some difficulty got off.

CHINA.

PEKING.

The chief items of news brought by the present mail have been anticipated by telegraph. San-ko-lin-sin has been killed in an engagement with the Nien-fei rebels, and Tseng Kuo-fan has received the Imperial command to assume his place. Li Hung-chang, Futai of Kiangsu, will in turn occupy the post vacated by Tseng Kuo-fan, while Li Hung-chang will for the present be succeeded by Liu Fantai, who three years ago was Hsien of Shanghai. Burgevine has been captured near Amoy, and sent prisoner to Foochow, where he is detained by the Viceroy. Prince Kung does not appear to have yet quite recovered from his late disgrace.

The news from the capital is of the most alarming character. The Nien-fei rebels had advanced to within ten miles of the city of Pao-ting-fu, and therefore not more than one hundred miles from the capital. The danger was considered so imminent that the Keangsu authorities had received instructions to send up the disciplined contingents, and as many ordinary troops as could be spared. The S.S. *Fusiyama*, *Viola*, *Glengyle*, and *Fenella*, and two sailing vessels, had been chartered for this purpose, and were to leave in a few days with seven thousand men. The rebels are led by Miao Tien-ching, a son of the renowned Miao Pei-ling. The Governor-General of the province has gone against them, also Chunghow, the chief civil mandarin of Tientsin, and with him the European drilled battalion. Meanwhile the French and English are about to evacuate the Taku Forts, a movement which augments the fears of the Chinese here in no small degree. Much blame has been attached to the high officials commanding in Shantung for their negligence in not securing the body of the Sêng Wang (San-ko-lin-sin). It fell into the hands of the enemy, who are said to have cut it into fragments.

The Empress Regent, at the instance of Prince Kung, is said to have directed the execution of a map of China, the basis of which shall be the topographical labours undertaken between the years 1708 and 1720, in the reign of the Emperor Hang-Ti, by Father Regis, a French Jesuit, of which the record is preserved in the library of the Imperial College of Letters.

TIEN-TSIN.

The only interesting item of news from this port concerns the Spring Race Meeting, which, after a postponement from the 11th to the 15th of May, came off very satisfactorily.

SHANGHAI.

Our latest advices from this port are to the 10th June. The English mail of 17th April had been received.

Li Futai had been raised to the rank of Hsu-yi-peh, two degrees higher than that he has hitherto held.

The Consular Court had been occupied in investigating a case arising out of the death of the chief officer of the *Ocean Gem*, caused by the administration of a narcotic poison in mistake for tincture of rhubarb. While at Nagasaki, some of the bottles in the ship's medicine-chest had been refilled with drugs purchased at the shop of a Japanese druggist, and one of the bottles labelled tincture of rhubarb, turned out to contain laudanum, a dose of which was administered to the chief-officer, causing his death. Captain Selby, of the *Ocean Gem*, having stated, on his arrival at Shanghai, that the medicine which produced this fatal result was supplied to him by Dr. Bauduin, of Nagasaki, that gentleman sent instructions to his representative at Shanghai, Mr. Kroes, to take legal proceedings againgst Captain Selby for making a statement so detrimental to his character as a medical man. The *Ocean Gem* had, however, already sailed from Shanghai before an action could be commenced. The evidence adduced so clearly proved that medicine had been procured not from Dr. Bauduin, but from a native shop, that Sir Harry Parkes stated it was amply sufficient to exonerate Dr. Bauduin, and gave it as his opinion that it would not be worth while following Captain Selby with the view of bringing him to justice.

Two Japanese officials had arrived in Shanghai, and left for Europe by the *Mirage*, for the purpose of becoming citizens in some country other than their own. They are said to have become distrustful of the despotic sway exercised by the Prince of Nagato, in whose service they formerly were, and, accordingly, take this means of enjoying more freedom than they have hitherto possessed.

A fire took place at Pootung on the 29th May, destroying the cocoon-drying establishment of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co., at that place. Another fire broke out in the Ma-loo, on the 1st June, and consumed several streets of native houses, but without loss of life.

An attempt was being made to place a beacon on the Centaur shoal, and thus enable river steamers to run at night with perfect safety between Wusung and Langshan whenever there is light sufficient to make the beacon visible.

The news just received in Shanghai of Sir Harry Parkes's removal to Yedo had given rise to some perplexity as to the appointment of an officer to succeed him as commandant of the Volunteer force.

The *N. C. Daily* gives the following brief *resumé* of the state of trade:—

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There is very little business to report in either exports or imports since the departure of the last mail. Silk forms the only exception, as in this article considerable transactions are reported, owing to the favourable news received from home.

Teas.—Black: Not a single settlement has taken place, buyers being unwilling to pay the equivalent of Hankow prices. Several parcels have been put on the market, chiefly medium Oopacks, but no finest chops have been offered. Green: Only one small chop of Fychow has been settled, and that at rather lower prices. Stock, 8,000 packages, comprising chiefly commonand undesirable sorts.

Silk.—A large business has been done in new silk, some 3,500 bales having been purchased at an advance of Tls. 25 per picul on last quoted rates. Supplies are coming in freely, and the stock may be estimated at about 4,000 bales.

Cotton.—Little or nothing has been done, the supply being nearly over. Prices remain unchanged.

Imports.—A fair business is reported in manufactured goods, and the market closes firmer at Tls. 3.8.0 to Tls. 3.8.5 for 6¼ grey shirtings.

Freights to London have declined to £3 for clippers, with an increasing demand for tonnage. No cotton is offered, and on account of the non-arrival of the green teas we can give no Freight quotations for "Shanghai to New York." Freights to Chefoo and Tient-sin have also slightly declined.

Exchange has advanced, and closing rates are—Bank bills, 6s. 4¼d.; credits, 6s. 5d. to 6s. 5¼d. During the past week Mexican dollars advanced to 759, but closed to-day at 752. They are now taken in the interior to the extent of 40 per cent. in payment for silk, and as Carolus dollars become scarcer every day this proportion will necessarily rise. Money remains abundant with both Chinese and foreign banks.

HANKOW.

We have no advices as to domestic events. About fifty-five chops of tea have been taken at previous rates for the lower grades, but all good and fine leaf has advanced Tls 2 per picul on opening quotations. The news of the reduction in duty had just arrived as our advices were written, so we may fairly expect a further general rise. The quality of the crop continues to be complained of.

Arrivals to June 10th....	128 chops.
Settled	103 "
Stock....	25 chops.

The *Eliza Shaw* and *Silver Eagle* have left for London.

KIU-KIANG.

The green tea season has closed, and no business has been done as the new Ning-chows have not arrived.

FOOCHOW.

Burgevine, whose seizure by the Chinese authorities at Amoy is noticed above, had arrived safely at this port, where he remained in charge of the mandarins. The American Consul demanded that he be given up, but was put off on the plea that no action could be taken in the matter until advices were received from the Futai of the province.

The following, dated 6th June, is from our corrrespondent:—Since my last advice, the following ships have sailed for London with new teas:—

May 24th	"Fiery Cross"	with	950,400
„	"Serica"	„	1,021,800
May 26th	"Yangtsze"	„	959,930
„	"Ziba"	„	649,600
May 30th	"Flying Spur"	„	884,600
„	"Childers"	„	1,388,000
			5,854,300
Same time last year ..			3,945,000 lbs.

To this year's export should be added the cargoes of the *Black Prince* and *Belted Will*, which vessels left for London this morning, but they have not yet been circulated.

The *Childers* left the anchorage on the 30th ult. (in tow of the China and Japan Steam Navigation Companies steamer *Vulcan*), and when about two miles outside of Sharp Peak, she struck on the north sand bank and has become a total wreck. Her loss has been severely felt by insurance companies here, who had taken something like $800,000 on her cargo, which comprised some of the finest teas that that ever left the Foochow market; not over 2,000 packages have been saved. At the time the ship struck a pilot was on board, and in a few days an inquiry will be held at the British Consulate as to the cause of the unfortunate mishap; the wreck was to have been sold yesterday by auction, the result of which has not transpired. Capt. Enright, who commanded the *Childers*, will probably go home overland. He is well known here and much respected.

Vessels now loading for London are the *Min*, *Young Lochinvar* (both nearly full), *City of Aberdeen*, *Lauderdale*, *Taeping*, *J. M. Joshua*, and *Japanese*, for Liverpool via Whampoa, *Chalgrove*, *Melbourne*, *Edgar Ross*.

Ever since the news reached this port of the Home reduction of the tea duty our tea market has been very animated, and sales for the past fortnight consist of 66,000 chs. Congou, at 18 to 41 taels short price, showing a slight advance on previous rates for medium kinds. Scented Teas, some 8,000 to 9,000 boxes have found buyers at 29 to 43 taels.

The wreck of the *Childers* has been sold for $400; her tea is selling at 50 cents per chest.

NINGPO.

On the night of the 27th of May a Ningpo boat, owned by a Chinaman, was blown up by a 25 lb. keg of powder. There were sixteen men in the boat at the time of the explosion; eight were killed, five very much burnt, and not expected to live, and three supposed to have been drowned. The boat's stern and top of house were blown off the boat, and a large piece of her hull was blown on to the roof of a house opposite. She sank immediately after the explosion in deep water. A diver has been employed to save the cargo, &c., and her guns have been got up. She had 80 tons of cargo in her at the time, for Shanghai, and how the explosion took place is unknown. It is rather doubtful whether it was a 25lb. keg or not, as there were more kegs of powder in the boat. Two of the men who were burnt have since died.

AMOY.

Advices from this port confirm the evacuation of Changchow by the rebels. After the capture of Burgevine and subsequent abandonment of that city, they successively evacuated the five other cities held by them in the vicinity, and were concentrating their forces in the Black Tea districts, there to reorganize them with the view of joining the Nien-fei rebels as soon as they were able to do so in strong force. It is expected that they will make their appearance in the field again during the coming winter, and unless the Imperialist forces succeed in preventing the two main bodies from amalgamating they will be dangerously strong. The inhabitants of the tract of country they now occupy are said to be entirely favourable to the rebellion, and this fact will add greatly to their strength They are at present, however, very inefficiently armed, and so long as the Imperialist keep possession of the sea-board it will be a difficult matter for them to procure supplies of foreign arms and ammunition.

HONG KONG.

From Hong Kong we have but few items of intelligence to record. One of the most noticeable is the bad account given of the health of the troops. The *Tamar* having arrived much sooner than was expected with the second Battalion of the 11th Regiment, the quarters, which were being prepared here for its reception, were not ready. A portion of the Battalion was quartered at Kowloon, and the rest wherever cover could be obtained. Those quartered at Kowloon suffered so much from sickness, that it became necessary to remove them. The naval authorities arranged to accommodate this portion—say one hundred and fifty men—on board the *Princess Charlotte*; but for this timely concession, a serious mortality might have resulted.

The Baron de Meritens was in Hong Kong collecting arms and ammunition for a force collected by him, said to consist of discharged French soldiers from Saigon, and probably intended to form the nucleus of a Franco-Chinese contingent.

The following is from our own correspondent:—

Hong Kong, May 12, 1865.

Your correspondent, who has recently returned after a short absence, finds very little of interest to communicate by the outgoing mail. Trade remains in a state of coma, though the tea season is fairly opened up the coast—but, with the exception of Foochow, we hear of very few transactions, and the course of some of the buyers at the latter place, in yielding to the excitement of competition and giving prices which seem scarcely justified by any hypothesis as to a recovery of the home-markets, has been severely criticised, both privately and in the press. The greater part of the trading community prefer, however, to wait a little longer before resuming large transactions of any kind, and, although it is hoped that we have seen the last of any great failures or suspensions in our local houses of business, yet the apprehension of embarrassments arising from external connections is too great to permit, if nothing further prevented, a speedy return to business, A recent circular of Messrs. F. Huth and Co., animadverting upon the causes of the late disasters in the China trade, has naturally provoked much discussion here, and is very loudly condemned, by the class of young speculators who have profited by the mania for "consignments at any price" of the last few years, and the fatal facility of discounts.

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It is thought by many that the establishment of the local Bank (the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation)will have a good effect in keeping down the number of branches from every conceivable banking company with which China has been latterly flooded, and will tend, as its operations become enlarged, to give a healthier tone to this department of business.

The Rice trade has been unusually brisk, owing to short crops in the interior of China, and an unprecedented number of arrivals has been recently reported here. An effort has been made by the Foreign Consuls at Canton, with some prospect of success, to induce the native authorities to grant certain facilities in the way of remission of tonnage-dues on rice-ships, which would materially favour the transport of rice to Canton direct in foreign bottoms, whereas, at present, it is for the most part transshipped at Hong Kong into native junks. Poor Canton! its glory has, I fear, departed. Between Hong Kong and Hankow, how little is left of its once mighty trade! Scarcely half-a-hundred foreigners can now be mustered as the "Canton community," and these are chiefly agents of the Hong Kong houses which have carried off the wealth and glory of the finest city in China.

I learn that the rebels, if they may be so denominated, who have been roving on the borders of the Kwangtung and Fukien Provinces for the last six months, have lately decamped westwards (since the rout of the main body near Amoy), on the approach of a strong additional force of "braves" recently despatched from Canton; and that their leader, the Kan Wang, the last remaining member of the Coolie-King coterie at Nanking, has made overtures for surrender. *Per contra*, we have the news that Sang-ko-lin-sin (who, anti-barbarian as he certainly was, has been for the last twelve years the most faithful and untiring bulwark of the existing dynasty), has fallen in an engagement against the Northern insurgent bands, and that great portions of the provinces of Shan-tung and Ho-nan are in the hands of the latter. The news of the revolt of a large body of "braves," near Hankow, is also confirmed. Thus, as the Chinese saying has it, "Before one billow is at rest, another billow rears its crest;" and universal corruption bears its fruit in unending disorder. A memorial has lately been addressed to the Emperor by the high authorities of Canton, in which the existing causes of military inefficiency throughout the empire are boldly exposed, and no less a remedy is suggested than the gradual abolition of the whole "army," as at present constituted (the effeteness of which undoubtedly provoked and favoured the late rebellion), and the substitution in its place of the system of "braves," or movable troops, such as have achieved whatever successes the Imperialists have had to boast of over the insurgents. The Chinese "army," in fact, though capable of devouring half the revenues of the empire, may be said to exist only in name. Originally created in peaceful times, its proper functions are merely those of an armed constabulary, split up into local garrisons of a few hundred or a few thousand men in each of the thousand cities of the empire. When rebellion is in the earliest stages of incipient brigandage, this organisation is occasionally useful in a thief-taking capacity, but the moment resistance becomes serious, the tailors and shoemakers, who have been called from their peaceful benches to don the military jacket, are a mere laughing-stock to friend and foe. This, however, has not prevented the resources of the Government from being crippled during the last fifteen years by the enormous drain caused by the pay of these worthless "troops," to whom, though their pay is everywhere largely in arrear, a pittance must nevertheless be doled out to prevent their desertion. At this moment some £300,000 sterling are owing to the "regular troops" of Kwangtung alone; and unless the wonted timidity of the Chinese Government, wherever the dreaded word CHANGE is pronounced, proves too strong in this instance, an immense relief may be obtained by adopting the exceptionally wise suggestions now laid before it. One other step only is required, viz., to drill and discipline the "braves," whom it is proposed to substitute for the regular troops. The commencement of such a system has, indeed, been made at Shanghai; but timorously, and on a very limited scale. Let us hope that, one day, we may see a Government at Peking (it matters little under what name) strong enough to maintain order. We shall always be strong enough to maintain our rights.

The following report of the China Railways Company (Limited) we take from the *Daily Press*:—

A meeting of the local committee of the China Railways Company (Limited) took place on Saturday last, the 17th instant, in the rooms of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, at which the following gentlemen were present:—

Mr. A. Booth (Bourjau Hubener & Co.), Mr. S. G. Bird, Mr. J. H. Cheverton (Johnson & Co.), Mr. R. Deacon (J. Burd & Co.), Mr. W. Delano, Jr. (Russell & Co.), Mr. H. B. Gibb (Gibb, Livingston & Co.), Mr. A. Heard (Augustine Heard & Co.), Mr. Kresser (Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Company), Revd. W. Lobscheid, Mr. G. F. Maclean (Lyall, Still & Co.), Mr. H. D. Margesson (Margesson & Co.), Dr. J. I. Murray, Mr. Neilson (Oliphant & Co.), Mr. W. Nissen (Siemssen & Co.), Mr. F. Parry (Birley & Co.), Mr. P. Ryrie (Turner & Co.), Mr. A. Sassoon (D. Sassoon, Sons and Co.), Mr. A. Turing (Dent & Co.), The Hon. J. Whittall (Jardine, Matheson & Co.), Mr. R. S. Walker (Robt. S. Walker & Co.).

Mr. W. Delano, jr., having been voted into the chair, explained the objects of the meeting. He recalled to the recollection of those present that in February of last year Sir Macdonald Stephenson paid a visit to China with the object of ascertaining the views of the residents here, in Canton and Shanghai, as to the desirability of introducing railways into China. The result was communicated on his return to London in a "Report upon the feasibility and most effectual means of introducing railway communication into China." Copies of this report, together with that of a map, were freely circulated at the various ports, and since then a few gentlemen in England connected with China had formed themselves into an association called "the China Railways Company (Limited)," for the purpose of promoting the object of Sir Macdonald Stephenson's visit.

The Chairman then called upon the Honorary Secretary, Mr. R. S. Walker, to read a letter addressed to him by the Secretary of the Board in London, which would more fully explain the object of the present meeting.

The letter stated that at a preliminary meeting of the board of directors it had been resolved to proceed at once to take steps for carrying out the important object for which the company had been formed. That the board had decided at once to apply for the formal sanction of the Governor of the Province of Kwang Tung for the construction of a line of railway between Canton and Fatshan, with which it is proposed to commence; and that, with the view of obtaining this sanction and generally to promote the interests of the undertaking, the directors had decided to form a local committee, consisting of gentlemen desirous of forwarding the object of the company for the purpose of co-operating with the London board. To this committee the recipient of the letter was requested to act as honorary secretary. The directors suggested the transmission of a communication in Chinese, bearing the signature of the committee, and addressed to the Governor of Kwang Tung province, asking for his Excellency's formal sanction for the construction of an experimental line of railway between Canton and Fatshan, such letter to be transmitted in the mode most likely to ensure a speedy and favourable reply.

The meeting was addressed by the Hon. Mr. Whittall, the Rev. W. Lobscheid, Mr. Margesson, and Mr. Turing, and the discussion ended in the following resolution being proposed by the Hon. Mr. Whittall, seconded by Mr. Nissen, and carried unanimously, viz.:—

"That a sub-committee be appointed to ascertain unofficially the views of the Governor-General of Canton as to the objects of the company. That the committee so appointed shall invite the Consuls of all nations to accompany them at the interview, and that a public meeting be convened to receive the report of the committee, and to consult upon what further steps it may be desirable to take."

The committee named comprised the following gentlemen, viz:—Messrs. W. Delano, jr., H. B. Gibb, G. Gifford, A. Heard, Rev. W. Lobscheid, Dr. Murray, Messrs. H. D. Margesson, G. Moul, W. Neilson, W. Nissen, F. Parry, P. Ryrie, A. Sassoon, the Hon. Mr. J. Whittall, and Mr. R. S. Walker.

Thanks having been voted to the chairman, the meeting separated.

COCHIN CHINA.

SAIGON.

The steamer *La Fusée*, which had been cruising on the coast of Binthuan, has returned to Saigon, having captured five of the junks supposed to have been engaged in the late piracy committed on the *Ruby*. The gunboats *Mitraille* and *Entrecasteaux* have both been sent to cruise along the same coast,

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It is said that the populations of the villages along the coast are thankful for the protection now afforded them, and that the native Governor of Binthuan has begged of the French authorities to maintain a guard off the coast.

SIAM.

BANGKOK.

We hear, says the *Siam Times* of the 8th June, that the French Consul has been using his best endeavours to secure the suppression of the two newspapers published in Bangkok. [Both these newspapers are published in the English language.] It seems to us that he must be beside himself to suppose that he can bring sufficient pressure to bear in any quarter to accomplish such an object. The publishers of these papers are not under either French or Siamese control. If the editors or proprietors violate any law or treaty affecting French interests, he has his remedy in the United State Consular Court. We respectfully submit, whether if reports are true concerning the course he has taken, it does not fully confirm our remarks of last week, on "French Policy in Siam."

The grounds of this reported demand appear to be the general tone of the political comments made by the papers in question, the *Siam Times* and the *Bangkok Recorder*, on the French progress in Cochin China, and more particularly the publishing of the recent treaty obtained by the French from the Government of Siam. We subjoin the concluding portion of the article "French Policy in Siam," which seems to have brought M. Aubaret's wrath to a climax:—

Happily we have the record of the crowning act of the French to separate Cambodia from Siam. This record is the treaty negotiated by the French Consul with the Prime Minister and signed on the 14th of April last. By some good providence this treaty came into the hands of the conductors of the press, was translated, and published. The publication of this Treaty, and of the Agreement with the Spirit Farmer for the sale of French liquors, seems to have given great offence to the French Consul. So great seems to have been his chagrin or anger, that we hear he has had the folly to call on the Siamese Government to suppress the the papers which published them. What Monsieur Aubaret's ideas are of the power of the Siamese Government over newspapers published by foreigners in the kingdom we do not know, but we apprehend he must be ill-informed, blinded with pride and vanity, or puffed up with great ideas of his own power and importance, to suppose that the publication of the Treaty and Agreement can be used as a pretext for suppressing newspapers. But why this vexation, anger, and annoyance on the part of the French Consul at the publication of the treaty and agreement? We are informed that it is because those documents had not been ratified and their publicity was ill-timed. This may be a plausible reason, but is it the true one? We doubt it. We apprehend that just and upright treaty-makers would not be particularly offended at the publication of an honourable treaty or agreement, but would rather rejoice, knowing that it would bring honour to themselves and glory to their country.

We are not surprised at the sensitiveness and probable chagrin of the French Consul at the publication of these documents, for they reflect no honour on him nor his sovereign; and besides, the treaty he negotiated with Cochin China some time ago, in which he doubtless supposed at the time he had done wonderful things for himself and country, was repudiated, or rather the Emperor and his Government refused to ratify it. It may be the fear of being snubbed again, in case these documents become known in Europe, before the Emperor has time to examine them, and from a sense of shame feel constrained to reject both of them, which troubles him. It is not an uncommon thing for men who can stoop so low as to negotiate treaties which honourable senators and councillors cannot ratify, to be thrown overboard. Count Castlenau in pursuing the course he did was removed, and if Monsieur Aubaret wishes to follow the steps of his predecessor, for which, from appearances we apprehend he has a strong desire, and is trying to exceed him altogether, he, too, may find his services transferred to some other place. But, as we have already said, if the Emperor desires an agent who will watch and seek for opportunities to create jealousies, awaken suspicions and fears, taking every possible advantage to create difficulties, with the ultimate view of absorbing the country, then the present Consul would seem to be just the man; while, on the other hand, if Napoleon III. desires to cultivate peace and friendship, promote the interests of commerce and civilisation, he is most unfortunate in his present Consul, and the sooner the Emperor's Government removes him the better.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are to the 1st July. The London mail of the 10th May arrived out on the 12th June, and that of the 17th May early on the morning of the 18th June.

The intelligence received from England concerning the probable future of the Settlement was considered satisfactory, in so far that it created an expectation of the completion of the transfer within a few months. Our Home readers are aware, however, that the matter stands over till the next session of Parliament.

The French mail steamer *Echo*, which left Singapore about noon on the 13th June, struck on a rock off Romania Point during the afternoon, and partially filled. A boat was sent in during the night, and the steamer *Rainbow* promptly chartered to proceed to the wreck. The American steamer *Woosung* and the pilot schooner *Syren* were both at the wreck, the *Woosung* taking her treasure out, and the *Syren* bringing an officer and boat's crew to Singapore. The Dutch steamer *Java*, with provisions and three tongkangs were despatched, on the 15th, to the scene of the wreck. The more valuable of the ship's stores, fittings, machinery, &c., would be saved.

A serious *amok* had been committed by a Javanese seaman on board the Dutch brig *Salida*, lying in the harbour. He first struck the Serang several blows about the head and face with a belaying pin, who has since died. He then struck the cook and knocked out four or five of his teeth, and on his wife going to his assistance the man stabbed her in the side, from which the bowels protruded. Another woman and several of the crew got stabbed also. The chief officer of the Hanoverian brig *Schwinge* was also on board, and on making his escape fell overboard; by climbing up a rope, however, he got on board again, when he received a cut on the temple which knocked him overboard once more; he got on board a second time, but was insensible. The rest of the men made their exit up the rigging and some overboard. On Inspector Hayward going up the gangway, his getting on board was prevented by the man standing on the top and flourishing some kind of weapon. Nothing daunted, he got up the side of the vessel by pulling himself up with the chains, and succeeded in reaching the top, when he made several cuts at his adversary with his sword but could not reach him; he then pinned him on the forecastle and felled him with a Penang lawyer. After securing the man he sent the women with the rest that were wounded to the hospital. The Javanese has been committed for wilful murder.

The Singapore journals publish a letter from Mr. Cameron, on the subject of his paper on the islands of Kalatoa and Puloweh in the Java Sea, which was communicated to the Royal Geographical Society. The *Free Press* remarks—The question raised by Mr. Cameron's assertion that he found 5,000 people on the latter island, existing without fresh water, is one of the greatest interest, and we trust the scientific gentlemen amongst us may deem it of sufficient importance to favour us with their opinions on the subject. We can to some extent confirm the statement, for we are informed by a gentleman who was accidentally left on an island in the Java or Branda Sea for several months, that he subsisted on little else than the milk of the cocoanut and the juice of the cocoa-palm for the whole period; his only food besides being the roots of bushes, fish, crabs, and slugs; water could be obtained by digging, but it was not drinkable. There were a number of people on the island who lived in the same way. They were a miserable set and were dwindling away, and would inevitably die out if their number was not occasionally recruited by the inhabitants of the neighbouring islands. He was informed that the population had been far more extensive in former years and were decreasing annually. The island was covered with millions of cocoanut trees. Although the natives were able to exist and propogate their species, it is quite certain their mode of living was quite unsuited to the European constitution, for there is not the slightest doubt that the gentleman we refer to must have perished if he had not been rescued by a passing ship. He was at death's door when taken off, and we fear, poor fellow, that although three years have passed since the event, his health has not yet recovered its wonted vigour, and it is more than possible that it never will. We, of course, write under correction; but are certainly under the impression at this moment that there was not fresh water on the island.

A charge of robbery at the Masonic Lodge against George England, a deserter from H.M.S. *Princess Royal*, had been investigated at the police court by K. B. S. Robertson, Esq., police magistrate. Amongst the property stolen was a silver dagger, belonging to the Worshipful Master, who prosecuted in the case. The prisoner denied stealing this instrument, but admitted having taken the gold and silver ornaments produced, the property of the Lodge, and which were valued at some two or three hundred dollars. His Worship awarded the prisoner two months' rigorous imprisonment in the House of Correction for theft of the dagger, and on the expiration of the said term the prisoner is to be again brought up on the charge of larceny of the jewels.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

Brett—On the 17th May, at Chefoo, Mrs. G. A. Brett, of a daughter.

Collins—On the 20th June, at Hong Kong, the wife of Henry C[illegible]s, of a son.

Halley—On the 31st July, at 7, Harley-street, Cavendish-square, W., the wife of Alexander Halley, M.D., F.G.S., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Goodman—Rodyk.—On the 13rd June, at Malacca, Christ Church, by the Rev. W. Hackett, Chaplain, Wm. H. Goodman, Commander of H.M.S. gunboat Mohr, to Margaret Grace, youngest daughter of W. Rodyk, Esq., Senior Clerk, Supreme Court, Malacca.

Lawrence—McGrath.—On the 30th May, at the Holy Trinity Church, Shanghai, and the Roman Catholic Cathedral, W. Lawrence, Esq., C.M.S., to Joanna, second daughter of J. McGrath, 67th Regt.

DEATHS.

Bulley—On the 10th June, at Shanghai, Mr. William Bulley, farrier.

Costerton—On the 25th July, at Blackinberghe, West Flanders, aged four years and four months, William N. R. J. Costerton, only son of the late John Costerton, Esq., of Hong Kong, China.

Maclellan—On the 13th June, in Praya East, Hong Kong, the wife of W. Maclellan, Godown Keeper to Messrs. R. S. Walker and Co., aged 32 years.

McClements—At the General Hospital, Hong Kong, John McClements, Private 2nd Bat. 11th Regt., aged 28 years.

Middleton—At sea, on the voyage from Hong Kong to Calcutta, John Middleton, for many years merchant of the latter place, aged 58.

Murray—On the 18th June, on board the ship Chaa Sze, John Murray, Seaman, aged 22 years, of cholera.

Whaites—On the 13th June, in West Point, Ada, daughter of E. P. Whaites, Hong Kong, aged 9 months and 6 days.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1864-65.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to May 30, 1865	2261515	60239307	45413956	453017	12872075	121236870	32317
Corresponding period last season	2298872	53394410	45933354	2257092	15805510	119689238	42159

TO UNITED STATES.

From June 1 to May 31, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	18093463	Piculs. 794
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	24204193	645

TO THE CONTINENT.

From June 1 to May 31, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	1005144	Bales. ...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	1332338	...

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

From June 1 to May 31, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	Tea pkgs 44883	Boxes. ...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	491961	...

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	...	...	...	51,022,600	...
„ 1845 to 1846	...	...	...	57,334,700	18 604
„ 1850 to 1851	...	...	...	63,972,000	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854	...	...	...	77,327,800	61,280
„ 1855 to 1856	...	...	...	92,210,300	50,480
„ 1857 to 1858	...	...	...	76,990,255	68,311
„ 1858 to 1859	...	...	...	65,789,792	88,136
„ 1859 to 1860	...	...	...	85,560,452	64,165
„ 1860 to 1861	...	...	...	90,066,160	70,644
„ 1861 to 1862	...	...	...	109,854,040	79,199
„ 1862 to 1863	...	...	...	121,275,280	72,818
„ 1863 to 1864	...	...	...	117,463,586	46,605

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1, to May 31, 1865	357611	154	2807	7832	119	189

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to May 31, 1865...	8103	162	—	810	325	1145

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1, to May 31, 1865...	25900	2390	185	255	—	—

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1, to May 31, 1865...	2705	21770	136009	3697	5420	315540

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrant's Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1, to May 31, 1865	224	1196	8304	9783	15840	—

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cent: and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At Yokohama.—From London: Seringapatam. From Liverpool: Jane.

At Shanghai.—From London: May 24, Fy-Chow. From Liverpool; 31, Neville. From Swansea: 28, Golden Spur. From Newcastle: June 1, Lord Collingwood. From Philadelphia: 2, H. Harbeck.

At Hong Kong.—From London: May 29, Caractacus; 30, White Adder; 31, Valdivia; June 4, Banian. From Liverpool: 2, Monsoon; 5, Canton. From Rockhampton: 9, Prospero. From Sunderland: May 23, Fi-wan. From Cardiff: June 2, Whinfell.

At Manila.—From Glasgow: May 22, Nodales.

At Singapore.—From London: June 9, Ferozepore. From Liverpool: 15, Caroline Chisholm. From Swansea: 10, Kenilworth.

DEPARTURES.

From Yokohama.—None.

From Shanghai.—For London, May 22, Mirage. For New York, 26, Heversham; June 1, Acapulco.

From Foochow.—For London, May 24, Fiery Cross, Serica; 26, Yangtsze, Ziba; 30, Childers, Flying Spur.

From Hong Kong and Canton.—For Havre, May 28, Immaculie Conception.

From Macao.—For London, May 24, Burdwane.

From Manila.—For New York, May 28, Milton. For Boston, 23, Conquest.

From Singapore.—For London, June 11, Fortitude, Zepkyros. For Bordeaux, 10, Prophete. For New York, 9, Triton; 16, Energie.

LOADING.

At Yokohama.—For London: Eleanor.

At Hankow.—For London: Silver Eagle, Challenger, Eliza Shaw, Isles of the South.

At Shanghai.—For London: William Melhuish, Highflyer, Fire Queen, Ethiopian, Norwood, Guinevere, Eliza Nicholson, Art Union, Gossamer, Ellen Rodger. For Liverpool: Woosung.

At Foochow.—For London: None.

At Hong Kong and Canton.—For London: Scawfell, Heroes of Alma, Salvia, Northfleet, Valdiva.

At Manila.—For London: Zelandia. For New York: Sumatra.

At Singapore.—For London: Unicorn, Hippolytee, Bencleuch. For Liverpool: Skiddaro, Ophir, Christopher Newton, Ocean Belle. For Glasgow: Scotland. For New York: Arracan.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Yokohama.—To London, cotton and tea, £3 per ton; silk, £4. 10s. of 50 feet.

Hankow.—To Shanghai, per steamer, 3 tls. per ton; to London, per sailing vessel, £5. 15s.

Shanghai.—Rates for Europe continue without improvement, and for the coast little is offering, while the unemployed tonnage is heavy. No charters have taken place for England, but several vessels have been laid on the berth for new teas to London. For New York the only transaction is the Caprera, at £2. 15s. per ton of 40 feet.

Foo-Chow.—To London, £3. 10s. per ton.

Hong Kong and Canton.—In Home Charters no change has taken place. The Scawfell and Valdivia have been added to the vessels on the berth for London, and are loading at former rates. There is no vessel loading for Liverpool at present. The Ruby has been chartered to load at Java for Europe, and the Thorkild to load at Whampoa for New York, at £2. 15s. per ton.

Manila.—The Zealander has been fixed for London at £1. 10s. per ton, for 800 tons, Clayed Sugar, £3 for Coffee and measurement goods. Tonnage is in limited supply, and with any activity in produce business, some improvement might be expected in rates of freight. Singapore: To London, dead weight, £1. 5s.; measurement, £1. 15s.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

Arrivals not Included in the Tables.—Aug. 7, at London, from China (?), Jane; at Deal, from China, Maiden Queen; at Falmouth, from Bassein, Zoe; July 25, at New York, from Manila, Young America; 22, at Boston, from Penang, Rocket; Aug. 3, at Dungeness Roads, from Batavia, Eva Johanna; 4, off Swanage, from Banjoewangie, Medea; 7, at Falmouth, from Akyab, Carl; July 20, at Boston, from Manila, Wild Rover; Aug. 8, at Deal, from Colombo, Shepherd; from Manila, Cesarea.

Departures.—Aug. 4, from Cardiff for Shanghai, Louise Kohn.

Casualties.—The Malabar, Chambon, from Colombo for Belle Isle, which put into Mauritius May 15, leaky, has been condemned and sold.

Laid on.—At London: For Colombo and Cochin, Blanch. At Liverpool: For Hong Kong and Canton, Ariel. For Manila, Alavesa.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A REGISTER is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the FAR EAST and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, *and other parts of the* FAR EAST, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

Subscription 5*l*s. per annum. including Postage. Export Supplement 12s. extra.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1865.

THE SILKWORM EPIDEMIC.

As far as the European crop is concerned, the silk season of 1865 will prove the most disastrous since the commencement of the disease; not even the partial success which has attended the late enormous importations of eggs, or "seed," as it is technically termed, from the East, and more especially from Japan, having sufficed to prevent prices rising to twenty-five or thirty per cent higher than were current at this time last year. The hope once entertained that new breeds, raised from the seed so imported would continue to be exempt from the ravages of the epidemic, has proved entirely fallacious, inasmuch as, although they yield a good crop the first year, they cannot be propagated afterwards; and this recently discovered fact tends to establish the correctness of a theory broached some years ago, but generally contradicted by the French silk-growers, namely, that the disease originated in a deterioration in the quality of the food upon which the worms subsisted, and was not of a contagious nature. The subject is an interesting one, both as regards its effect on a large portion of the population of France and Italy, and its relation to a most important branch of our trade with China and Japan.

Our Paris correspondent informs us the Acclimatisation Society of France has given public notice that it cannot undertake to continue the importation of Japanese seed. Having shown the mode of doing so, and proved the superior quality of seed obtained from that country, it henceforth very properly leaves the matter to commercial hands. It also reveals a fact deserving of notice, namely, that a number of boxes used by the Society, and bearing its initials, have been refilled by some unprincipled persons with ordinary European eggs, and are now being offered for sale as fresh importations of the Society. The effect of this will be to discourage more than ever those producers into whose hands the spurious seed finds its way. Some hope is however inspired by the announcement just made of the nomination of a special commission by the French Government, consisting of the Minister of Commerce, several officials, some scientific men, and a few eminent silk producers, for the purpose of inquiring more fully into the nature of the disease and ascertaining as far as possible the best means of arresting its progress. Whether any remedy will be found, short of an entire change in the system of cultivating the mulberry tree, we very much doubt.

We believe it was Mr. JOHN SILVERLOCK, of London, who first suggested that the disease was not inherent in the worm itself, but arose from improper or insufficient nourishment. This was in 1861; and the idea was not then favourably received by the French producers, who grounded their arguments on the apparently contagious nature of the disease, and the fact of its having appeared successively in places so widely separated from each other. More recent observations, however, have shown that Mr. SILVERLOCK's theory is the correct one. M. GUERIN MENEVILLE, in his report of an inquiry prosecuted in various parts of France, states that most practical men now concur in the belief that the sole cause of mischief is the blight which affects the mulberry trees, and which is evidently the result of a system of forced cultivation adopted by growers, with the view of producing an abundant crop of leaves. The desired result has been easily attained as regards quantity, but, as might have been expected, the superabundant growth of foliage thus produced is far inferior in quality to that of the mulberry tree in its natural state; the leaves, instead of being thick, firm, and juicy, are of a poor, watery nature, and very deficient in those nutritive properties on which the worms entirely depend for their proper development. Experiments which have come within the range of Mr. SILVERLOCK's own experience, made on worms raised from eggs imported into Italy from Shanghai, leave no doubt whatever as to this being the origin of the disease. The worms, which when first hatched from the imported eggs are perfectly healthy, are described as being ravenous, and eating a far larger quantity than usual—and even the increased bulk so consumed appears barely sufficient to support them during the first stages of their existence up to the period of spinning and reproduction, and gives them no strength to complete these natural processes. When the time for spinning arrives, the insect disgorges the mass of undigested food contained in its stomach, and dies, in fact, of a species of cholera. The conclusion deduced by Mr. SILVERLOCK from these observations is, that if any efforts which may be made to arrest the progress of the disease are to prove effectual, attention must first be directed to the trees themselves. A portion of them must be allowed, for at least one season, to mature their fruit, and shed their leaves naturally—this will strengthen and ripen the wood, and give increased vigour to the tree. And the worms should be reared in as close proximity as possible to the plantations, in order that they may receive their food in a fresh state. The firm, fibrous leaves of the wild mulberry tree will of course remain fresh much longer than the weak, watery foliage produced by the tree when stimulated by an unnatural mode of culture. These considerations may, at a superficial glance, be taken as applying only to the continental crop, but in reality they equally affect the growth of silk in China and Japan. In the former country the disease has already appeared; and if the increased demand for China and Japan silk, resulting from the failure of the European crop, should induce the growers in either of those countries to carry to an extreme the system of forced cultivation, the most serious results may be apprehended. For the present the deficiency in the home crop will doubtless be compensated for by additional imports from the East—perhaps more than sufficiently so. M. ARLES-DUFOUR, in a recent circular, recommends French producers to be on their guard, firstly, on account of the anticipated large importations from China and Japan; and secondly, on account of a probable decrease in consumption consequent on extreme rates. We would impress the necessity of similar caution on the part of shippers in those countries.

RUSSIAN RAILWAYS AND TELEGRAPHS.

A CORRESPONDENT writing from St. Petersburg the other day, gives us a long list of the public works that are being carried out, or are in contemplation at the present moment in the Russian Empire. Railways and telegraphs are matters that concern all the world, and some of those which are included in the list referred to have a very special interest for the commercial world. A railway is being constructed to unite Odessa with the Lemberg line, and another to connect Tchernovitz with the Danube at Galatz. The EMPEROR has issued his ukase for the formation, at the cost of the State, of a line between Krementchoug and Balta, and which form part of the great line from Odessa to Kharkoff. The line between Dunabourg and Vitebsk is being proceeded with, and the company is bound to have that portion of the road between Dunabourg and Polotzk ready for work by November in the coming year, and the whole before the year 1867. A railroad from Posen to Warsaw has been contemplated for some time, and it is said that the necessary capital has now been subscribed.

The great telegraphic line which has been conceded to the Western Union Telegraph Company of the United States by the Russian Government, as regards its territories, and the aim of which is to unite not only Europe and America, but eventually the whole world in one system, is to pass by Nicolaief, Behring's Straits, the Russian Possessions on the American Continent, British Columbia, and San Francisco, where it will join the lines of the United States. The capital of the company is said to be ten millions of dollars, which is nearly all subscribed for. The concession is for thirty-three years, and

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the company is bound to have the line in work within five years or forfeit all its privileges. A stipulation is made that the majority of the persons employed by the company on Russian ground shall be natives of the country.

The prolongation of the telegraphic lines from Kiachta to Peking is still talked of, but nothing more definite is asserted than that one of the directors of the Russian telegraphs is at Peking and in communication with the Chinese Government on the subject. There is no doubt that the accomplishment of this object will be attended with some difficulties, but if the Russian Government is bent upon its realisation, and exhibits as much energy as its shows at present in completing its own railway and telegraphic system, and connecting the latter with that of America, they will be surmounted.

THE CHINA CHALLENGE CUP.

In the account contained in our last issue of the close of the Wimbledon meeting we recorded an announcement made by Lord Elcho, when distributing the prizes on the 22nd July, to the effect that the committee had finally decided on ordering this important piece of plate to be designed and made in China. We have since ascertained that this is not the case, and that no decision will be made until the arrival of a design which has been sent for from Hong Kong, to be compared with those submitted by Messrs. Hancock, Elkington, Dent, and others. When this has been received, we believe the choice of design will be left to the ten competitors who won the cup this year for the county of Somerset.

COTTON PROBABILITIES.

(From the Cotton Supply Reporter.)

American cotton probabilities continue to afford a fertile subject of speculation, and there is still much uncertainty and suspense as regards our future supplies. The estimates furnished by successive statisticians only serve to indicate the perplexity in which they are involved, and the difficulty experienced in ascertaining the stock of cotton existing in the Southern States. Until this can be determined, the fluctuations which are so embarrassing must still be encountered, and conflicting opinions will, from time to time, be sure to gain credence, and to exert a corresponding influence. Rumours which, according to the wishes of the parties with whom they originate, either exaggerate or under-estimate the actual quantity, are to be expected; but unless they rest upon some intelligible and recognised foundation, it will be wise to receive them with caution. We contribute our quota to the solution of the question by giving insertion in our pages to a report furnished to the Foreign Office by Her Majesty's Consul at Savannah, to which our readers will attach that degree of importance that it may appear to them to deserve. It seems to be generally admitted, that neither from the accumulations during the war, nor from the present year's crop, can any overwhelming supplies be anticipated, and that there is nothing to discourage, in the slightest degree, the continued exertions of all other countries which have of late years made the cultivation of cotton an object of special attention. The return of the States, which have so long been a prey to the ravages of war, to the labours of peaceful industry, and the renewal of their efforts to furnish again those supplies of cotton which were formerly so abundant and welcome, will, we hope, be the commencement of a new career of progress and prosperity, but there need be no alarm on this account in any quarter. A mighty revolution has been effected, and such superiority over other countries in the production of cotton as slavery could afford is now at an end. There is reason for satisfaction and congratulation that henceforth our mills will be supplied only with free-grown cotton, and that none will be able to connect the whirl of our machinery with the wail of the oppressed. Such advantages as the Southern States may possess in the peculiarities of their climate and soil will still belong to them; but in other respects the various cotton-growing countries of the world are, by the extinction of slavery, placed more nearly than before on an equality with them. The position which has been gained in the cotton market during the exclusion of America is one that should not be lightly surrendered; and we can see no reason why India, Egypt, Turkey, Brazil, or any other country that is prepared to make the necessary exertions, should succumb to the formidable rival which has now to be encountered. Competition will make improvement compulsory, but it need not paralyse effort and enterprise. It will not do to continue to send forward the inferior article, which, in the absence of anything else, was readily taken. A better quality must now be produced. The same means and care must be used which gradually gave to American cotton its acknowledged superiority, and we are confident that wherever such are employed there may be a permanent trade established. None of the countries which have been so enriched by the growth of cotton during the past four years ought to be deterred from making strenuous efforts to retain the advantages which they have gained. Difficulties have to some extent been overcome, and perseverance only is required to ensure success. We rejoice to know that the Turkish Government are taking wise measures in anticipation of the next sowing season, and are determined to procure American seed, and to promote its use to a much greater extent than ever. The occasional ravages of locusts and the prevalence of adverse seasons may awaken solicitude and require special exertions, but no one can doubt that ultimately satisfactory results will be realised. An extended growth of cotton in Egypt may be momentarily checked by a threatened scarcity of food, but larger importations of grain and additional facilities of transport will lead to increased cultivation. Neither Turkey nor Egypt, we may be sure, will consent to part with so lucrative a trade, and the means of securing possession of it are within their reach. Let such be diligently used and they will become efficient and permanent sources of cotton supply. The defective agriculture of India has been forcibly pointed out by Sir William Denison, the Governor of Madras, who dwells specially upon the inefficiency of the Indian plough, which merely *scratches* the ground and does not turn up the lower soil to the surface. The area of land under cultivation in the Madras Presidency is represented to be about 17,000,000 of acres, which an improved system of agriculture would render much more productive. The use of windmills as a means of irrigation is also recommended. In the Bengal Presidency steam cultivating apparatus is now employed in the growth of cotton as well as of indigo, and we participate in the opinion recently expressed by Mr. Bazley, that without incurring any risk of rice or corn famine in India by devoting more land to cotton, the area now so appropriated might, by better cultivation, be made to produce five or six millions of bales instead of one million. If at length, under the pressure of the necessity which has now arisen for growing an improved quality of cotton in India, the requisite efforts be made, it may yet be possible, by an efficient system of native husbandry, to procure abundant and satisfactory supplies from that country. Our past disappointments, however, prevent the indulgence of so confident a hope with respect to India as we can entertain in other cases. Whatever check to cotton production may have been occasioned in any instance by the abrupt termination of the American war, and the expectations then awakened, there is now no cause for discouragement, but on the contrary every reason for renewed and persevering exertions, which we feel assured will meet with an ample reward.

COTTON CROP IN GEORGIA, UNITED STATES.

(Extract of a despatch from Consul T. Smith, forwarded by the Foreign Office, dated Savannah, June 28th, 1865.)

Touching the very vital point of cotton, the great staple article of the commerce of Georgia, I would observe that up to a very recent date the Federal authorities exacted a duty of 25 per cent. upon all cotton which was brought in on private account, as your lordship will perceive by the enclosed notice—Dated May 23rd, 1865, not sent herewith—issued by the United States purchasing agent here. This grievous tax has, however, been withdrawn, and in its place has been substituted an internal revenue duty of two cents per lb.; at least such is the tenor attributed to the Executive proclamation of June 13th inst., a copy of which I much regret to state I have been unable to procure. In the present abnormal state of affairs it is not possible, I believe, to obtain a very correct account of the quantity of cotton on hand, and available by-and-by for market; but I have ascertained that parties well acquainted with this State, and who have recently travelled throughout its length and breadth, estimate the number of bales which remain in private hands, scattered about in parcels varying from eight or ten to four or five hundred, at somewhere about 300,000, and the entire stock in the country at large at from a million and a quarter to a million and a half of bales, each bale averaging about 480lb. The cotton in Georgia will not be available for shipment to a foreign market for some months to come, seeing that the difficulties of transport between this city and the country districts have only been very partially overcome; the small lots of cotton which do arrive are brought down the river by means of a few small river steamers, and unfortunately within the last two months four of these craft have been lost.

The bulk of the cotton will remain undisturbed until the completion of the renovation now in progress on the lines of railway, a matter which will occupy from three to six months, and before the expiration of which time, as it seems to me, there will be little chance for British vessels to procure return cargoes from this port.

PRINCE SATSUMA.

(From the *Japan Herald.*)

We have from time to time given sketches of the history of some of the powerful daimios of Japan. Mito and Choshiu have both thus been dealt with amongst others, but there is yet another great Prince, whose name is "familiar as household words," of whom we propose presenting our readers with a slight sketch.

The history of Prince Satsuma is not by any means so interesting as either Mito or Choshiu, because the house has never had much feud or quarrelling with other Daimios. Our sketch, therefore, assumes the form rather of a genealogical descent than of an interesting historical recital.

About 700 years ago the house of Satsuma was founded by one of the sons of Yorito-mo (the founder of Sho-goon-Key) whose name was Shimazoo Bengonokami Todah-hisa, though on first becoming a Daimio he was a very small prince, and it was not until the fifteenth descendant became head of the house that it assumed any importance among the other great families in the land. This prince Shimazoo Shirino Daiboo became very wealthy and had large territorial possessions, holding the three provinces of Satsuma, Huga, and O-o-sumi. The son of this prince shortly after coming into possession of his ancestral rights fitted out an expedition to conquer the Loo-choo island and its group. The expedition was quite successful, and resulted in the subjugation of the islands, so that from that time to the present they have been owned by the Prince of Satsuma.

On the government of Tyco-sama being made aware of the fact of Satsuma's successful raids upon the Loochoos and elsewhere, an embassy was sent to the latter relative to certain negotiations. Satsuma refused to treat with Tyco's party, which so exasperated Tyco, that he declared war and succeeded in capturing the two provinces of Huga and O-o-sumi.—Satsuma, fearing lest he should be deprived of all his possessions submitted himself to the will of the great Tyco-sama, who beholding him thus humbled, ordered that he should descend from his Daimioship, and that he and his son should become as priests, shaving their heads, &c. This having been done, Tyco magnanimously placed the grandson at the head of the house and gave back to him the two captured provinces. This prince appears to have been eminent, for his

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promotions under Tyco and his successor were numerous. He was known successively by many names, the last and greatest being Jinsan mi Chu-no-goon Jyehisa. For eight generations there does not appear to have been a single incident worth according in the history of the house. And even the ninth descendant from the last named—Jinsanmi Chujo Satsumano Kami was only remarkable for his numerous children and the alliances formed accordingly with many of the greatest princes throughout the Empire.—The present Prince of Satsuma is a descendant of Jinsanmi—in the 5th generation, but not in the elder branch of the family. On the contrary, the late prince having no son, adopted the son of his younger brother—who is the prince so well known by reputation to foreigners. The late prince had an only daughter, to whom he was tenderly attached. She became the wife of the late Tycoon. At the death of her husband, she cut her hair short and locked herself up in the castle at Yeddo. She is reputed to be still young and very accomplished—being fond of literature, a splendid horsewoman, and an able fencer with the spear, &c. Her name is Tensho-en.

The registered revenue of the Prince of Satsuma is 770,800 Kokus,—and his territories are the Loo-choo Islands and the three provinces before-named.

THE FLUCTUATION OF BANKING PROFITS IN LONDON.

(FROM THE ECONOMIST.)

One of the most important and best results of the development of the system of joint-stock management will be a more accurate knowledge than we now have of the profitableness of different trades, and the general profit of all trade. The accounts of a single trader or of a private partnership are shrouded in mystery; there is no good reason for telling them, and there are several good reasons for not telling them. But the accounts of a company in which a considerable number of shareholders are much interested must show to those shareholders the most material facts relating to the business. We are yet, however, far from such a desirable state of things. The only considerable trade which has been long enough under joint-stock management to tell us much is the trade of banking, and even as to this the published accounts of most banks are still very imperfect. Most banks persist in concealing the amount of their acceptances, and while it is uncertain whether the "liabilities" vaguely classed together are composed of paper issued by the bank, or money left with the bank, no sure deduction as to the nature of their business can be made. With such a fault in the data, no conclusion can hope to be correct. The London and Westminster Bank has set the example of dividing its deposits from its acceptances, but many banks of the greatest importance have as yet not followed its example. In the end the public will prefer a bank in which the accounts are such as they ought to be to a bank whose accounts are such as they ought not to be.

But though the nature of the business carried on by these banks is not told us, its profits are told us. We do not know, so well as we should, how the money is made, but we are very fairly and fully told what money is made; and it is very curious to trace in this patent record the varying profitableness of monetary operations. The following are the profits earned by the long established joint-stock banks of London during the last half-year, and we purposely confine our attention to those comparatively old banks of acknowledged credit, to avoid the unpleasant questions which embarrass the consideration of certain of the new banks, and the still greater odium of saying that one new bank is of established credit and that another is not so.

PROFITS EARNED IN THE HALF-YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1865.

London and Westminster Bank	£151,598
Union Bank	144,879
London Joint-Stock Bank	127,597
City Bank	34,108
Bank of London	39,219
	£497,401

Whereas in the previous half-year the corresponding amounts were—

London and Westminster Bank	£170,995
Union Bank	180,195
London Joint-Stock Bank	156,150
City Bank	26,116
Bank of London	54,301
	£587,757

And this is the more remarkable, because the London and Westminster Bank, whose accounts are full and conclusive, show an increase of £1,000,000 in the deposits, and likewise a large diminution in the expenses. In the case of this bank at least the net profit has diminished, though the means of making it have augmented, and though the cost of making it has declined. In the case of this bank, too, the cause of the diminution is not to be looked for, as might have been at first fancied, in the bad debt account, for it was expressly stated at the meeting that the bad debts of the past half-year have not much exceeded the average of many years past. The figures given above would seem to indicate that the City Bank was an exception to the otherwise general diminution of profits during the present half-year. But such does not appear to be the case. That bank deducted at Christmas £30,000 from its profits to meet "possible claims," and so large a sum having been deducted from the profits of the Christmas half-year, no unusual deduction has been necessary from the profits of the June half-year.

The true reason of this great diminution of the profits is the reduction in the value of money. A large London joint-stock bank has a considerable sum of money for which it pays nothing, and also a very great sum on which, when money can be lent at 8 or 9 per cent, it only pays 5 per cent. Up to 1859 the joint-stock banks used to allow for money at interest 1 per cent. below the Bank of England rate, however high that rate might be. But they found that such a rate was wholly unsuitable to a keen crisis. At such a time unusual sums of money must be kept at hand at a low profit, or at no profit, and it is, therefore, impossible to give extravagant rates for money which may be rapidly withdrawn. For money that is deposited for considerable periods of time the joint-stock banks, as well as the bill-brokers, gave in the autumn of 1864 considerable rates, but for money left only on the ordinary terms they did not give more than 5 per cent. Consequently they had an unusual opportunity of making profit; they could lend a large sum, for which they paid nothing or a low rate, at very high rates. And if they kept clear of bad debts they made great profits. But in the last half-year, when the rate of interest was very low, they had no such opportunity. They could not charge what they had charged last autumn, and though they paid less for much of their money, the compensation was not sufficient.

It is instructive to compare these accounts with those of this time last year, and it will probably surprise some of our readers to find that in some banks at least the profits were very much higher in June, 1864, than either in December, 1864, or June, 1865, and that the aggregate of all of them was somewhat greater. The figures are—

PROFITS EARNED IN HALF-YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1864.

London and Westminster Bank	£234,032
Union Bank	154,371
Joint-Stock Bank	124,477
City Bank	48,588
Bank of London	58,291
	£619,759

The reason of these high profits was that the half-year ending June 30 was even more favourable to banking than the half-year which succeeded. In the spring there was a high rate of discount, and in the autumn a still higher rate; but there was a disadvantage in the autumn which there was not in the spring. There was not a panic, but there was fear of a panic. A great many people, not without experience, expected that October and November, 1864, would have been more severe than they were, though they brought suffering enough. If the Bank of England had acted as it did in 1857, unquestionably 1864 would have been worse than 1857. With this apprehension in their minds it was not possible for bankers to use their resources as freely and boldly in the autumn as they used them in the spring; and though in many cases their deposits were more and the current rates of discount higher, yet the net result was not so good. If a banker is afraid to lend his money, it is of no use to him to have much of it, or that the nominal rates for it are high.

It is to be observed that the causes which make banking profits so fluctuating in London do not apply with the same force to many parts of the country, especially to the quieter parts. The rate of interest does not change in those districts with the same rapidity upon any securities. And the securities on which a banker lends in such places are not those which would be very acceptable in the London market at all. The London and Westminster must discount at some approximation to the Bank *minimum* the mass of the bills which come before them; but in many districts of the country no banker ever thinks of charging common bills less than 5 per cent. The tradesman for whom he discounts is not known in the London market, and the bills he brings would be taxed there a good deal more than the Bank *minimum*. A low rate of money in London, therefore, is not attended by equal cheapness in the country; and a high rate of money is not attended by equal dearness in the country. The country banker cannot, or thinks he cannot, run his rates up to the London *minimum* for first-rate bills, still less to the charge which would be made in London for the sort of paper which fills a country banker's bill-case. Both ways country banking is a trade of steadier profits; so much cannot be made of money when it is at the highest value, and more can be made of it at its lowest value.

CHINA GRASS.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

Sir,—The public are greatly indebted to you for calling attention to the capabilities of China grass as a material for manufacture, not only for paper but cotton, imparting both strength and durability to that fabric. That it can be mixed with cotton to advantage to the extent of from 40 to 60 per cent. is a fact that at once determines its value as an article of commerce, and strengthens the probability that we shall find in it an effective compensation for restricted supplies of cotton. China, to my own knowledge, can furnish a large and continuous supply, and by hydraulic power it may be as readily compressed as cotton, without injury to the fibre. I am sorry to see French manufacturers, or, if you will, French capitalists taking so obviously the lead in its utilisation, for though they are only in the experimental stage, their forwardness as contrasted with our own dilatoriness is only another of many illustrations of the indisposition of our manufacturers to countenance or to commit themselves to anything like change. All know, however, the importance of obtaining the start as to time in introducing into a foreign market a new or superior article that proves acceptable. The fault of our cheap cottons has hitherto been their want of durability, and now, by working up China grass, not only may that quality be obtained, but, as you have shown, more permanent and more brilliant dyes. Evidently, large fortunes are to be acquired by those who shall first prove successful in this enterprise, and it is to be hoped that instead of waiting for French experimental results, arrangements will at once be made for turning China grass to full account in our cotton and linen manufactures.—Yours, &c.,

AN EXPORTER.

Wood-street, Aug. 6, 1865.

Legal.

COURT OF BANKRUPTCY.

IN RE EDIS.

(Before Mr. Deputy-Commissioner Winslow.)

The bankrupt described himself in his petition as formerly of 3, Newman's-court, Cornhill, and late of 155, Fenchurch-street, merchant and colonial agent. He attributes his failure to losses in trade and pressure by creditors. The preliminary statement discloses debts and liabilities to the extent of about £6,200, with assets said to be of considerable value. The bankrupt had consigned goods to Shanghai, Hong Kong, and elsewhere. He now applied to be released from custody, where he was detained at the suit of several creditors.

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Mr. Reed and Mr. Hilleary opposed the application on behalf of creditors; Mr. Gray supported.

It was stated that this was the bankrupt's fifth appearance in this court, and that he had also been twice insolvent. No assignee had yet been chosen, and it was asked that the application should stand over until after the choice.

His Honour thought that no substantial benefit would accrue to the estate by the release being ordered, and adjourned the application until after the meeting for choice of assignees.

BELLIGERENT RIGHTS.

The following is the latest dispatch on the subject of the cessation of belligerent rights, addressed by the Foreign-office to the American Government:—

EARL RUSSELL TO SIR F. BRUCE.

Foreign-office, July 6, 1865.

Sir,—I have received and laid before the Queen your dispatch of the 19th June, with a copy of Mr. Seward's note on the subject of the cessation of belligerent rights.

Her Majesty's Government are sorry to find that the reservations and explanations which accompanied the orders of the 2nd June are deemed unacceptable by the Government of the United States.

Her Majesty's Government did not expect, indeed, that the United States, after the course they have hitherto taken, would now acknowledge that the original concession of belligerent rights was either necessary or just, or sanctioned by the law of nations.

Her Majesty's Government, however, having, in common with all the maritime Powers of Europe, acknowledged the belligerent rights of blockade on the part of the United States, and having recognised the existence of a belligerent against whom that right was exercised in conformity, as they are convinced, with the law of nations and the practice of centuries, could not be expected on their part to shrink from the consequences of the course they had deliberately adopted. Her Majesty's Government, therefore, considered that a due regard for national faith and honour required that any Confederate vessel of war called upon to depart from Her Majesty's ports, harbours, or waters should have the benefit of the twenty-four hours' rule. But you will observe to Mr. Seward that this rule is then to be enforced for the last time.

Consequently no Confederate vessel of war, taking advantage of this rule, could ever again have the benefit of it.

Her Majesty's Government have, in a like spirit, allowed that vessels lying in Her Majesty's harbours or waters, or which, during the space of a month, shall come into these harbours or waters, shall be permitted to disarm and assume a peaceful character. Otherwise vessels at sea, ignorant of the termination of the war, might be driven without coals or sails to perish on the neighbouring rocks, or to founder at sea. Such inhospitality would not become the character of the nation for good faith and honour, or for humanity.

But you will observe that Her Majesty's Government have instructed their authorities in distant ports distinctly to apprise the commander of any such Confederate vessel that he is to expect no further protection from Her Majesty's Government, except such as he may be entitled to in the ordinary course of the administration of the law in time of peace. The 24 hours' rule would not be applicable to such case.

The Government of the United States will, therefore, be entitled to maintain that such vessels are forfeited, and ought to be delivered to the United States upon reasonable application in such cases made. Only such application must be made good in a British court of law if the vessel is found in British waters.

In the case of a vessel captured at sea by a naval force of the United States, under whatever flag, the claim ought to be made good in a court of law of the United States.

Her Majesty's Government will further illustrate their views on this head by the enclosures to this dispatch.

Part of these enclosures consist of dispatches to and from Paris. Her Majesty's Government can never admit that, in the presence of a great war which interrupted and destroyed a friendly and useful commerce extending along 3,000 miles of the American coast—a war reducing great numbers of industrious families of both nations to poverty, and afflicting a whole continent—the Governments of England and France should not, as far as possible, act in concert, in pursuance, not of any formal engagement, but of a mutual understanding.

Her Majesty's Government, however, are gratified to find that the United States no longer claim the belligerent right to search British vessels, and that the normal relations of the two countries are practically returned to the condition in which they stood before the civil war.

Her Majesty's Government trust that these explanations, founded upon views which Her Majesty's Government have maintained in a spirit of just neutrality, will prove to be favourable to the establishment of a lasting and intimate friendship between the two nations.—I am, &c.,

(Signed) RUSSELL.

Naval and Military.

With the embarkation of the 78th Highlanders for Gibraltar we complete the despatch of our reliefs for 1865 (says the *Army and Navy Gazette*). The 26th and 49th have gone to Bombay, and the 41st to Calcutta, and the two other battalions for India; the 2nd battalion, 24th, at the Mauritius, and the 96th at the Cape, have had their respective reliefs, the 2nd battalion, 22nd, and the 1st battalion, 9th, sent on to these stations before this. When the 63rd, now daily expected from Canada in the Himalaya, and the 81st and 89th, from India, have arrived, we shall have accomplished the last moves between home and foreign service of 1865. Except as an aid to the Indian reliefs, it is not likely that the regiments now at home will be called upon for the colonies during the next three years. No battalion out of India or New Zealand is entitled to come home before 1868, and the New Zealand regiments, when they do return, will not be replaced on that station. In the very probable event of some of the battalions now in the colonies being sent on to India next year, those at the top of the list at home would, in the ordinary course, replace them at their present stations. But, on the other hand, it is not improbable that some reduction of our North American garrisons may take place, in which case the battalions now quartered in that part of the world would be sent to the colonies from which regiments are likely to be removed to India. Of the North American battalions, the 1st battalion 25th will probably be brought home next year, inasmuch as it was sent out after less than one-half the usual period of home service. The 2nd battalion 7th Fusiliers, and the 4th battalion Rifle Brigade, should come home in 1868, but the other corps have fully five years to serve before completing the usual period of colonial duty.

ROYAL ENGINEERS.—The following moves have just taken place, viz.:—Colonel Burgman, arrived home from the Mauritius on leave. Lieutenant-Colonels: Freeling, placed on the seconded list; and C. Sims, on survey, died at Ceylon on the 13th of June. Major C. E. Cumberland, at Portsmouth, ordered to the West Indies. Captains: M. S. Whitmore, ordered home from the Cape of Good Hope, and E. L. Bland, from leave, to Portsmouth. Second Captains: Garnier, on passage to the Cape of Good Hope, and C. W. Wilson, from Jerusalem to Southampton. Lieutenants: W. Keith, promoted to second captain, vice Drake; H. C. Seddon, ordered from leave to Guernsey; A. Hamilton, from leave to Portsmouth; C. Warren, from Gibraltar, on leave; Beaumont, from leave, to Portsmouth; E. Stephens, from Gibraltar, on sick leave; Tolley, at Aldershot, ordered to China; J. R. M. M'Cullagh, at Belfast; C. H. Cole, on leave; Whitmore, at Devonport; W. C. Ross, at Derby; and F. S. Shepherd, at Portsmouth, ordered to Bengal; and Reynolds, from Dover, ordered to Bombay. Gentlemen Cadets: E. C. Hart, E. Caudwell, Fanshawe, M. C. Brackenbury, H. T. Haynes, R. H. Jelf, R. G. Woodthorpe, and F. P. Washington appointed lieutenants, with temporary rank, and on leave.

The following ships are now on their way to England, as orders have been sent out to the different stations to the effect that as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made by the various Commanders-in-Chief they should be sent home, viz.:—The Wanderer and Procris from the Mediterranean; the Liffey, Styx, and Peterel from North America and West Indies; the Satellite from the south-east coast of America; the Tribune and Cameleon from the Pacific, and the Conqueror and Euryalus from the China stations.

The Sovereign of India, which left Hong Kong on the 12th April, arrived at Spithead on the 1st August. This ship brought home Mr. Clement Hertzee, master, from the Grasshopper, on promotion; Assist.-Surg. Birch, Euryalus; Messrs. Derrick, M'Intyre, Roberts, and Deane, engineers, from ships in China, and 149 sailors and marines (invalids). The latter were removed by Government steamer to the Victory, flagship, in Portsmouth harbour, the severe cases being sent to the Royal Hospital, Haslar. Two military and six naval deaths occurred on the voyage.

On the 27th July, at Sheerness, the Admiralty yacht Enchantress ran into the steamer Oread. Two passengers were much hurt, and it is feared some may have been knocked overboard.

Lieutenant Prince Alfred having attained his majority on the 5th inst., the Royal Standard was hoisted on the King's Bastion flagstaff of Portsmouth town fortifications, and on the main-royal masthead of Her Majesty's ship Victory, all the other ships of war in commission at the port hoisting the naval ensign at their respective mastheads in honour of the occasion. At 1.30 P.M. a Royal salute was fired from the guns of Her Majesty's ship Victory in Portsmouth harbour, from Her Majesty's ships Octavia, Constance, and Liverpool at Spithead, and from the garrison battery of the King's Bastion.

VISIT OF JAPANESE TO BEDFORD.—On the 29th ult., the large party of Japanese, sent over by Prince Satsuma to gain a knowledge of the agriculture and manufactures of Great Britain, paid a visit to the Britannia Ironworks at Bedford. They were accompanied by Professor Williamson, of the London University, by the Professor of Natural Philosophy at the Glasgow University, and other eminent scientific men, who have the direction of their investigations. The Japanese, whose remarkable *physique* caused considerable interest, the Mongolian type being very striking, took great interest in the machinery and various processes in operation at these important works, and seemed astonishingly quick in comprehending the various details. They appeared very unwilling to leave the works, but steam having been got up in one of the new steam ploughing engines, about fifteen of the Japanese crowded on to it wherever they could get a footing, and it was highly amusing to see with what delight they travelled in all directions over the extensive quadrangle of the works. After spending about three hours here they took luncheon with the Mayor of Bedford (Mr. James Howard), and proceeded to witness the steam ploughing on Messrs. Howard's farms at Clapham, where their amazement seemed to culminate, the operations being so much more simple than they had anticipated. A reaping machine which was at work was quickly handled and cleverly managed by them. Subsequently they visited Biddenham for the purpose of viewing Mr. Charles Howard's celebrated shorthorns and sheep, and after dining with the Mayor they left for London by the last train, expressing their unbounded delight with the day's visit to Bedford and their admiration of our English hospitality.

JAVA COTTON.—At the July meeting of the Executive Committee of the Cotton Supply Association, a letter was received from Bandong, Java, enclosing a sample of cotton called *Kapas Bandow* or *Kapas Tahon*, and stating that the trees bear for seven or nine years, but the difficulty in raising the money to carry on the cultivation is a great hindrance to its extension. If the Dutch Government were to appropriate lands, and afford other facilities, it is believed that this branch of agriculture would be successfully prosecuted.

THE AMERICAN FLEET IN THE FAR EAST.—American papers say that the Federal fleet in East India waters is to be re-inforced until it equals the strength of the English and French fleets in that part of the globe. Several large ships of war have been put in commission, and will soon sail.

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TEA.

(*Travers' Circular*, Aug. 5.)

About 22,000 packages of China and Japan tea were offered at public sale this week. A much larger proportion of Green teas of all kinds were offered than has been submitted to public competition for some time past: for these descriptions lower prices were accepted; the qualities were more suited for export than for dealers' requirements. With few exceptions, little was sold that was printed "with reserve." Common to fair red-leaf Congou sold at rather easier rates; the lower kinds of fairish black-leaf shared in the fall. A few parcels of Japans in fancy packages sold at very full prices. The market price of common Congou is from 11d. to 11½d. per lb.; broken-leaf cannot be bought under 7¾d. per lb. Three public sales of Indian teas have been advertised for next week, but we believe that Messrs. Laytons' sale of about 300 packages will be the only one proceeded with at present, the others being adjourned.

It is now so well ascertained that increased consumption of articles on which the Customs' duties have been reduced almost immediately follows the reduction, that Mr. Gladstone has been able, in his last Budgets, to make remissions of duty which, to less experienced financiers than himself, appeared to sacrifice more of the public revenue than was desirable. His confidence, however, that increased consumption would rapidly make up present losses of revenue has as yet never been deceived, but seldom do the hopes of an extended use of an article bid fair to be so rapidly realised as in the case of tea. The Board of Trade returns to the end of May showed a falling off in home consumption for the first five months of the year of 7,469,386 lbs. That this great apparent decrease was entirely caused by the time granted to grocers for working out of their old stocks was shown by the extraordinarily large deliveries during the month of June, which were 12,300,000 lbs more than in the corresponding month of 1864. The duty-paid deliveries for the six months were 4,872,374 lbs. greater than in 1864, and 7,344,203 lbs. more than in 1863. It is not to be expected that deliveries can be maintained at the same rate, as grocers at the beginning of June held little duty paid stock, and cleared not so much to meet an actual demand from the public as to fill their warehouses with their usual reserve. The deliveries, however, during July continued to be very heavy, and if we may judge by the London returns, an increase of nearly 3,000,000 lbs. will be shown in the United Kingdom deliveries for the seven months. If they continue to be so heavy, a total consumption of 95,000,000 lbs. for the year may be pretty confidently reckoned on, and some are sanguine enough to predict a total of 100,000,000 lbs. In the year 1850 the duty was 2s. 1d. per lb., and the consumption of tea 51,172,302 lbs.! The last fifteen years have thus seen an extraordinary change in the tea trade, owing in some slight degree to the growth of wealth and population, but in an infinitely greater degree to the successive reductions in duty. Tea is still far too heavily taxed. The English duty alone amounts to 75 per cent. on the value in bond of broken-leaf Congou, and to 50 per cent. on sound common Congou; on 1s. 8d., the average bond price, the duty is still a charge of 30 per cent. In addition to the English duty, it must be remembered that the Chinese Government levies an export duty, and that the local officials in China frequently exact toll when the tea is on its way to the coast. We may thus, as these hindrances to the use of tea are removed, look forward with confidence to a time when even the present consumption will appear small.

The exports of tea were not so heavy by 736,555 lbs. in the six months as in the corresponding part of 1864, but 3,826,618 more than in 1863. The stock at the end of June was still in excess of that of 1864, and much above that of 1863. It seems probable, by all accounts, that the next season's supplies will be extremely heavy, so that there is no probability of the stocks being reduced to a low ebb by the increased deliveries. The course of prices must necessarily be dependent on the quantity and quality of the new season's supplies, but at present there seems to be no chance of any great change in market values. Had the duty not been lowered, and a great stimulus been thus given to consumption, prices would have probably fallen to a considerable extent; but increased consumption will now probably save importers from further losses, although there appears to be no probability of any improvement.

The reports we have given for some weeks past of the general dulness of business would seem at first sight to be contradicted by the heavy deliveries during July, but the deliveries for a given period afford no indication of the amount of business, or actual buying and selling, that is going on in the tea market. Little tea may be disposed of in Mincing-lane and by wholesale houses, while the deliveries at the same time may be unusually heavy. On the other hand, the London sales may be very large, while the deliveries are small. The seeming contradiction is explained by the fact that the wholesale houses and the grocers buy tea in greater quantities than are required for actual wants. This practice has gone to such lengths on the part of the trade, from the imagined difficulty of obtaining a continued supply of suitable qualities, that it was discovered, when a delay in the reduction of the duty was asked for, that a great part of the grocers held two months' duty-paid stocks of tea in addition probably to far greater bonded stocks. This practice on the part of grocers is happily giving way rapidly, for as supplies increase, it is found that it is a work of no great difficulty to match samples, while the undesirability of locking up capital is becoming daily more apparent. The wholesale dealers have also been holding smaller stocks, and particularly of common and medium Congous, of which there has been a far more regular supply than was formerly the case. As the trade increases, a great change must take place in the manner of conducting it, and purchases will be made more and more from hand to mouth. This must be an unmixed benefit to all concerned, as the markets will become steadier, and at the same time the enormous loss on dead stocks of tea will be saved.

THE BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS.

The Board of Trade returns for the month and six months ending 30th June again exhibit results that at first sight present an unfavourable aspect; but one of the chief causes of the apparent falling off in the value of the exports is to be found in the lower prices now prevailing. For example, the exports of cotton manufactures in June, 1864 and 1865, were respectively 151,786,765 yards, and 167,553,664 yards, while the values are stated at £3,828,319 and £3,353,309. In cotton yarn there has been an increase in quantity from 6,930,157 yards to 10,024,418 yards, or nearly 50 per cent.; and in price, from £822,118 to £909,184, little more than 10 per cent. The total declared value of exports for the month last past was £13,227,062, against £13,978,526 in 1864, and £11,271,527 in 1863, which is a decline of £751,464 as regards the former period, but an increase of £1,955,535 over the latter. The total declared value for the six months of the present year is £74,128,638, against £78,047,586 in 1864, and £62,014,197 in 1863, which shows a falling off of £3,918,948, as compared with 1864, but an increase of £12,114,441 as contrasted with 1863. Our trade with the Far East, as far as distinctively to be gathered from these returns, shows quantities and amounts as follows:—

Exports to China and Hong Kong.

For the Month ended 30th June.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Cotton yarn	333,682	147,600	71,300 lbs.
Cotton manufactures	4,826,623	6,889,484	10,974,598 yds.
Worsted stuffs	643,736	1,373,069	1,623,633 „
Woollen and worsted cloths	138,296	88,742	133,977 „
Lead	1,554	169	1 ton

Value for the Six Months ended 30th June.

Cotton yarn	£70,893	£114,032	£82,217
Cotton manufactures	505,904	1,022,244	1,245,853
Worsted stuffs	277,159	417,225	622,739
Woollen and worsted cloths	167,510	140,674	141,174
Lead	183,837	81,354	20,419

The Cotton Manufactures exported to other ports and countries of the Far East were, in quantity for the month, and in value for the six months, as below:—

Quantity for the Month ended 30th June.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Ceylon	1,248,353	1,507,833	1,165,923 yds.
Singapore	2,217,405	2,210,763	6,755,397 „
Java	1,208,499	2,220,449	4,863,609 „
Philippine Islands	1,911,654	1,721,933	1,846,732 „

Value for the Six Months ended 30th June.

Ceylon	£137,458	£236,718	£141,566
Singapore	224,961	479,502	556,159
Java	128,942	389,179	343,442
Philippine Islands	123,046	332,091	375,829

Of Cotton Yarn, the quantity forwarded to Singapore was for the month 197,000 lbs., and for the six months, 853,390 lbs., against 31,000 lbs., and 512,308lbs. in 1864, and 103,600 lbs., and 628,976 lbs. in the same periods of 1863. The value of the export for the six months of the three years was—£68,033 in 1863; £61,803 in 1864; and £79,667 in the present year. The Cotton Yarn exported to Ceylon was 26,250 lbs. in the month, and 98,192 lbs. for the six months ending 30th June; the value for the six months being £8,390.

Imports.

Raw Cotton exhibits a marked decline in the quantity imported from British India and China; and indeed the total import from all quarters is less for the six months than it was last year. The figures are thus given—

Quantity for the month ended 30th June.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
British India	243,274	360,898	209,951 cwts.
China	41,856	111,205	4,390 „
All parts	457,739	790,304	471,831 „

Quantity for the Six Months ended 30th June.

British India	1,205,798	1,608,773	1,135,842 cwts.
China	110,469	411,369	210,885 „
All parts	2,134,230	3,546,968	3,108,853 „

Value for the Five Months ended 31st May.

British India	£7,295,743	£11,621,924	£4,688,073
China	491,130	2,610,082	936,099
All parts	13,923,441	29,340,681	17,182,887

Of Unrefined Sugar, the quantity imported from Java and the Philippine Islands during the month of June was 35,506 cwt., of the 3rd quality, and 48,024 cwt. of the 4th. The quantity for the six months, and value for the five months, is returned as follows:—

Quantity for the Six Months ended 30th June.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Of all qualities (cwts.)	497,638	74,706	422,837

Value for the Five Months ended 31st May.

Of all qualities	£432,390	£91,763	£334,808

Of Hemp the import from the Philippine Islands during the month of June was 14,346 cwt. the general result being returned thus:—

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	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity to 30th June (cwts.) ..	161,831 ..	74,228 ..	104,331
Value to 31st May	£153,851 ..	£103,366 ..	£126,702

Ceylon delivered to us 7,794,493 lbs. of Raw Coffee in the month of June, and the quantities and values for the year are presented thus :—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity to 30th June (lbs.) ..	31,301,086 ..	31,123,703 ..	29,908,873
Value to 31st May	£787,838 ..	£807,530 ..	£759,106

The Declared Value of the British and Irish Produce and Manufactures Exported during the first five months of the three years to ports and countries of the Far East named below was as follows :—

To	Exports for the Five Months ended 31st May. 1863.	1864.	1865.
China (exclusive of Hong Kong) ..	£971,902 ..	£1,252,166 ..	£1,395,843
Hong Kong	455,389 ..	682,128 ..	658,275
Singapore and the Eastern Straits .	436,371 ..	676,988 ..	673,610
Ceylon	254,436 ..	345,777 ..	241,984
Netherlands India	176,074 ..	427,594 ..	332,015
Philippine Islands	125,859 ..	372,330 ..	458,729
Siam	1,374 ..	11,493 ..	15,129
Japan	41,437 ..	115,315 ..	580,958

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
July 21	Off Dungeness	Java	Catherina Maria	v. Amerongen.
— 21	Do.	Do.	Cornelia Henderika	Zwart.
—	New York	Manila	Alhambra	
— 24	Off the Wight	Java	Jan van Schaffelaar	v. Duyn.
— 11	Montreal	Foo-chow-Foo	Shelburne	Lowe.
— 22	Deal	Sourabaya	Wilhelmina Johanna	Nagtegaal.
— 22	Do.	Pasaroeang	Hendrika	v. Breen.
— 25	Zierikzee	Banjoewangie	Luconia	Admiraal.
— 21	Cadiz	Manila, &c.	Luisita	Gordia.
— 27	Deal	Colombo	Northern Light	Oliphant.
— 27	Off N.W. Light Ship	Shanghai	Her Majesty	Seymour.
— 13	Boston	Manila	California	Barber.
— 27	Liverpool	Bassein	Adriana	Hatfield.
—	New York	Manila	Malay	
— 28	Deal	Batavia	Mercator	
— 28	Do.	Do.	Lucerne (?)	
—	Off the Wight	Do.	Johanna Elisabeth	Duinker.
— 28	Liverpool	Shanghai	Stuart Wortley	Jones.
Jun. 22	Callao	Macao	Colombo	Chiaparro.
— 23	Do.	Do.	Napoleon Canevara	Demoro.
— 27	Do.	Do.	Julian	Arrubarren.
July 11	Havana	Do.	Emanuel	Coudray.
—	Queenstown	Akyab	Euxine	
— 28	Texel	Banjoewangie	Goede Verwachting	Hellenius.
Aug. 1	Falmouth	Manila	Aline	Kier.
July 29	Brouwershaven	Banjoewangie	D'Elmina	Demmers.
—	Portsmouth	China	Sovereign of India	Scott.
Aug. 2	Liverpool	Rangoon	Eurynome	Hounsell.
— 3	Falmouth	Do.	Loch Lamar	Loring.
— 3	Off Falmouth	Akyab	Palma	Schuehagen.
— 4	London	Colombo	M. A. Evans	
— 3	Liverpool	Akyab	Goldfinder	McWhinney.
—	Off Queenstown	Rangoon	Marseilles	Clements.
— 4	Falmouth	Manila	Cesarea	Dolbel.
— 4	Do.	Rangoon	Helen R. Cooper	Sullivan.
— 4	Do.	Do.	Sarah Newman	Cobb.
— 2	Off Plymouth	Batavia	Java Packet	
— 4	Off Falmouth	Singapore	Dannebrog	Hansen.
— 5	Deal	Macao	Philippine	
— 5	Falmouth	Akyab	Countess of Sefton	Watson.
— 6	Deal	China	Alphine	
— 6	Do.	Colombo	Raleigh	

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
July 17	Hamburg	Hong Kong	China	Schmidt.
— 18	Do.	Shanghai	Malvina Vidal	Kessel.
— 21	Jersey	Swansea & Shanghai	Georges	Varey.
— 22	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Madeira	Polack.
— 21	Liverpool	Shanghai	Aerolite	Alleyne.
— 24	London	Do.	Laurel	Moodie.
— 25	Do.	Do.	Jubilee	Grant.
—	Middelburg	Batavia	Zeeparad	
— 22	Amsterdam	Yokohama	Bantam	Claase.
— 26	Newport	Galle	Southern Belle	Benson.
— 24	Brotmielaw	Sourabaya	County of Lanark	Battersby.
— 25	Amsterdam	Batavia	Constance	
— 27	Cardiff	Singapore	John Watt	Poole.
— 27	Hull	Galle	Ann Millicent	Nash.
— 28	London	Cardiff & Shanghai	Nelly	Simpson.
— 28	Do.	S'dland. & Hong Kong	Anne Longton	Harling.
— 28	Shields	Hong Kong	Ornate	English.
— 28	Cardiff	Shanghai	Loda	Wade.
— 28	Do.	Do.	Whampoa	Carter.
— 29	London	Cardiff & Shanghai	Winna	Bray.
— 29	Do.	Do.	Monarchy	Day.
— 25	Amsterdam	Batavia	Azia	Trapp.
— 28	Swansea	Shanghai	Moldavian	Blackburn.
— 31	Liverpool	Manila	Cinco Hermanos	Ormachea.
— 31	Do.	Penang	Avery	Grace.
— 31	London	Cardiff & Hong Kong	John Rennie	Gaggs.
— 28	Amsterdam	Batavia	Louise	Buys.
Aug. 1	London	Cardiff & Shanghai	John Bunyan	Allan.
— 2	Do.	Do.	Glasgow	Smith.
Jun. 20	Buenos Ayres	Penang	Nyassa	Hutchinson.
— 27	Rio Janeiro	Hong Kong	Sowo Nada (s.)	Jayme.
—	Do.	China	Galatea	Gerritz.
Aug. 5	London	Singapore & Penang	Bride	Gibson.
— 5	Do.	N'castle & Singapore	J. W. A. Lorenzens	Jessen.
— 5	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Lochnagar	Bashfull.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

LOADING.

At London.—For Yokohama: Fusi Yama. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Scindia, Grenadier. For Shanghai: Lansdowne, James Shepherd. For Hong Kong and Canton: Crest of the Wave, Dilpussund. For Singapore: Couranto. For Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius, and Batavia: Konig Willem III. For Manila: Loycla. For Colombo: Thames, Teviot, Jane Symons. For Colombo and Cochin: John Bunyan. For Colombo and Trincomalee: Charlotte Ann. For Galle, Beypore, Calicut, and Mangalore: Atalanta.

At Liverpool.—For Yokahama: Eliza Hands. For Shanghai: Lockett. For Singapore: Carn Tual. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Bulgersteyn. For Batavia and Singapore: Braganza. For Manila: Aureliana, San Luis.

At Glasgow.—For Manila: Adolphe.

SPOKEN.

Adriana Petronella, Cardiff to Manila, July 9 (?), 2 N. (?), 25 W.
Ladye Love (ship), London to Hong, July 17, 49 N., 8 W.
Bintang, Liverpool to Singapore, June 4, 22 S., 26 W.
Petronella (Dut. barq.), N'castle to Bat., June 10, lat. 14, lon. 34 W.
Foam (ship), for Singapore, July 20, 54 N., 12 W.
Batavia, Shields to Batavia, June 19, 7 N., 26 W.
Langdale, Cardiff to Manila, June 23, 7 N., 25 W.
Nyverheid, Shields to Batavia, July 19, 50 N., 2 W.
Jacob (Dut. barq.), Batavia to Rotterdam, May 24, 35 S., 25 E.
Tynedale, Sunderland to Hong Kong, June 22, 7 N., 23 W.
Mathilda (Hamb. brig), for Shanghai, July 22.
Avon, London to Ceylon, June 24, 6 N., 25 W.
Pauline Constance Eleonore, Amstm. to Pdng. June 12, 6 N., 25 W.
Doelwyk, Rottm. to Batavia, July 23, near Ushant.
Ravenscraig, L'pool to Shanghai, July 28, 49 N., 10 W.
Samuel Russell, New York to Hong Kong, April 20, 16 S., 32 W.
Resolute, Shanghai to New York, June 17, 21 S., 2 W.
British Crown, Singapore to London, June 8, 34 S., 28 E.
Elizabeth, Newcastle to Batavia, June 19, 10 N., 25 W.
Corsair's Bride, Colombo to London, June 11, 35 S., 17 E.
Solid (Swed. barq.), Padang to Amsterdam, June 16, 29 S., 10 E.
Elshout, Amsterdam to Batavia, June 29, 2 S., 23 W.
Wild Rover, from Shanghai, May 30, 35 S., 24 E.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

During the early part of last week there was a good demand for ships for China, and rates accordingly advanced; since then, however, ships have been freely offered, and rates are now easier. Our advices, homewards, report no change in homeward charters.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth :—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 35s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows :—For Hong Kong: £43 and £2. For Shanghai: £53 and £2. 12s. 6d. For Manila: £1. 17s. 6d. For Batavia: 24s. to 26s. For Singapore: £30 and £1. 10s. For Galle: £30 and £1. 7s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty having invited tenders for the conveyance of 746 hhds. porter, 48 tons naval stores, including a few combustibles from the River Thames to Hong Kong, have accepted the Crest of the Wave for that purpose.

CASUALTIES.

The Malay, Hutchinson, which arrived at New York on July 17 from Manilla, was struck by heavy seas during the gale of the 17th and 18th of May off the Cape of Good Hope, carrying away the head and staving the main stem, causing the ship to leak.

The Avon, from London for Ceylon, was spoken with on the 24th of June, in lat. 6 N. 25 W., with loss of main topgallant mast, and her topmast head sprung.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At St. Helena.—June 17, from Colombo for London, Raleigh; 23, from Colombo, Regia, Davis, and sailed, 24, for London; from Batavia, Dordrecht, Loos, and sailed for Rotterdam; 24, from Colombo, Harkaway, Irvin, and sailed for London; from Singapore, British Crown, Smith, and sailed for London; 25, from Sourabaya, Henriette Elisabeth Suzanne, Meyboom; from Banjoewangie, Marinus Willem, Buyser.

At Mauritius.—June 17, from Singapore, Surcouf, Crassen; 25, from Penang, Joseph Bushby, Davies; 28, Ilion, Blomberg; 30, from Singapore, Kensington, King; July 3, from Macao, Annette (ss.), Jones, and left, 4, for London.

SHIP LAUNCHES.

Messrs. Robert Steele and Co. have recently launched from their East-end yard at Greenock a composite clipper ship, of about 850 tons, named the Sir Lancelot, for John M'Cunn, Esq., for the China trade. The ship was named by Miss Catherine Neill. Her dimensions are as follows:—Keel and forerake, 195 feet; breadth, 33 feet 9 inches; depth of hold, 21 feet.

On the 31st July there was launched from the building-yard of Randolphe, Elder, and Co., on the Clyde, a 1,000 ton composite screw-steamer, for the Netherlands India Steam Navigation Company. This is the third of a series in course of construction for the same company.

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THE AGRA and MASTERMAN'S BANK (Limited).

(Established in 1833.)

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up Capital £1,500,000 (one million and a-half sterling).

Subscribed Capital, £3,000,000 (three millions sterling).

In 20,000 Shares of £100 each, and 20,000 Shares of £50 each.

Number of Shareholders, 908.

Reserved Fund, £500,000.

HEAD OFFICE.

Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

GEORGE GORDON MACPHERSON, Esq., Chairman.
Alderman THOMAS QUESTED FINNIS, Deputy Chairman.

GENERAL MANAGER.
Mackintosh Balfour, Esq.

LONDON MANAGER.
William Shipman, Esq.

ASSISTANT MANAGER.
T. F. Robinson, Esq.

INSPECTOR OF BRANCHES.
Richard Barnes, Esq.

AUDITORS.
J. H. Williams, Esq., and William Farr, Esq., F.R.S.

SOLICITORS.
Messrs. Uptons, Johnson, and Upton, 20, Austinfriars.

EDINBURGH BRANCH.
17, St. Andrew-square.

DIRECTORS.

THOMAS RANKIN, Esq., 68, Queen-street, Chairman.
Daniel Ainslie, Esq., 48, Moray-place.
Benjamin Burt, Esq., M.D., 31, Charlotte-square.
George Moir, Esq., Advocate, Sheriff of Stirlingshire, 14, Charlotte-square.

MANAGER.

Robert Hunter, Esq

Branches in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kurrachee, Agra, Lahore, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Sydney, Melbourne.

Current accounts of firms and individuals are kept at the head office, on the terms customary with London bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received at seven days' notice of withdrawal at rates fluctuating with those of the Bank of England; and for longer periods at fixed rates, particulars of which may be obtained upon application.

Sales and purchases effected in British and foreign securities, in East India stock and loans, and army, navy and civil pay and pensions realised.

Every other description of banking business and money agency, at home and abroad, transacted.

Letters of credit and circular notes issued, payable at the chief cities of Europe and Asia, and also at Cairo and Alexandria.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England.

The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)

Branches and Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo Kandy, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Point de Galle, Manila, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow, Nagasaki, and Kiu-kiang.

Deposits received at ten days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed period, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued and Bills negotiated payable in India China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government loan notes effected so that the interest may be paid in England. Every other description of Banking and Agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager

PORT OF AMOY.

SHIPOWNERS, AGENTS and COMMANDERS are informed that the Dock Company's Establishment at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING and SPARRING VESSELS, and for CLEANING and PAINTING Iron and Steam Ships.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, is in complete working order, and at average spring tides can take vessels drawing 16 to 17 feet water. The Dock is fitted with a Caisson Gate and with a Centrifugal Steam Pump of great power ensuring despatch in all states of the tide. An ample stock is kept on hand of Timber, Oregon Spars, Sheathing Copper and Yellow Metal, and of every description of material for Dockyard use.

The premises comprise an Engineer's Workshop, Brass Foundry, a large Smithy and Carpenter's Workshops, and the works are superintended by Resident Europeans, viz.: a Shipwright, an Engineer, and a Blacksmith. Dry Godowns for the reception of vessel's stores, &c., when requiring to discharge them.

Amoy, March, 1865.

HONG KONG and SHANGHAI BANKING COMPANY (Limited).

CAPITAL, $5,000,000.

HALF ALREADY PAID-UP.

HEAD OFFICE—HONG KONG.

V. KRESSER, Manager.

Has at present Agencies and Branches at—

Shanghai.	Calcutta.
Singapore.	Bombay, and
Manila.	London.

LONDON OFFICE—25, OLD BROAD-STREET.

W. H. VACHER, Agent.

ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.—

Incorporated by Royal Charter. Authorised Capital, £2,000,000. Paid-up Capital, £500,000.

Head Office—No. 4, Lombard-street.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Melbourne.

The Corporation grant drafts and negotiate bills of exchange payable at the above places, issue letters of credit, and conduct every description of banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian securities, the receipt of dividends, &c. and undertake the safe custody of securities. They also receive deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of interest and exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

THE UNDERSIGNED LICENSED PILOTS,

FOR THE

PORT OF SHANGHAI, CHINA,

BEG to inform SHIPMASTERS that their Schooners DANIEL WEBSTER and A. J. WESTEWELT will be found at the OUTSIDE PILOT STATION on the YANG-TZE-KEANG, with thoroughly qualified PILOTS on board. The schooners distinguishable by being painted white, and having the word Pilot on the mainsail.

To regular traders the undersigned are known to be among the oldest and best Pilots on the River:—

DANIEL MARTIN.	JOSEPH SHERMAN.
ALEXANDER SMITH.	JOSEPH CARGILL.
JOHN COATES.	JOHN KURSH.
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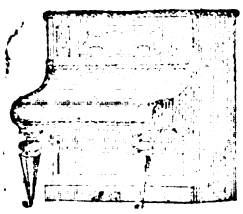

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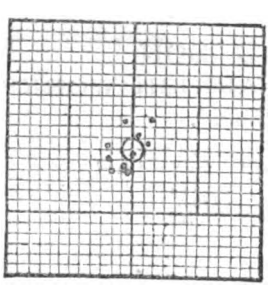

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Gibraltar.....	W. SPEED.
Malta	G. MUIR.
Alexandria.....	F. HAY.
Aden	COWASJEE DINSHAW.
Suez.....	W. H. STONE.
Bombay	CHESSON AND WOODHALL.
Calcutta.....	SANDERS, CONES, AND CO.
Point de Galle	G. D. ANTHANISZ.
Colombo.....	MR. VANDORT.
Kandy.....	W. A. ARCHBALD.
Labuan, Sarawak, and Singapore ...	JOHN LITTLE & Co., Singapore.
Penang	SANDILANDS, BUTTERY AND Co.
Bangkok.....	REMI SCHMIDT AND Co.
Batavia	HUNTER, HOUGHTON, AND Co.
Anjer—Straits of Sunda	G. SCHUIT, Anjer Hotel.
Manila	PHILLIPS, MOORE, AND Co.
Hong Kong, Canton, Macao, & Swatow,	JAMES GARDINER, Hong Kong.
Amoy	BELLAMY AND Co.
Foo-Chow-Foo	HEDGE AND Co.
Shanghai.....	H. FOGG AND Co.
Tien-Tsin	JAMES HENDERSON.
Nagasaki—Japan ...	PIGNATEL AND Co.
Yokohoma	A. W. HANSARD.

OFFICE, 12, GEORGE-YARD, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 182.] LONDON, TUESDAY, AUG. 15, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	April 10	June 3	June 14
Nagasaki	"	"	" 14
Hakodadi			" 5
CHINA—Peking			" 7
Tien-tsin			" 12
Chefoo			" 2
New-chwang			
Hankow			" 15
Kiu-kiang			" 16
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	April 26	June 12	" 22
Ningpo			" 17
Foo-Chow			
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			" 26
Swatow			
Hong Kong	May 17	" 27	" 29
Canton			" 28
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	April 27		" 21
			July 2
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			
SIAM— Bangkok			June 30
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	May 26	" 29	July 7
Penang	" "	" 27	" 9

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, per P. and O. Co.'s steamer Massilia, arrived at Marseilles, Aug. 13.—From Shanghai: Mr. Cowdery and two second class passengers. From Hong Kong: Mr. Rogue and two second class passengers. From Singapore: Mr. Simlin and Europ. male servant.

To Southampton, per Ripon, expected to arrive Aug. 18.—From Shanghai: One second class passenger. From Hong Kong: Mrs. Moul, two children and Europ. servant, Mr. Gibb, Dr. Dods, and five second class passengers. To Suez.—From Swatow: Mr. Dircks. From Hong Kong: Mr. Hagetmark. From Singapore: Dr. Neale, Mr. Bannerman, Mr. Kniffler. To Gibraltar.—From Hong Kong: Two second class passengers.

By French mail steamer Imperatrice, arrived at Marseilles, Aug. 6.—From Shanghai: Mr. Saml. Wright, Mrs. M. Grey.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Mongolia, from Southampton, Aug. 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. H. P. M'Clatchie, Mr. M. O'Brien. To Hong Kong: Messrs. S. P. Courtney, L. Lucas, R. Purvis, J. B. Inglis, H. H. Jollye, Kellan, and Winch. Mrs. Tomlin, Mrs. Emilius Hughes, Mr. Rennie, Mr. and Mrs. Manning. To Penang: Miss Hindmarsh. To Ceylon: Mr. F. M. Evans, Mr. E. W. H. Holdsworth, Mr. John Wodehouse, Miss Williams, Mr. J. W. Watson. From Marseilles, Aug. 28.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. M'Lean. To Ceylon: Mr. D. B. Lindsay.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Sept. 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. W. Foster, Mr. W. Gaskell. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Fitzroy, Mrs. Black and child, Mr. Bloor, Mrs. G. Stanford and infant. To Singapore: Mr. H. Alabaster. From Marseilles, Sept. 12.—To Hong Kong: Rev. J. S. and Mrs. Burdon, Mr. and Mrs. Coxon. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Townend, Mr. R. J. Forrest, Mr. Herbert and friend. To Ceylon: Mr. J. F. Capelle, Mrs. Ballantyne. To Galle: Mr. W. Hudson. From Suez.—To Shanghai: Sir Rutherford and Lady Alcock and Miss Alcock.

THE INCOMING MAILS.

The next inward mail, bringing dates from Shanghai to the 5th, and Hong Kong to the 12th ultimo, is due in London on the 26th, but has not yet been telegraphed from Suez.

Telegrams received to-day bring dates down to 16th July from Shanghai, and 22nd July from Canton. At Shanghai both tea and silk are reported as active, and advancing. Export of silk to date, 14,625 bales; Exchange, 6s. 4d. At Canton, 4s. 5¼d. to 4s. 5½d.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Dates from this port are to the 14th June. The London mail of the 10th April arrived out on the 3rd June.

The Tycoon passed through Kanagawa on the 10th June. It had been notified by circular and by advertisement on that morning that application having been made to Yedo, permission had been granted for foreigners to witness the procession, and a spot appointed for that purpose. From 9 o'clock A.M., therefore, until 2 P.M., there was a continuous stream of foreigners from Yokohama to their appointed rendezvous. A great number had determined to make a regular pic-nic of it, and a better locality could hardly have been selected. It was on a small knoll under the shadow of fine umbrageous trees, and separated from the Tokaido by about half-a-stone's throw, at a spot where for a hundred and fifty yards there was a cessation of buildings, and consequently an uninterrupted view. The army of the Tycoon marches very differently to European armies. Armed retainers of Daimios walk along apparently without object, sometimes in twos and threes, and even sometimes singly, and appear to be only strollers along the road. The baggage is carried by coolies in the ordinary manner that private gentlemen have their personal baggage conveyed; but except that the stream was a little more continuous, it hardly indicated anything very much out of the common. At last, however, a clearing of the road, by order of the Vice-Governor of Kanagawa himself, who arrived on horseback, put everyone on the *qui vive*. The Vice-Governor then dismounting, remained there until all had passed. At ten minutes past two a distant beating of drums was heard, and shortly forth came the vanguard. Two drummers in front—the chief officer of the Infantry body-guard on horseback, following; then several small field howitzers, drawn by single led ponies. Then came a regiment of about 600 men, four deep, armed with Enfield rifles and bayonets. Their dress was a hybrid between Japanese and European. The trousers were of the latter cut, only loosely tied round the ankle, the rest of their costume being Japanese. They were in heavy marching order, with knapsacks, and each had drinking utensils, &c. They marched with the utmost regularity, and showed at least good drilling to that extent. They were followed by another regiment, preceded by about twenty drums. Their dress and arms were purely Japanese, and the variety of colour of their tunics made a very pleasing sight. The more immediate body-guard followed. First a large lacquered box containing the arms of the Tycoon. This box, as it passed, was kow-towed to by many of the officials. Then a cavalcade of about twenty horsemen, all high officials, amongst whom was the Tycoon. He was pointed out as a young man riding in the centre of the cavalcade, his surcoat buff colour, embroided with gold, with a large crest on the back. The one circumstance that led to the belief that it was actually he, was the fact that the Vice-Governor kow-towed to him, bending his forehead to the very ground. This, to us, seemed confirmatory of the assertion of the Japanese Custom-house interpreters, who pointed him out at first. The procession, after the passage of the Tycoon, gradually became more straggling and less interesting, and all came to an end by about ten minutes to three.

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The *Japan Herald* states that a new embassy is to be dispatched to Europe, not so much for political purposes, as for the purchase of European arms, engines, and many other things of which the Tycoon's Government feels, at this time, a more particular want. Our contemporary expresses the hope that this measure will not trespass upon the dominions of the commercial world, and continues:—"If we have dwelt at length on this subject, it is because it seems that certain commercial transactions have been and are to be made, in quarters to which such transactions do not belong. We have a right to take both the facts and the rumours into consideration, for we know that, whereas one Foreign Minister thought himself authorised to order ships for the Japanese Government, and has by this diminished the profits his countrymen ought to have made, another functionary has not hesitated to buy, in his official capacity, and therefore, under particularly favourable circumstances, Japanese produce, and to send it to a market in Europe, where the merchandise thus cheaply imported created considerable disturbance. He did this openly and frankly, and we are perfectly aware that he thought to do well for his Government and countrymen, but he was mistaken. Similar transactions, under whatever circumstances, would always have similar inconveniences, and, in order to avoid them, it would be well if everyone would keep to the position in which he has been placed: let merchants do their legitimate mercantile business, and let Ministers look after and protect the interests of their Government and of their compatriots."

Mr. Flowers, Acting British Consul, has circulated, for the information of the British community resident at Yokohama, the accompanying copy of notification, issued by the Governor of Kanagawa, upon the subject of business transactions in native and foreign coin:—

"There is nothing to prevent paying, or receiving payment, for articles of merchandise in either foreign or native coin. It has come to our ears, however, that of late some have refused to accept Ichibus, and that Dollars also are supposed by them not to be current. There is not the slightest foundation for these ideas. It is therefore notified that payments for articles of merchandise may be freely made and received in either foreign or native coin. "Custom House.

"5th Month (June 1865).

"To Yokohama Machi, and Ota Machi.

"Translated by Ernest Satow."

The Municipal Committee is rapidly organising a system of local government, and have chosen Mr. R. Schoyer for their chairman. Mr. Rickerby has volunteered to fill the office of Honorary Secretary. Police, Sanitary, and Finance Committees have also been appointed; and a Committee "to inform the Consuls of the organisation of the Council, as well as that the Finance Committee has power to receive funds from their hands, and moreover to ascertain the amount of funds at the disposal of the Municipal board." This Committee had obtained from the Consuls a written document defining the powers delegated to the Municipality. The filling in of the Swamp was to commence in a few days. The contract had been declared by the Governor of Kanagawa to be taken, and a promise had been given that there should be no further delay.

The committee appointed at the general meeting of the United Yokohama Club had presented their report, unanimously advising the members to "purchase the lot No. 76 in the main street at a price not exceeding $42,000. They further recommend that the requisite funds be raised by loan and debentures—not by shares. That a debenture list be immediately opened, and, after raising as much as possible in that manner, the remainder (not half it is anticipated) can be raised by loan at 12 per cent. They propose the following scheme for debentures:—That they should be of the value of $100 each, transferable—payable in five years, or redeemable before that time at the option of the Finance Committee. That they should bear interest at 9 per cent., and receive besides a bonus of one-eighth of the surplus annual profits of the club; five-eighths thereof being reserved for a sinking fund, and two-eighths for improvements and repairs to the house."

An impudent robbery was effected on the evening of the 29th May at the Hotel des Colonies, during dinner time, when all in the house were more or less engaged. The windows of the lower floor are built pretty high from the ground, but the fence at the side of the house is so constructed, and in such a position, as to make a good ladder for any one with a turn for burglary, being within about eighteen inches of the wall of the house, and exactly even with the windows. Using the fence, then, as a ladder, the thief entered the room, immediately adjoining the *salle á manger*, and taking a portmanteau, made his escape with it. On discovery of the robbery, at a later hour, a search was made outside for any trace of the robber, when one of the gentlemen living in the house found the portmanteau lying in the gutter opposite, its locks broken, and everything that was valuable extracted. It is said that the loss amounts to nearly eight hundred dollars. The Japanese night-guard were appealed to, and made a close and strict examination, but, of course, without receiving any clue, they could do nothing. The garden of the Rev. Mr. Bailey had been plundered of a quantity of scarlet geranium plants—not so insignificant a spoil as might be supposed, as it seems the Japanese gardeners have none such.

The half-yearly inspection of the 20th Foot by Major-General Guy, commanding the forces in China and Japan, commenced on the 6th of June. On the 8th, there was a final inspection of the men on parade in heavy marching order. The men formed into a hollow square—the Commander-in-chief and officers of the Staff and of the Regiment in the centre—when the General addressed them, praising the general appearance, condition and discipline of the regiment, and saying that it would be a pleasing duty to report favourably of their condition to his Royal Highness Commanding-in-chief H.B.M.'s forces at home. He took occasion to allude to the too prevalent affection for ardent spirits, and urged them strongly to avoid them as inimical to their interests—both as soldiers and as men. The French man-of-war troop-ship *Sarthe*, Capt. Galey, on entering the bay on the evening of the 4th June, unfortunately grounded on the bank (mud and sand), which is rapidly extending off Treaty Point. Capt. Luard, of H.M.S. *Conqueror*, and senior officer, immediately sent a boat offering assistance, which having been accepted, a launch with stream cable and anchor was sent, in charge of Lieut. Price, Mr. Solfleet (Master) accompanying, to render advice and assistance in getting her off and to navigate her to the anchorage. The result was, a little before two A.M., the ship was safely moored three cables' length from the *Conqueror* in six fathoms. More than a dozen vessels have grounded on this bank in little more than a year.

A melancholy accident occurred on board the *Conqueror*, on the 30th of May, resulting in the death of Thomas Turner, a seaman, who fell from the mizen topsail-yard, and striking against the mizen-rigging and chains broke his neck, arm, and collar-bone. The body was recovered some two hours after the accident.

A cricket-match, Garrison *v.* Civilians, played on the Royal Marine Parade Ground, terminated in favour of the former, the score being 132 against 105.

Messrs. Coare, Lind, and Co. give notice, under date June 1, that they have established themselves at Yokohama as public silk and tea inspectors and general commission agents.—Mr. Charles Rickerby notifies, under date May 29, that he has established himself as bill-broker and general commission agent.—Mr. Samuel Clifton notifies, under date May 26, that Mr. Alexander McKechnie "ceases to sign my name per procuration from this date;" and under May 29, that Mr. A. M. Dick is authorised to do so from that date.

Public notice, dated May 31, is given by the U.S. Consul, that T. J. Rumebe, a naturalised citizen of the United States, has filed his petition in bankruptcy in the Consular jurisdiction.

NAGASAKI.

On the 11th June a two-sworded official took up a position outside the Royal Hotel and commenced making a disturbance by shouting, and jostling the passers-by. A mulatto named William Henry, a British subject, who keeps the bar at the "Royal," went out to see what was going on. As soon as he got into the street the Japanese officer ran towards him, and at the same moment he received a sword-cut on his head which penetrated his skull, and extended for a length of seven inches. Two Chinese who were standing near were next attacked, one being cut down by a wound on the right shoulder, the other by a severe blow across the face. Having done this much, the Yaconin "ran amok" along the street with his sword drawn, cutting at every Chinaman and European he chanced to encounter. Luckily he did not wound any foreigner, but he cut down two of Messrs. Alt and Co.'s Chinese tea-firers, and another Chinese who was employed on board the steamer *Australian*. The injured men were at once taken on board the *Barossa*, where every attention was paid them by Doctors Head and Hollingworth. On the following day they were removed to the Hospital. The Chinaman belonging to the *Australian* is, it is feared, mortally wounded, and Henry is also in a very critical state, but the others are doing well. When the second

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wounded man was brought on board the *Barossa*, Captain Boys, thinking that a general massacre was contemplated, sent an armed boat to the pier, and landed a picket of marines. The latter after having patrolled the settlement, and communicated with H.B.M.'s Consul, retired to the ship.

There were no less than eleven Japanese steamers in port, and all for repairs. Itzibus were at 260 per $100, and dollars still very scarce.

HAKODADI.

On the 8th of May the British Consul, Captain Vyse, and Mr. Howard, Messrs. Dent and Co.'s agent, were taking their after-dinner walk, when they were recalled by the servants of the latter to his premises, with a statement, that they had been violently entered by four Yaconins supposed to belong to the Prince of Aydsoo, who was one of the guardians of Hakodadi. On returning these gentlemen found the Yaconins engaged in tying-up one of the Japanese servants who had tried to obstruct their entrance. The Consul and Mr. Howard, who had provided themselves with their revolvers, at once proceeded to the rescue of the servant. Three of the Yaconins immediately fled, but the fourth was secured after a severe struggle, during which he drew his sword. Fortunately the Yaconin was the only one who received injury, as in the taking of the sword from him it received such a direction as slightly to wound him. The ruffian was immediately handed over to the Japanese police. This incident, in conjunction with the murder of the sailor, reported in the last *London and China Telegraph*, would not be of so grave a character, were it not for the supineness of the Japanese police. It appears that the Governor no longer resides at Hakodadi, but at the fort of Kamaida: consequently, while he is away, the Vice-Governors prefer their ease to the active discharge of their duties. Another, a very regrettable circumstance, is the report that during a visit of the Japanese officers to Mr. Howard's premises on the following day, the three unarrested Yaconins were allowed to penetrate with the other retainers into the court-yard. At the time the news left Hakodadi the result of the investigation made was not known. We are therefore unable to give any information as to what were the objects of the ruffians in entering Mr. Howard's premises—whether it was an insolent freak, or a quarrel with the servants of the house, or an intention to attack the foreign inmates. A meeting was held of the different Consuls, who addressed a communication to the Russian Consul, Mr. Goscavitch and the Commander of the Russian corvette lying there, requesting them, as connected with the only naval force available, to assist them in necessary measures for general protection. Capt. Vyse wrote at once for British Naval assistance.

The French man-of-war steamer *Dupleix* had since visited Hakodadi from Yokohama, and returned to the latter port, with advices that affairs were perfectly quiet. The Russian men-of-war *Bogatyr* and *Varaig*, the former conveying the Admiral, had left, it was supposed to visit the several ports on the coast of Manchouri. Hopes are expressed that on the arrival of Admiral King measures will be taken to induce him to station a ship of war permanently at Hakodadi. The place, it is said, is rising into importance, and it would be a great misfortune that its commenced developments should be arrested from the want of naval protection.

CHINA.

PEKING.

Native advices from Peking announce the startling intelligence that the Nien-tei have penetrated into the Chi-li province, and now hold a position not more then ten miles distant from the important city of Pao-ting-fu, situated about one hundred miles to the south-west of the capital. They are commanded by Miao Tienching, a son of the famous Miao Peiling. The Government has for some time anticipated this irruption into the neighbourhood of the court. Directions were sent down to the Keangsu authorities to transport all the disciplined troops in the province to the assistance of the northern army, and accordingly four steamers (the *Fenella*, *Gleugyle*, *Viola* and *Fusiyama*) have been chartered to convey the Sungkong and Fung-wang-shan garrisons to Tientsin at $5.50 Mex. per head. Two sailing vessels have likewise been taken up at $2.50 Mex. per head. The number of troops to be transported to the north amounts to seven thousand men of all arms. In view of this critical state of things and of the renown which Li Hung-chang has already gained, a report has obtained credence to the effect that he lately memorialised the Throne, representing that so important a post as Nanking should not now be allowed to lose the presence of Tseng-Kuo-fan, and offering to go in person to assume supreme charge in Shantung. A letter dated 10th June states that the authorities in Peking had in their tribulation applied to Her Majesty's Minister for the services of a British military officer from the Taku forts, and it was believed that the commanding officer of the small detachment stationed there would leave immediately to join the Imperialist forces.

TIENTSIN.

The following is from the North China and Japan Market report:—We have received advices from Tientsin, which inform us that the Commissioner of Customs at that port and an officer in the Purveyor's department of the English army, now on leave, have started for the scene of operations against the Nien-fei. Rumour asserts that Mr. Menzies, the officer alluded to, has been sent to this country as the bearer of a sword of state for Prince Kung, and has also been entrusted with a semi-diplomatic mission, the particulars of which are, however, unknown to the English civil authorities here and in Peking. Our information as to the nature of Mr. Menzie's duties in China are based on his own statements, but for which fact we should be disposed to doubt the probability of an officer in his department being selected for a mission of the kind. The circumstance appears still more extraordinary when it is remembered that a positive denial was given some short time since in the House of Commons to the assertion that English officers were still at liberty to take service under the Imperial Government of China. Of course if Mr. Menzies has obtained any post in the Chinese army now operating against the Nien-fui in the north, he must possess the direct sanction of the Government which despatched him hither for a specific purpose.

SHANTUNG.

From this port we learn some interesting particulars regarding the death of San-ko-lin-sin. He lost his life by a gingal-ball while gallantly leading on his cavalry against a strong body of Nien-fei encamped outside the city of Chi-ning-chow. Wu Tang Peng Yu-ling and Huang Yi-sheng, the high officials attached to the army in Shantung, have been subjected to unlimited abuse by the Peking Government for the neglect they displayed in not securing his dead body. It appears that after the engagement in which he lost his life the field was left in the possession of the Nien-fei, who captured his body, and cut it into minute pieces. At the same time a general named Cheng Kuo-shui, who had formerly held an important post in the Nien-fei army, but who had subsequently changed sides, and been rewarded by the rank of Ti-t'u, in the province of Chekiang, was also killed. The rebels are pushing rapidly onwards, and have now succeeded in capturing the city of Tsao-chou-fu, close to the coast of Shantung. They meet with more frequent reverses than befell the Taipings, but their progress is steady, although slow.

SHANGHAI.

From this port we have advices to the 22nd June. The English mail of the 26th April arrived on the 12th June; and by the *Oriflamme*, on the 18th June, telegraphic advices to May 13th had been received. Sir Harry Parkes was to leave for Yokohama in H.M.S. *Leopard* about the 24th of June, and the arrival of Dr. Winchester to succeed him as shortly expected. A "Society for the Relief of Distressed Foreigners" had been formed among the residents, and was expected to receive ample support, and to prove very useful.

HANKOW.

The news derived from native sources indicates an alarming state of things in the neighbourhood. The men in the Imperial garrison continue discontented, and a few days since five more camps mutinied, so that out of the fourteen camps which General Pao Chao is supposed to have under his command, only two own allegiance to the Government. The remaining twelve have departed on a predatory excursion into the Anhuei province.

HONG KONG.

Dates are to the 29th June. The Marseilles mail of 19th May had arrived, per *Tigre*, on the 27th June, by which vessel telegrams from London, up to the 1st June, were also received. There was no news of importance, either political or social, and trade generally was dull.

SIAM.

BANGKOK.

The question as to the ability of the Siamese Government

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to suppress publications is still under discussion (states the *Siam Times* of the 29th June). If the treaties are of any force, they have not, for if one branch of business can be suppressed by them, so can every other.

H.B.M. steamer *Princess Royal* arrived at the anchorage off the bar on the 8th June. The Siamese Government had kindly placed two steamers, the *Imperatrice* and *Rapidity*, at the disposal of H.B.M. Consul, which went out the day previous to await her arrival, and to bring up the Admiral and such officers and men as he might designate. Admiral King and several of his officers took the *Imperatrice*, and landed at H.B.M. Consulate early on the afternoon of the 9th. Other officers, with the band and a detachment of marines, took the *Rapidity* and arrived up at the British Consulate about 6 P.M. Both steamers brought up about eighty in all. Early calls were made by the Admiral and Consul, in company with his officers, on the principal Siamese Government officials, which were received and returned in a most cordial and friendly manner. On Tuesday, the 13th, the Admiral, Consul, and officers had a grand audience with his His Majesty the First King at the Royal Palace, followed with a sumptuous dinner. Late in the evening, a part of the officers and men went on board a steamer to return to the *Princess Royal* outside the bar, and to bring up another set to enjoy a change, and accompany the Admiral and Consul to an audience and entertainment with His Majesty the Second King on the 15th inst.

The visit of H.B.M. steamer *Princess Royal* to this port (remarks the *Siam Times*) was one of those events which leaves a very pleasing recollection. The admiral and his officers were nobly entertained, and enjoyed the visit very much. Among the entertainments none, aside from the one given by the King, were so well got up as that of his Excellency the Prime Minister. At this dinner, after the usual loyal and complimentary toasts were drunk, his Excellency, the Admiral, and H.B.M. Consul made speeches. This is a new feature in Siamese entertainments, which we hope will be kept up in future. On completing their stay up to the city, they were again furnished with steamers to take them out on board the *Princess Royal*. A party of merchants and some others made a visit to the steamer on Friday last, and were entertained with target shooting, and many exercises connected with war vessels. The Prime Minister and many of the Siamese nobles also availed themselves of the opportunity to visit the *Princess Royal* while lying off the bar. His Excellency was among the last visitors, and after giving him a grand reception and entertainment, the *Princess Royal* sailed on the 18th June for Hong Kong.

On the 9th June, about half-past four P.M., in crossing the Bar in the steamer *Rapidity* with Admiral King and a great number of officers on board on their way up to Bangkok, a boat having a sail up was suddenly seen to disappear. Captain Bush, the harbour-master, reported it to the Admiral and requested permission to return and rescue the men. The steamer was accordingly turned, and succeeded in rescuing the entire crew of the boat, which consisted of five Siamese, and one Englishman of the name of Russell, in the employ of Captain Major. The boat was found to be the Post-boat returning from the shipping outside to Packnam. The poor fellows were very much exhausted by the waves washing over them. After the men were brought on board the steamer, the Admiral and officers contributed about eighteen dollars, and divided it among the boat's crew for saving Mr. Russell, who could not swim, and must have been drowned had not the Siamese boatmen held on to him in the manner they did. The Admiral highly complimented Captain Bush, the harbour-master, for the gallant manner in which he placed the steamer alongside the drowning men in such a heavy sea.

Mr. Newbrunner, who has been up north into the teak provinces, returned to Bangkok a few days ago. There is no want of timber, but the great difficulty is to get reliable natives to work the forests and raft the logs down on European account. Mr. Newbrunner brings the sad news of the death of Mr. Penfold, who accompanied him to the teak forests. Mr. Penfold, before engaging in his recent forest labours, was in the employ of some of the merchants of Maulmain, where he leaves a wife and five or six children. We hear that Mr. Spencer is about going up to the teak forests to attend to the rafting down of a quantity of timber. If reports are true, there is a very large number of logs waiting the rains to fill the streams, so as to enable their owners to float them down. Teak timber has been so scarce for a year past that it is hoped a large amount will arrive this year.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are to the 7th July. The London mail of the 26th May arrived out on the 29th June.

The *Corea*, which has been reported so often in the telegrams from China as "missing," arrived at Singapore on the 2nd July. The delay on her voyage was, no doubt, occasioned by her having been engaged, in Table Bay, to carry the mails and passengers to the Mauritius, that would, in the ordinary course of things, have been conveyed by the Union Company's steamer *Athens*, unfortunately lost there in the hurricane of May last.

The *Free Press* trusts "the complication of affairs in Perak will lead to the Rajah appealing to our Government for assistance; we could scarcely interfere without. There is not the slightest doubt that the natives would hail our arrival with pleasure. For several years a civil war has devastated the kingdom, and since the rule of the present sovereign has been established, his efforts to restore order have been fruitless. Would not this be a favourable opportunity for us to offer to purchase the country? It would be a valuable acquisition to this settlement, and we fancy the Royal family of Perak would be delighted to get rid of it at any price."

The prisoner Sallay, committed for trial for the *amok* on board the *Salida*, has been sent to the Police Hospital to be under the surveillance of Dr. Ferguson for a short time, in order that the doctor may be enabled to make observations with reference to his sanity.

The French steamer *Echo* is still lying in the spot and position in which she struck. She is on the reef amidship, astern upon the sand, and under her bows she has a large draft of water. She belongs to the French Government, and a French ship of war is lying alongside of her awaiting the instructions of the Imperial Minister of Marine as to her final disposal.

The Master Attendant has verified the position of the rock called Congalton's Car.

The swindler who was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment in the House of Correction, for imposition upon the various Chinese Sampan traders, is now undergoing his sentence. He has been conducting his business in a manner so scientific as to do credit to an accomplished London impostor. He had two or three letters bearing all the impress of official documents stamped &c., &c., &c. In addition to these he had three or four medallions inscribed with his authority in two or three Eastern languages.

A Tringanu prahu lying off Beach Road was visited by two Malays, who made arrangements with the captain for a passage to Tringanu, after which they went ashore, but returned with two companions, and three out of the four remained on board all night. They went ashore the next morning, returning with the fourth companion. This time, however, they brought a fowl with them, which they immediately made into a curry, inviting the crew (amounting in all to eleven persons) to partake of the treat. The crew now recollect, although they did not notice it at the time, that the four visitors confined themselves to rice, and did not touch the curry. About three o'clock on Saturday morning, as the Water Police were going their rounds, they heard a noise on board this prahu, and upon making their way towards it, they found sarongs and handkerchiefs, lying in a small boat astern of the prahu, and in the water. The tindal in charge of the police boat endeavoured to rouse the people he found on board, but they appeared perfectly stupefied, apparently by some drug. The noisy men had by this time escaped. They reported the case immediately to head Inspector Hayward, who, after a little consideration of the matter, concluded that these miscreants had taken up their quarters in a certain locality with which he was acquainted. The Inspector's suspicions were well-founded, and in an empty house in Clyde-terrace, which was locked on the outside, with a padlock, he arrested two of the gentry. Mr. Hayward next proceeded to another house in Johore-street, which was also empty, with the exception of some books, one of which he found, upon examination, to contain the recipe for making the drug—as well as a quantity of wet clothes. On board of a Malacca prahu the officer arrested another man, together with more of the stolen property.

We have been favoured (says the *Singapore Daily Times*) by Captain Thomas with the following account of a daring attack made by Chinese pirates on the *Formby*, and we trust that when Captain Thomas, who we hear is ill, recovers,

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he will give us further particulars; for when pirates make an attempt to take so large a ship as the *Formby*, it is time our Government should at least be put in possession of all the facts :—

Sir—The ship *Formby*, of Liverpool, on her late passage from Hong Kong, to Singapore was furiously attacked by fourteen piratical junks, heavily armed, and each manned with about fifty men, fifteen miles south of Cape Linhose, coast of Hainan, on 31st May. Some 50 shots were fired at the ship, some cutting through the plating at the water line, fortunately on the weather side. With great difficulty we succeeded in stopping the holes, the ship being iron. Their guns were loaded with all kinds of conceivable missiles, cutting and damaging the sails and rigging badly. Fortunately the breeze springing up we managed by outsailing them to make our escape, without any of the crew or officers being wounded.

Your obedient Servant,
CHARLES THOMAS.
Commander of Ship *Formby*.

Singapore, Juue 26th, 1865.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

COLLINS—On the 20th June, at Hong Kong, the wife of Henry Collins of a son.

POWER—On the 2nd June, at St. Andrew's-terrace, Victoria, Hong Kong, China, e wife of A. B. Le Poer Power, Esq., of a son.

ROESING—On the 26th June, at No. 9, Mosque Terrace, Hong Kong, Mrs. Adolphus Roesing, of a son.

SALABELLE—On June 9th, at Yokohama, the wife of X. Salabelle, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

DA SILVA—OUTEIRO.—On the 18th June, 1865, at the Roman Catholic parish church of St. Laurence, Macao, by the Rev. Vicar Pe Joze F. Lopes da Silva, Joaquim Peres Da Silva, Esq., of Macao, to Maria Delfina, the eldest daughter of the late Joze Maria do Outeiro, Esq., of Oporto.

GORDON—LACON.—On the 10th Aug., at St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, by the Rev. Clement Broughton, rector of Norbury, Derbyshire, assisted by the Hon. and Rev. Robert Liddell, Colonel Charles Henry Gordon, C.B. (late 93rd Highlanders), Highland Depot Battalion, Aberdeen to Georgina, eldest daughter of Sir Edmund H. K. Lacon, Bart., M.P., Ormesby House, Norfolk.

NICHOLSON—KEIGHTLEY.—On the 8th Aug., at the Chapel of the Charter House, by the Ven. Archdeacon Hale, assisted by Professor the Rev. John Woolley, D.C.L., ir Charles Nicholson, Bart., D.C.L., and LL.D., of No. 26, Devonshire-place, to Sarah Elizabeth, the eldest daughter of Archibald Keightley, Esq. No cards.

DEATHS

ANTHONY—On the 21st June, Eduard C. Anthony, Ship Chandler, Praya, aged 49 years.

CROCKETT—On the 11th June, on board the P. and O. steamer Emeu, in Bombay Harbour, O. R. Crockett, Esq., of Shanghai, aged 29.

KOONEY—On the 23rd June, at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, Michael Kooney Private 2nd Battalion 11th Regiment

LEWIN—On the 10th Aug., at Tynwald Lodge, Springfield-road, St. John's-wood, Margaret Alexandra, youngest infant twin daughter of D. Duncan and S. Ida Lewin, aged 43 days.

LOCKHART—On the 1st Aug., at The Firs, Innerleithen, Peeblesshire, Margaret Macadam, wife of James Lockhart, Esq., Engineer, late of Shanghai, deeply regretted.

PENFOLD—On the 9th June, at Raheng, on his way from Lumpong, to Bangkok, of dysentery, William Penfold, Esq., of Maulmain.

ROBERTS—On the 11th June, at Pootung, Robert Roberts, aged, 23.

SEDGWICK—On the 24th May, at Foo-Chow-Foo, very suddenly, Thomas Sedgwick, Esq., aged 32.

SHORT—On the 23rd June, on board the ship *Zemindar*, Alfred Arthur, son of Captain Short, aged 1 year and 11 months.

WALLACE—On the 22nd June, at St. Francis Hospital, Spring Gardens, Emma Amelia Wallace daughter of Sergeant Wallace, Commissariat Staff Corps, aged 2 years and 7 months.

WATT—On the 5th June, at Hong Kong, China, aged 25, John, second son of Mr. Robert Watt, of Sidney-road, Victoria-park, formerly of Glasgow.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: June 8, Invincible; 21, Wild Deer. From Liverpool: 8, Pegasus; 9, Fort George; 18, Red Deer; 21, Simoda. From Sunderland: 7, Forerunner. From Cardiff: 9, Egeria; 13, Amoy; 21, Hurricane. From Newcastle: 14, Martin. From Hamburg: 7, Hermann.

At AMOY.—From London: June 17, Merce.

At HONG KONG AND CANTON.—From London: June 27, Gazelle. From Liverpool: 22, Everest. From Sunderland: 15, Queen's Own; 27, Tavistock. From Harwich: 20, Diamond. From Plymouth: 21, Florence Braginton. From New York: 20, Powhattan.

At MANILLA.—From Liverpool: June 11, Peerless.

At SINGAPORE.—From Liverpool: Gyrn Castle, Vigil. From Sunderland: Thusnelda, Bengall. From Shields: Samson.

At PENANG.—None.

DEPARTURES.

From HANKOW.—For London: June 6, Eliza; 9, Silver Eagle.

From SHANGHAI.—For London, June 21, Mr. Melhuish. For New York, 8, Andrews; 9, Hesperia.

From FOOCHOW.—For London, June 3, Black Prince; 3, Better Will; 8, Min; 9, Young Lockinvar. For Liverpool (via Canton): Chalgrove.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: 14, Salva; 22, Northfleet. For Liverpool: 22, Chalgrove.

From MANILA.—For New York: June 14, Sumatra.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Hippolyta, Benelcuch. For Liverpool: Christopher Newton.

From PENANG.—For New York: July 6, Tritton.

LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Norfolk, Eleanor.

At HANKOW.—For London: Challenger, Isles of the South.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Highflyer, Ethopian, Norwood, Guinevere, Eliza Nicholson, Art Union, Gossamer, Ellen Rodger, Golden Spur, Hampton Court, John Lidget. For Liverpool: Woosung.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Lauderdale, Japanese, Dunmail, Wm. Mitchell, J. M. Joshua, Devena, Coral Nymph, Taiping.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Seawfell, Heroes of Alma, Salvia, Northfleet, Valdivia, Chrysolite, Aliendale.

At MANILA.—For London: Zealander.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Lord Raglan, Hastings. For Liverpool and Glasgow.—Scotland. For Bordeaux.—Java.

At PENANG.—For London: Edinburgh Castle, Shantung, Hanover Peter Rohland. For Boston: Rainbow.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

YOKOHAMA.—To London: Cotton and tea, £3 per ton; silk, £4. 10s.

HANKOW.—To London: £4. 10s. per ton.

SHANGHAI.—To U. K.: There is no settlement to report. A large number of fine vessels remain on the berth at £3 per ton.

FOO-CHOW.—To London: £2. 10s. to £3.

HONG KONG AND CANTON.—The circular of George Holmes gives the following settlements:—Allendale (439), to London via Whampoa, at £2 per ton. Castarica, 306 tons, Whampoa and Macao to Falmouth, f. o. either United Kingdom or the Continent, at £2. 10s. per ton. Roscote, 586 tons, from Java (two ports), to either United Kingdom or the Continent, at £3 per ton. Boy Bendixen, 366 tons, Macao to Hamburg, at £2 per ton. Benefactor, American bark, 672 tons, on the berth for New York.

MANILA.—There has been no settlements for the U. K. to report, but rates cannot be quoted at over £1. 10s. for sugar, and £2. 10s. to £2, 15s. per ton for hemp, as even at these low rates but a limited quantity of cargo could at present be secured. The "Apollo" (Bremen) has been taken up for New York at £1. 10s. for about 450 tons clayed sugar, and £2. 10s. per ton for hemp, to fill up.

SINGAPORE.—Shipping continues in a very depressed state, and great difficulty experienced in finding employment for vessels at the following reduced rates. To London £1 dead weight, and £1. 10s. light goods.

PENANG.—The vessels on the berth for shore are slowly filling up at £1. 2s. 6d. dead weight; £1. 10s. light freight; £1. 15s. measurement.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—June 20, Peterborough, London to Shanghai; Lammermuir, London to Japan; 21, Raphael, Liverpool to Japan; Hercules, Cardiff to Manila; Sales, Liverpool to Manila; Finzel, Liverpool to Shanghai; 22, Ville de St. So, Bordeaux to Saigow; 23, Camelia, Cardiff to Shanghai; Mena, Shields to Hong Kong; Bankside, Liverpool to Shanghai: Venco Camilla, Glasgow to China; 24, Muyhorm, Glasgow to Batavia; Cleveland, Shields to Yokohama; Herald, Sunderland to Hong Kong; Louisa Braquade, Cardiff to Japan.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—17, Samuel Russel, from New York to Hong Kong; 19, Enoch Train, New York to Batavia; 21, Marianna, New York to Hong Kong.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—12, Wm. Dixon, Singapore to Liverpool; 12, Civialo, Singapore to London; Melbourne, Singapore to Hamburg; 18, Molly; ditto, Ida, Singapore to Falmouth; 21, Fiery Cross and Senica, Foo-chow to London.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—The export from Foochow and Hankow proceeds apace, and from all appearance supplies are likely to be large.

CANTON.—During the fortnight the market has continued very quiet, the teamen remaining very firm, and buyers pressing for lower prices, which in the case of Scented Teas have resulted in a fall of say 2 to 3 taels, whilst Country Greens have advanced fully 2 taels. Country Greens: 4,500 half-chests have found buyers for the American market, but now, prices having advanced, the teamen find more difficulty in effecting sales, some 16,000 packages remain in stock, for which holders are firm. Scented Teas—Of both kinds have commanded moderate attention, but very few really fine parcels are to be met with now. Canton Greens have throughout the fortnight been entirely neglected. The following are the settlements of the fortnight:—Tayshan, new make 500 boxes; Scented Orange Pekoe, 8,000 boxes; Scented Caper, 13,000 boxes; Gunpowder, 3,000 boxes; Imperial, 2,000; Country Greens, 4,500½-chts. Say: Gunpowder, 30 to 48 tls.; Imperial, 27 to 45; Young Hyson, 19 to 42; Hyson, 22 to 30; do. Skin, 14 to 17. The stock of Country Green is 16,000 pkgs., of other sorts uncertain.

FOOCHOW.—Settlements of Congou have been on a reduced scale, and the supply of the fine grades, on which the demand has principally run, has almost come to an end. There have been no transactions in Souchong. Some fine parcels have arrived, for which 50 taels are talked about. Even the best chops are deficient in strength. The following are the settlements of the fortnight:—Congou, 14,766 chests, 18,652 half-chests, and 2,876 boxes, at 6 to 8 tls. for dust; 11½ to 17 tls for common to good common; 17 to 24¼ tls. for flavoury to good flavoury; 26 to 34 tls. for second-class Kaisows; 32 to 39 tls. for good to fine; and 40 tls. for finest. Oolongs: 3,200 half-chests at 17¾ to 18 tls. for common Congou; and 21 to 25 tls. for fair to good. Scented Teas: 8,300 boxes at 32 to 37¾ tls. for good to fine; and 42 to 43 tls. for wiry leaf. Stock on 20th June: Congou, 42,100 chests; Souchong, 17,000 chests; Pekoe, 600 chests; Oolong, 14,577 half-chests; Scented, 3,000 boxes.

NINGPO.—The first crops Pingsueys are expected here in about three weeks' time. Several foreign houses have their agents in the interior buying up the leaf, and rates have been steadily advancing. To enter into contracts for delivery in Shanghai, duty paid, of first quality tea the teamen are asking at present S.P. 33 tls. per picul. The quality of the leaf is said to be slightly inferior to that of last year's.

SHANGHAI.—Black: Several musters of new Oopack Congous have been placed on offer since the date of our last, but up to the present the market has not been opened. Holders are willing to sell at the equivalent of Hankow opening rates, but, notwithstanding the advance of four taels at that port, there are no buyers. All the finest chops have been shipped off, but our stock comprises some very good and fine Oopacks, which are getting scarce in Hankow. Two small parcels of flavoury Hohow Kaisow kind have been settled at taels 29¼ and 29¾, but these give no quotation for other kinds. Re-shipments of Hankow settlements have been 7,100 chests, and the unsold stock is estimated at 8,000 chests. Total shipments, (including Hankow settlements). From 1st June to date, 7,600 chests, against 21,400 chests

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last year. Green Teas: Only a small business has been done in these descriptions, the stock left offering no inducement to purchases, being chiefly composed of common and undesirable qualities. Settlements have been 3,200 half-chests at taels 17½ to 24 for common to good Fychow, and taels 30½ for one chop of good Moyune—prices showing no change on our last quotations. Re-shipments have only been 400 half-chests, and the stock is reduced to 6,100 packages. From the Ping-suey districts we learn that the new crop will be superior to that of last season, but supplies cannot arrive here under a month or six weeks from this date. Total shipments (including Kiukiang settlements) from 1st June to date, 3,600 half-chests; against 1,300 half-chests last year.

Hankow.—After the departure of last mail, buyers appeared less anxious to operate, and a reduction on opening rates was anticipated, which, however, has not been realised. Teamen remain firm in their prices, and a few eager buyers again entered the market paying extreme and extravagant rates. The news brought by the French mail of a reduction in duty, reached us on the 10th instant, which had the immediate effect of establishing a further advance of 3 to 4 taels. The teamen seem determined to support the advantage gained by barely feeding the market, although stocks in the country are known to be large. The quality of the new musters coming to market do not by any means improve. Settlements for the fortnight amount to 123 chops (including 13 contracts) making the total settlements to date 135 chops, and leaving a stock on the market of 15 chops. Quotations are:—Oopack, fine to finest, 30 to 36 taels; do. medium to fine, 24 to 26 taels; Oonams medium, 19 to 24 taels.

Kiukiang.—There are advices from this port to the 16th instant. Black Teas: The Hohow chop mentioned in last report was settled immediately with another to arrive at the extravagant prices of Tls. 25½ and 24½ respectively. One other chop had since come to hand and been shipped to Shanghai on native account. From Ningchow sufficient musters were not yet to hand to allow of a definite opinion of the quality of the crop to be found. Total settlements and shipments to date 1,581 packages against 1,293 packages at same date last year. Green Teas: The picking of the new crop was going on rapidly in the country, and leaf was being bought to lay down finest Moyunes at Tls. 26 to 27 in Kiukiang. First arrivals might be looked for about the end of August.

Yokohama.—During the past fortnight, but a very moderate business has been done in our tea market; the almost unprecedentedly flat state of the home market offering very slight inducement to foreign houses to invest. A few small parcels of new tea have been settled, of exceedingly good common to good medium kinds at $22 to $26. These teas come from inferior districts, close at hand, and show some slight improvement on last season's, both in liquor and in the manipulation of the leaf, though the latter is still very carelessly performed; the teas from more distant and superior districts are expected to arrive in a few days. Settlements amount to about 400 or 500 piculs, comprising about 180 piculs new tea. Stock on the market is about 3,600 piculs old and 200 piculs new tea. Quotations are as follows:—Good Common, $14.50 to 17.00; Medium, $19.00 to 21.00; Good Medium to Fine, $22.00 to 26.50: Finest, $30.00 to 36.00; New Tea $22.00 to 26.00.

Raw Silk.—The exports have been very large since the departure of last mail. The French mail, which left this on the 23rd, took from Shanghai 4,053 bales to Marseilles and Southampton. This opportunity carries about 2,900 bales similarly destined, shipped at Japan and Shanghai for conveyance by the P. and O. Co., and would have been much more had the Shanghai steamer been larger.

Shanghai.—The low rate of exchange ruling at the commencement of the mail, as well as the news of the prospect of peace in America, and less favourable reports of the European silk crop, have induced heavy transactions throughout the fortnight, but fully 2,000 bales of the present estimate of settlements were purchases made at the close of last mail, but too late to be included in last report. Prices advanced fully 25 to 30 tls. per picul, and were maintained until the departure of the French mail, notwithstanding the material rise in the rate of exchange; but the dealers are now more willing sellers, and are prepared to submit to a decline. The new silk is coming forward freely, and the reports of the second crop are so far satisfactory. The Tsatles, Yuenfas, and Hainings of this year may be considered about the same as last season's, but Taysaams are certainly inferior. The following are the latest quotations: Tsatlees, chops No. 1, 495 to 510 tls. per picul; do. No 2, 475 to 490 per picul; Saysaams, chops No. 1, 425 to 435 per picul; do. No. 2, 400 to 415 tls. per picul. Yuenfa, chops No. 1, 420 to 430 tls. per picul; do. No. 2, 400 to 420 tls. per picul.

Yokohama.—Since our last mail issue there has been a moderately active market resulting in settlements for the present steamer of about 700 bales, the principal part of which have been purchased since the Pekin's arrival with the 10th April advices; the news of the continued high prices ruling in London with the revival of demand and increased business may probably have induced the above operations, whilst on the other hand the low rate of exchange on London would make this mode of remitting funds appear favourable. There is a great scarcity of the finer descriptions of silk, most of the arrivals being composed of the medium and inferior sorts. Prices have been steady throughout, but for a few parcels of fine banks high rates have been paid. The unsold stock on the market may be estimated at about 800 bales, and arrivals continue on a fair scale—so much so as to lead to the belief that there is still some quantity of old crop to come forward. Quotations:—Ida, medium, $650 to 570; Mybash and Sinchu, best parcels offering, $680 to 700; medium, $650 to 670; inferior, $610 to 640; Oshio, best parcels, $650 to 660; medium, $600 to 630; Hatchogee, best, $540 to 550; Mashta, best, $580 to 590; Etchesan, best, $590 to 610; Koshu, best parcels, $590 to 610; Sodi, best, $590 to 610.

Drugs.—Canton.—Cassia Lignea: During the fortnight another 1,600 pls. have found buyers at advanced rates; $15.80 to 16 has been paid. The available stock on the market comprises about 2,000 pls., and is held at $16 to 16.25. The quality did not improve with later arrivals. Cassia Buds: The small stock of 40 pls. left on the market shows an interior quality; the new crop is expected in about six or eight weeks, when reasonable rates may be again looked for. Nominal quotations $49. China Galls: Having in view the cheaper sales at Macao, the present stock of 300 pls could probably be bought at $12.50. Vermilion is still quoted $37½ per box at 50 catties—nothing doing.

Camphor.—Hong Kong.—Of the stock on hand, as reported in last issue, 800 piculs have been sold at $20, 200 piculs at $20.50, and 100 piculs at $21 per picul, packed; and the demand not being so very active now, the market value must be considered about $20 per picul. A vessel, just arrived from Tamsui, has some camphor on board, but the exact quantity has as yet not been ascertained.

RAW COTTON.

Hong Kong.—An active demand has continued during the fortnight for local consumption, and large purchases have been made for the Canton market. Supplies from the Northern ports having been light, stocks are much reduced. The settlements of the fortnight amount to 10,000 bales at $23 to 24.50, which display an advance of $1.50 on last quotations. The stock is estimated at about 5,000 bales.

Canton.—The sales of the fortnight amount to 2,000 bags at 15 to 17½ taels for Shanghai, 16 to 18 taels for Ningpo, and 15 to 17 taels for Shantung.

Shanghai.—The stock is small and little if any business has been done for export to the South ports. The quotation for the best is nominal at 13½ to 14 taels.

CHINA IMPORTS.

Cotton Yarn.—This article again shows a very material decline in value as compared with the quotations current under date of 12th instant, and the few trifling sales which have to be noticed have been effected with extreme difficulty. The business of the fortnight is limited to 138 bales, the greater portion of which consist of Nos. 28 to 32, placed at $202 per bale; 18 bales have also been forced off at auction at very low prices. Grey Shirtings: These goods have commanded more attention at the hands of the dealers than the other staple articles of Cotton manufacture imported, and the settlements of the fortnight aggregate 11,500 pieces placed privately, and 6,000 pieces of mildewed and spotted clothes sold by public auction. Quotations $3.65 to 3.80 for 7lb. and $4.60 to 4.70 for 8lb. 4oz. White Shirtings: Have shared in the decline experienced by unbleached goods, and are in hardly any demand. Sales consist of 1,500 pieces, and 300 pieces, sold by auction. 64 to 66 reed. $4.20 to 4.40. T-Cloths: Do not show quite so heavy a fall in value as that experienced in the value of Grey Shirtings, but these goods are extremely difficult to move at present. Settlements are put at 6,380 pieces. Sales from Foochow of Cotton manufactures appear to be confined to 100 pieces of this quality of manufacture taken at $3.37 per piece for 7 lbs. goods. American Drills, Jeans, &c.: There are not any of these goods in the market. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed, do., Brocades, White and Coloured: There are not any settlements of these goods to report. Damasks: Do not meet with any inquiry. Chintzes: The transactions of the fortnight amount to 500 pieces. Handkerchiefs: Some 2,600 dozen have found buyers at about previous quotations.

Woollens.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: Have been in moderate request in this market at about the same rates as those current under date of last report, and the settlements effected during the fortnight amount to 690 pieces of Spanish Stripes and 65 pieces of Habit Cloths. Stripes, assorted, 80c. to $1 per yard. Long Ells: A large business as compared with previous advices has been transacted in this class of Woollen Goods, and the settlements reported amount to about 1,650 pieces; quotations, $8.80 to 9.20. Camlets: The amount of business transacted in these fabrics has been confined to sales of 380 pieces, and 110 pieces of sea damaged goods have also been moved off by public sale. Quotations, $21 to 24.50. Lastings: Sales are limited to 40 pieces at $17 to 19. Blankets: 651 pairs have found buyers since the date of last report, and from Foochow we hear of sales of 150 pairs of lbs. 9, at $5 per pair. There is not a single transaction reported from Canton in any description of foreign woollen manufactures.

Metals.—Iron, Flat, &c.: The inactivity noticed in the demand for all description of iron under date of last circular has continued throughout the fortnight which has since elapsed, and the sales effected in this colony do not exceed 1,200 piculs of Nail Rod, at $2.80 to 3.25. In Canton about 800 piculs of the same quality of iron have found buyers at $3.90 to 4.15. Lead: 160 piculs sold here, and 540 piculs placed in Foochow constitute the fortnight's transactions, at prices ranging from $5.50 to 5.85. Tin: 1,200 piculs have found buyers at $23. Tin Plates: 1,150 boxes sold, at $5.36 to 6.

NORTH CHINA BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

The thirteenth regular meeting of the above society was held in the reading-room of the Shanghai Library, on Wednesday, the 7th June.

Present.—Sir Harry S. Parkes, K.C.B., President, in the chair; G. F. Seward, Esq., Vice-President, Revs. C. H. Butcher and F. Mitchell, Doctors Lamprey, Robson, and Johnston, Messrs. Thorne, Oppert, Alabaster, Markham, Gribble, Brown, Kidner, Kingsmill, Noetzli, and others.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, and the candidates on the list for membership duly elected, the following gentlemen were proposed for election at the next meeting:—

As resident members:—

Proposed by Mr. Brown, seconded by Dr. Johnston:—C. Dillon, Esq., A. C. Dulcken, Esq.

Proposed by Rev. C. H. Butcher, seconded by Sir Harry S. Parkes:—Rev. Moritz Kaufmann.

Proposed by Dr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Kingsmill:—J. Sparrow Knight, Esq.

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As non-resident members :—

Proposed by Sir Harry S. Parkes, seconded by Mr. J. Mc. L. Brown :—Dr. Falconer, Hankow; Dr. Reid, Hankow; Robt. Watmore, Esq., Hankow; Ambrose Littledale, Esq., Hankow.

The President announced that Wu, ex-Taoutai of Shanghai, had kindly placed at the disposal of the society the lower story of his house in the Ningpo Road, and that the Council hoped that they would be able to arrange to have the next meeting of the society held there. The Council has also engaged the services of a clerk and curator, who would reside on the premises. He hoped that the members of the society would assist in the contemplated work of forming a good museum and library.

A paper by Mr. Noetzli, entitled "Incidents connected with a journey to Cambodia which had for its object a commercial enterprise," was then read.

It struck the writer, then at Singapore, that Kamput, a port of Cambodia doing a considerable trade with Singapore, and where no European merchant had yet settled, offered inducements to start a foreign trade, and in the spring of 1859 he, with a companion, left Singapore in a schooner for that port. On landing they found Kamput a small town of from 5,000 to 6,000 inhabitants, built on a narrow river, the people mostly Chinese and refugees from Cochin China. They were well received by the King, who had come down to Kamput to witness the launch of a vessel built in European style, and who, like his neighbour at Siam, is not only friendly to foreigners but also the first trader in his own country. The adventurers, however, soon found that it was not possible to dispose of their goods at Kamput, the real trade of the place being conducted at Kau-kao, a seaport of Cochin China, about ten miles south. The French at this time being engaged in war with that country, no Europeans were allowed to visit the port which communicates directly with the river Mei-kong. Here the Chinese barter their goods for rice, liquid, indigo, salt, fish, horns and hides, cotton, cardamoms, gamboge, and silk for the Indian market, which are carried in boats thence to Kamput to be exported to China and Singapore. After a dinner with the King, followed by a visit from his Majesty, Mr. Noetzli and his companion travelled in buffalo-carts to Udong, the capital. Of the journey thither and the city itself Mr. Noetzli gave an interesting description; here he was kindly received by the First Prince and remained some time. The time of the arrival of the King from Kamput being, however, doubtful, he left, and visited the French missionary station at Pinhulie, the seat of a bishop, and after a stay of a few days went on to Phenum Beng. Phenum Beng is situated at the spot where the Mei-kong and the outlet of the Ta-li-sap lake, after joining, again divide to enclose the delta of the Mei-kong, forming here a cross. It has thus direct water communications in four directions; one arm coming from the lake Ta-li-sap, connected with the Siamese province and town of Battam-bong; one (the Meikong) flowing from the mountains of Thibet through the South-west province of China and Lao country; the third flowing through the province of Mi-tho, communicating with Saigon; and the fourth leading to Barsac, from which at Chandoc commences the canal spoken of before as connected with Cau-cao. Thus situated Phenum Beng is the most important station in Cambodia and the emporium for foreign and native goods; the population is probably from 20,000 to 40,000, and the river is so wide that the opposite shore belonging to Cochin China is not visible. The inhabitants, ranged according to their respective numbers, are Cochin Chinese, Cambodians, Chinese and Malays; the principal merchants being Chinese. The natives here appear to be as much addicted to opium-smoking as the Chinese. The writer then gave a description of the currency, and exhibited a silver tical lately coined by the King of Cambodia. The coin most in use is the Cochin Chinese cash, but others are current. The locality, in addition to the usual articles of commerce, produces abundance of sugar-cane and fruits and vegetables of excellent quality. From Phenum Beng the writer started for the Ta-li-sap lake, the river passing through dense jungle affording shelter for multitudes of birds and monkeys, but apparently uninhabited by man. The lake is situated between about 12 and 14 degrees north latitude, and has probably a diameter of about a hundred and twenty miles and a circumference of four hundred miles. The shores are low, and covered with thick forest, and during the inundations are flooded; the water is shallow, but is inhabited by countless shoals of fish. A large fishing village marked the entrance of the river flowing into the lake from Battam-bong in Siam, a description of which was given. Here were found two Frenchmen, lately returned from the gold mines; they stated that gold in abundance was to be had at a small distance from Battam-bong, but that hitherto the unhealthiness of the Chinese had prevented the working of the mines, the water in the neighbourhood of which is, moreover, stated to be poisonous. Here a letter received caused Mr. Noetztli's immediate return, and he decided on the overland route to Bangkok as the quickest. After many *disagremens*, and some dangers surmounted, added to the impossibility of procuring proper food, he arrived, in the middle of August at Bangkok.

The President having made a few remarks on Cambodia, its ancient greatness and present poverty, its mineral wealth and fertility, its one port, and one inland town, after a reference to the history of Poland as offering more than one point of resemblance, passed a deserved compliment on Mr. Noetzli, for his energy in endeavouring to open a country so little known, and his courage in alone undertaking the overland journey from Battam-bong to Bangkok.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Noetzli was then passed unanimously.

The President having announced to the meeting his approaching departure from Shanghai,

It was proposed by Dr. Johnston, "That this meeting, while congratulating the President of this society, Sir Harry S. Parkes, on his recent appointment as British Minister in Japan, cannot but look with regret on his approaching departure, which will deprive the society of his services as President which he has discharged so ably and energetically since its resuscitation." He hoped that the President would still continue in Japans to take the same interest in the society which he has always exhibited here, and added that to him the society was mainly indebted for its present satisfactory position.

The motion having been seconded by the Rev. C. H. Butcher, was carried unanimously.

The President then made a few remarks on the present position of the society and its future prospects. It now contains upwards of 150 members; up to this time there had always been a supply of papers for the monthly meetings, some of which were very valuable, and he had every reason to expect that for the present at least, there would be no shortcomings. He had been promised some extremely interesting papers, and he hoped that the work so well begun would under his successor be ably carried out. With thanks to the meeting for their kind appreciation of his services, he thought that to the successive secretaries of the society, Messrs. Jamieson and Brown, much of their present prosperity was due. He then in a few words took leave of the meeting.

The meeting then adjourned.

THE RUSSO-AMERICAN TELEGRAPH.

The Western Union Telegraph Company, who have contracted for laying down a telegraph between the Russian and American shores of the Pacific, are engaged in forming a station on the island of Sitka, preparatory to the commencement of the works. Thence the line will be carried on to San Francisco in a southern, and the River Kwichipachi in a northern direction, and, crossing the sea a little south of Behring's Straits, *via* St. Matthew's Isle, reach the Asiatic shores in the wildernesses adjacent to Cape Olyutorsk. This accomplished, it will be connected by Yamsk and Okhotsk, as the shortest practical route, with the new harbour of Nicholaiefsk, at the mouth of the Amoor. The works must be completed within five years, the Russian Government undertaking to finish its inland lines within the same period, and to continue the Siberian telegraph, which now does not go further than Kiachta, the well-known commercial emporium east of Lake Baikal, as far as Nicholaiefsk, thus effecting a junction between the European and American systems. Of the $10,000,000 capital required for the American, or Western Union Company, part of the works, $3,500,000 have, according to the statements of the Russian press, been already subscribed for in the United States. The Francisco Nicholaiefsk line will be the property of the company for 33 years, at the end of which period a new lease will perhaps be allowed them at the pleasure of the Government. In Russia the servants of the company must be chiefly Russians, and the Government have been accorded the right of occupying the stations, blockhouses, and military defences belonging to the company. The company require the sanction of the Government for disposing of their property or concluding any contracts with other persons, companies, or Governments relative to the use of the line.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1865.

TIENTSIN AND THE NEW TREATY PORTS.

Five years have elapsed since the Treaty of Tientsin was ratified, and foreign merchants opened branches of old firms, or established new houses, at the ports open to foreign trade by that treaty: namely, Tientsin, Newchwang, and Chefoo, in the extreme north of China, and Hankow, Kiukiang, and Chinkiang, up the Yangtsze River. Experience has proved that the three first named ports have not realised the commercial expectations entertained of their resources for import and export trade with British and other foreign merchants; and it is reported that the principal houses at Hong Kong and the old ports contemplate withdrawing their branches and agencies from them. In the event of such a movement a local contemporary, the *Overland China Mail*, predicts that "those "places will consequently drop quietly out of the roll of the "treaty ports." While there is every probability of the large exporters in tea and silk withdrawing their branches from Tientsin, it does not follow that the importers of merchandise will abandon that port. The former have simply found out that they made a mistake in expecting a proportionate share of trade to what they enjoy at the produce ports; as the foreign commerce at Tientsin is entirely in imports of manufactured goods, in which they do little or nothing, and hence they are not laid out for doing the trade. It is not surprising, therefore, that we learn of some costly establishments being given up, in these days of retrenchment, where there are no prospects of sufficient profit to pay expenses. On the other hand, those branches and new houses who lay themselves out for the import trade in cotton stuffs and other kinds of European merchandise have a large field for their operations. Some idea of this may may be gathered from the fact that the value of the imports in 1862, according to the Customs returns, amounted to £2,350,000; in 1863, £2,230,000, and although there may be a less amount in 1864 than the first item. in the absence of returns. there is reason to conclude that it was greater than that of the latter sum; while, so far, the trade of 1865 is not inferior to the preceding year. This being the case, the prediction of our contemporary in South China savours more of the "wish being father to the thought" than the real state of the trade at Tientsin, and the "mercantile houses of note" withdrawing their agencies from thence.

While experience has thus shown that Tientsin, as a market for manufactured goods, ranks among the highest in China, still the foreign merchant does not reap the full benefit of that trade. It is here where the "shoe pinches," and causes the large houses in the south to draw back from the step taken so far north. The foreign merchant or agent is entirely in the hands of the Chinese brokers at Tientsin, who monopolise all the trade with the Shansee traders, as they did before the port was opened, receiving their supplies from Shanghai in foreign ships, instead of native junks, as formerly. The cost of transhipment through that emporium is consequently as great now, if not greater, than it was before; especially where goods are conveyed in the steamers plying between the two ports. When the Shansee traders came to this market on the opening of the traffic to foreigners, they naturally expected that there would be a considerable reduction in the prices of shirtings and other Manchester goods; and the merchants themselves supposed that such would be the case. Indeed, one or two "new hands" sold at the prices offered by the astute Chinese, and suffered considerable loss thereby to their constituents in the south. On comparing the results, however, with the ruling rates for similar goods before the port was opened, it was found that there was no marginal profit to induce the country traders to deal direct with the importers. Hence the trade has continued in the hands of the native brokers, to the detriment of those firms who have gone to a large expense in opening up the commerce of this port. No doubt that this has been one of the causes which disgusts the old houses with the pettifogging trade of the place. To remedy this commercial drawback there is only one course open. That is, for British merchants to be well supplied with goods direct from England; so as to save the delays and expenses of indirect shipments, and thereby offer them at prices so far below those asked by the brokers as to induce the native traders to deal directly with them, without the intervention of "middlemen." Unless some course of this kind be pursued, there is no hope for the foreigner at Tientsin realising a fair share of the profits of trade at that port, which he was induced to believe would be the case after it was opened. Moreover, in the event of the Chinese becoming legally owners of foreign ships, even the carrying trade may fall into their hands, and it is just possible that the prediction of our contemporary may be realised. Be that as it may, there is sufficient in the large import trade of Tientsin to encourage enterprising manufacturers and merchants to try a direct shipment of cotton stuffs and other merchandise suitable for that market.

In a less degree these remarks apply to the port of Newchwang, or more correctly Ying-tsze, only the returns for the sale of merchandise, instead of gold as at Tientsin, is the bulky produce of bean-cake and other articles of native consumption only. Chefoo or Yentai, likewise, comes under these observations, and with even inferior resources of foreign trade, still there is room for developing that in its consumption of British manufactures. Hitherto the attention of large houses has been too much confined to the sale of opium at these marts, and, as it would appear, without benefit to themselves. Had they employed the same capital in shipping merchandise direct to these outports, in all probability a lucrative trade would have sprung up, especially to Tientsin, and induced them to retain their establishments, which it is said are now being abandoned for want of trade.

THE CEYLON LEAGUE.

It is vastly to the discredit of home colonial statesmanship that it should have given occasion to the creation of a political league in Ceylon, to the combination of all representing its industry, property, and intelligence, for securing the right of effective representation, and of control in the distribution of colonial funds. Ceylon designs to help itself in the most constitutional manner possible to constitutional privileges; and the judicious course which has hitherto characterised the proceedings of the League can have but one result—that of complete success. This combined protest against the domineering policy of the Colonial Office has raised the status of Ceylon. The action taken by Mr. Cardwell on the *fallacia suppositionis* of a surplus has certainly in part been receded from by the appointment of what we may term a mixed commission to report on the amount required, the sum rightly chargeable on the colony, and the administration of the same; but the Order in Council obtained by Mr. Cardwell, directing that the resignation of unofficial members of a Colonial Council does not create vacancies unless accepted by the officer administering the Government, and that the acts of the remaining members, if constituting a quorum, shall be valid, leaves the people of Ceylon as it found them, without the least control over their island revenue. That Order serves its purpose in sanctioning the present normal state of things, but it is not given to the Queen in Council to alter the principles underlying constitutional representation, still less to make laws. An Order in Council has been declared null and void by reason of its illegality before this, and if there is one principle underlying constitutional representation it is the right of a representative to have his resignation accepted; that he shall not be forcibly retained, as it were, in a position he chooses no longer to occupy, and the duties of which he does not even assume to fulfil. We have

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reason to believe that the subject will be brought before Parliament in the form of an inquiry made to the Ministry as to its intentions, at an early period of the next session. A colonial Executive Council, however constituted, that cannot command public confidence, is worse than useless. Distrust will continue to pursue it in the administration of finances, and the ever watchful jealousy of a powerful League is by no means favourable to deliberations. The result of all will be that at no distant time the Council must be reorganised, allowing of a larger representation of unofficial members. We shall then, and not till then, see a new spirit infused into the administration of Ceylon, now entering under the influence of her own great resources and manifold external agencies, on a new commercial and industrial career.

THE EXTRADITION TREATY WITH CHINA.

The following letter appeared in the *Daily News*:—

Sir,—I hope you will allow me a short space in your columns for the narration of a melancholy tragedy enacted between this and Canton, in which the English authorities have taken no inconsiderable part. Before narrating the facts of the case, I should mention that by the 21st article of the treaty of Tientsin, it is stipulated that "if criminal subjects of China shall take refuge in Hong Kong, or on board British ships there, they shall, upon due requisition by the Chinese authorities, be searched for, and, on proof of their guilt, be delivered up." Acting upon the above clause, the mandarins at Canton, in the month of April, demanded from the government at Hong Kong the rendition of a certain Chinaman residing at the latter place on the plea of his being a pirate. They were backed up in this request by a letter from the British Consul at Canton, and the proof of his guilt was sent down by the mandarins. The Chinaman in question had been residing in the colony since the month of September, 1864, and the following facts appeared in connexion with the inquiry:—That he styled himself and was known among the Chinese as the Mo-Wong, one of the Wongs or leaders of the late rebellion that was dispersed at Nan-king, who, with better fortune than some of his comrades, had escaped and made his way to Hong Kong. He was the possessor of considerable wealth, which he kept at his own house. This, together with his having been a rebel, made him the object of "squeezes" from secret societies here, who extorted a good deal from him under threats of betraying his refuge to the mandarins. Becoming alarmed and disgusted at these frequent appeals to his purse and his fears, he took a legal opinion as to his safety in case his prosecutors carried their threat into execution, and being assured as to his perfect safety on British soil, he snapped his fingers at the extortioners, and entered into partnership with a shopkeeper at Hong Kong. Thus deprived of their anticipated mine of wealth, his former pensioners carried their threat into execution, no doubt to obtain a reward from the mandarins. The mandarin, who was certain of his promotion should he succeed in catching so famous a rebel, who had escaped the clutches of the Futai of the north, forthwith, as I have said before, demanded his rendition as a pirate, and having by some means, not known yet, got the English Consul to back him in the request, he sent down his demand and proof to Hong Kong. The man was seized, tried before the magistrate's court, where all that is above stated fully appeared: the proof of his piracy, which consisted of one witness sent down specially by the mandarins, was produced, and notwithstanding the protest of the counsel retained for the prisoner, who said that no Chinaman's life would be safe in the colony if he were given up on such evidence, the magistrate, under the direction of the law officers of the crown, made out the requisite order for his rendition. On this being communicated to the Mo-Wong he made up his mind if possible to commit suicide by jumping overboard on his passage to Canton, knowing as he did too well the horrid fate that there awaited him. When handed over to the Chinese officials he begged to be released from the handcuffs, but one of our civil officials, not in the police, would not permit this, and he was therefore conveyed to Canton in the manacles of the Hong Kong police. On his arrival there he was taken to prison, the next day brought before the mandarins, where he refused to plead, acknowledging himself a Wong; he was taken back to prison, and the next day was executed in the way reserved for political offenders, viz., he was tied to a cross, his cheeks then sliced off, then the insides of his arms and thighs, and finally disembowelled while yet alive. This put beyond a doubt the real cause of the demand for this man, and the real offence for which he was wanted.

There are two points in this case which surely should be brought before the public at home. First, whether under the clause quoted above there was in this case sufficient ground for giving up the man. Now, all that I have stated above as preceding his rendition was perfectly well known. I am not aware that even any pretence was made of ignorance or of disbelief on the part of the Government officers. Under such circumstances one would imagine that they would proceed with the greater caution when the life of even a Chinaman was at stake, yet we see that on the requisition of a provincial magistrate only, on the witness of one man only provided by the same magistrate, they gave him up on a charge of piracy, for which crime when the Chinese had got the man they had not the ordinary decency to pretend to punish him. Secondly, it is all important to consider whether, if the rendition of this man was unavoidable under the treaty, it be right that such a clause should exist a moment longer. If any local mandarin finds that it is in his power by simply writing to the Hong Kong Government, and producing one witness, to obtain the rendition of any native resident in the colony, then, indeed, is no man's life or property safe here. Consider the venality of Orientals, their cupidity, the well-known paternal "squeeze" of the Chinese magistrate, and the temptation afforded by the wealthy native residents of Hong Kong. Why should such a nation, the most treacherous and cruel in its dealings with both foreigners and its own subjects, be the only one with whom we have such an exceptional extradition treaty? With no other nation is there a question of rendition of political criminals; this clause specifies no crimes, nor does it define whether the criminality is to be judged by Chinese or English law. Of course there can be no doubt as to the intention of the framers, but the abuse it has already led to, or it is liable to lead to, calls for imperative redress. I write hurriedly to catch the outward mail, but I hope, Sir, that the incompleteness of my letter will not hinder you from using the powerful influence of your paper to expose such a state of things. It is the almost universal feeling of the inhabitants of Hong Kong that this man has been sacrificed to mandarin rascality, and by bringing the matter to the notice of the British public, you will oblige and render a service to every true ENGLISHMAN.

Hong Kong, May 30, 1865.

WAR OFFICE, AUGUST 9.—The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment of Daniel Brooke Robertson, Esq., Her Majesty's Consul at Canton, to be an ordinary member of the civil division of the third class, or Companions of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath.

CHINESE INCENSE.—A Chinese proverb, attributed to Confucius (or Kong-Foo-Tse), says, "Incense perfumes bad smells, and candles illumine men's hearts." Acting on that principle, they use both lavishly in public and in private, which would lead the hypercritical to conclude that their hearts require a great deal of lighting up, and that the natural odours of their temples and dwellings are none of the sweetest. Joss-sticks (*wan heang*) and tinsel-paper (*yuen paou*) are the forms under which this incense is usually burned, and the consumption is so enormous that, according to Morrison, there are no less than ten thousand makers in the province of Canton alone. Morning and evening three sticks of incense are to be offered.

There was launched on the 11th August from the yard of Messrs. Thomas Royden and Sons, Baffin-street, a very fine steamer named the *Yamuna*. This vessel has been built for Messrs. Reynolds, Mann and Co., of this port, and is intended for the East India trade. The *Yamuna* has been built for the purpose of carrying large cargoes and attaining a high rate of speed. She has been fitted with engines of 180-horse power, by Messrs. J. Jack and Co., and is in every respect complete. Her dimensions are:—Length, 250 feet; breadth, 32 feet; depth of hold, 20 feet 6 inches.

CONSULAR APPOINTMENTS.—Her Majesty was pleased to approve the appointment of Mr. Isaac J. Allen as Consul at Hong Kong for the United States of America.

Mr. JOHN SCARTH, formerly of Messrs. Turner & Co., China, has completed his studies at College, and has been duly ordained to the Established Church, preaching his first sermon at Milton next Gravesend.

THE CIVIL SERVICE.—Colonial Office.—Messrs. A. Lister, and R. D. Starkey have been appointed cadets at Hong Kong.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, August 7.

The Parliamentary session for this year came to an end on the last of the past month. The First Chamber of the States-General passed some Bills, mostly of local interest. The only exception was, that the Commercial Treaty with France was passed unanimously. All the members have now gone to their country residences, or to the watering places, to enjoy the pleasures of the bathing season, and to repose from the fatigues of business. Some of the members of the Cabinet also have gone abroad. Mr. Thorbecke, who, a false rumour said, was to be replaced on his own request by Mr. Jansens, will go to Dresden, and Mr. Fransen van de Putte makes a trip to Switzerland. The *Dagblad* seems to think that our possessions must speedily perish, now that the Minister has left the duties of the department to the Secretary-General. I need not say that it is very difficult to keep up the fire of opposition in the dead season, so that recourse must be taken to all means.

Mr. Floris Adrian van Hall, Minister of State, and the former head of the departments of justice, finances, and foreign affairs, is so dangerously ill, that it is feared he has but a few days to live.

The coffee-trade has energetically protested against the mode of sale adapted at the auction of the Netherlands Trading Company. The company declines to sell on sample, notwithstanding the managers distribute samples; but the company will not be accountable when the quality does not answer to the samples. The protest of the trade is thoroughly justifiable, and the Chambers of Commerce should try to bring this important question to a settlement.

It is rumoured that the Minister of the Colonial Department intends to establish an institution for the education of Indian functionaries at Utrecht. Such institutions exist already at Delft and Leyden.

Some time ago I told you that Mr. Fransen van de Putte proposed to abolish the so-called culture-percentage. I

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now hear that at the same time the salaries of all the functionaries in India will be considerably increased, because most of them profited by levying this per centage. Some of the injustice committed against the native population will thus be prevented. The Minister has also taken some measures to improve the education of the Indian population; till now it was necessary that the sons of the "upper ten" should come to Holland to begin and finish their education.

The King will arrive at the Hague within a few days, from his trip to Switzerland. The Prince of Orange returned there yesterday from his visit to England.

COMMERCIAL.

Coffee.—The market is inactive. trade being occupied inspecting the parcels which will be offered by the Trading Company, and which consist of 85,400 b. The market, however, remained firm, and in private hands were sold 2,500 b. Padang, ex Maarten van Rossum, at 45¾; and 2,600 b. do., ex do., at 45¾ to 48½ c. Stock of the Trading Company, 426,000 b. Private stock of East Indian, 45,700 b.; West Indian, 14,000 b.; total, including the bags lying on warrants, 542,200 b.; against 492,800 b. on the 31st of July, 1864.

Sugar (Raw).—The market was very inactive. The 3,850 kr. Java, offered in private auction, were sold at 24f. to 33½f., that is, ¾f. to 1f. under sale prices of July. Since were sold 1,016 kr. old No. 12½, and 1,207 kr. Cheribon (very good), No. 11½ at prices that did not transpire. There are sellers now, but buyers decline to operate at the actual quotation.

Tea.—There has been a little more business doing for consumption. The 1,266 chests fine Congou, ex Freya (which were retired in auction on the 5th April, and which were offered on sale), were partly sold at 83 to 85 c. The rest was bought in. Stock, 8,800 ¼-ch.; against 13,300 ch. on the 31st July 1864.

Rice.—The market is very inactive, but firm, in consequence of the London market, and, it is said that there are extensive orders on hand for common qualities. Stock, 14.700 b. against 69,500 b. in 1864.

Cotton.—The demand throughout the last fortnight has been of a limited character. In the prices, however, although they have tended in some degree in favour of the buyer, little or no decided reduction can be quoted, holders for the most part showing undiminished confidence. The attention is fixed upon the auction of the Trading Company, which will be held on the 11th, and which will consist of 1,000 b. Tinnevelly fair, tax 68 c.; 652 b. Japan good fair, tax 70 c.; 700 b. Comptah good middling, tax 60 c.; 144 b. Neth. E. I. fair, tax 43 c.; 127 b. Sauginned fair, tax 43 c.; 83 b. middling fair, tax 40 c.; 21 b. inferior.

Hides.—A good business doing. The sales include: 2,349 p. E. I. ex Joan; 557 do. ex Isaac da Costa; 267 p. ex Cornelia Hendrika; 286 p. Buffalo ex do.; 1,247 p. do. ex Tagal. By inscription were sold 6,826 p. Java Ox, and 624 p. Buffalo, which met with a good demand; the prices are very firm. In consequence, the Trading Company will offer on the 18th, 5,615 p. Buffalo and 638 p. Ox.

Indigo.—A few transactions done privately. About 200 chests arrived last week, which will be brought into the market within a few days. About 100 chests were sold at firm prices.

Tin.—Our market has been steady. Some transactions have taken place at 55¼f. to 55¾f., but, in many instances, holders refused to sell under sale's price, viz., 56f. At this quotation 1,150 flabs were sold. The deliveries during this month are very satisfactory, the greater part for France and Germany. To America only a small lot has yet been shipped, but as, according to latest accounts, the total stock of Banca Tin there amounted to only 1,800 slabs, we may soon expect a good demand from that quarter. The imports of tin during the first five months of this year amounted to 3,155 tons, against 2,743 in 1864.

Cocoa-Nut Oil.—Firm: 28¾f.

Spices.—Waiting for the auction on the 25th, there are no transactions to report. Prices are mostly unaltered. Stock, July 31, 1863: nutmegs, 2,116 casks; mace, 875 casks; cloves, 600 v.; cinnamon, 1,065 fard.; pepper, 5,181 b. July 31, 1864: nutmegs, 1,470 casks; mace, 740 casks; cloves, 70 vn.; cinnamon, 1,378 fard.; pepper, 3,707 b.; July 31, 1865: nutmegs, 3,075 casks; mace, 780 casks; cloves, 1,720 vn.; cinnamon, 1,862 fard.; pepper, 2 329 b.; of which will be offered in the coming sale—nutmegs, 2,910 casks; mace, 740 casks; cloves, 1,720 vn.; cinnamon, 1,612 fard.; pepper, 1,619 b.

Gum Benzoin.—30 ch., ex Isaac de Costa, were sold at secret prices.

Rattans.—The following lots were sold:—3,770 bundles, ex Aldebaran; 1,016 bundles, ex Wilhelmina Johanna.

Tobacco.—(Report of the Rotterdam Broker, N. C. Gregoor).—The imports consisted in 6,237 b., of which 5,223 b. were offered in private sales. Before the auction the opinion was not favourable. The lot mark *Blitar* was somewhat better in quality than that which was offered in a former auction. Notwithstanding the colour was somewhat white and spotted the prices paid were very high. The other inferior qualities were bought at higher rates than the quotation of the day. The superior lot of the auction H en A (*Blitar*) was sold at a colossal price. The prices paid at the auction were for 793 b. Nauta Blitar, 51½ c. in average; 2,673 b. Blitar, at 58⅛ in average; 483 b. LBP 15⅜ c.; 227 SS 14½ c.; 119 S. 31⅛ c.; 399 b. BB 24½ c.; 26 b. M 58 c., 344 b. G B 62½ c., 259 b. H and A. Blitar 94⅜, all in average. About Manila tobacco nothing is to report. The actual prices are too high for speculation, so that no important transactions took place since the large parcel 2a was sold. The stock cannot be mentioned accurately, but it is supposed to amount to 2.500 b. Of Maryland several parcels were sold, of which much was of very inferior quality. The prices which were paid for this rebus did not transpire. Ordinary Havana tobacco with much transactions, in consequence of the very low prices. The quality, however, is not much better than bad.

Manila Segars.—Of 2a Habanos, 1864, 180,000 were offered in auction; in consequence of the high prices only 30,000 were sold at ,33 to f.34.50.

Arack.—The market is steady, and prices firm. Only 70 casks ex Bilderdyk were sold at 130f.

Money.—The discount is steady, with full support to prices. Nothing under the Bank rate (3 per cent. for bills, and 3½ per cent. for acceptances) and the scarcity of bills still complained of in some quarters. The supply of money is still good. Very little business doing in stocks, either Dutch or foreign. Dutch, 2½ per cents., 62 3-16th; 3 per cents., 72¾; 4 per cents., 96⅝; Credit and Deposit Bank, 100; Trading Company, 148½; Shares Dutch Rhenish Railway, 338; Central Railway, 36; Dutch Railway, 133; Crystal Palace of Amsterdam, 52; East Indian Railway, 91½; Netherlands Bank, 240; Netherlands India Bank, 82. 'Changes on London: 3 mo., f.11.80; 2 mo., f.11.84; short, f.11.92. Paris: 3 mo., f.46 95; 2 mo., f.47.05.; short, f.47.25. Hambro': 3 mo., 35f.; 2 mo., f.35.11: short, f.35.35; Bremen: 3 mo., 172f.; short, f.173 50. St. Petersbnrg: 3 mo., 152f.; short, ——; Italy: 2 mo., f.46.50.

Principal Exports from the Dutch Harbours to the East Indies during the month of July:—Beer, 153.807 litres; mineral water, 27.650 stone bottles; Geneva, 41,694 litres; foreign spirits, 7,519 litres; wine, 64,555 litres; butter, 28,122 lb.; confectionery (cakes, &c.), 16,436 lb.; flour, 16,000 lb.; meat, 60,873 lb.; cheese, 2,118 lb.; vinegar, 10,038 litres; segars, 9,000 ps.; books, 7.470f.; chemicals, 2.200f.; mercery, 25,550f.; cotton (manuf.), 1,590,234 yards; linseed-oil, 1,500 lb.; petroleum, 9,500 lb.; coal-tar, 69,730 lb.; colours, 7,000f.; coals, 1,457,835 lb.; capsules for bottles, 150.000 ps.; zinc, 6,000 lb.; furniture, 17,000f.; copper (leaves), 6.033 lb.; paper, 17,500f.; stearine lights, 2.175 lb.; glasswork, 3.414f.; earthenware, 61,140f.; ironwork, 123,429 lb.; charcoal, 14,800 lb.

Shipping.—Arrivals.—July 23, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Catherina Maria; at Texel, from do., L. A. Bang; 24, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Cornelia Hendrika; 25. at Brouwershaven from Banjoewangie, Wilhelmina Johanna; at Zierikzee, from Banjoewangie, Luconia; 26, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Hendrina; 28, at Texel, from Banjoewangie, Goede Verwachting; 29, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, d'Elmina; at Texel, from do., Goede Verwachting, Jan van Schaffelaar; 30, at Texel, from Batavia, Johanna Elizabeth; August 5. at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Medea; from Padang, Argo; at Texel, from Batavia, Anna Digna; from Sourabaya, Bellatrix; from Singapore, Bernard and Agnes; at Texel, from Batavia, Java Packet.

Departures.—July 22, from Texel for Batavia, Tjelingsie, Helena and Anna; Telanak, for Japan, Bantam; from Veere for Batavia, Zeepaard; 24, from Texel for Batavia, Constance; 25, from Brouwershaven for Batavia, Constantia; from Texel for Batavia, Jacob Roggeveen; from Samarang, Gerberdina Wilhelmina; 26, from Texel for Batavia, Azia; 28, from Texel for Batavia, Louise; Aug. 6, from Brouwershaven for Sourabaya; Boni, from Texel for Padang, Helena; for Japan, Herman Maria Elizabeth.

Loading at Rotterdam.—For Batavia, Cornelis Wernard Eduard; for Batavia and Samarang, Robertus Hendrikus, Suzanna Johanna; for Batavia and Sourabaya, Ary Scheffer; for Batavia, d'Elmina, Eva Johanna, Ouderkerk van den Amstel, Jannetje; for Samarang, Wilhelmina Johanna; for Kanagawa and Nagasaki, Maria; for Manila, Loyalaa—At Amsterdam: For Kanagawa and Nagasaki, Gloria; for Kanagaw and Decima, China; for Padang, Excelsior, Anna and Jeannette; for Samarang, Mathilde, Padang Packet; for Sourabaya and Macassar Henderika; for Sourabaya, Presto.

Freights.—Unaltered.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From Java.—Per Maarten van Rossem, Messrs. J. van Vollenhoven and family, J. C. van Schuylenburch and family, Kuyhenbrouwer and family, Mrs. Pahn, Captain Albrecht and daughter, Mr. L. Gerrebrands; per Johanna Elizabeth, Messrs. Beyerinch and family, Coorenengel and family, Stoltman and family, T. Becker; per Medea, Messrs. Labaaren and family, Varkevisser, Stroo Westermans and family; Stompenausel and family, Kaulbach, Gade and family, Mrs. Deinse and family; Misses Hein, Kappen, and Seelig; per Argo, Messrs. van Ghert and family, Grashuis and Heyman, Mitteldorffes and Spelter.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

For Java.—Per Bazoekei, Messrs. J. C. P. Evers and family, J. C. Schultz and family, Mrs. Prehn and family, Mr. J. van Deun and family, Miss J. Block; per Helena and Anna, Messrs. J. Huet and L. de Beer; per Telanak, Mr. W. Wetting; per Constance, Messrs. J. van Hoewyk and J. N. Bak; per Jacob Roggeveen, Messrs. O. H. Musch and family, J. Cuotterius and family, V. L. Reuter and family, J. Brassinga and family, J. Verstaeg, and Pahn.; per Azia, Messrs Steenhuys, Banketbakker, de Boudt, A. R. H. Varkenvisser, and Mrs. van den Burg; per Louise, Messrs. Holz and family, de Haan and family, de Seyffe, and Rant, Mrs. Tylde Grys Sybrandi, Mrs. de Grys-Kraetser, Misses J. Schuymer, J. C. Dammers, J. E. Dammers; per Anna Digna, Mr. J. B. Overvest and family, Messrs. L. Schnerthers, F. C. van Nes, M. H. Vis, and 125 soldiers.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

August 8.

Rather earlier than usual, the Statistical Department of the Board of Trade have just issued their annual tables of the commerce and navigation of this port for 1864. Perfect as they are in all that relates to shipping, to imports, to the fluctuations of the exchanges, and many other interesting statistical subjects, they are still liable, I regret to add, to the objections I mentioned last year on their appearance, viz., that not a word is said, nor a figure given, of perhaps the most important part of the whole trade,—I mean the exports.

As might have been expected from the unsettled state of political affairs in this immediate neighbourhood last year, and

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the danger of capture from the Danish ships of war, cruising off the mouth of the Elbe, if not actually blockading it, there has been a considerable falling off in the total number of vessels that arrived in 1864 (5,012 against 5,543 in 1863), though the deficiency in the tonnage was comparatively not so large (465,909 lasts in 1864 against 481,216 in 1863), in consequence of the ships that arrived being of a larger class and greater tonnage than in the preceding year, And yet, anomalous as it may appear, there is a not inconsiderable increase in the general amount of imports, both with respect to weight and value ; for whilst they were in 1863 only 41,516,011 centners in weight, they rose in 1864 to 43,858,294, showing an increase of about 2,342,000 centners or 137,000 tons. So also with the value of the imports, which in 1863 were 738,665,510 marks banco, whilst last year they had risen to 773,016,770 m.b., showing an increase of 34,351,260 m.b., or about £2,700,000. In 1863 the increase in the value of the imports over that of the preceding year was nearly 100 millions of marks banco, or £8,000,000 ; so that, though the increase is only one-third of what it was in 1863—which was the most prosperous year ever known here—still it is satisfactory to perceive that notwithstanding all the drawbacks to an active trade from the war of last year, and the uncertainty attending the future state of things, which naturally must exercise a depressing influence on the spirit of commercial enterprise, more especially in connection with the more distant parts of the globe,—it is satisfactory, I repeat, to observe that on the whole there is no real falling off in the imports, but rather an increase of nearly three millions sterling in the value.

From the Far East came 27 vessels (against 37 in 1863), of 5,050 lasts or 15,150 tons (against 20,367 tons in 1863); of which 11 were from China, 2 from the Philippine Islands, 1 from Netherlands India, and the rest from the British East Indies.

On the other hand, in the Departures we find (p. 86) 8 vessels for Australia, 1 to Apia (Navigators' Islands), 22 to China, 1 to Manila, 1 to Macassar, and 5 to British India ; making together 39 vessels, against 84 in 1863.

In my next letter I shall give your readers some particulars of the special trade of this port with the Far East.

The St. Petersburg *Northern Post* contains the following :—"Some curious orders been received in Finland from China, among which twenty casks of Finlandish essence of punch, which have been already forwarded to Hong Kong, as well as a considerable quantity of chemical matches without phosphorus or sulphur. A Finnish captain of the name of Lahuss was the first to introduce these articles to the Chinese, having taken them with him on his last voyage from Hamburg to China, and they appear to have found favour in the eyes of natives."

With regard to the first above-mentioned articles, I may here mention that the "essence of punch," confessedly bought at Hamburg by Capt. Lahuss, is a very common beverage here for local consumption, and is exported also in considerable quantities. It is composed of all the ingredients of punch *minus* the water, which can be added either hot or cold to suit the taste of the consumer, or used without any water at all, in which case it forms a very pleasant *liqueur* or cordial. There are four or five manufacturers of it in this city, where it is made wholesale, and the purchaser can select it made from rum, cognac, or arrac, according to his taste. It is difficult to understand why Finland should receive the order above stated, where none of the ingredients of punch are produced, but rather imported chiefly from this market, and subject on importation there to a high rate of duty. It is true that Hamburg cannot boast either of producing any of the ingredients of punch in the raw state, but enjoys many facilities for purchasing them in a large market like this at the cheapest rate and without any import duty, clarifying and improving them, mixing the compound without any inconvenient and onerous supervision by excise officers, and exporting the ready made article to all parts of the world. Here on the spot this essence of punch is consumed in large quantities,, the retail price being only a mark currency, or 1s. 2d. sterling per quart bottle, and of course much cheaper wholesale. On the label of the bottle the direction for using it says—"Mix one part of the essence with twice as much water ;" so that in fact for one shilling and twopence one can make three quarts of punch.

The annual summer fair of Nijni Novgorod was officially inaugurated on the 27th of July with the usual ceremonies. After the celebration of High Mass in the principal church, the flags were hoisted, cannon fired, and the fair was formally declared opened. Business, however, had not yet commenced, as the influx both of buyers and sellers was still very limited, though expected to increase during the succeeding week.

COMMERCIAL.

Coffee.—This market has been very lively, and higher prices are freely paid. The sales comprised 15,000 bags of different sorts, and 350,000 lbs. of Porto Rico.

Sugar.—There is a steady demand for the raw article at previous quotations. Of Refined, 13,000 loaves found purchasers at full prices.

Rice.—Sales to a moderate extent continue to be made, and the market is firm. A cargo of 6,200 bags of new Necransie, per Carlotta, from Akyab, just to hand, realised full prices.

Spices.—Dull of sale, but without any alteration to notice in values.

Spelter.—The demand has subsided, and there is a momentary lull. Prices are rather lower, but not sufficiently so to attract speculative purchasers, whilst the orders on hand appear to have been executed. Silesian in slabs is quoted 14¾ marks banco, both for delivery and on the spot. At this figure there are sellers.

Shipping.—Arrived.—August 3, Carlotta, from Akyab.

Sailed.—Aug. 1, Lucknow, to Singapore.

Loading.—At Hamburg: Frisch, for Singapore; Carry and Jane, for Hong Kong.

Monetary and Commercial.

Owing to the advance in the China exchanges, the remittances of specie by the steamer *Nyanza*, which left Southampton on the 4th instant, show a considerable increase, the total being £120,338. The particulars are as follows:—Madras, gold, £1,018, and silver, £10,000 ; Penang, silver, £5,000 ; Singapore, silver, £21,500 ; Hong Kong, silver, £23,350 ; and Shanghai, silver, £59,470.

The biddings for Government bills on India took place at the Bank of England on the 9th inst The proportions allotted were—to Calcutta, £163,500 ; to Madras, £2,000 ; and to Bombay, £100,000. The minimum prices were, as before, 1s. 10½d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 10¾d. on Bombay. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 1s. 11⅛d. will receive about 75 per cent., and on Bombay at 1s. 11⅛d. about 70 per cent.

The first half-yearly meeting of the Eastern Assam Company was held on Monday. The directors' report was adopted, and a dividend of 10 per cent. per annum, less income-tax, was declared.

A prospectus has been issued of the London Jute Works, with a capital of £200,000, half to be first subscribed in shares of £10. The object is to spin and weave jute by steam power in London, an alleged advantage of 13 per cent. existing in favour of London against Dundee in the saving of expenses in the carriage of raw material, insurances, &c.

The amount of bills on India for which tenders will be received on the 16th instant at the Bank of England is £250,000, of which not more than £100,000 will be drawn on Bombay. The meeting of the London and County Bank took place on the 3rd, when the directors' report was unanimously adopted. The net profits for the half-year ended 30th June last were stated at £106,821. A dividend and bonus, equal to 15 per cent. for the half-year, were declared, and £13,660 carried forward to new profit and loss account.

Private telegrams have been received bringing dates from Hong Kong to the 12th July, Shanghai 4th, and Foo-chow-foo 3rd. The export of tea for the last month was stated at 14,000,000 lbs. ; Exchange in Hong Kong, 4s. 5½d.

Atlantic Telegraph 8 per cent. preference shares fell to 2 discount on the cessation of signals. When the telegram arrived from Valentia announcing loss of insulation 1,250 miles from land, a recovery to 1½ dis. took place. At Lloyd's the nominal quotation for insurances on the cable was fifty to sixty guineas per cent., but no transactions took place of any importance. Latest quotation for shares is 2 discount.

The report of the European Bank, presented at the meeting on the 7th instant, states the net profit (including a a balance of £2,272 brought forward) at £29,685, and recommends that £16,380 be applied for the payment of an interim dividend, being at the rate of five per cent. per annum, free of income-tax ; that £3,200 be written off premises, purchase, and preliminary expense accounts ; and that the balance, £10,105, be carried to profit and loss new account, to be dealt with at the close of the financial year, when the premium accruing from the transfer of the business of the late London, Birmingham, and South Staffordshire Bank will also be available. It is also mentioned that the directors continue to pursue the policy of seeking a sound business, and look with much satisfaction to the steady progress made during the past six months.

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BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices July 26.
£20	Asiatic Bank Company, issued at £15 prem., £7. 10s. paid up. .	£5	—	—
50	Agra and Masterman's	25	58 to 60	55 to 57
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	All	25 to 27	25 to 27
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	45 to 47	46 to 48
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	22 to 24	15 to 18
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (10 pd.)	All	—	—
20	Eastern Exchange	5	1 dis. to par	1 dis. to par
50	London Joint Stock	15	47 to 48 xd.	47 to 49
100	London and Westminster . . .	20	93 to 95 xd.	93 to 96
25	Oriental Bank Corporation . .	All	52 to 54	52 to 54
50	Union of London	15	52 to 54	50 to 52 xd.
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan . .	25	7 to 5 dis.	9 to 7 dis.
100	Do. Issued at 2 pm.	25	7 to 5 dis.	9 to 7 dis.
100	Do. New	15	8 to 6 dis.	9 to 7 dis.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi . . .	10	4 to 3 dis.	4 to 3 dis.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	30½ to 31½	30½ to 31½
100	Bank of London	60	132 to 136 xd.	142 to 145
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India .	4	¼ to ⅜ pm	¼ to ½ pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3½ to 4½	3½ to 4½
50	P. and O. Steam Company . .	All	77 to 79	76 to 78
50	Do. New	35	18 to 20 pm.	19 to 21 pm.
20	China Steamship & Labuan Coal Co	5	—	—
5	Bombay Gas	All	5 to 5½	5 to 5½
10	Hong Kong Gas	All	1 to 2 pm.	1 to 2 pm.
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal . .	10	4 to 3 dis.	3½ to 2½ dis xd.
2	Indian Carrying Company . .	1	½ dis. to par	½ dis. to par xd
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal . .	All	19 to 20	19 to 20
1	Oriental Gas	All	1½ to 1¾	1½ to 1¾
10	O. Inland Steam	All	1½ to 2½	2 to 3
100	West India Steam Company . .	60	114 to 116	113 to 115
20	Ceylon Company	7	2½ to 3½ pm.	2½ to 3 pm.
20	International Finance Society .	5	¼ to 1¼ pm.	¼ to 1 pm. xd.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	1½ to 1¾ pm	1½ to 1¾ pm.
50	London Financial Association .	15	6½ to 6¾ pm. xd	7 to 7½ pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	1½ to 1 dis.	1¼ to 1 dis.
20	Société Financiere d'Egypte . .	10	3¾ to 3¼ dis.	3½ to 3¼ dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company . . .	All	15¾ 15½	15 to 15½
10	Upper Assam Tea	3½	3 to 4 pm.	3 to 4 pm. xd.
10	Do.		18 to 20	19 to 21 xd.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

Tea.—The Public Sales commencing on the 1st instant were finished on the 3rd, the quantity offered being 22 565 packages, out of which 17,500 were sold, nearly the whole without reserve. At a small sale of Indian Teas 633 packages were offered, and 555 sold; fine kinds at full prices, but common grades at easier rates. The stock in the United Kingdom on the 31st ultimo was estimated at at 94,300,000 lbs., against 95,500,000 lbs. last year, and the quantity afloat at 14,202,270 lbs., against 13,297,300 lbs. Business has been on a very limited scale, the only considerable transactions having consisted in purchases of Moyune Teas and Uncoloured Japan kinds for shipment to New York and Montreal. The telegrams lately received from China, of the large trade doing at Hankow and Foochow, and the enormous prices paid have caused much surprise and uneasiness, the general impression being that heavy losses must result. For common Congou prices rule about the same as last month, with a very limited demand. Of medium Kaisow there have been a few sales at 1s. 10d., and for Amoy kinds, fair to good, Souchong flavour, 11d. to 11½d. per lb. The newly imported imitation Kaisows, made from Tayshan leaf, are still saleable at full prices. For finest Souchong there is some demand at 2s. 2d. to 2s. 3d. per lb., and a few sales have been made of common to medium Oolong at 1s. 1d. to 1s. 6d., showing a slight decline. In Scented Teas both Orange Pekoe and Caper are still very scarce, and for the former prices have advanced slightly. In Greens, owing probably to the purchases above mentioned for exportation, all classes have maintained their value except Young Hyson. Present quotations are:—Young Hyson, good common to fair, or No. 4, 1s. to 1s. 3d. per lb.; good to medium, or No. 3, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 8d. per lb.; fine, or No. 2, 1s. 10d. to 2s. 2d. per lb.: finest, or No. 1, which is scarce, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. per lb.; Gunpowder, good common to fair, 1s. 5d. to 1s. 8d. per lb.; good to medium, 1s. 10d. to 2s. 4d. per lb.; fine, 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d. per lb.; finest, 2s. 9d. to 3s. 2d. per lb. There have been considerable sales in Japan uncoloured for shipment to Canada at an average advance of 1½d. per lb. Several chops of coloured have sold well, showing 1d. per lb. advance for the better kinds on previous sales.

Cotton.—The demand was languid in the London market throughout the week ending the 4th, but the firmness of holders prevented any general decline in prices. 120 bales of China went at 10¼d. to 10½d. for middling; and 129 bales Japan, at 12d. to 12½d. for fair to fully fair. On the 5th, 180 bales Japan went at 12¼d. to 12½d. for fair to fully fair. The small business done this present week is without change in prices. The Liverpool report of the week ending the 28th July, states China to have been in fair request, but the market being more freely supplied a slight reduction took place, except in the better qualities, which were scarce and dearer. During the week ending August 4, China and Japan were in moderate demand at about ¼d. to ⅛d. per lb. below former rates. The stock of China and Japan in London on the 3rd August was 5,014 bales, against 30 612 at the same time last year. The total stock in London was 61,389 bales, against 81,085 in 1864. The cotton afloat to Europe on the 4th August was, of China, 9,292 bales, against 65,010 last year; and of Japan, 294 bales, against 7,986 last year. The total stock in Liverpool on the 4th August was 347,000 bales, against 265,980 in 1864.

Sugar.—During the first fortnight of July the market maintained a firm appearance, and notwithstanding an occasional abatement of demand, the transactions effected were at full to rather higher rates. Afterwards, however, the heavy landings and increasing stock at this port, caused buyers to operate with greater caution, and latterly a more general indisposition to purchase has been shown, and the moderate amount of business done has been at easier prices, and though compared with the 10th ultimo, present quotations on the average exhibit little alteration, the market at the close has a dull and drooping tendency. The new act for the amendment of the drawback allowed on refined, as agreed to by the European Convention, took effect on the 1st instant, the probable influence of which on the future course of this branch of our trade is looked forward to with some interest. The limited quantities of Penang in public sale, have on the whole met only a moderate demand, and to support the previous occurency, part has been withdrawn. Clayed Manila has been comparatively neglected, the only retail purchases have been made at the previous quotation of 30s.; Unclayed, however, has been dealt in rather extensively at higher rates; and a recent arrival of 700 baskets Java from Holland, has been taken at full prices. The sales of the month are as under:—210 tons Penang, fine brown to low yellow 30s. to 31s. 6d., low middling to good middling yellow 32s. to 33s. 6d. 300 tons Manila, current quality clayed at 30s. fine yellow grocery 36s, to 39s. 6d. 350 tons Unclayed from 27s. to 28s. to 28s. 6d. 160 tons Java, low yellow to fine strong grey (part 11s. 8d. duty) 33s. 6d. to 38s. 6d., and 20 tons common brown Siam sort, at 25s. 6d. to 26s. 6d.

Coffee.—A plentiful and varied assortment of Colonial has been placed on offer during the postal month, so that although the demand has been sufficient to take off the bulk of the extensive parcels of Ceylon in auction, some depression has occasionally been apparent, and prices have gradually receded fully 1s. per cwt., at which, some increase of dulness has prevailed towards the close. In Mocha, only a limited business has been done on rather easier terms. The following comprises the total sales of the month, viz., of Ceylon, 5,600 casks, 3,500 barrels and bags Plantation, the recent prices being, fine ordinary to low middling, 78s. to 83s., middling to good middling, 83s. 6d. to 87s., fine, 88s. to 90s.; and 900 casks, 9,000 bags Native, common to good ordinary mixed, 65s. to 67s., good to real good ordinary, 67s. 6d. to 68s. 6d., fine ordinary, 69s. to 70s 6d.: 510 packages Mocha, fair to good long berry, 91s. to 94s, good clean garbled, 99s.; Singapore, fair Bonthyne, 72s. 6d. to 73s. 6d., common to good Campar, 60s. to 64s. 6d., fair Siam, 66s. 6d. to 68s., and Bally, 57s. 6d. to 58s.; fine ordinrry Java, 73s. to 75s., mixed Padang, 62s. to 62s. 6d.

Rum.—Penang must be quoted at 1s. 6½d., which is an advance on the former rates.

Rice.—During the postal month, the market has at no time been active, but a fair inquiry has nearly always existed, and though the increased firmness of holders lately has checked freer purchases, the total transactions are 90,000 bags, and prices mostly show an advance of 3d. per cwt. on those of the 10th ult., viz., middling to good old white Bengal 13s. 9d. to 14s. 9d., fair to good bold new 15s. to 16s., a few ordinary and middling cargo 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d.; also Nakrenzie, low middling to fair 9s. 4½d. to 10s., and inferior Rangoon and Bassein 9s. to 9s. 7½d. Floating cargoes have been more inquired for, and two of Nakrenzie, 1,650 tons, have been sold at 10s. 6d., for the Continent, likewise one of 240 tons Bassein at 10s. 10½d.

Cardamoms.—Firm, with limited business privately; 5 cases Malabar at auction retired; and of 20 bales Ceylon three-fourths sold at 3s. 4d. per lb., for fair, and 2s. 4d. to 2s. 8d. ordinary lean.

Camphor.—Very quiet and drooping: small sales of China at 105s. per cwt.; 91 chests at auction retired. Small sales are again reported of Japan for arrival at £5. 5s. per cwt., and further quantities offering.

Cassia Lignea.—Steady: 996 cases at auction, all retired. Moderate business privately upon fully former terms. Buds: Nothing of any consequence doing.

Cinnamon (Ceylon).—At the recent quarterly sales good qualities were 2d. to 5d. per lb. dearer than at the last quarterlies; common 1d. to 3d.; demand good for all descriptions: and the whole of 1,494 bales found buyers at and after the auctions; 379 bales 1st sort at 1s. 7d. to 2s. 9d. per lb., with superior at 2s. 10d. to 3s.; 710 bales 2nd 1s. 5d. to 2s. 4d.; 318 bales 3rd 1s. 4d. to 1s. 10d.; 87 bales 4th and Jungle, 1s. to 1s. 5d.

Cocoa-Nut Oil.—This market has been very firm, but quiet, with limited business both in Cochin and Ceylon. 258 casks Cochin, and 27 casks Sydney at auction.

Drugs.—Cubebs, Dragon's Blood, and Galangal Root: Nothing doing in either; arrivals of the latter. Rhubarb: A small recent importation, 35 cases, offered at auction, and sold at 1s. 8d. to 3s. 2d. per lb. for low and ordinary, being very full value; various small lots, 26 cases, retired.

Gums.—Benjamin: Steady: of 10 cases Siam at auction only one sold at £21. 5s. per cwt. for 3rd quality; and of 32 cases Sumatra, half sold at £11. 10s. for false packed 2nd quality. Damar: Firm, but quiet; 55 cases at auction retired. Gamboge; No auctions held: limited business done privately upon former terms.

Gutta Percha.—Very quiet, without change in value.

Hemp (Manila).—Firm: 1,300 bales auction sold at £30. 10s. to £31. 15s. per ton, for fair to good current quality, and about the same quantity sold privately at fully equal rates.

Hides.—The quantity of East India Hides offered at sale on the 3rd was not large, and with a fair demand for consumption and a moderate one for export, the greater part found buyers at prices showing little change from those of last sales. 559 Singapore Buffalo Hides offered—477 sold at 4½d. to 5¾d. per lb.; 1,046 Singapore Cow Hides offered and sold—Light 5¾d. per lb.; Heavy, 5¼d. to 5¾d. per lb.; 1,516 Java Buffalo offered, none sold.

Horns (Deer).—Remain firm; 9 tons Calcutta, 6 tons Singapore, and 2 tons Ceylon, sold at auction at 43s. to 56s. 6d. per cwt. for 2¼ to 1¾ lb. average.

India-Rubber.—No auctions; inquiry; little desirable offering.

Japan Wax.—Good and fine qualities firm; lower qualities cheaper. Of 1,114 boxes at auction, one-third sold at 69s. 6d. to 70s. per cwt. for fine saucers; 64s. 6d. discoloured; 51s. to 53s. 6d. ordinary mixed, and 50s. to 51s. discoloured.

Pepper.—Black: Is quiet, and latterly the turn easier. Of 5,057 bags Singapore at auction, one-third sold at 3¼d. to 3⅜d. per lb.; and of 1,717 bags Penang, one-fourth sold at 3d. White: Dull, and nothing of any consequence doing.

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SPICES.—Cloves: Very quiet; not any business at auction, and very little privately. Mace: Steady: 45 cases Penang and 4 cases Singapore at auction sold at 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d. per lb. for middling palish, and 8d. to 1s. 5d. for low to good reddish. Nutmegs: Firm, but nothing of consequence doing.

SAGO.—Steady; 500 boxes at auction sold at 18s. 6d. to 20s. 6d. per cwt. for middling to fine small. Flour: Rather cheaper; of 1,397 bags brought to auction, one-third sold at 14s. to 14s. 6d. per cwt. for middling to good.

SHELLAC.—We quote Orange 2s. 6d. to 5s. per cwt. cheaper; Garnet and Liver 5s., and Button 15s. to 20s. Of 1,490 packages at auction, about half sold, Orange at 73s. to 95s., Garnet 75s. to 76s., Liver 58s. 6d. to 76s., Native 67s. 6d. to 68s., Button 41s. to 75s., Block and blocky 40s. to 82s.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue; Very quiet; of 1,574 bags and 28 tons loose, at auction, only one-fifth sold at 20s. per cwt. for middling mixed. Gambier: Remains very flat, and is lower; of 1,421 bales at auction only a few damaged sold at low rates: limited business privately at 20s. 6d. to 21s. per cwt for middling to fair..

TIN.—This metal has been quiet, with moderate business in Straits at £90 to £90. 10s. per ton cash; a few tons of Banca have been sold at £94. 10s.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Galls: Of 80 pockets Bombay at auction, half sold at £8. 10s. per cwt., being again 10s. per cwt. cheaper; 390 cases China all retired, since selling privately, slowly, at 62s. 6d. 219 boxes Japan sold at 53s. to 56s. fair to good, being firm. Musk: Nothing of consequence doing in pod; only 3 tins grain sold at auction at 40s. per oz. for middling. Rattans: Steady, and 11,631 bundles Singapore sold at auction at 4s. 1d. to 5s. 11d. per 100. Sapanwood: Very firm, with little offering; 14 tons Manila retired. Mother-o'-Pearl Shells: Firm, but nothing doing. Soy: Continues very quiet, with retail sales only within the quotation of 3s. 6d. to 3s. 9d. per gallon. Star Anniseeds: Continue very scarce, and are much wanted. Sticklac, Siam: Very flat; of 516 boxes at auction, a few sold at 32s. to 32s. 6d. per cwt. for good block. Vermilion: Very scarce, and 3s. realised in retail.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7. 15s. to £8; nail rod, £8. 10s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10. 5s.; sheets, single, £10. 10s. to £11; Staffordshire bars, £8. 15s. so £9; rails, £7 to £7. 5s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £15.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £91 per ton; yellow metal, 7¼d. to 8d. per lb.

TIN.—94s. for block; 95s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 28s. 6d. to 30s.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, £19 to £19. 5s.; W.B., £20. 15s; shot patent, £22. 10s.; sheet, £20; spelter, £22. to £22. 10s.; zinc, English sheet, £27. 10s. to £28; quicksilver, £8.

The following is from the circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—We have little improvement to report in the metal market for the past month. Iron: For Staffordshire and Welsh there was a fair demand, but no alteration in price. In Scotch Pig only a small business; the present price is 54s. 9d. cash for g.m.b. Copper continues inactive, particularly in rolled and hammered descriptions. The last sale of copper ore at Swansea was at 15s. 5½d. per unit. Tin: Notwithstanding the reduction declared in price of English, on the 5th ult., the demand continued very limited. In Straits the quotation is now 90s. 6d. for cash—about 2s. per cwt. cheaper than at this period last month. In Banca Tin there was very little business here, and in Holland the quotation continues at 56 guilders (the sale price). Tin Plates: In good demand, the price firm, and higher rates were obtained for some brands. The shipments last month were 75,000 boxes, against 75,000 in July, 1864. Lead: There was more demand for shipment, with only a slight improvement in price. Spelter: Receded about 5s. per ton; the stock in London on the 31st July was 7,503 tons, against 13,121 tons the same period in 1864. Quicksilver: Sales have been reported at £7. 18s. for arrival; the price on the spot continues firm at £8.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£157,763
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£5,560
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£202,342
Singapore	£3,007	£224,150
Penang	—	£8,500
Yokohama	—	£6,465

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£57,966
Penang	—	£4,508
Hong Kong	—	£47,000
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£31,151
Yokohama	—	£9,178

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£56	£10,000
To Saigon	—	£105,830
To Batavia	£3,966	—
To Hong Kong	—	£14,880
To Shanghai	£80	£62,183
To Yokhama	—	£2,184

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4
Silver in Bars	0 5 0¼
Mexican Dollars	0 5 0¼

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Aug. 7	Deal	Foo-chow-Foo	Maiden Queen	Smith.
— 7	Falmouth	Bassein	Zoe	Phillips.
July25	New York	Manila	Young America	Cummings.
— 22	Boston	Penang	Rocket	Freeman.
Aug. 3	Dungeness Roads	Batavia	Eva Johanna	Hordyk.
— 4	Off Swanage	Banjoewangie	Medea	Teutem.
— 7	Falmouth	Akyab	Carl	Edlund.
July20	Boston	Manila	Wild Rover	Taylor.
Aug. 6	Liverpool	Shanghai	Agamemnon	George.
— 8	Deal	Colombo	Shepherd	
— 7	Falmouth	Bassien	Orion	Horns.
— 7	Do.	Akyab	Tyfon	Stemmetz.
— 8	Do.	Batavia	Anteiope	Fornstrom.
— 8	Liverpool	Rangoon	Conqueror	Cook.
July—	New York	Shanghai	Resolute	
—	Do.	Manila	Marmion	
Aug. 8	Deal	China	Richard	Hochreuter.
— 5	Brouwershaven	Padang	Argo	Ankringa.
— 5	Do.	Akyab	Diana	Teongs.
—	London	Zebu	Sir W. F. Williams	Wilson.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Aug. 4	Cardiff	Shanghai	Louise Kohn	Gardes.
— 2	Rotterdam	Java	Europa	
— 1	Cronstadt	Batavia	Java	
— 5	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Queen of the Age	Clayton.
— 5	Do.	Batavia	Franz and Elise	Neidfeld.
— 5	Shields	Galle	Wilsoken	Cox.
— 7	Swansea	Singapore	Charlotte	

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Fusi Yama. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Scindia, Grenadier. For Shanghai: Lansdowne, James Shepherd Maiden Queen. For Hong Kong and Canton: Dilpussund. For Singapore: Couranto. For Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius, and Batavia: Konig Willem III. For Manila: Loycla. For Colombo: Teviot, Jane Symons. For Colombo and Cochin: John Bunyan, Blanch, For Colombo and Trincomalee: Charlotte Ann. For Galle, Beypore Calicut, and Mangalore: Atalanta.

At Liverpool.—For Yokahama: Eliza Hands. For Shanghai: Lockett. For Hong Kong and Canton: Ariel. For Singapore: Carn Tual. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Bulgersteyn. For Batavia and Singapore: Braganza. For Manila: Aureliana, San Luis, Alavesa. For Colombo: Meg Merrilies.

At Glasgow.—For Manila: Adolphe.

SPOKEN.

PEEP O'DAY, London to Shanghai, 228 days out, in Gaspar Straits.
WILDFIRE (?), Colombo to London, June 6, 32 S., lon. 11.
APPELINE, England to Shanghai, April 5, in Allas Straits.
COUNTESS OF ELGIN, for Hong Kong, May 11, off Pulo Oar.
ADJUSTAR(?), (French ship), Newport to Singapore, 4 S., 29 W.
GLENGYLE (s.s.), steering N.E., off Amoy, May 30.
GOTTINGER, (Hanov. schr.) for Hong Kong, May 29, 9 N., 109 E.
SIAM (3 masted Hamb. schr.), for H. Kong, May 29, 9 N., 109 E.
RED DEER, London to Shanghai, May 26, off Pulo Sapata.
CAMBALU, London to Hong Kong, June 21, 5 N., 26 W.
WINSLOW, Colombo to London, June 27, 9 S., lon. 14.
TALBOT, Shanghai to Boston, May 31, off Pedro Branco.
BAPTISTE, Havre to China, May 21, 28 S., 101 E.
ZIBA, Foo-chow-Foo to London, June 8, 13 N., 113 E.
CITY OF QUEBEC, London to Shanghai, June 20, 7 N., 105 E.
FAIR LEADER, Colombo to London, June 6, 31 S., 12 E.
RANTIPOLE (3 masted schr.), Bordeaux to China, July 22, 42 N., 10 W.

CASUALTIES.

The Malabar, Chambon, from Colombo for Belle Isle, which put into Mauritius May 15, leaky, has been condemned and sold.

HARWICH, AUG. 11.—The Luchow (brig.), Ulrichs, of and from Hamburg for Singapore, with a general cargo, got aground off the Shipwash, and was assisted off without apparent damage.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At Reunion.—June 25, from Sumatra, Mima Vidal, Roura.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 197 tons of Naval stores from the river Thames to Hong Kong.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.—SHANGHAI, JUNE 5, 1865.—Sir,—Will you kindly insert the position of a shoal seen by me in the ship *Kelso*, on her passage from Sydney for Shanghai. On the morning of April 20, on looking over the side at daybreak observed the water discoloured, but could see the bottom quite plain. Took several casts of the lead, getting bottom from 25 to 13 fathoms, fine coral sand with red specks, small shells, and seaweed, a strong N.E. swell on at the time. Could see no broken water from the deck. At 8 A.M. ship clear of the shoal, heading N.N.W., wind N.E., going from three to four knots. At noon the ship's position, lat. 23, 54 S., lon. 159, 20 E., by observations I place the north end of the shoal in lat. 24, 12 S., lon. 159, 27 E. We sailed over it in a N.N.W. direction for two hours, the bottom was distinctly seen the greater part of the time, with large stones covered with seaweed. As this shoal is not laid down in any of my charts, and being in the fairway track to China and India from the Colonies, and as there may be some shoal patches on it, by giving this publicity for the guidance of navigators, you will greatly oblige, yours repsectfully,—Robert Black, Master of the ship *Kelso*, of North Shields.

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(Established in 1833.)

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up Capital £1,500 000 (one million and a-half sterling).

Subscribed Capital, £3,000,000 (three millions sterling).

In 20,000 Shares of £100 each, and 20,000 Shares of £50 each.

Number of Shareholders, 908.

Reserved Fund, £500,000.

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Alderman THOMAS QUESTED FINNIS, Deputy Chairman.

GENERAL MANAGER.
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LONDON MANAGER.
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Robert Hunter, Esq

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Current accounts of firms and individuals are kept at the head office, on the terms customary with London bankers, and interest allowed when the credit balance does not fall below £100.

Deposits received at seven days' notice of withdrawal at rates fluctuating with those of the Bank of England; and for longer periods at fixed rates, particulars of which may be obtained upon application.

Sales and purchases effected in British and foreign securities, in East India stock and loans, and army, navy and civil pay and pensions realised.

Every other description of banking business and money agency, at home and abroad, transacted.

Letters of credit and circular notes issued, payable at the chief cities of Europe and Asia, and also at Cairo and Alexandria.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England.

The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)

Branches and Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo Kandy, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Point de Galle, Manila, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow, Nagasaki, and Kiu-kiang.

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J. OUSELEY, General Manager

ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.—

Incorporated by Royal Charter. Authorised Capital, £2,000,000. Paid-up Capital, £500,000.

Head Office—No. 4, Lombard-street.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Melbourne.

The Corporation grant drafts and negotiate bills of exchange payable at the above places, issue letters of credit, and conduct every description of banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian securities, the receipt of dividends, &c. and undertake the safe custody of securities. They also receive deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of interest and exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

HONG KONG and SHANGHAI BANKING COMPANY (Limited).

CAPITAL, $5,000,000.

HALF ALREADY PAID-UP.

HEAD OFFICE—HONG KONG.

V. KRESSER, Manager.

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Shanghai.	Calcutta.
Singapore.	Bombay, and
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W. H. VACHER, Agent.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK of INDIA, LONDON, and CHINA.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up capital, £750,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

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Bombay.	Colombo.	Penang.	Hong Kong.	Yokohama
Calcutta.	Kandy.		Shanghai.	
Madras.	Galle.	Singapore.	Hankow.	Mauritius

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants drafts payable at the places above mentioned, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the Overland Route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

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THE CREDIT FONCIER and MOBILIER of ENGLAND (Limited).

Authorised capital	£4,000,000
Capital subscribed	2,000,000
Capital paid-up	500,000
Reserved Fund	200,000
Dividend Reserve Fund ...	70,000

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Messrs Smith Payne, and Smiths
The National Bank, London, Dublin, and its Branches in Ireland.
The Alliance Bank Limited), London, Liverpool, and Manchester.

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Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, is in complete working order, and at average spring tides can take vessels drawing 16 to 17 feet water. The Dock is fitted with a Caisson Gate and with a Centrifugal Steam Pump of great power ensuring despatch in all states of the tide. An ample stock is kept on hand of Timber, Oregon Spars, Sheathing Copper and Yellow Metal, and of every description of material for Dockyard use.

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Amoy, March, 1865.

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To regular traders the undersigned are known to be among the oldest and best Pilots on the River:—

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ALEXANDER SMITH.	JOSEPH CARGILL.
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THESE Lozenges have a remarkable effect in allaying Cough and Irritation of the Throat and Chest.

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The Medical Profession for Thirty Years have approved of this pure solution of Magnesia as the best remedy for Gout and stomachic disorders of every kind, and as a mild aperient it is especially adapted for ladies and children. Prepared solely by DINNEFORD and Co., Chemists, &c., 172, New Bond-street, London, and sold throughout the World by all Respectable Chemists.

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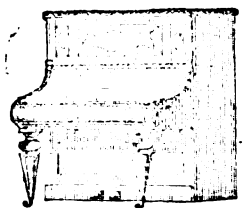

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HUBBUCK'S PATENT WHITE ZINC PAINT.

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Calcutta ...	Chuldwall Abbey ...	1227	AA1 ...	Aug. 15
Bombay ...	Tythonus ...	1152	A 1 12 yrs	Aug. 25
Batavia & Soerabaya ...	Bulgersteyn...	577	5-6ths. 1.1	Aug. 12
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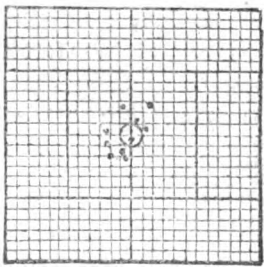

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THE SEVENTH Volume of this JOURNAL commenced on the 3rd of January, 1865. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"

A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 183.] LONDON, MONDAY, AUG. 28, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	April 26	June 20	June 26
Nagasaki	"	"	" 29
Hakodadi	"		" 5
CHINA—Peking			" 22
Tien-tsin			"
Chefoo			" 21
New-chwang			" 17
Hankow			" 29
Kiu-kiang			"
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	May 17	July 1	July 5
Ningpo			" 2
Foo-Chow			" 4
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			"
Swatow			" 8
Hong Kong	May 26		" 13
Canton			" 11
Macao			" 11
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	May 10	June 24	" 3
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			
SIAM— Bangkok			" 3
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			" 12
JAVA—			
Batavia	" 15		
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	June 17	July 18	" 21
Penang	" "	" 16	" 23

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, per P. and O. Company's steamer Nyanza, arrived at Marseilles 26th inst.—From Yokohama: Six Japanese gentlemen and four servants. From Shanghai: Messrs Soul and Carnegie. From Hong Kong: Messrs. Phillips, Schmidt, and Whitlon, Mrs. Harper and European male servant, and one 2nd class passenger. From Singapore: Don Corralis and two 2nd class passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Ceylon, from Southampton, Aug. 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. H. P. M'Clatchie, Mr. M. O'Brien. To Hong Kong: Messrs. J. P. Courtney, L. Lucas, R. Purvis, J. B. Inglis, H. H. Jollye, Kelland, and Winch, Mrs. Tomlin, Mrs. Emilius Hughes, Mr. Rennie, Mr. and Mrs. Manning, and two 2nd-class passengers. To Penang: Miss Hindmarsh. To Singapore: Three 2nd-class passengers. To Ceylon: Mr. F. M. Evans, Mr. John Wodehouse, Mr. J. W. Watson, Mrs. Watson, Mr. Gibson, and three 2nd-class passengers. To Calcutta: Mrs. Livermore, infant, son and daughter, Mrs. and Miss Kinleside, Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. Woodcock, Miss E. Pearson, Messrs. E. Allen and Martin, Capt and Mrs. Roberts and infant, Mr. C. Gordon, Lieut. E. S. Cooke, Mr. Herring, Mrs. Loder, Staff Surgeons A. G. Young and Hughes, Messrs. W. C. Baker and W. H. Smith, junr., Mr. and Mrs. MacMullen, Mr. Rutledge, Surgeon and Mrs. Mulock, and female servant, Staff Assistant-Surgeons Bourke, W. Blake, Riordan, E. P. Haward, F. Dickinson, S. Doak, G. B. West, J. B. Ryan, C. Hutchinson, E. Eustace, J. Peatfield, C. Backhouse, E. Ward, and C. H. Brown, Capt. Everett, Mrs. Mitchell and two infants, fifteen 2nd class passengers, and one child. To Madras: Mr. and Mrs. Peacock, Messrs. F. J. Budd, and J. C. Gillespie, Dr. G. Buie, Messrs. J. B. Kelly, S. Flood, P. Smith, J. Maturin, and five 2nd-class passengers. To Suez: Five 2nd-class passengers. To Alexandria: Messrs. C. T. Nicholson and G. Naggiar, Mr. and Mrs. Naggiar, infant and child, Mr. Robson, and two 2nd-class passengers. To Malta: Assist.-Surgeons Nathan and Ashford, Ensigns Atkins, Downes, Crommelin, and Jamieson, Brevet Major Morris, and servant, and three 2nd-class passengers. To Gibraltar: Capt. Starke, and one 2nd-class passenger.

From Marseilles, Aug. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. John Dent, and European male servant. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. M'Lean, Mr. M. Alloin. To Calcutta: Mr. and Mrs. C. Grome, Lieut. J. Johnston, Mr. C. C. Anderson, Lieut. Spalding, Mr. R. Bridgett. To Madras: Mr. and Mrs. W. Allardyce, Lieut. R. T. Maitland, Col. Dickson, Capt. Whigham, Miss Read, Lieut. Churchward, Mr. de Souza. To Ceylon: Capt. F. C. Woods. From Suez.—To Calcutta: Mr. Granville.

Per P. and O. steamer Ripon, from Southampton, Sept. 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. W. Foster, Mr. W. Gaskell, Mrs. Andrews and two infants. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Fitzroy, Mrs. Black and child, Mr. Bloor, Mrs. G. Stanford and infant, Miss Fox. To Singapore: Mr. H. Alabaster, Mrs. Alabaster. To Ceylon: Messrs. J. Abbott and Anstruther. From Marseilles, Sept. 12.—To Hong Kong: Rev. J. S. and Mrs. Burdon, Mr. and Mrs. Coxon. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Townend, Mr. R. J. Forrest. To Singapore: Mr. Vander Leemo and three ladies. To Ceylon: Mr. J. F. Capelle, Mrs. Ballantyne. To Galle: Mr. W. Hudson. From Suez.—To Shanghai: Sir Rutherford and Lady Alcock and Miss Alcock, Messrs. Hancock and Robason.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Marseilles, Sept. 20.—To Shanghai via Bombay: Mr. Tootal.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Sept. 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. Henderson, Mrs. John. To Hong Kong: Mrs. Ivor Murray, Mr. Noble, Mr. R. Starkey, Captain Barry. To Ceylon: Mrs. Claughton, Rev. A. and Mrs. Young, Mrs. Ross, Mr. W. Prentice. From Marseilles, Sept. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Brackenbury.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Sept. 27.—To Shanghai, via Bombay: Mr. Lloyd Palm. From Marseilles.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. J. Meldrum.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Oct. 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. A. Brent, Mr. D. Lapraik. To Shanghai: Mrs. Bayne. To Ceylon: Mr. B. H. Plumptre. From Marseilles, Oct. 12.—To Shanghai: Lady Parkes and friend. To Ceylon: Mr. D. B. Lindsay.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Oct. 20—To Shanghai: Miss M. A. Russell. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Hermann and infant. To Ceylon: Lady Chichester, Mr. and Mrs. Wright and two children. From Marseilles.—To Shanghai: Mrs. Herbert and three children, Mr. N. G. Howell.

THE INCOMING MAILS.

The next homeward mail received here will be a French one, which left Galle per Messageries Imperiales steamer *Tigre* on the 10th inst., and arrived at Suez on the 27th, having on board 6,080 bales of silk.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

A telegram has been published, dated Shanghai, 12th July, conveying a report that Peking had been taken by the Nien-fei rebels, and also stating that a severe typhoon had occurred in the neighbourhood of Hong Kong. The latter item of news is substantiated by the mails received to-day; but for the former there seems little, if any, foundation, as a telegram of later date (Shanghai, 22nd July) reports all quiet. This latter telegram informs us of the loss of two vessels, the *Lalla Rookh* and *Fuhkien*, probably in the typhoon abone alluded to. It also says that the steamer *Hadrakon* has been burnt; the name is quite unknown to us, and doubtless perverted, as usual in these telegrams. The export of silk to 22nd July is stated to be 20,000 bales; and of tea to 29th July, 26,000 lbs. Exchange at Shanghai, 6s. 4d.; at Canton, 4s. 5¼d.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Dates are to the 27th June. The London mail of the 26th April had arrived out.

At the date of our preceding advices, of the 14th June, several of the Ministers of the Foreign Powers were at Yedo, taking the opportunity during the intervals of business of dispensing hospitality to a large party of friends. We believe that all have returned to Yokohama, with the exception of the Charge d'Affaires of the United States. For some inscrutable reason the English Minister not only himself avoids giving his countrymen any invitations, when he has occasion to visit the city, but finds himself necessitated to refuse permission to British subjects who are invited by other Ministers. It is one of those petty matters that cause a good deal of irritation, and which none can see any good reason for.

Our harbour is now looking very bare of shipping, reports the *Japan Herald*. At this time last year there were more ships of the nations of England and France alone than there are now foreign sea-going ships of all kinds. It is necessary that a proper force be maintained here, although there are no appearances whatever of any sort of hostility to foreigners at present. The Tycoon's Government most certainly is friendly, and all things seem to point to a better understanding being come to with the Mikado and hitherto hostile Daimios than has ever yet been attainable. We entertain a very strong hope that the present opportunity will be seized by the representatives of Foreign Powers to ask of the Mikado, judiciously but firmly, the ratification of the treaties. This once accorded, the whole country would speedily acquiesce, and very little annoyance from hostile samurais would then be experienced. That signature obtained, all that we most desire in a peace-

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ful and profitable intercourse with Japan would speedily follow.

The more generally healthy tone of advices by the last mail had a marked effect upon the general feeling in commercial circles, and although the continuous rains have much retarded business operations, there is decidedly a more hopeful appearance than for some time past.

The *Herald* refers again to a matter which was noticed in the last number of the *London and China Telegraph*. Our contemporary says :—"The attention of the mercantile community has been lately fixed upon the trading operations with the Japanese Government by an *employé* in one of the Foreign Legations, whose dealings are reported to be carried on under the shelter of his chief. We do not believe that the Minister himself has anything at all to do with the transactions alluded to. There were indeed some heavy purchases made by him by order of his Government—but this was done openly and frankly. It is not these we point at. He is, however, very much compromised in the minds of our merchants by the doings of his inferior, and highly respected as he is both personally and as a Minister, it is greatly to be desired that he put a stop to proceedings so inimical to the mercantile interests of his countrymen and others."

NAGASAKI.

At the date of the departure of these advices, Satsuma and Chosiu had no less than eighteen steamers in the harbour, preparing for operating in the struggle with the Tycoon. Satsuma had also just purchased two more steamers—the *Australian* (screw) and the old *London* (paddle), so well known long ago as plying between London and Dundee. There has been a good deal of trading by foreigners at the port of Simonoseki. Of course the principal articles have been arms and munitions of war. This is illegal—the port not being opened to us by the Japanese Government, and the British Charge D'Affaires has published a 'notification' to the effect that traders, at this or any unopened port, are without the protection of the British Government, and that H.M.'s ships of war stationed in or passing through the Inland Sea have orders to co-operate with the officers of the Tycoon in stopping such traffic. H.B.M.'s *Barossa*, it was understood, would leave Nagasaki in a few days, nominally to prevent the re-erection of the Simonoseki forts ; in reality, it is here believed, to prevent this illicit trading. There is a rumour that the French war-steamer *Duplcix* will shortly be ordered thither for a like purpose.

H.B.M.'s *Leopold*, with Sir Harry Parkes, K.C.B., on board, *enroute* to Yokohama, arrived on the 27th June.

[Our own private information leads us entirely to distrust the assertion that Satsuma has any intention of allying himself with Choshiu.—Editor *London and China Telegraph*.]

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

We have dates from this port to the 5th July. The French mail had arrived on the 1st, bringing London letters to the 17th May, and telegraphic news to the 29th May.

A telegraphic wire was being erected by Mr. E. A. Reynolds, between Pootung Point and the Kintoan Beacon ; but the posts when first erected had been cut down by order of a mandarin of inferior rank at the town of Chin-za. Ting (Taoutai, of Shanghai) had, however, punished the offending magistrate, and ordered him to re-erect the telegraph posts at his own expense.

Sir Harry Parkes left for Nagasaki and Yokohama in H.M.S. *Leopard*, on the 25th of June, and a lively feeling of regret was manifested among the residents at his departure. From the Shanghai papers we have extracted particulars of a farewell dinner given by them, and of a special meeting of the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society convened to take leave of him.

On the 3rd July the foundation of a new Masonic Hall was laid with great pomp and ceremony. There was a grand procession formed of the members of several lodges, the consular staff, volunteers, &c.

A very important measure has been passed at a special meeting of land renters, held at H.B.M. Consulate on the 1st July, G. F. Seward, U.S. Consul-general, in the chair. It was resolved that the Municipal Council be authorised to collect a town due upon all imports, exports, and re-exports passing through the Custom-house, of one-tenth per cent. ad valorem.

The Commissioner of Customs has consented to be the medium of collecting this tax, and 100,000 taels per annum it is expected will be realised from it.

FAREWELL DINNER TO SIR HARRY S. PARKES, K.C.B.

On Thursday evening, the 22nd June, Sir Harry Parkes was entertained at dinner by the foreign community of this port, the official, mercantile, and professional elements in the Settlements being very fairly represented by the eighty or ninety gentlemen who united in this tribute of respect and esteem to our late Consul. Amongst those present were M. le Viscomte Brenier de Montmorand, Colonel Yonge, Captain Leckie, the members of the Municipal Council, M. Arte manns Secretary of the French Council ,and the consular body. The eatables were excellent, and were cooked in the club. The wine was fair, and, indeed, the only drawback to the pleasure of the evening was the confusion caused by the presence of an enormously large number of China boys, who, by pressing and squeezing around the carvers effectually hindered the discharge of the important functions entrusted to those officials. However, the general arrangements reflected much credit on the committee, or rather on the enegetic secretary, Mr. Myburgh, upon whose shoulders fell all the labour of the preparations. The chair was occupied by Mr. Keswick, and the vice-chair by Mr. Myburg. After the cloth was removed, or at that period of the evening which generally witnesses the removal of the cloth, the Chairman proposed the health of "The Queen," as that of a lady who by her public and domestic virtues had won the affection of her subjects and the esteem of the world at large. This toast was drunk with the customary honours, the band of the 67th Regiment playing the National Anthem.

The Chairman then rose to propose "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers." He was happy to have it in his power to refer to the good feeling which has always existed between the Shanghai community and the sister services. The advantages we at present enjoy are due to the indefatigable exertions of the Army and Navy, exertions of which we have lately seen the fruits in the brilliant successes gained by Her Majesty's ships at Kagosima and Simonoseki. The Volunteers, too, had smelt powder in Shanghai, and had ever shown themselves willing to do whatever duty presented itself.

Band—"Rule Britannia."

Colonel Yonge, on behalf of the Army, had much pleasure in returning his sincere thanks for the honour done to his branch of the service. While he cordially congratulated Sir Harry Parkes on his promotion, he could not but recognise the serious loss which the military section of the community—the Volunteers—had sustained by his removal. No doubt if a Volunteer Corps should again be started in Yokohama Sir Harry Parkes would give it the benefit of his experience, and would, as Commandant, devote that same untiring energy to its development, which had marked his connection with the corps at this port.

Captain Leckie, in returning thanks for the Navy, regretted that his inexperience in public speaking made him feel like a lame duck when standing up to express his gratification at the honour which had been done to the Navy. No doubt the greatness of England owes much to the exertions of her naval force, and in the recent engagements in Japan we had a significant proof of what could be done by ships. The Simonoseki affair had proved as successful as any which have been inscribed on the roll of history, and that success was mainly due to Admirals Kuper and Juares. Kagosima, too, at which he had not the honour of being present, was another striking example of England's power on the sea.

Captain Maclean, S.V.C., rose to acknowledge the honour done to the Volunteers. He had some diffidence in speaking, as, in spite of what the Chairman had said, he had never been in action, but he was convinced that so long as the Volunteers had a duty to perform they would never turn their backs on it. He, in the name of the corps which he had the honour to command, wished to express his deep regret at the departure of Sir Harry Parkes.

Captain Markham, S.M.R., thought it unnecessary to add anything to the eulogistic remarks which had fallen from his friend Captain Maclean.

The Chairman then rose and said that the pleasing duty devolved upon him of proposing the toast of the evening. The object they all had in view in meeting was to do honour to Sir Harry Parkes, and to show their esteem and respect for him. The community was about to sustain no ordinary loss. The affability and kind-heartedness with which they

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had all on different occasions been received had made a deep impression, and it must now be gratifying to their departing guest to learn that he enjoys the especial regard of all present. When he first arrived he was personally a stranger to the majority of the residents, but by fame he was well known. He had in hours of imminent danger vindicated his title to bravery, and had faced death rather than betray the trust reposed in him. He, the speaker, would only say that Sir Harry Parkes had proved himself one of the most talented Consuls in the English service, and there was no doubt that he would carry with him to Japan the hearty good wishes of the Shanghai community. Nor was there any doubt that his career in Japan would be crowned with that success which had attended his efforts in China. We may therefore look forward to the time when he will return to this country to assume the highest position which a British subject can hold in a foreign land. Loud and prolonged cheering.

A note was read from Mr. Seward, expressing his regret at being unable to attend the dinner in person. He wished, however, to record his deep regret at losing the friendship and official assistance which during the entire of Sir Harry Parkes' tenure of office had marked his intercourse with his colleagues.

Sir Harry S. Parkes, who was received with deafening cheers, said that he trusted he would be acquitted of affectation if he said that he found it quite impossible to return adequate thanks for the kindness with which he had been received. He felt that he had been given more credit than he really deserved, but as he believed that whatever has been done once can be done again, he should depart for his new sphere with the hope that the same confidence which he had gained from all classes in Shanghai would in Japan be also extended to him. He was happy to say that from his chief at Peking—from his foreign colleagues—from the Municipal Council, and from all sections of the community he had received constant testimonials of approval. Nor, indeed, while recalling these gratifying facts must he forgot that they were in a great measure the result of the exertions of his indefatigable staff of officers, who had borne with him the burden and heat of the day. Shanghai, as it had been the first scene of his labour in China, appeared also destined to be the closing scene. Twenty-three years ago last Tuesday he had stood on the deck of a man-of-war, which was then ascending the river for the purpose of occupying Shanghai. At that time there was no trace of the settlement, no indication of those stately hongs which now fringe the banks of the river. Again, having served in Shanghai at various intervals, he was in 1859 appointed Consul here. In Japan he should want the same support which he obtained here. He would never forget the friendly feeling shown him on this and previous occasions, and wherever he might happen to be he would pray for the prosperity of this generous and enlightened community.

Sir Harry Parkes then sat down, but after a few moments he rose to say that the chairman had kindly permitted him to propose a toast—"the Consuls and Consuls-General in China." It might appear strange that he should propose the health of a body of which he was a member, but as his Consular functions would cease in a few hours, he had no doubt that that few hours' grace would be accorded to him. To his friends and colleagues he wished to return hearty thanks for the assistance they had uniformly afforded him.

The Viscomte Brenier de Montmorand trusted that his limited acquaintance with the English language would be excused while he in the name of himself and his colleagues thanked Sir Harry Parkes for the cordiality with which his and their health had been proposed. It was true that they all felt a lively satisfaction in finding Sir Harry Parkes promoted to a higher sphere of duty, but that satisfaction was hardly equal to the sorrow with which they parted from him.

Mr. Myburgh rose to propose the health of "the Mercantile Community of Shanghai," who stood out amongst the great masses of native traders as tacit advocates of honour and honesty. It was true that the last few years had not proved very prosperous, but that result should be attributed to the rashness of a few, and not to any falling off in mercantile talent or in the resources of the country. It was his earnest hope not only that better days might come, but that they might come quickly, and in this wish they would no doubt all join He wished to couple the name of Mr. Dunn with this toast.

Mr. Dunn said:—I wish that the duty of replying to Mr. Myburgh's toast had devolved on some one else; indeed I think that one of the conscript fathers of the place, or a member of one of the historic houses of China, should have been called on for a reply. Perhaps, however, I have been selected because I am one of the youngest merchants in this room, and because, as my friends can testify, I have a proper sense of my own unimportance. Mr. Myburgh was so good as to say that he wished the coming times might be more prosperous than the evil days we have had of late. But I say if the past two years have not been prosperous, still they have been successful. For we have with full intent and purpose heaped riches in profusion on the interesting heathen of this country, and we have not done so with selfish motives.

Mr. Lyall begged to propose a toast which might or might not be well received—"The Municipal Council of Shanghai," whom we had learned to look upon as a vast monster, with one paw on our throats and the other fumbling in our pockets. But it must be remembered that the present Council had not been long in existence, and he believed that the only object which its members had in view was to secure the well-being of the community.

Mr. Hogg, having been called on by Mr. Keswick, thanked the gentlemen present for their kindness in drinking the health of such formidable birds of prey as Mr. Lyall had described. The duty of the Council was by no means a sinecure. They had a great deal to do, and no money to do it with. All they wanted was the confidence of the community, and the funds which that confidence would produce.

Mr. Alabaster, in proposing the health of the representatives of the learned professions, wished to impress on the mind of everybody present the vast advantages secured to us by the Church, the Bar, and the Medical profession.

The Rev. C. H. Butcher returned thanks.

The toast of "The Press" was proposed by Mr. King in a speech which, to judge by the applause it produced, must have been a gem of eloquence. We were unfortunately unable to catch a single word.

Mr. Tarrant stated that he, as the senior member of the Press in China, had been deputed by his colleagues to reply on their behalf. The Press in China had taken accurate note of Sir Harry Parkes' progress from the time that, as a youth of fifteen, he landed at Hong Kong, to the present moment when, laden with honours, he was about to depart as the representative of a great Sovereign at a Court where delicate diplomacy is above all things necessary. Mr. Tarrant then sketched Sir Harry Parkes' career, and alluded to his departure for Madras in Sir Henry Pottinger's suite, to his onerous duties in Siam, and to the experience which he had gained while acting as one of the Allied Commissioners at Canton.

"The Ladies" were then proposed by Dr. Coghill, and responded to by Mr. Fearon.

Sir Harry Parkes had much pleasure in supplying what no doubt would be looked on as an omission. He would propose the health of Mr. Keswick, the Chairman of the evening. He was glad to have the opportunity of thus thanking him publicly for the kindness he had received at his hands. Mr. Keswick deserved well at the hands of the community.

Mr. Keswick in reply briefly thanked Sir Harry Parkes for what was to him a perfectly unexpected honour. This was the last toast drunk, and the party broke up about one o'clock.

SHANTUNG.

A report is current to the effect that the Nienfei have captured and sacked the city of Chu-fou-hsien, in the Shantung province. This city is remarkable as having been the birthplace of Confucius, and within its walls stood a temple to the memory of the sage, more magnificent than any other in the empire. It is said that this temple has been razed to the ground by the insurgents, who thus prove their desire to follow in the paths of destruction adopted by the Taipings.

HANKOW.

We have news from here to the 22nd June. A freshet, such as had never been observed before, had occurred on the Yang-tzi-kiang, doing much damage to property. Native craft of all sorts were sunk and broken up, and some hundreds of Chinese drowned. A large dragon boat was capsized in the river, and dashed to pieces against the junks; a raft broke adrift, and came down with great violence, tearing away Dent and Co.'s jetty and smashing the gangway ladder of Lindsay and Co.'s hulk, *Georgiana*.

The various steamers in port had steam up—the *Fusi-Yama* and *Fire Queen* being obliged to anchor in the stream.

SOOCHOW.

Advices from the provincial city inform us that Burgevine

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has arrived there under escort. The American Consul General has demanded his rendition, but the Chinese refuse it on the ground that "his guilt was overwhelming and must not be punished lightly." The English authorities have earnestly advised the Chinese to comply with Mr. Seward's very just demand, but up to the present no notice has been taken of the recommendation. We understand that Mr. Seward has written a very strong despatch to the local officials warning them that a continuance in the course they have adopted will prove a very satisfactory *casus belli*.

The existence of a band of garotters has been discovered at Soochow, and two of the men composng the body in question have been taken and executed. For a month past the streets have been quite unsafe at night, murders and robberies being of constant occurrence. The swift fate which has fallen on the two desperadoes already captured will, it is to be expected, afford a salutary warning to their companions.

NANKING.

We learn that the Hunan and Hupeh troops stationed at Nanking refused to follow Tseng-Kuofan on his expedition into the Shantung province. When Li Hung-chang arrived he found the garrison in a state bordering on mutiny, which was not appeased even by his presence, although he is said to possess considerable influence over the hardy warriors of the central provinces. After much ineffectual cajolery he at length issued a notification giving the troops two days wherein to consider their decision, threatening that those who at the end of that period still persisted in their refusal should be deprived of all their property and executed. On the day named, the men still holding out, two of the ringleaders were seized and beheaded, whereupon the remainder signified their willingness to start. Since the capture of Nanking the troops have made themselves excessively comfortable, have seized or built houses and amassed a fair share of money. These attractions they were loth to leave, and hence the obstinacy with which they refused to comply with the orders issued. For five days, during which time the Imperial troops were engaged in crossing the Yangtsze in junks, all private traffic between Chinkiang and the left bank of the river was interdicted. It is said that the soldiers who were disbanded after the capture of Nanking will be again called upon to serve either as garrisons for Nanking and their important cities or in active field operations.

NINGPO.

We hear from Ningpo that, consequent on the Taotai having found a great falling off lately in the amount of war-tax levied on opium sales, his Excellency, by his foreign commissioner, has addressed foreign merchants, and requested that they permit Customs officers to take stock of drug in godowns every now and then, so that there may be a species of extra check on deliveries. This has been complied with, to the intense disgust, we are told, of a good many of the foreign dealers in drug at Ningpo, who think that quite enough is done by them for H.I.M.'s Customs when thirty taels per chest are paid, according to tariff. Writing to us on the subject, one of the annoyed ones says that—over and above this thirty taels from the importers, the local authorities take from the native purchasers another sum amounting to taels 39, so making the actual tax on opium to be over sixteen per cent., and the writer goes on to remark on what he deems small-mindedness in large and other dealers, of receiving from the Taotai a drawback of five taels on every chest sold, a tael and a half of said five being allotted to the comprador—the service given for these five taels per chest being a return to the Customs of all drug sold, name of purchaser, &c. The Taotai seems to doubt whether these returns are truthful in all cases, and asks permission to do that which, in England, people dealing in excisable articles cannot refuse, viz., an inspection, now and then, of stock.

FORMOSA.

H.M.S. *Dove* arrived at Wusung on the 22nd June from the South Cape of Formosa, in which neighbourhood she has been engaged surveying. She had anchored three quarters of a mile off the Cape, where she was to have remained while stations were erected. It was, however, found that the surf broke so heavily that it was necessary to effect a landing a short distance to the North-west. Thence the party walked across a coral beach to the spot fixed upon, having left the boat's crew with the boat at the point where they had landed. Guns were suddenly heard, and Captain Stanley imagined that the natives were firing to intimidate them. On looking towards the ship, they found that the boats were being lowered and the ports raised. A Chinese who was with the party advised them to retreat, as the natives were about to attack. Meanwhile the boat had pushed off, but as it was near low water and the surf had subsided they were enabled to get on board without difficulty, a running fire being kept up all the time. Unfortunately the surveying party were armed with pistols only, and the natives were daring enough to come within thirty yards of the boat, firing gingals and succeeding in smashing three oars, and piercing the boat in twelve places. One man only was wounded. The boat arrived safely at the ship, whence fire was opened and the natives who crowded the beach dispersed. The Chinese informed Captain Stanley that the aborigines at this spot are cannibals, so that had retreat been cut off, the party would have had little chance of escaping with life. To commemorate the event Captain Stanley has named the spot Attack Bay.

HONG KONG.

Our latest date from Hong Kong is the 12th July. The *Carnatic* had arrived on the 6th with the London mails of the 26th May, and by the steamer *Indore* on the 8th, telegraphic news from home had been received to the 15th June. The gunboat *Opossum* (tender to the *Princess Charlotte*) had been despatched to Kulan, in which neighbourhood some daring piracies had been committed; one, it was reported, on an European vessel.

A typhoon occurred in the vicinity of Hong Kong on the 30th June, which did much damage among shipping on the coast. Three steamers left for the north the previous day, and seem to have run into the very vortex of it—the *Oriflamme* (American), and the *Chanticleer* and *Corea* (British). The *Oriflamme* escaped almost by a miracle; the sea having put her fires out, she was only just able to get back into port in a very disabled state. The other two have not since been heard of, and no hope is entertained of their safety, as they were bound for Swatow, which port they should have reached in twenty-four hours. The *Corea* belonged to the P. and O. Company.

The trade of the port had been almost suspended during the fortnight by a strike among the coolies employed in carrying merchandise. The cause of the strike was a very necessary rule for registration which was enforced by the local Government.

The new Order in Council for the government of British subjects in China has been published in this colony. It makes it a misdemeanor for any British subject to serve either belligerent, but, fortunately for the Imperial Government at the present juncture, its provisions do not come into force immediately.

COCHIN-CHINA.

SAIGON.

The report addressed to the French Minister of Marine by the Rear-Admiral, *interim* Governor of Cochin-China, states that the influence of France in that country increases from day to day, the more that the permanency of her occupation is evidently assured. In the province of Mytho, in the course of one week, no less than thirty-two rebellious chiefs gave in their submission. The Annamites of the frontier, too, have by their reports served to extend into the neighbouring provinces confidence in the justice and humanity of the French authorities. Under the conviction of the importance of agriculture to the interests of the colony, the Governor ha formed at Saigon an agricultural and industrial committee which has for its object a periodic exposition of indigenous produce, and of such improved mechanical implements as may be introduced. Modes of transport, too, are to be improved, and it is hoped that at no distant time a number of steamers of light draught may be advantageously employed in navigation. The large industrial works undertaken in the Chinese town of Cholen are being rapidly pushed forward; more especially the new canal and wharfs, and general building improvements, so that before long the town will exhibit quite a transformation.

BORNEO.

SARAWAK.

On Trinity Sunday, the 11th June, an ordination was held here by the Bishop of Labuan and Sarawak, when Mr. C. W. Hawkins, of St. Augustine's College, and Mr. J. Richardson, who has, for the last three years and a-half, been a catechist among the Lalakow Dyaks, &c., and Too Ngyen Khoon, for

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twelve years catechist among the Kay Chinese, were ordained deacons. The ordination sermon in the morning was preached by his lordship the Bishop of Labuan and Sarawak. On Monday, the 12th, the Second Synod of the Church was convened after morning service, when the sermon was preached by the Rev. W. H. Gomes. There were six presbyters and three deacons present. The Bishop, after special prayer, opened the synod with an address, in which he reviewed the work of the missions, and showed that although in past years its progress had been slow, yet the future was promising and full of hope. The number of natives baptised, forming congregations at the several stations, was, at Sarawak, 179 (chiefly Chinese), at Lundu and Ladumak, 152, at Binting, 138, at Quop, 98, at Mundong, 56, at Undoss, 13. At all the stations considerable numbers of Catechumens were under instruction. The synod sat for four days, and among other things, decided upon the Malay and Dyak words for a number of theological terms which frequently occur in translations into Dyak and Malay. There were also some interesting papers read upon the superstitions and practices of the Monongs among the Sea and Land Dyaks; and also upon the rites of marriage and burial. Some satisfactory discussions ensued upon the best way of dealing with these rites and practices, in a missionary point of view. The clergy were all the guests of the Bishop during their stay at the capital, and after the synod they returned to their respective stations.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are to the 21st July. The London mail of the 10th June arrived out on the afternoon of the 15th July. The French steamer *Donnai* arrived on the 18th July with the mail of the 17th June.

The French war steamer *Orne* came into Singapore harbour on the 5th July, having left Aden on the 19th June. The Hamburg steamer *China*, from Grimsby the 1st April, came into the roads on the 20th July.

The weather continues sultry (reports the *Overland Free Press*), and the absence of rain begins to tell on the wells. With the exception of a few slight showers, we have had scarcely any rain for six weeks; and the disagreeableness of the weather has been very much aggravated by a strong hot wind which has been blowing for several days. This wind, called the Java, is more dangerous than is imagined; and to sleep exposed to it is often attended with serious consequences. A gentleman who reached this a short time back by the mail steamer from China in perfect health, slept in the verandah of the Hotel d'Europe on the evening of his arrival; and on awaking the side of his body which had been most exposed to the wind was perfectly paralyzed. He left this quite a cripple.

In days of yore, when an armed steamer of the Bengal Marine was kept on this station, the commander, when not engaged elsewhere, made it a point to take up his quarters off Point Romania for the protection of our native trade. Once or twice a month he used to run his vessel up the coast as far as Kalantan and further, and cruise about looking for pirates. When the steamer lay at anchor her boats were sent out to perform similar duties. Not a native craft was allowed to pass without being overhauled. We have no doubt that such vigilance had a salutary effect on the pirates of the coast, as they would be sure to hear that a man-of-war was on the alert, and likely to pounce upon them at any time. We were led into these remarks by learning that Chinese pirates were committing their depredations as low down as Tringanu, on the Malay coast. H.M. gunboat *Banterer*, and the Straits Government steamer *Pluto* left on the 12th July to look after these pirates. The Deputy-Commissioner of Police accompanied the expedition.

The detachment of the 35th Regt. M.N.I. from Penang, will be conveyed by the steamer *Rainbow* to Labuan, and the relief brought here by the same steamer. This detachment has been waiting for several days, owing to the *Pluto* having been despatched on other duties. The *Free Press* observes with regard to the taking up of the *Rainbow* to carry troops to Labuan, that the cost of transport is a charge against the Imperial, not the local Government. The order from home is that the relief should be effected always, if possible, by one of H.M.'s vessels. There is more than enough of work (local) for the *Pluto*, for many weeks to come—say, the floating light vessel has to be towed to Singapore for repair, and another to take her place on the North Sands—native ports have to be visited, and the Governor proceeds shortly on his annual tour to the little settlements.

Sallay, the Javanese who committed the "amok" on board the Dutch brig *Salida*, has been pronounced by the Resident's assistant-surgeon to be of sound mind. He was removed to Her Majesty's Jail, from the Police Hospital, where he has been under the surveillance of the doctor for some days. When he was brought up at the Criminal Sessions, and the indictments read to him, the Recorder made some remarks regarding the prisoner not having been committed to jail immediately after his commitment, and commented in strong terms on his being taken to a place other than Her Majesty's Jail. Although the arrangement was approved of on public grounds, it was the illegality of so doing that was condemned, as the prisoner had no time given him to prepare his defence. As it was necessary to obtain further proof as to the prisoner's state of mind antecedent to the murder, recourse was had to the Consul for Netherlands India, who promised to communicate with the Resident of Sourabaya on the subject. Taking into consideration all these circumstances, it was thought necessary to postpone the trial until next Sessions, to give ample time to hear from Sourabaya, and to give the prisoner the full benefit of counsel.

The party who committed the robbery in the Masonic Lodge, and who was so leniently dealt with, evidently stole more than what was recovered by the police, as it now turns out that a German named Peter Haps, who is a partner in the Rotterdam Tavern, North Bridge Road, had by him one of the ornaments stolen from the Lodge on the above occasion. The manner he accounts for his being possessed of such property is satisfactory to him, and entirely exonerates him from all blame. George England, who is already convicted of the Lodge robbery, states that he disposed of a similar masonic jewel in a case to a seaman for two dollars; which has not been recovered, as the seaman left shortly after for New York. The precise description and list of the masonic jewellery lost has not been ascertained, and it very much depends as to whether George England will give any information as will lead to the discovery of such property that is still unrecovered.

A European seaman named Hugh Curran, belonging to the British ship *Rowena*, was committed for trial at the next Criminal Sessions, by the Marine Magistrate, on a charge of stabbing and wounding a seaman of the same vessel named James Neblock, on the passage from Melbourne to Singapore. On the 2nd July, after the arrival of the ship in port, the wounded man was sent to the hospital, where he was placed under the treatment of Dr. Ferguson.

A coroner's inquest was held on the 18th July, before F. G. Gottlieb, Esq., Deputy-Coroner, on the body of a European named Richard Peratt. After the medical evidence had been taken the jury returned a verdict to the following effect:—"Died from natural causes, aggravated by a violent purgative administered by John Francis Christian." Before the inquest Dr. Ferguson analysed some pills which were brought away from the house of the above-named, and the ingredients contained in them were not at all satisfactory. It appears that this doctor, a native of Madras, has been in the habit of carrying about with him a wand which contains any number of pills, for all disorders. These were tested and appeared to be highly obnoxious for the European temperament. Dr. John got a very narrow escape of being committed for manslaughter.

On the 17th July, two cases of Wha Whay (a species of lottery) were successfully prosecuted before the sitting Magistrate. In one a fine of fifty rupees was inflicted on the principal offender; and in the second a fine of 200 rupees. The first was carried on in a hut on Thomson's Road; the second in a doctor's shop in town. We understand that gambling in this form is indulged in to a frightful extent. The lottery is usually drawn in Johore, or some out of the way place on this island, and the keeper has numerous agents for the sale of his tickets, who dispose of them in every hole and corner. Domestics are very much addicted to this pastime. It is said that gambling at *poh* has waned before Wha Whay.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

Baldwin—On the 9th June, at Hong Kong, the wife of J. C. Baldwin, Esq., of a daughter.

Eyre—On the 23rd Aug., at Cove, near Glasgow, the wife of William Adamson Eyre, of a son.

Gaisford—On the 20th Aug., at 13, Bruton-street, the Lady Emily Gaisford, of a daughter.

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SHULDHAM—On the 19th Aug., at Portishead, Somerset, the wife of Major Shuldham, H.M.'s 108th, of a daughter.
STILL—On the 20th Aug., at Hillside House, Avening, Gloucestershire, the wife of E. A. Still, Esq., of a daughter.
WALKER—On the 12th July, at Colombo, Ceylon, the wife of Lieut.-Colonel H. Torrens Walker, the King's Own Borderers, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

FREEMAN—MARROTT.—On the 17th Aug., at St. Mary's Church, Islington, by the Rev. Mr. Stanton, Albert L. Freeman, of Shanghai, China, to Jane Wayland, second daughter of the late William John Marrott, of Upper Holloway.
SCOTT—GORTON.—On the 4th July, at the Union Church, by the Rev. Dr. Legge, Albert Scott, of Worcester, to Mary Ann Gorton, of Lichfield.

DEATHS.

XTER—On the 30th June, of fever, at her residence Benham-road, Susan Harriet Sophia Baxter, aged 39; greatly respected, and sincerely regretted.
BENEST—On the 21st June, at Shanghai, after a short illness, much beloved and esteemed, Philip Le Geyt Benest, Esq., Commander of Messrs. Green's ship Highflyer, aged 33.
BOWKER—On December 27th, on his passage from China, John T. F. Bowker, Esq., late editor of the "Shanghai Recorder," aged 46. The deceased was the only son of the late Captain John Bowker, R.N., of Greenwich Hospital.
CUNINGHAM.—On June 25th, at the General Hospital, Hong Kong, Michael Cuningham, Private 29th Regiment, aged 24 years.
HARPER—At Hong Kong, on the 3rd July, on board the American ship Samuel Russell from New York, Mr. John Fletcher Harper, of Brooklyn, N.Y., U.S.A., passenger, of disease of the liver.
O'BRIEN—On the 27th July, at Suez, on board the P. and O. Company's ship Golconda, after a long illness, Major-General Terence O'Brien, Commanding the Troops in Ceylon, aged 66.
OWEN—On the 19th Aug., at Marseilles, homewards from Hong Kong, Roger Carmichael Robert Owen, Esq., barrister-at-law, Captain in the Shropshire Militia, eldest son of Colonel Owen, late 72nd Highlanders.
PETERSON—At Wanchi, on the 30th June, August Ferdinand Peterson, native of Swed n, late engineer to Messrs. Russell and Co., aged 29 years.
SEVERS—On the 19th Aug., at Redhill, Surrey, Philip Henry, the infant son of Henry H. Severs, Esq., of Hong Kong.
SHULDHAM—On the 19th Aug., at Portishead, Somerset, Katherine Dora, wife of Major Shuldham, H.M.'s 108th, and eldest daughter of the late Rev. Egerton Dukinfield, aged 29.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—CANTON.—The quiescent state of our market has increased, and prices for Scented Teas rule from 2 to 3 tls. lower; fully half the settlements of the fortnight have been for the United States and Buenos Ayres, so that the actual settlements for England have been very small. Country Congous.—Musters of four chops have been shown, and quality appears fully equal to former seasons. We hear the chops will be here in the course of a few days. Country Greens.—Settlements for the fortnight have been 803 half-chests for the American market at advanced rates, as quoted in our last. Canton-made Teas.—Some 2,500 packages have found buyers chiefly for Buenos Ayres, and Scented kinds have been purchased for the same market; this remark also applies to Gunpowder, which is the only kind of Canton Greens that has found buyers. Sales, Prices, and Stocks, we quote as follows:—Tayshan, new make, 500 ½-ch., at 22 to 28 tls.; do. do., 2,000 bxs., at 22 to 28 tls.; Scented Orange Pekoe, 10,000 bxs., 22 to 35 tls.; Scented Caper, 6,800, at 23 to 34 tls.; Gunpowder, 2,000, at 18 to 26 tls.; Country Greens, 800 ½-ch., at 27 to 35 tls.; Gunpowder, 36 to 52 tls.; Imperial, 33 to 49 tls.; Hyson, 25 to 31 tls.; Young Hyson, 22 to 30 tls.; Twankay, 15 to 17 tls.

SHANGHAI.—Black Teas: We have now to report the opening of our market for Congous, which took place on the 22th ult., by the settlement of three chops of medium Oopacks at 28½ taels (at 1s. 8d. per lb.), and one chop of fine quality at 33½ taels (at 1s. 11d. per lb.). These prices are about three taels under present Hankow rates, and lay down the teas at last London quotation. Since the arrival of the French mail there has been more disposition to operate, and we think purchases will now follow on the same scale. Fine Teas are for the most part being shipped on owners' account, the supply of this class being unusually short this season. Re-shipments of Hankow settlements have been 15,000 chests, and our stock is estimated at 30 chops, or 15,500 chests. Total shipments (including Hankow Settlements), 24,100 chests, against 56,000 chests at same date last year. Green Teas: The settlements comprise only 900 half-chests at 26 to 28 tls. proportion, prices about the same as those last quoted. There have been no reshipments, and our stock is reduced to 5,600 half-chests, only 4,000 of which are country packed, and all of undesirable quality. From Pingsuey we hear that the picking of the new teas has commenced, and we have received musters of the new leaf; but through unfavourable weather the teas will be somewhat later than last year in coming to hand. Total shipments to date: 4,500 half-chests, against 3,600 half-chests at same date last year. Quotations.—Gunpowder: Cargo, 27 to 31 tls.; superior, 33 to 39 tls.; fine, 41 to 48 tls.; finest, 49 to 58 tls. Imperial: Cargo, 22 to 24 tls.; superior, 27 to 29 tls.; fine, 31 to 36 tls.; finest, 37 to 42 tls. Young Hyson: Cargo, 12 to 18 tls.; superior, 21 to 28 tls.; fine, 29 to 35 tls.; finest, 37 to 43 tls. Hyson: Cargo, 23 to 28 tls.; superior, 31 to 39 tls.; fine, 41 to 50 tls.; finest, 51 to 64 tls. Twankay: Cargo, 9 to 12 tls.; superior, 13 to 15 tls.; fine, 17 to 19 tls.; finest, 20 to 21 tls.

FOOCHOW.—The mail has not arrived, owing to the steamer which should have brought it down being lost (no doubt) in a typhoon on the way up. The following is the report for the week ending 1st July. Congou, a large business has been done during the week, principally in the lower grades for Australia, which have advanced from 5 mace to 1 tael. Prices of other descriptions are about the same. The finest Kaisows are nearly all settled. Souchong.—A few chops have been shipped, but the terms on which they were settled have not transpired. The teamen reported bids for the finest chops as high as 35 to 37 taels. Oolongs.—A fair business had been done without any alteration in quotations. Scented Teas were being shipped freely, the market maintaining the high range of quotations last reported.

NINGPO.—Pingsuey: Since our last much higher prices have been paid up country for leaf, which now enhance cost of good chops to equivalent of Sh. 35 tls. per picul, proportion laid down in Shanghai.

HANKOW.—The latest date is the 29th ult. Settlements continued at the rise, caused by the news of the reduction of duty till the arrival of the English mail of 26th April, when less eagerness was shown, and there being few fine teas left on the market, purchases were made at somewhat easier rates. In all 75 chops have been settled during the fortnight. Some musters of second crop have come to hand, which are good in leaf, but wanting in strength. Reports are now, that notwithstanding the inducements offered by the high opening rates, the total yield will be within that of last year. There was a stock of 34 chops left on the market. Quotations were:—Oopacks, fine to finest, 26½ to 34 tls.; fair to good Oopacks and fine to finest Oonams, 23 to 26 tls.; common Oopacks and Oonams, 15 to 22 tls. Total shipments to date—187 chops or 9,906,600 pounds, against 223 chops or 12,130,200 pounds last year.

RAW SILK.—A quantity has accumulated here during the fortnight, owing to the anxiety of exporters to ship. This opportunity the Rangoon will carry about 4,900 bales.

SHANGHAI.—Since last mail 6,000 to 7,000 bales of silk have been settled at rather lower prices. The arrivals lately have not been on such a large scale from the interior, and the unsold stock is reduced to 3,000 bales. The reports of the second crop are less satisfactory, the yield not being considered so large as was expected; some of the silk may be expected down in Shanghai in a few days. The Yokohama mail arrived on the 1st inst.; by it advices were received to the 26th June. The steamer had only about 400 bales of silk on board, the transactions for the fortnight having been moderate; the unsold stock was estimated at about 400 to 500 bales. The following are the latest quotations:—Tsatlee, Chops No. 1, 500 tls. per picul; do., No. 2, 480 tls. per picul; do., No. 3, 460 tls. per picul. Taysaam, Chops No. 1, 420 to 430 tls. per picul; do., No. 2, 400 to 410 tls. per picul; do., No. 3, 380 to 390 tls. per picul. Yuenfa, Chops No. 1, 440 to 450 tls. per picul; do., No. 2, 420 to 430 tls. per picul.

YOKOHAMA.—The settlements for the past fortnight amount to about 700 (native) bales, comprising one or two small parcels of new crop. Owing to the favourable accounts from Europe brought by last mail, and the low Exchange ruling, prices are likely to open very high, though the season's yield is confidently expected to be a large one.

DRUGS, &c.—CANTON.—Cassia Lignea.—This article is higher again, and is now quoted $16 to $16.25, at which rate some 1,650 piculs have been taken: the remaining stock consists of 3,000 piculs. Cassia Buds: $59 per picul, nominal; the first arrivals of the new crop are expected in about a month. China Galls: no transactions; the article can be bought at $12.50. Vermilion: $37.50 per box of 50 catties; nothing doing for export. Musk: No arrivals, no sales, further supplies of inferior quality being expected, purchasers have withdrawn the offers previously made. Rhubarb: No arrivals, and no stock. Galangal: $2.20 per picul—no buyers. Essential Oils: very scarce.

CAMPHOR.—HONG KONG.—The last arrival from Tamsui brought some 1,500 piculs, of which 700 piculs have been sold at $18 per picul unpacked, which is to-day's market value. Stock on hand not very large, and demand not very active.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—In the absence of almost all inquiry the quotations for this article, which are put at about $5 per bale below those current under date of last report, must be regarded as quite nominal. The transactions of the fortnight consist of the sale of 65 bales and 9 bales of damaged twist sold by public auction. Grey Shirtings: A limited amount of business, estimated at about 9,000 pieces, has been transacted in these goods during the past fortnight, but importers have found it necessary in order to effect sales to submit to a reduction in prices equal to 10 cents per piece. Some 3,200 sea damaged cloths have been moved off by auction. White Shirtings: Continue to be in hardly any request, and settlements are limited to 1,000 pieces and about 1,750 pieces damaged Goods. T-Cloths: These goods again show a decline in value equal to that experienced by grey shirtings, without leading to any increased demand, and the business transacted during the fortnight is limited to sales 4,500 pieces.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies and Habit Cloths: Have met with a fair amount of inquiry during the past fortnight at the prices current under the date of last report, the settlements effected amounting to 844 pieces of Spanish Stripes and 160 pieces of Ladies and Habit Cloths at 80 c. to 95 c. per yard. Long Ells: Remain as quoted under the date of last report, with sales amounting to 1,000 pieces during the fortnight. Camlets: Have been in but moderate request at previous rates, the sales reported not exceeding 240 pieces of English manufacture and 60 pieces of Dutch. Lastings: These goods have not met with any inquiry, and there are not any transactions to notice. Blankets: Some 700 pairs have found buyers since the date of last report at the prices previously current.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: The transactions reported in Iron have been upon a moderate scale, but prices of the various qualities imported for consumption in this market show a slight decline as compared with those current under date of last circular. Holders continue to meet the market pretty freely, and there does not seem to be much probability of prices rallying for the present. Sales are estimated at 5,100 piculs of Nail Rod, 800 piculs of Square and Flat Bar, and 300 piculs of Hoop. Lead: The purchases of Lead in this colony during the fortnight amount to about 700 piculs, and prices are slightly firmer than under date of last circular. Tin: Sales are limited to 100 slabs. Tin-Plates: 200 boxes sold. Steel: Sales of 100 tubs are reported.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From London: June 25, Bolina. From Liverpool: 20, Aden.

At NAGASAKI.—From London: June 22, Rifleman. From Rotterdam: 27, Japan Packet. From Amsterdam: 1, Kempner; 4, Waalstroon; 29, Engel.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: June 22, Stirlingshire, City of Quebec; 23, Solent. From Sunderland: 22, St. Andrew's Castle. From Glasgow: Glencoe. From New York: 25, Uncowah.

At HONG KONG.—From London: July 11, Yaratilda. From Sunderland: 10, Tael Vaw and Herald. From New York: 2, Samuel Russell; 10, Marianne. From Shields: 11 Maud.

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At MANILA.—None.
At SINGAPORE.—From Glasgow; July 18, Priama. From Newcastle: 7, Drusus.
At PENANG.—From London (*via* Singapore): July 10, Ferozepore.
At BATAVIA.—From London: Ilma. From Glasgow: Maythorn and Majestic.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—None.
From NAGASAKI.—None.
From SHANGHAI.—For London, 21, Guineveve.
From FOOCHOW.—For London, 29, Taeping.
From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London, July 2, Salvia; for New York, 3, Shorkild.
From MACAO.—For London, July 2, Northfleet.
From MANILA.—None.
From SINGAPORE.—For Bordeaux, July 6, Java.
From PENANG.—For London, July 17, Hannover; for Falmouth, 15, Undine; for Boston, 20, Rainbow; for New York, 6, Triton.

LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London, Eleanor.
At HANKOW.—For London, Weymouth, Neville, Pegasus.
At SHANGHAI.—For London, Garrawalt, Highflyer, Ethiopian, Norwood, Eliza Nicholson, Art Union, Ellen Rodger, Golden Spur, Hampton Court, John Lidgett; for Liverpool, Woosung.
At FOOCHOW.—For London, Lauderdale, Japanese, Dunmail, William Mitchell, L. M. Joshua, Devana, Berwickshire, Coral Nymph.
At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London, Seawfell, Heroes of Alma, Valdivia, Chrysolite, Johanne Maria. Arab Steed, Allendale.
At MANILA.—For London: Nelson, Zelandia. For Queenstown: Edward. For Boston: Fearless. For New York: Shirley.
At SINGAPORE.—For London: Cardew, Ernest Merck. For Liverpool: Early Dawn, Vigil.
At PENANG.—For London: Peter Roland, Edinburgh Castle, Shantung.
At BATAVIA.—(For Channel for orders) Malabar, Caduceus.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

YOKOHAMA.—To London: £3 per ton.
HANKOW.—To London: £4. 10s. per ton.
SHANGHAI.—To London: £2. 10s. per ton.
FOO-CHOW.—To London: £2. 10s. per ton.
HONG KONG AND CANTON.—To London: £2. To New York: £1. 13s. 6d. and 15s.
SINGAPORE.—To Great Britain: dead weight £1 measurement, £1. 10s. per ton.
PENANG.—To London: Sugar £1. 10s.; measurement £1. 15s.
BATAVIA.—To Europe: Rice £1. 10s.; light freight £2 per ton.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—June 26, Horsa, Cardiff to Shanghai; 26, Yaratilda, London to Hong Kong; 27, Helen Douglas, Newport to Shanghai; 28, Sea Mew, Liverpool to Shanghai; Harkaway, Sunderland to Yokohama; Benie Stanton, Cardiff to Shanghai; 29, J. H. Cushing, Swansea to Shanghai; Empress, Liverpool to Yokohama; July 2, Drusus, Newcastle to Singapore; 8, Glenclune, London to Shanghai.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—July 10, Beshing, Boston to Amoor.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—June 24, Burdwan, Macao to London; 28, Richard Cobden, Singapore to Liverpool; July 1, Anglia, Sourabaya to Amsterdam; Cressy, Shanghai to London; 3, Bella Dona, Sarawak to Channel; 5, Bengalen, Samarang to Rotterdam; 6, Prophete, Singapore to Bordeaux; 8, Min and Young Lochinvar, Foochow to London; 9, Banda, Hong Kong to London; 10, Black Prince, Foochow to London.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—June 30, Milton, Manila to New York; July 11, Receife, Hong Kong to New York.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Aug. 16, at Gibraltar, from Maujmain, Caroline; at Gravesend, from Shanghai, Antipodes, Gates; off Newhaven, from Shanghai, Vanguard, Scott.

DEPARTURES NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Aug. 21, from Bremen, for Singapore, Herschel; 24, from Liverpool, for Bankok, Siam (s.); 25, from Falmouth, for Shanghai, Electricity; 19, from Rotterdam for Batavia, Robertus Hendrikus.

LAID ON.—At London: For Shanghai, Sir W. F. Williams; for Penang: Devonvale.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NORTH-CHINA BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

A special meeting of the members of the North-China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society was held on the 22nd of June, for the purpose of bidding farewell to Sir Harry Parkes, the president of the society, previous to his departure for Japan. A large number of members were present. In taking leave of the society, Sir Harry Parkes took occasion to congratulate it on the progress it had made, and on the fair prospects held out by the future. A new room had been secured and the working staff of the society increased by the addition to the Council of Messrs. Giquel and Probst. The post of secretary, which had been so well filled by Mr. Brown, had been assumed by Mr. Alabaster, so that no element of success was wanting. The speaker had therefore great confidence in leaving the society, and he assured the members that in his new field of labour he would continue to feel the deepest interest in any researches in which they might be engaged. Mr. Seward then called on the secretary to read the following address, which had been prepared for the occasion:—

Sir,—It does not seem fitting to allow you to preside for the last time at a meeting of our association without some expression of the feeling to which your approaching departure has naturally given rise. We desire to convey to you our sincere thanks for the care and assiduity with which you have laboured to revive the North-China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. Its resuscitation is mainly owing to your indefatigable and unremitting exertions. Amidst the pressure of harassing official duties you have always found time to engage in correspondence, to attend meetings, to peruse and select papers, in a word, to further in every way possible the best interests of the society. We feel that, though we might hope to find a president like yourself well versed in the Chinese language and literature, like yourself courteous and diligent, we can hardly expect to find any one who will unite, as you have done, wide Oriental experience with patience to encourage the humbiest student, and readiness to accept the smallest contribution to the general stock of knowledge. This kindness and patience, so essential at the institution or revival of a scientific society, we shall indeed miss when you say farewell to us, and the recollection of many instances when both have been conspicuous makes us heartily regret the deprivation we shall sustain. Our loss is deep in proportion to our appreciation of the benefits you have conferred upon us, and we are assured that to you the North-China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society owes whatever it is, and to you whatever it will be.

We should only discharge a portion of our present task, however, were we to omit to offer our congratulations on the occasion which calls you away from Shanghai. It must be gratifying to you to receive so important and responsible a charge, as you are assured thereby of the estimation in which your past services have been held by Her Majesty's Government. The record of these services is not to be looked for in the transactions of a learned society—they are part of the history of foreign intercourse with the East—but we cannot fail to recognise the same energy in your public career which, employed in a smaller field, has revived our little association.

The duties of Her Britannic Majesty's Minister in Japan will tax your resources yet more than your previous position has done, and we can only earnestly hope that you will be blessed with health and strength to fulfil the trying duties which lie before you. May every success attend you in your new scene of usefulness, and may you see the two great results you have laboured throughout your public life to attain, viz., the overthrow of the policy of prejudice and exclusion, and the mutual understanding of the Eastern and Western nations.

VISIT OF JAPANESE TO MACCLESFIELD.

On the 19th of August the three senior members of the party of Japanese sent to this country by the Prince of Satsuma accompanied Edward Clarke, Esq., H.M.F.M.'s Consul for Kanagawa (who is in England on leave of absence) over the extensive silk-spinning and manufacturing establishment of Messrs. I. and T. Brocklehurst and Sons, of Macclesfield. Mr. Holme, of Nagasaki, was in charge of this distinguished party, who examined with great attention and pleasure this, the largest establishment in the world for the fabrication of silks, &c. An idea of this vast establishment may be gathered from the fact that this wealthy and enterprising firm employ sometimes up to as many as five thousand operatives in the manipulation of raw silk and silk waste, which they perfect in every branch, and then ship to various markets of the world. Here these Japanese visitors were shown the various and complicated processes necessary to convert the raw and waste silks of Japan, China, India, and Europe into ladies' dress silks, and numerous other costly fabrics. They were greatly surprised at the ingenuity and talent evinced in the silk waste spinning department, where waste of various qualities, and from different countries, including Japan, was being carded, spun, and woven into plain and figured cloth by steam power; and on entering the large power-loom shed, containing upwards of five hundred steam looms at full work, their astonishment was undisguised, and their exclamations of gratification frequent. Throughout the day the interest of the party never had time to flag for an instant, and they departed greatly pleased with the polite attentions of the proprietors, which were continued up to the time of their return to Manchester.

Prior to their departure from Macclesfield the party were introduced by the Portuguese Consul to the chairman of the extensive and valuable copper mines of Alderley Edge, in the neighbourhood. The chairman's invitation to inspect these works was gladly accepted, and we may be able to give our readers an account of the visit in a future issue.

BRITISH COMMERCE IN THE NORTH OF CHINA AND JAPAN.

(FROM THE TIMES.)

It is somewhat strange that the prevailing sentiment of an Englishman towards an Asiatic is one of contempt. Such a feeling may be understood with reference to the Negro, the Australian, and even the Red Indian, but towards a Hindoo or a Chinaman it is almost inexplicable. The intellectual deficiencies of the Negro are acknowledged even by Nigrophilists; the Australian is even less developed as a man. In the West "the noble savage" has disappeared before us, and though he was, according to Fenimore Cooper, not an unworthy type of man, it would be an idle sentiment to regret that a territory once occupied by a thousand red men is now peopled by a million white faces. But in the East we have encountered a different breed. We come into contact with civilisations far more ancient, and possibly in some respects more advanced, than our own; and the conflict for supremacy has been waged stoutly and with varying fortunes. Our countrymen have, indeed, been uniformly successful in arms, but the same victory has not always attended them elsewhere. For one thing, the Asiatic can live us down. We die away before him, just as the Australian dies away before us. Although we have had a secure footing in India for a whole century, no Englishman can be found there in the third, much less in a later generation. Had it not been for a perpetual introduction of fresh blood, the European would disappear from the East. Englishmen may assert their lordship and sovereignty, and teach the Asiatic the use of machines and the economy of labour, but he has in his turn arts which they have learnt from him with advantage, and the art of living under a tropical sun, which they have tried to learn without suc-

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cess. Under such circumstances, a little respect for his civilisation, his traditions, and his invincible vitality would not be amiss, and it is certain that our relations with the East would be smoother were the respect oftener felt and manifested. It is, perhaps, hopeless to expect such a sentiment in British India, and it is equally improbable that it will ever be shown in our dealings with the Chinese; but Japan is a new country just opened to us, and the comparative sturdiness of the Japanese character might inspire some such feeling. The Japanese is disposed to feel some respect for us. He stood up in open resistance, and was fairly beaten, and is now ready to be a good friend. He stands to the ordinary Chinaman in much the same relation that a Sikh does to a Bengalee. The Sikhs resisted us more stubbornly than any other race of British India, but when once conquered proved the steadiest of supporters, under circumstances which tried their fidelity to the utmost.

The commercial reports of the Consuls in Japan and North China which have just been published by the Foreign Office show the extent to which our trade with these countries may be carried if our relations with them are only kept on a peaceful footing. Last year, it will be remembered, we were obliged to take into our hands the correction of the Daimio Chosiu by sending an expedition to Simonoseki. The expedition did not reach its destination till September, and it might be imagined that for some months previously the trade with Japan was slight and irregular. The fact, on the contrary, is that the returns both of imports and exports show a considerable advance on the returns of the previous twelvemonth, and, with the single exception of raw silk, there was an actual increase in the quantities of every staple export. The total tonnage which entered inwards at Kanagawa rose from 64,420 to 75,460, and out of this total the tonnage of British shipping rose from 34,790 to 61,498. The total value of exports and imports in the year amounted to £3,888,200, against £1,346,000 in 1863, the value in 1860 having been only £980,000. This is a rapid increase, but it is nothing to what may be hereafter. The Japanese merchants show the liveliest desire to push a trade with the pioneers of Western commerce, and the Japanese authorities have exhibited a commendable advance towards freedom in relaxing regulations which interfered with trade. The export of silk, which is one of the greatest importance in Japan, exhibits, as we hinted, a slight decline; but in spite of this the authorities have, for the first time, permitted the export of silkworms' eggs. The continuance of the disease among European silkworms naturally caused a considerable export directly the trade was opened, and 200,000 cards of eggs were shipped of the estimated value of £50,000. The same disease among European silkworms stimulated Mr. Taylor Meadows, our Consul at Newchwang, to make inquiries about the oak-leaf eating worm, or mountain worm, as it is called by the Chinese. It was at first thought that a beneficial result might follow a crossing of this oak-leaf eater with the mulberry-leaf eater, but on further investigation it appeared that the worms were of different species, and the hope had to be discarded. Something, however, might be made out of this mountain worm and his cocoons taken alone. He is described as an enormous creature; his cocoon is three times the size of that of the mulberry-eater, and in his flying stage he bursts into a large and richly-coloured butterfly, measuring from tip to tip of his expanded wings some seven to nine inches, "as large as a swallow!" But, apart from doubtful speculations about the oak-leaf eater, which is perhaps the well-known worm of Canada and elsewhere, the report of Mr. Meadows is most valuable from the information it gives about countries known even by name to few Englishmen outside the Civil Service Commission. Newchwang itself is at the head of the gulf cutting off the north-east corner of China from the rest of the Empire, and the nature of its climate may be guessed from the fact that the first vessel in 1863 arrived there on the 22nd of March, and was very much cut and damaged by the floating ice. Still farther to the east of Newchwang is the valley of the Yaloo, and the Yaloo itself—a river which at a distance of 25 miles from its mouth was 300 yards wide and 20 feet deep—separates China from the independent country Corea. All this country is at present supplied with European commodities through the port of Newchwang, and Mr. Meadows looks forward to an indefinite extension of the trade of the port in consequence, although it seems possible that some harbour may be discovered on the west coast of Corea which would naturally divert much of the traffic with Newchwang. The Coreans purchase the goods they require in a way which recalls the great fairs of mediæval Europe. Three times in the year—at the third, ninth, and twelfth moon—Corean traders cross the Yaloo and advance to a spot ten miles short of the last city on the Chinese side, where, under the jurisdiction of mandarins deputed for that purpose, buying and selling go on for a month. The Coreans are accompanied by innkeepers, who establish themselves in tents and provide entertainment for their countrymen, who pass to and fro on horseback, while the goods are brought to the mart on bullocks. The Coreans bring gold dust, tiger-skins, and ginseng, and take back foreign cotton manufactures and opium. A new trade is, however, springing up with the Coreans and the Chinese of the Newchwang district. Hitherto they have not known the use of window glass, and their windows are glazed with paper. This is an application of the commodity of which even the Chancellor of the Exchequer probably never dreamt, and it must be acknowledged that it has its drawbacks. To get any light through paper it is necessary that the whole of a room, from 3 or 4 feet above the floor up to the ceiling, should be window, and this in a climate where the thermometer falls 5 to 10 degrees below zero on a winter's night—indeed, once in Mr. Meadow's experience, it fell 30 degrees below zero—is rather trying. Glass, as Mr. Meadows observes, is itself a better protection than paper against the cold; but with its introduction the window space can be halved, while the supply of light can be increased, and the rest of the room front can be built up as solid wall. Glass is only now beginning to make its way there, but it is easy to see that an enterprising glazier could find no better opening for his abilities than the Consular district of Newchwang.

We do not suppose that our future intercourse with Jpan and the north of China will be free from peril or unchequered by vicissitudes. The last intelligence, that the Tycoon and Mikado were about to march against their rebellious feudatories points to troubles which have probably been precipitated, if not entirely caused, by our arrival in Japan, and the result of such a civil war can scarcely be increased goodwill to the intruders. The fact that the Tycoon and the Spiritual Chief have taken such a step is a convincing proof of the sincerity of their good intentions towards us, and the fidelity with which they desire to carry out their treaty engagements. Opposed as they were by tradition and policy to any extension of intercourse with the outer world, they have, by the course of events, acquired a respect and goodwill for us which we ought not to be slow to reciprocate. This consideration may fairly influence much of our future policy. As long as the Tycoon and Micado are faithful and energetic, and the mass of the people are friendly and willing to trade, we may be certain that our intercourse with them will increase, in spite of the resistance of the great feudal lords and the lawlessness of their armed dependents.

BANK OFFICERS IN INDIA AND CHINA.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

Sir,—As one who has for a considerable time been actively engaged in the working of one of the largest and most influential of the India and China Banks, I take the opportunity offered in your impression of 17th April to submit a few remarks in answer to an extract which you quote from the pages of one of your contemporaries, the writer of which makes a somewhat unwarrantable attack on the body of gentlemen whom I, on this occasion, represent. The "Bank Shareholder" commences by calling attention to the malpractices (somewhat strong term), of European officers in Eastern banks, one of which consists in accepting the privilege, permitted by the management, of drawing on London at sight at the usual six months' rate. This is certainly done I believe in every bank in the East, and I presume is allowed by the directors because, with greater liberality than "Bank Shareholder" can conceive, they decline to make a profit out of the well-earned remuneration of their staff. The same argument applies to the remaining "malpractice" touched on, viz., that of accepting the six months' deposit rate of interest on the *current account*, and in either of these cases it will be manifest to anyone who has the slightest knowledge of the profits on banking in the East, and the ways in which they are made, that no *loss* to the shareholders can possibly arise out of such privileges; while on the other hand, if the bank officers are treated on the same terms as ordinary clients, then a profit would accrue to the corporation on the salaries paid, and, I repeat, the directors, and I believe the body of shareholders, wish nothing of the kind.

The "Bank Shareholder" proceeds to suggest that as a very natural consequence of such privileges being allowed, the gentlemen who benefit by them will in all probability overstep the limit prescribed (*i.e.*, to family remittances), and (in plain terms) swindle their employers. "Every day's experience of mankind" says this philosopher, "proves that we are naturally liable to *err*, and that where self-interest is concerned, people are inclined to benefit themselves at the expense of others if they are made their own arbiters." What! has the "Bank Shareholder" no belief in the character and integrity of a body of gentlemen who are distinguished, even among English merchants, for their mercantile honour? Does he not know that appointments in the East are only as a rule given to men of whose character years of experience in banks at home can leave no doubt? Surely if he must see himself in print a little thought and inquiry might have been expended by this generous representative of the "Fountain Head." In no instance within my memory or experience have any defalcations been committed by *European* officers in the East, and the instances quoted in your extract do not apply to *them* in any way.

Again: "European Bank officers are very handsomely paid—in most cases ridiculously higher than their services are worth." The "Bank Shareholder" evidently knows nothing whatever of the expenses of living in the East; his ideas of eating and drinking are probably based on experiences extending within a radius of four miles from the Mansion-house. Let him live for a year in China on a limited income and then talk of overpaid bankers. But facts are the best arguments. The pay of a bank assistant on coming out is generally about £500 per annum, and my own experience is that, with strict economy and care, this will serve to feed and clothe him if his tastes are moderate: save money he cannot, and if unfortunately sick and compelled to indulge in the luxury of medical attendance, debt must inevitably follow. In all other business houses young men (generally with little or no experience) on entering receive sum of £300 to £400 per annum, and are supplied by the firm with everything they require—food, wine, servants, medical attendance, &c., &c., so that their expenditure need be very little. *None of these are supplied by the banks;* then are bankers "ridiculously" overpaid? In course of years of course the rewards become higher. A bank manager may receive from £2,000 to £3,000 per annum; but consider the rewards of other branches of trade, and how great is the responsibility and labour attached to the management of a large bank, and then judge are the rewards adequate, or are less excessive.

The idea that the possession of a certain number of shares is fully sufficient to enable the holders to correct errors of management of directors and managers is not uncommon among a certain class of men, and appears to be a failing with the "Bank Shareholder;" of course he is right and the whole list of directors in London and India totally wrong. Let him then suggest his improvements at the next general meeting of the banks which are fortunate enough to possess him as part of their "Fountain Head," and prove how small a minority his opinions represent.

—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Hong Kong, 13th June, 1865. Veritas.

THE SILK TRADE—FRANCE v. ENGLAND.

(from the economist.)

The famous project for depriving London of its supremacy as a silk market, which has long been under consideration in France, is again exciting attention. The French say that, as they are the greatest consumers of silk in the world, it is absurd that they should have to go to London to get the supply of Asiatic silk they need, when it would be possible to bring it direct to France at a much cheaper rate. The Minister of Commerce has more than once pressed the matter on the Chambers of Commerce concerned in the trade; not long ago he sent them a circular stating that, if means could be found to buy the silk in Asia, direct from the native producers, the steamers of the Messageries Imperiales would be able to carry to Marseilles any quantity of it. Recent letters from French traders in China treat the question with great interest. But the upshot of the whole busi-

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ness appears to be this—that in order to change the existing state of affairs large capital must be sent to Asia, great latitude in the employment of it must be allowed to agents, and much time will be required. Now, the dealers of silk in France have not got large capital at their disposal; they are strongly disinclined to confide the control of what they do possess to men whom they cannot watch constantly, and they have not patience to wait for years for the success of a commercial operation. According to all appearances, then, the English will retain possession of the silk trade in Asia, provided they do not act in such a way as to render this monopoly absolutely intolerable; in which case they would have to fear that the Government would make up for the lack of means and energy of merchants, by, as the phrase goes, "doing something" itself. At present the English supply France with about one-half of the foreign raw silk she receives. The quantity she took out of bond for consumption in the first six months of the present year was 1,472,100 kilogrammes (1,472 tons), of the estimated value of 76,181,175f., and of it 719,000 kilogrammes, value 37,254,825f., were from England; 285,500 kilogrammes, value 14,774,625f., from Turkey; 53,000 kilogrammes, value 2,742,750f., from Italy; 500 kilogrammes, value 25,875f., from Belgium; 8,100 kilogrammes, value 419,175f., from the Zollverein; and 405,100 kilogrammes, value 20,963,925f., from other countries. In the designation "other countries" direct imports from British India, China, and Japan are comprised, and some of them also were made by the English.

ACCLIMATISATION OF THE SILKWORM.

The fifth annual report of the Acclimatisation Society contains the following interesting account of the efforts that are being made to naturalise certain species of the silkworm:—

THE AILANTHUS SILKWORM.

The hope expressed in our last report, that experiments with the *Bombyx cynthia* would be carried a step further during the spring of the present year, has been fulfilled; and another step in advance would have been gained but for a series of untoward circumstances. In spite of these accidents, however, the essential fact is established, viz., that the *Bombyx cynthia* is capable of free propagation in the open air in this climate, and that in the proper season the supply of its natural food is without limit. Moreover, much experience has been gained in spite of failure, and perhaps in consequence of partial failure.

In the month of October, 1863, ten cocoons, which had been spun in Mr. Willis's nursery grounds, were carefully collected and preserved. On the 11th of March ensuing, Dr. Collings, who has great experience in the management of silkworms, and was provided with a couple of ailanthus shrubs, kindly undertook the charge of the above-mentioned cocoons. The following note gives details of his proceedings:—

Wednesday, 23rd June, 1864.

"My dear Dr. Hoskins,—Our experiment with the ailanthus silkworm has come to an untimely conclusion. Yesterday evening I was in possession of thirty-nine fine worms already commencing their first change. This morning only one can be found, and that one lying in a disabled state upon the ground. The cocoons you brought to me I left in my study facing south, and on the 18th May, after several warm days, I found that three moths had already come forth; one of them was dead, with its wings undeveloped and imperfect; another, judging from its battered appearance, had been out some days, and was very languid; both of these were males. The third, a female, was in full vigour and quite perfect, but on the 20th her wings were battered, and her activity diminished, nevertheless she commenced laying, but her eggs were unimpregnated.

"On the 21st another fine female appeared, and on the 22nd an active male. In a few days the former laid many eggs, which were perfectly fertilised, and on the 12th June these eggs began to hatch.

"Some difficulty was experienced for the first few days in feeding the worms upon leaves detached from the trees; many of them died in consequence of the rapid withering of the leaves, although standing in water. On the 16th June I therefore placed the remaining worms upon a tree. The more vigorous soon sought appropriate places, and began to feed heartily, the weaker died and dropped off. The worms which survived attached themselves to the under surface of the leaves, and were protected during heavy rains which fell about this time. I afterwards placed the tree in the conservatory, which is cool and well ventilated, but, unfortunately, a pair of robins had built their nest in a citron tree against the conservatory wall, and, not discriminating between the *Bombyx cyntha* and the common worm, destroyed all our hopes and expectations.

"Adolphus Collings."

As a set-off against these disappointments, a fresh supply of eggs, which had been procured for us by the Council, was received by the Honorary Secretary of the branch on the 17th of last July. A portion of this welcome and timely consignment was placed at once in Dr. Collings's hands, and the remainder was committed to the care of Mr. Willis, who conducted the first experiment so successfully, and, in anticipation of a fresh crop of worms, had planted several rows of ailanthus shrubs.

On the 1st of August about twenty-five fine worms were placed upon the shrubs, and carefully protected by means of gauze netting. They began to spin on the 20th of the same month, and continued to do so, unaffected by a strong gale and heavy rain which occurred on the 24th of August.

On the 7th of September ten cocoons were gathered; another was found a few days after on an ailanthus, at a considerable distance from the hedge, but close to the spot on which the worms were placed last year; three more were obtained on the 21st, and the whole, amounting to fourteen cocoons, were preserved.

The eggs entrusted to Dr. Collings hatched in due course, and the worms were placed on shrubs in his conservatory. But another enemy, in the shape of ants, destroyed all the worms that he had reared, except one solitary individual, which spun a cocoon in great perfection.

Two of the fourteen cocoons produced in the open air were unexpectedly developed into moths as early as the 23rd of October, and in a few days another moth made its appearance. From these three precocious moths a number of fertilised eggs proceeded, and are carefully preserved in a cool place by Dr. Collings. On the chance of any worms being hatched prematurely, a few ailanthus shrubs have been planted in a forcing-house.

The plan originally adopted by Mr. Willis, that of planting the ailanthus so as to form low thick hedges, is by far the best, as the worms are enabled to wander from one plant to another, and the whole can be easily protected by means of horizontal piles, supported by cross stakes, over which netting can be spread and secured so as to form a sort of tent. This plan is found to be the one subsequently recommended by Dr. Forgemol to the French Société d'Acclimatation.

As the result of our own experience, it may be proper to state that the cocoons, during their formation, should be carefully watched, and removed from the plants as soon as ever the spinning process is completed. If allowed to remain longer than ten days on the shrubs after spinning has begun, the cocoons shrivel and lose their vitality. The open-air experiments are fortunately the most successful.

THE YAMMA-MAI SILKWORM.

Through the kindness of Monsr. Ramel, a consignment of the eggs of the Yamma-Mai silkworm has been received by Mr. Bush. These worms feed upon the leaves of common oak. The season is as yet hardly advanced enough to report with any certainty upon the probability of their succeeding in this country, but they have hatched out very healthily, with a vigorous appetite for oak leaves, showing a decided preference for the English oak, which, with the indefatigable and skilful care of Mrs. Bush, promises successful results, as far as a small number can indicate.

THE BOMBYX ATLAS.

The silkworm culturists in France announce the birth or hatching of the larva of the *Bombyx atlas*, an enormously large silk moth. This gigantic moth has never before been seen alive in Europe; and if it can be introduced into France it will prove of the greatest commercial value. Its cocoon is extremely large, and weighs nine grammes, whilst those of the ordinary worm do not exceed two grammes in weight. The grub lives on the leaves of a species of barberry shrub.

The Chinese.—The Chinese mind, like the horse in a mill, is ever treading the same dull, narrow round, which has been trod for ages; it is harnessed to the routine explored by successive generations. Will not a day of emancipation come, and fields be explored which have hitherto afforded no temptation to curiosity or inquiry? Must it not be discovered, even by the proud possessors of the central heaven-favoured land, that there is something to be learnt in the outer regions, and from the barbarous races? Will not a blind deference to the authority of the past be superseded by dawnings of light from the present and future? China is now, as Europe was for centuries, under the domination of her schoolmen. One great mind sufficed in Britain to lay the foundation of a new philosophy—the philosophy of inquiry, of investigation, of experiment. It said, "Let authority be barren; let experience be fertile." A single imperial mandate might suffice to give a new direction to the studies of a third of the human race. Useful knowledge and practical science, uninvited and even discouraged by the highest authorities as not belonging to the domain of public instruction, are not without representatives in the ingenious productions of Chinese industry; and these productions are evidence of great aptitude for improvement which may hereafter be called into full activity. The imitative powers of the Chinese have always been subjects of admiration.—Sir John Bowring, in the *Shilling Magazine*.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Rotterdam, Aug. 14.

There is no news of great importance; the King still remains at Lucerne, and all the Ministers have left the Hague, making a proper use of the dead season. The favourable news received by the last mail will enable the Minister of the Colonial Department to stay some time longer at Kissingen. Mr. Thorbecke has left the Hague for Dresden, to be present at the great musical festival; and Mr. Betz also is gone abroad, so that the Budget for 1866 is no doubt already determined on in principle. The Minister of War is making a tour of inspection through Holland, while Mr. Huysfe van Kattendyke has not yet returned from his very long absence.

H.R.H. Prince Frederick has gone with his family to Ischl, the Austrian watering-place; he will return before the 24th, on which day the obelisk will be inaugurated at Scheveningen, which is to be placed on the spot where Prince Willem (King Willem I.) landed in 1813, on his return from his exile in England.

On the 9th August, at a shooting-ground near the Hague, experiments were made with 16-inch rifled cannon on armour plates of 4½ inch (English). The results were most satisfactory, the projectiles used being manufactured after the plan of Mr. W. de Fremery, Inspector of Marine Artillery, and constructed of hard iron in the Government foundry at Delft. These projectiles are found to be not only equal to, but even better than those constructed in the well-known manufactory of Krupp, at Essen. The projectiles were partly formed like the ordinary shells of the Whitworth system, and partly like fire-grenades filled with phosphorus. All the projectiles pierced the armour plates, and destroyed the thick oak frame to which they were attached. By the fire-grenades the frames were entirely set in flames, and such a phosphoric vapour was occasioned that it was quite impossible even to remain in the neighbourhood of it.

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It is stated that a single projectile of this kind is sufficient to force a ship to surrender. It was observed that most of the projectiles that struck the plates were found to be not at all hurt or damaged by the concussion. It is intended to continue these important experiments on a large scale.

Some days ago Mr. Verloren read a paper at the Royal Academy of Sciences about the cultivation of the new Japan silkworm (*Bombyx Anthera—Yama mayu*), in which he stated that, after experiments, he had come to the conviction that it was impossible to breed the insect, because it was of an unfavourable species. A correspondent writes to the *Spectator* that the Verloren verdict is very wrong, and that it was neither the Dutch climate nor the unfavourable species (millions of the cocoons are produced in Japan that caused the failure of the experiment) but that it was rather bad treatment and the bad condition of the eggs, when imported, that interfered with the prosperity of the *Yama mayu*. From the 89,000 eggs imported in 1864–65, which, according to the pamphlet of Kitasawa Sihoo, translated by Professor J. Hoffman, were not of a fine description, only one hundred to two hundred cocoons were produced. Another attempt, however, will be made to import the seed of the *Yama mayu*, and notwithstanding the great difficulties, the correspondent thinks that within ten years the cultivation of this worm will prove of great benefit to Dutch commerce.

COMMERCIAL.

Coffee.—The 85,412 b. offered by the Trading Company at auction were all sold at improved prices; good ord. Java was paid with 45 to 45½ c. The brown sorts, however, were paid with 3 to 4 c. under last sale's prices; the blue and green sorts were sold at taxation. Since the auctions the demand has been animated, and the following lots were sold: 2,750 b. Java, ex Hendrina, at secret prices; 3,000 b. Padang ex Isaac da Costa at 45 to 48 c., 1,130 do. ex Maarten van Rossum at 45¼ c. besides a cargo Santos, ex L'Etoile du Nord, at various prices.

Sugar (Raw).—At somewhat declined prices, 4,000 kr. were sold during last week, and in proportion 1f. to 1½f. under July prices were paid.

Tea.—There is some inquiry for consumption, and several lots are imported from London.

Spices.—Without transactions, in consequence of the auction of the Trading Company, on which occasion a greater quantity will be offered than the trade wants.

Rice.—About 6,600 b. Java table, ex India, were sold at 10f. to 15f.

Indigo.—Very firm, and an advance of 25 c. was willingly paid.

Java Tobacco.—The trade is dull, the trade being occupied inspecting the parcels which will be offered to-morrow, and which amount to 11,038 b. of different marks.

Cotton.—The market was animated since the auction of the Trading Company, on which all was sold at the following prices:—1,000 bn. Tinnevelly fair, 66½ to 67¼ c.; 652 bn. Japansche good fair, 68½ to 69½ c.; 700 bn. Comptah good middling, 59½ to 60¾ c.; 144 bn. Ned. Oost-Indische fair, 45 to 45½ c.; 67 bn. do. (Sawginned) fair, 44¼ to 45¼ c.; 60 bn. do. (Sawginned) fair, 40 c.; 83 bn. do. (Sawginned) middling fair, 40 c.; 13 bn. do. inferior, 31 c.; 8 bn. do. inferior, 15¼ c. Since several parcels East Indian were sold.

Hides.—The 233 p. East Indian ex Maarten van Rossum were sold at 26½ c. On the 18th, 4,852 p. Ox, and 124 Buffalo will be offered by inscription.

Tin (Banca) dull, and without transactions. The nominal quotation is 55½ to 56 c.

Drugs.—Cubeben can be had at 47c. to 48½c.; Cassia Lignea is paid with 56c. to 57c.; Cassia Vera with transactions in the 1st and 2nd hand. Gum Benzoin, the lots imported lately are all sold. Gum Damar with more demand; 460 chests imported per Jacoba Christine and Tagal were sold. Gum Elasticum, without transactions, because holders decline to sell under 90f. Gutta Percha: without sales, in consequence of the high prices. Japan Wax: the stock is very unimportant; A without any stock, B 36½f. to 37½f.

Rattans.—Without transactions; in the following week some parcels will be offered.

Money-Market.—Remains in the same condition; the transactions are very dull and prices declined again. Dutch, 2½ per cents., 61⅞; 3 per cents., 72⅜; 4 per cents., 86⅞; Handelmaatschappy, 147⅜. E. I. Bank, 80; E. I. Railway, 91¼; Bank Discount 3 to 3½. Open market 3½ to 4 per cent. Changes on London 3 mo., f.11.79; 2 mo., f. 11.83; short, f.11.91½; Paris: 3 mo., f.46.95; 2 mo., f.47.05; short, f.47.25. Hambro': 3 mo., f.35; 2 mo., f.35.11; short, f.35.35.

Shipping.—Arrivals.—Aug. 6, at Texel, from Batavia, Java Packet; 8, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Dordrecht; 11, from Samarang, at Texel, Johanna Kalumez; 13, at Brouwershaven, from Banjoewangie, Rudolph, Ida Wilhelmina.

Departures.—Aug. 6, from Brouwershaven for Sourabaya, Boni; from Texel for Batavia, Anna Digna; for Sourabaya, Bellatrix; for Singapore, Bernard and Agnes; for Japan, Herman Maria Elizabeth; for Padang, Helena; 10, from Brouwershaven for Batavia, Hugo Grotius; for Samarang, Bilderdyk; from Zierikzee for Batavia, Jan Daniel; 11, from Brouwershaven for Batavia, Robertus Hendricus.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

For Java.—Per Anna Digna: Mr. J. B. Auervest and family, L. Schneithers, F. C. van Nes, M. H. Vis, and 125 soldiers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From Java.—Per Eva Johanna: Mr. P. C. Wynmalen, Mr. W. Tadema. Per Dordrecht: Messrs. Stock and family, Clingnett and family, Jansen, Parker de Jonge, Broehmaur, Barinky, Canter Visscher, Mrs. Meyer. Per Regina Maris: Messrs. Kornel, Annemaet and family.

Rotterdam, August 24.

La politique chome; the newspapers contain absolutely no news. A very large portion of mankind are snatching some sort of holiday—here the public enjoyed in full the "Kermes." The Houses of the States General are empty; the Law Courts are deserted; a death-like stillness prevails in the Stock Exchanges; the great retail tradesmen have almost suspended business for a while; everybody who can is on the move; no one works unless obliged. As nothing is being done, your correspondent has nothing to record.

One thing, however, troubles the peace, prosperity, and happy position that prevails, viz., the cattle disease, which first showed itself among the dairy cows in the neighbourhood of our city, and which is said to be extending itself into the provinces. This news has excited considerable alarm throughout the whole country. The Government is aware of the importance of the subject, and is exerting itself, so far as the existing laws will permit its action, to devise means with a view to mitigate and, we hope, ultimately to aid in the extirpation of the malady.

The King is expected to return from his trip on the 2nd of September. Baron van Hall, who was very ill, is now in a fair way to recover his health.

COMMERCIAL.

Coffee.—The market was steady, and in the last days with more demand. The following parcels were sold: 2,032 b. Java, ex Hendrina and Wilhelmina Johanna, at different prices; and 1,000 b. Java, ex Luconia, at prices that did not transpire. In auction 233 b. Java were sold: Triage at 22½c. to 38c.; 351 b. Santos at 32½c. to 40½c.; and about 900 b. do. damaged at 31½c. to 35½c.

Sugar.—Raw: About 6,000 kr. Java were sold at unaltered prices, viz., 1f. to 1½f. under July. Refined: Dull, in consequence of the dullness on the foreign markets.

Tea.—Dull, and unaltered.

Rice.—With more inquiry. 6,630 b. Rangoon, ex Macassar, were sold at 7¼f.; 9,475 b. Necrausie, ex Diana, at 7f.; and 1,200 b. do., ex do., at 7¼f.; Java, 8½f. to 11f.

Spices.—Without transactions; in waiting for the auction of the Trading Company. Cinnamon, No. 3, with inquiry at 100c.

Tobacco.—The market is unaltered. The 650 p. Java H and A Kedirie offered at auction were sold at 53 c., the 179 p. Java Blitar at 70⅞ c. The 105 p. Manila were partly sold at the following prices;—1a from 125 to 146½ c.; 2a to 117 at 125½ c.; 3a to 53½ at 58 c.; in the first days of the following month considerable quantities will be offered in public sale. To-day 592 p. FHS ex Electra were sold. Price unknown.

Hides.—367 p. E. J. ex Maarten van Rossem, 233 p dam. ex do., 625 do. ex Catharina Maria and 881 Buffalo ex Hendrina were sold.

Java Indigo.—With a good demand, and several lots were sold at former prices; with several ships about 500 ch. were imported, which will be offered on the forthcoming days. On the 26th and 28th Sept. the Trading Company will offer in public auction 775½ chests Java Indigo, 540 chests Bengal Indigo and 69 chests Java Cochineal. The Java Indigo is valued at 25 cents above the prices of the last auction, and the Bengal Indigo is valued after the last London auction.

Banca Tin.—Lower again, in consequence of the London market, were Banca is paid with £90. 500 slabs Banca were sold at 55¼f. and 500 slabs at 54½f.

Gutta Percha.—105 pic. ex Padang packets were sold.

Rattans.—400 pic. ex L. A. Lang were sold.

Shipping.—Arrivals.—Aug. 15, at Brouwershaven from Banjoewangie, County of Renfrew; 14, at Texel from Tjilatjap, Herman de Ruiter; from Padang, Antelope; 15, from Batavia, H.M.S. Adolf Hertog van Nassau; from Tjilatjap, Schelde; at Zierikzee from Batavia, Jacob; from Banjoewangie, Hollandia; 16, at Brouwershaven from Sourabaya, Henr. Elise Susanna; 21, at Texel from Banjoewangie, Theodora Machtelda.

Departures.—Aug. 20, from Brouwershaven for Batavia, Johanna; from Zierikzee for Batavia, Cornelis Wernard Eduard; 22, from Texel for Padang, Anna and Jeannette.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From Java.—Per Ouderkerk and Amstel: Messrs. Rietveld de Brou, Sutherland, Moore, Doyen, Mrs. Radys and family, Mrs. Winters and family, Miss M. van Elk; the families Hoorn, Browver, Swart and Retel. Per Johannes Anthonius: Messrs. J. M. van Seventer and family, A. Broringmeyer, F. N. A. Mugge, F. Kamph, Mrs. Kieven-Versteegh. Per Maria Anna: Messrs. E. K. A. de Neve, J. Walraven and Mulder. Per Henriette Elisabeth Susanna: Messrs. F. A. F. van der Valk, J. Roeloss. Per Hollandia: Messrs. van der Roess and family, Uljée and family, Van der Linden, Schroder, Grolmar. Per Jacob: Messrs. J. F. Eyzendoorn, H. Bos Offer, Mrs. van Sinten, Francis. Per Cornelius: Wernard Edward, Mrs. G. Suermonds and family, Mrs. Sythoff and family, Mrs. Greef, Messrs. J. W. van Leeuwen and family, W. E. van Kervel, D. A. de Hoog, H. Sponhoff, G. K. Pik, A. K. H. Klokke, K. J. Jimmerseel, Van Ommeren, Steensra, Tonsfaint and Bille Dunge.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

August 14.

In my last letter I sent you some statistics of the general trade of this port last year, and now proceed to lay before your readers some particulars of our special commerce with the Far East.

The goods imported direct from China were of the value of 1,070,290 marks banco (showing a great falling off against 1864, when the value of the imports was 2,363,710 m. b.), principally from the insignificant quantity of tea, which was only 3,294 chests, against 16,264 in 1863. The most important of the other items are 16,164 chests and 610 bales of cassia lignea, value 569,300 m. b.; 5,633 bags of raw sugar,

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70,940 m. b.; 1,156 chests of candied ginger, 24,370 m. b.; 44 chests of galls, 2,200 m. b.; 300 bales of galanga root, 4,710 m. b.; 300 chests of star annis, 33,280 m. b.; 156 chests oil of cassia, 63,640 m. b.; 270 chests oil of star annis, 76,320 m. b.; 70 chests of silk manufactures, 41,750 m. b.; and 170,000 canes, 12,190 m. b.

From the Philippine Islands were imported 36,830 bags of sugar, of the value of 284,800 marks banco, and 200 bales of hemp for 8,610 m. b., making a total of 293,410 m. b., against 538,170 in 1863.

From Netherlands India 9,280 bags of rice, value 63,300 m. b., 6 casks of nutmegs, 6 pipes of arrac, 155 chests of gum damar, 800 bundles of rattans, and 80,137 canes, of the aggregate value of 85,950 m. b., against 403,370 in 1863.

From British India 104,327 bags of rice, value 1,006,210 marks banco, 103 chests of ginger, 213 chests and 818 bales of terra catechu, 66 chests of shellac, 54, 816 hides, 428 casks of cocoanut oil, 13,635 bundles of rattans, 42,680 packages of cocoanut coir, and a few other items, making a total value of 1,446,380 marks banco, against 1,908,040 in 1863.

From Singapore the imports were too insignificant to enumerate the articles and quantities; suffice it to say that the whole value was only 36,140 marks banco, against 414,110 in 1863.

But though the foregoing shows a fearful falling off in the direct imports, there was a considerable increase in the indirect supply of many articles of China and Eastern produce contained in the following table extracted from the returns:—

Article	Quantity	Value in Marks Banco.
Coffee	737,916 centners	34,138,620
Tea	24,474 „	2,549,240
Raw Sugar	446,533 „	8,107,690
Rice	397,384 „	3,043,770
Sago	6,440 „	97,100
Arrowroot	1,028 „	27,410
Pepper	15,843 „	369,610
Cassia Lignea	13,140 „	753,830
„ Flores	327 „	64,110
Cinnamon	1,174 „	123,210
Cardamoms	448 „	159,170
Cloves	4,273 „	96,470
Mace	562 „	44,760
Nutmegs	397 „	27,520
Vanille	50 „	63,120
Ginger	4,404 „	147,770
Vermilion	502 „	88,560
Musk	117 lbs.	28,320
Rhubarb	189 centners	56,010
Galanga Root	500 „	7,210
Cassia Vera	714 „	26,890
Star Annis	555 „	52,530
Cubebs	90 „	7,030
Camphor—Raw	3,078 „	209,800
„ Refined	93 „	9,530
Gutta Percha	435 „	63,680
India Rubber	7,981 „	713,760
Castor Oil	969 „	34,210
Oil of Annis	15 „	13,080
„ Cassia	151 „	102,940
„ Cloves	295 „	41,920
„ Star Annis	376 „	185,700
Mother-o'-Pearl Shells	6,240 „	74,870
Tortoiseshell	18 „	18,540
Palm Oil	32,542 „	784,920
Cocoanut Oil	50,469 „	1,435,710
Rattans	28,519 „	555,780
Canes	5,394 „	92,440
Cocoanut Yarn	2,195 „	41,930

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Common descriptions, which of late have been much neglected, are now again in favour, and gave rise to considerable dealings for shipment. The result of the Dutch sale is considered satisfactory, and has tended to strengthen the market. Sales, 13,000 bags.

SUGAR.—There have been transactions to a moderate extent at former prices, business being confined to West India descriptions. Refined firm; 15,000 loaves changed hands.

RICE.—In fair request at full prices.

SPICES.—No alteration to report.

SPELTER.—This metal is dull of sale, and a shade cheaper. There is, however, but little to be had, as the principal holders are by no means anxious to sell, and keep out of the market in the expectation of a favourable reaction shortly. Nominal quotation for Silesian, in slabs, 14⅛ marks banco.

AUG. 23.

The Prussian Consul at Bangkok has sent home to his Government the *exequatur* or official document recognising his consular capacity in Siam, which, from the singularity of its ornaments and the richness of the covering, is considered such a curiosity that it is exhibited for the inspection of the public in the Royal Court at Berlin. It purports to be granted by "the King's Tribunal of Amant-Samagome, in the city of Satne-Corinder-Mahindrayuddhia, Bangkok, in the Kingdom of Siam, on Friday, the fifteenth night of the moon of the month Magh, of the third month of the cold season, in the year of the Rat of the sixth decade of the Siamese æra 1226." The first leaf is composed of gold paper embroidered with gold thread and silk, and at the head of the document are imprinted the three Great Seals of State, below which is the impression of the Royal Seal with the white elephant. It is rolled up in the form of a scroll, and wrapped up in a covering of silk interwoven with gold, the whole being enclosed in a box curiously carved and painted.

According to the treaty of 1861, concluded between China and Prussia, for herself and in the name of the German Zollverein, it is stipulated that each of the high contracting German States shall have the right of appointing a consul-general in China and a consul for each of the ports and other places opened by the treaty. But as in such cases only one consul can act as the representative of the Zollverein, it being agreed that that official shall be a salaried consul invested with the rights of jurisdiction and protection and precluded from engaging in mercantile transactions, the Government of the Grand Duke of Oldenburg—who is a member of the Zollverein—looked upon it as a matter of course from the very beginning that the appointment of the consuls should devolve upon Prussia, although there is nothing to that effect stipulated in the treaty itself, nor in the preliminary negotiations. Oldenburg has now, however, come to an understanding with Prussia on the subject, and in the last number of the official *Gazette* a ministerial decree is promulgated giving public notice that the Oldenburg consulates in China are abolished, and their rights and functions transferred for the future to the Consular representatives of Prussia. All Oldenburg subjects, and especially seafaring people requiring countenance and protection in the Chinese ports opened by treaty, have therefore to apply to the Royal Prussian Consuls. In all cases in which Oldenburg subjects claim the assistance of Prussian Consuls for some reason or other they must conform to the laws and regulations in operation as contained in the official instructions given to those officials, more especially with regard to the payment of the fees of office which they are authorised to exact.

At a late meeting of the Russian Imperial Geographical Society, held at St. Petersburg, Admiral Lutke in the chair, a new map, in six sheets, of the course of the river Sungari was exhibited to the Fellows. It was compiled by M. Simonow, Quarter-Master General of Eastern Siberia, during the expedition sent last year by the Governor-General to explore that river, some particulars of which I sent you in a former letter. The map has been engraved and lately published by the staff at Irkutzk, and the copy exhibited at the meeting, a present from the originator to the Geographical Society, is the first hitherto transmitted to Europe.

The section for Siberia has sent to the Society a tracing of a new sketch map of the country between a place bearing the formidable name of Tsowroukhaitouyefsk, on the river Argoon, and Blagovessensk, drawn by Prince Crapotkin, who was sent with a caravan to explore that part of the Chinese dominions. This journey was interesting in a twofold respect, for it shows the geographical features and astronomical positions of an almost totally unknown country, and demonstrates how useful and important a land communication between the above localities must eventually become, since the water road in descending the Argoon and Amoor is long and difficult for navigation, not to say dangerous, for the bed of those rivers abounds with sandbanks, shoals, and rocks.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—A better feeling prevails for this article, and the market is steady. Sales of the week 15,000 bags, arrivals 37,318 bags.

SUGAR.—Raw continues in a state of calmness. Of refined 18,000 loaves were sold and realised rather better prices.

RICE quiet, but not lower.

SPICES.—There is more demand for Cassia Lignea, which has in consequence undergone a trifling improvement. Ginger is firmer. In Pepper there have been some lively transactions, among which were 7,000 bags of Singapore, part ex warehouse and part for arrival at 3¼ to 3⅜ Sch. Bco., and 1,800 bags of sifted Penang at 3⅛.

TEA.—Purchases have chiefly been made for consumption, the only parcel that changed hands for shipment being 517 chests of Japan.

SPELTER.—A further decline in prices has induced buyers to come forward and operate, which gave some liveliness to the market, last week so stagnant. Among the sales reported are 1,000 centners afloat at 14.9, 4,000 centners deliverable in September and October at 14.10, 1,500 do. do. at 14.9, and 3,000 do. for arrival at 14.9½. The market closes firmer, and prices are looking up.

SHIPPING.—ARRIVED.—August 12, Dannebrog, from Singapore; 14, Carl, from Akyab; 16, Melissa, from Singapore; 19, Carl Julius, from Singapore, and India from Bassein; 21, Albert Edward, from Rangoon.

SAILED.—August 10, Frisch, to Singapore.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A Register is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the Far East and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in China, Japan, Singapore, *and other parts of the* Far East, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the Far East.

Subscription 54s. per annum. including Postage. Export Supplement 12s. extra.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 1865.

THE OPENING OF THE TEA SEASON.

Never was the truth of the old saying "ill news travels apace" more completely verified than it has been in the tenor of the telegrams which come to us from the tea-shipping ports in China. The newly opened telegraphic communication with India—which, by the way, is so carelessly and inefficiently managed as to be a source of constant complaint among those who are obliged to make use of it—now brings us intelligence from China in little more than three weeks; and the telegrams which follow each other in rapid succession indicate a degree of recklessness on the part of tea-buyers surpassing even that of last season. This is "ill news" indeed; but there is probably worse to follow. The experience of past years teaches us that when once this spirit of competition is roused, not even the prospect of certain and severe losses is sufficient to impose any restraint on the extravagant emulation it engenders among buyers; in the almost frantic desire to get the first cargoes away, merchants bid eagerly against one another, running up prices until even the Chinese tea-men are surprised and delighted at the paradise which opens itself to their gratified vision. No jealousy of one another, no hot impatience to push the markets exists among *them*, to prevent their reaping the full advantage of the situation. When buyers thus voluntarily open the markets at extreme rates, the native dealers have only to combine together and remain firm to keep prices up, which they do with unvarying success, pocketing enormous profits, and wondering the while at the folly which obstinately refuses to take a lesson even from such dearly bought experience as that of the last two years.

From the disastrous results of last season's shipments we had imagined there was at all events one crumb of comfort to be gathered—in the hope that such a severe lesson would prove a check to that growing tendency towards overtrading which we have more than once adverted to as an evil that threatens the very existence of our commerce with China. It cost us (as pointed out in an article in our issue of 26th January last, headed "Overtrading in Tea and Silk") not much less than a million and a-half sterling in the season 1863-4, and the season just closed will probably show an aggregate deficit of at least one million. So heavily have the losses fallen on some of the most respectable firms, that several have succumbed entirely, while others have found their credit seriously affected. Yet the warning, costly as it has been, is allowed to pass unheeded; telegrams reach us announcing the opening of the present season at extravagant rates—others, announcing a rise to still higher prices, caused by eager competition among buyers—still others, advising a further rise on receipt of intelligence of the reduction in duty (which is treated as being equivalent to a *rise* of 6d. per pound!), later still, we hear "tea and silk active and advancing"—and the latest, dated 29th July, says the markets are still "advancing." The new teas generally are said to be below the average, both as regards quality and condition; the prices are such as lay them down above the opening rates of last season (lower grades two or three taels higher); and these extreme rates will doubtless stimulate the growers to produce a large quantity of second and third crop. How this condition of affairs can be in any way reconciled with the sanguine expectations apparently entertained by tea-tasters at Hankow and Foochow we are at a loss to perceive. One thing is certain, and that is, that before the China merchants can hope to restore the trade to anything like its former lucrative condition, they *must* abandon the delusive idea that by paying higher prices for tea in China they can compel a corresponding rise in home quotations. Mincing Lane is not, and never will be governed by the China markets; and superabundant shipments of high-priced teas can only result in the accumulation of unsaleable stocks which have to be forced off at auction "without reserve," and a depressed state of the home market ruinous to individual shippers and detrimental to commercial credit in the China trade generally.

OUR JAPANESE VISITORS.

The party of Japanese sent to England by the Prince of Satsuma are fourteen in number, consisting of two officers of high rank, an interpreter, and eleven young men of good family and education, who are to remain in England for some years, in order to acquire a knowledge of the English language and an insight into the literature, arts, and sciences which form such important elements in European civilisation. For this purpose they have been placed in the care of Professor Williamson, of the London University, under whose able guidance their studies are already being prosecuted.

The three elder members of this "Satsuma Expedition" (if we may so term it) will only remain in Europe until the end of the present year. Their principal object is to acquire information regarding our system of agriculture and the machinery now so largely used therein, our silk and cotton manufactures, mines, arsenals, &c. For this purpose they have been occupied in visiting, firstly, some of the more important agricultural districts, secondly, the manufacturing towns of Manchester, Birmingham, Macclesfield, &c., and are now on their way northwards to Aberdeen and other places of note in Scotland. Returning thence, they intend crossing the Irish Channel to inspect the Dublin Exhibition, after which they will travel for a short time on the Continent, preparatory to turning their steps once more towards the "Land of the rising sun." Mr. Holme, the gentleman who accompanied them on their voyage from Japan hither, and under whose direction their investigations are being prosecuted, is from his long experience in Japan, and intimate knowledge of the wants as well as the capabilities of the natives, especially qualified to give his *proteges* the most effectual aid in their researches.

The two Japanese Embassies which were despatched to Europe by the Tycoon's Government have, we believe, done little, if anything, towards spreading a knowledge of the wonders of the Western World among the people of Japan. The members of the first embassy on their return seem to have subsided into obscurity; those of the second to have incurred disgrace, in consequence of their having failed to accomplish the political mission entrusted to the m, while all the information acquired was doubtless jealously guarded by the Government, to be used for its own sole benefit. From the visitors sent us by the Prince of Satsuma we may, however, hope for better things. When the three senior members of the party return to Satsuma, the tale which they will unfold to their master cannot fail to have a favourable effect on the mind of that liberal and enlightened Prince, and to give additional strength to the desire he has already manifested to benefit himself and his subjects by foreign intercourse and commerce. Still greater things are to be anticipated from the education in this country of a number of intelligent young Japanese. As they acquire increased proficiency in our language, we may obtain from them information regarding the internal polity of Japan, its social and political economy, which will be of immense value in our future intercourse with that country; and when, after a residence of some years among us, they return to give an account of their experience, they will convey no ordinary travellers' tales, no merely superficial idea of our manners and customs, habits and peculiarities, but will, we hope, carry with them and spread among their countrymen such a deeply-seated conviction of the greatness and superior civilisation of the people among whom they have sojourned, as will win for us an increased measure of respect and confidence from both Princes and subjects. More than this: may not the opportunities they will have of studying the principles of Christianity, and of observing its salutary influence on our social life as well as on our national policy, have a deeper and more lasting effect than the labours of even the most zealous missionaries could produce on the minds of their country-

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men at home? We think so; and we are moreover firmly convinced that far more substantial benefit will accrue to the cause of civilisation from the private mission sent in so quiet and unostentatious a manner by the Prince of SATSUMA, than would result from half-a-dozen showy embassies despatched by the TYCOON to attempt to persuade European Governments to give up their treaty rights, to fail in their mission, to be a nine days' wonder, and then to sink into oblivion.

NEW THESAURUS OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE.

AN important addition to Chinese educational literature is announced by the Rev. JAMES SUMMERS, Professor of Chinese in King's College, editor of the *Chinese and Japanese Repository*, and author of some useful minor works on the language. Mr. SUMMERS assumes that there is at present no single work capable of affording to merchants, diplomatists, missionaries, and students all the varied linguistic information required by them about the Chinese and their language, with the exception of Dr. MORRISON'S Dictionary, which was published in 1817, and which is now very scarce and very costly. Mr. SUMMERS proposes to remedy the want thus indicated by compiling (with the aid of other sinologues whose names are not yet announced) a complete "thesaurus" in eight volumes,—comprising six divisions, as follows:—I. An Index-Dictionary, containing *all* the characters arranged according to the radical forms, with their names and brief explanations. II. A lexicon of the 10,000 or 12,000 characters, in ordinary use, arranged alphabetically, with full explanations. quotations, &c. III. A Manual [Dictionary] of 4,000 characters, with combinations, colloquial expressions, &c. IV. An English-Chinese Dictionary. V. An English-Chinese Vocabulary, especially adapted to mercantile and missionary wants, and having a short grammar prefixed. And VI. A Topographical, Geological and Scientific Dictionary, including an account of productions and serving as a gazetteer of the empire. The publication of such a work will necessarily extend over several years, but at least one complete portion will be issued each year. The price of the entire work will be ten guineas.

IMPORTATION OF SILKWORMS' EGGS INTO FRANCE.

IN a late article on the Silkworm epidemic, we noticed a fraudulent practice which has grown up in France, of packing inferior European "seed" in the boxes which have been used by the Acclimatisation Society for importing it from Japan, and selling this as veritable newly imported Japanese seed. Late advices from Paris state that the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and of Commerce have issued a joint decree to prevent frauds which might be committed by the sale of silkworms' eggs, not coming from Japan, being placed in boxes used to import supplies from that country. All French agents in Japan are to be required to affix a special stamp, varying every year, to the boxes destined to France. Instructions have also been sent to the Minister of France at Yedo as to certain precautions to be taken in the transmission of living cocoons and eggs; the same to be communicated to all who may be desirous of such information. The Government, however, in adopting those measures does not intend to guarantee the quality of the eggs imported from Japan, but only their *bona fide* origin.

WHY NOT GROW SILK AT HOME?

(FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, August 24.

As you say, in your article on the silkworm epidemic, the European crop of silk this year is likely to be about the worst ever known; and this is a very serious matter, not only for the poor breeders and the large body of silk buyers, manufacturers, and sellers, but also for the commercial world generally for the ordinary course of trade is interrupted, and large and dangerous speculations are not unlikely to be the consequence. It is perfectly true, as you say, that M. Guerin Meneville, whose disinterested devotion to this question deserves the highest praise, refers the epidemic to the mulberry tree; I have had long conversations with that gentleman at Vincennes, where he has a piece of ground given to him by the Government, had an establishment in which he has reared worms of all kinds. and his opinion is that the epidemic must be classed with the potato and the vine disease, for which no satisfactory theory has yet been produced. But it is very important to add that he believes a change is taking place, or, in other words, that the worms are beginning to return to their normal condition; the principal evidence of this is the re-appearance of that form of disease which always was prevalent, more or less, amongst the worms; in fact, that as some worms are beginning to die naturally, there is good hope that the race is about to resume their natural mode of life. It must also be remembered that this is not the first visitation of the disease, and that it disappeared before as unaccountably as it, came.

Such visitations point naturally, as regards the future, to one thing, namely, the increase of the number and sources of our raw materials. We have passed through a cotton crisis which has given us a severe lesson, and there is no reason why we should not try and do something to prevent future silk crises. We have supplies of new and various kinds of silk from Japan and other places, and M. Guerin Meneville and others have been occupied for a long time in introducing and acclimatising the worms, which feed on the ailanthus, the oak, and other trees, and efforts are being made not only in France but also in America to bring the ailanthus worm into cultivation. The tree itself is not yet generally known in England, but it has been long grown in America, and is becoming common in France; several of the Paris Boulevards are now ornamented with it, and you see it in almost every quarter. It is commonly called in France the *Vernis de Japon*, a fact which requires explanation; it was indeed sent over from Japan as the tree which yields their incomparable varnish, but in error; it yields no gum, and is not even of the family of the varnish tree. But it is very graceful, grows with extraordinary rapidity and yet produces, in France—for I am told that it is not the case in America—very hard and durable wood, moreover flourishing in soil where scarcely anything else will grow. At Vincennes where M. Guerin Meneville has his experimental establishment, the ailanthus grow admirably in a soil which seems composed of stones exclusively; it grows on the boulevards quite as rapidly as the plane tree, and it flourishes on the banks of the railways like a weed. Now the worm which feeds on the ailanthus is a splendid fellow, as long as your little finger, makes a fine cocoon, and yields two or three crops a-year. I have at the present moment in my own possession a few worms, an inch or more long, produced from eggs laid this season. But this is not all. The ailanthus worm does better out of doors than in, after he has been hatched a few days; does not mind rain, against which he is prepared with his mackintosh, in the form of a wax-like powder which covers his whole body; and he will remain on the trees till the frost has stripped them of leaves. These facts are known in England, where a few gentlemen have given a good deal of attention to the subject, but they are not known to the world generally, and I think they deserve to be. M. Guerin Meneville assures me that the worm in question flourishes better in England and Ireland than in France; why then should they not produce their own ailanthus silk? It would be an excellent occupation for women. It is true that it does not wind easily; it is wanting in the gummy matter which causes the filaments of true silk to adhere together; it must be combed; in short, it yields what we call spun silk. But spun silk is a valuable article. India does an important trade in the Fussah-silk, which is the produce of a worm which feeds on the jujube tree in the plains and on the oak in the Himalayas. Moreover, I am informed that after a series of experiments made in France, a mode of winding the ailante-silk has been discovered and will shortly be put in operation.

Those who have not seen the moths of these worms will be startled at their size; they measure between four and five inches across their wings from tip to tip, and are beautifully spotted and striped. But these are small and plain in comparison with the great Atlas moth of India, which measures about six inches each way. This moth has been hatched in France, and I had the giant in my hand the other day, but unfortunately it was without a mate.

It is well for me to add that the official *Moniteur* of the sixth of June last announced the complete acclimatisation of the ailante worms, and gave the names of persons in six different departments of France who were prepared to furnish eggs to those who required them. M. Guerin Meneville, in his "Revue de Sericulture Comparée" gives other names and fuller information on the subject. This shows to what an extent the matter has already been pursued in France.

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OUR TRADE WITH JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

The following is the report of Marcus Flowers, Esq., dated 21st April, 1865 :—

The statistics of the trade of this port, compiled, as usual, from the best available sources, show an increase in the general business of the port.

Shipping.—In the shipping, as in other respects, the increase in the trade is altogether British. The other nationalities represented here show a decrease of shipping in 1864 as compared with the previous year. This will be seen by the following table :—

Nationality of Vessels.	Arrived.				Departed.			
	In 1863.		In 1864.		In 1863.		In 1864.	
	Vesls.	Tnge.	Vesls.	Tnge.	Vesls	Tnge.	Vesls.	Tnge.
British	100	34,790	139	61,498	100	32,918	141	59,263
American	40	21,102	16	6,817	36	19,557	15	6,567
Dutch	13	3,364	11	4,407	16	4,124	11	4,407
French	7	2,156	6	2,139	7	2,156	4	1,327
Russian	2	598	1	140	2	598	1	140
Prussian	8	2,810	1	459	7	1,877	2	892
Total	170	64,420	174	75,460	168	61,260	174	72,596

The total arrivals of last year, as compared with the year before, show an increase of four vessels and of 11,040 tons; and the departures in 1864 show an increase of six vessels and 11,336 tons. It will be seen that this average improvement is almost entirely owing to the great increase in the number and tonnage of British vessels during last year. The following figures exhibit the steady improvement in the British shipping business at this port during the last four years :—

—	Arrived.		Departed.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
In 1861	87	15,234	36	14,822
1862	65	19,181	52	15,202
1863	100	34,790	100	32,918
1864	139	61,498	141	59,263

The British arrivals in 1864 increased by 39 vessels of 26,708 tons, and the departures by 41 vessels of 26,315 tons. The regular bi-monthly arrival and departure of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's steam-ships during last year also formed a noteworthy feature in the shipping of this port. One British vessel, the steamer *Yang-tze*, was sold during the year to the Japanese Government for 145,000 dollars.

Casualties.—On the 10th of September the *Fleda*, and on the 29th December the barque *Onward* were wrecked on the coast of Japan, not far from this port. The wreck of the *Onward* was ascribed by a Court of Inquiry to imperfect charts. The master and crew spoke in the highest terms of the kind treatment they received from the Japanese authorities at the scene of the wreck. Beyond these wrecks, and the striking of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's steamer *Nepaul* upon a sunken rock in this bay in the month of November, there has been no casualities to British shipping on this part of the Japanese coast during that year.

The construction of a dock for the purpose of building and repairing vessels at or near this port is said to be in contemplation by the Japanese authorities, if not by a company of foreigners. At present there is no dock, but such facilities as the coast affords for repairing ships have been given by the Japanese Government when required.

Not the least remarkable and satisfactory feature in the shipping during last year was the great increase in the direct trade between this port and Great Britain. Eight vessels, of 2,638 tons, arrived direct from London and other ports in England during 1864; and 35 vessels, of 15,715 tons, were despatched direct to London and other ports in Great Britain, with full cargoes of raw cotton and other produce. Of these vessels, 33, of 14,723 tons, were British: the other two were Dutch. This amount of direct trade, as compared with that to other ports and places in Europe and America, will be found to be proportionally very large, and might fairly be augmented to the number of twelve vessels more, at least, on account of the cargoes shipped fortnightly direct to England in the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's mail steamships.

In the early part of the year freights were high, being in February and March as high as £7. 10s. per ton to London for silk, and £6. 10s. per ton for tea. About the middle of the year freights fell to £5 per ton for silk, and £4 per ton for tea; and towards the close of the year silk would be carried for £4 per ton, and tea for 3 per ton. Most of the coast and carrying trade was, as usual, between this port and Shanghai, the rate of freight being 3 dols. per picul for silk, and 5 dols. per ton measurement. On the whole the British shipping business at this port during last year advanced very satisfactorily, while that of America, Holland, France, and Prussia declined considerably as compared with the year before.

Trade and Commerce.—The declared value of the commerce of this port during the year 1864 exceeds considerably that of any previous year since the opening of the port. Indeed, the value of the import trade alone is nearly equal to the import and export trade of 1863, and more than equal to the total import trade of the first three years. There is still much room for improvement; and with the growing taste for various foreign manufactures and products, there is reason to think that the import trade will from year to year increase largely.

The exports also show a considerable increase, being almost 9,000,000 dollars, against 5,000,000 dollars of last year. This, however, is not such an increase as the producing capabilities of Japan and the trade capital of this port would warrant. It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the export trade of the port is still rigorously controlled and hampered by the native authorities.

Although the general out-turn of the trade of last year is hopeful enough in some respects, yet the trade of that period was fitful, and at times very much depressed. Upon reviewing a file of trade circulars and market reports for the year, it appears that during the first half of last year, and until the result of the expedition to Simonoseki, became known at Yeddo, imports were much neglected, and exports were so high in price and so scanty in supply (excepting raw cotton) as to be highly unsatisfactory to foreign merchants, and doubtless so also to Japanese dealers. The success of the expedition to Simonoseki in September was, however, followed by a marked activity in trade, which continued to the end of the year, and no doubt made up the satisfactory general result which the following figures show for 1864, as compared with the four preceding years :—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	Dols.	Dols.	Dols.
1860	945,711	3,954,298	4,900,009
1861	1,478,315	2,682,952	4,161,267
1862	2,576,930	6,305,128	8,882,058
1863	1,595,170	5,134,184	6,729 54
1864	5,445,594	8,997,484	14,441 78

From this general view of the trade I may pass to a notice of the particular staple articles which have commanded most attention.

Imports.—As in past years, the fabrics called camlets figure highest in the Import Return, and show a valuation of more than 1,000,000 dols., or about double that of the year 1863. Other woollen fabrics have been equally well sold, and the result is a large increase of trade in those articles.

The demand for grey shirtings, chintzes, prints, velvets, and other cotton fabrics, has been large and steady since the revival of trade in the latter part of the year.

While some articles of import, which had been highly favoured by Japanese buyers in past years, were almost entirely neglected during 1864, other articles of import have been introduced, and have found a good market here. Among the former may be mentioned block tin, spelter and lead; and amongst the latter, iron and cotton yarn. These articles have been in good demand, especially iron, at fair prices. The quantity of iron sold during the year has been estimated by a person dealing in it at 20,000 tons. The valuation of grey shirtings is the second, and that of cotton yarn the third highest in the Return Table of Imports; and the figures in each instance exhibit a very large increase over the amount of any previous year. On the whole there has been a large increase in the import branch of the trade.

Exports.—In the export trade, raw silk as usual commanded much attention, and may be said to be the leading staple, though by no means the most remunerative. Indeed, I am informed that purchases of raw silk by foreigners in the latter part of the season 1863-64 were made, more as a mode of remittance for imports, than with a view to any actual profit on the shipnents. There appears to be little room to doubt the correctness of the allegation that the Japanese authorities tamper with and restrict the exportation of this valuable product. In a letter lately addressed to me by the Governor of this port, relative to the sale of ova or silkworm eggs for exportation, that officer avows a restriction on the trade which is in direct contravention of the express terms of the Treaty of Commerce. The quantity, and in some degree the quality also, of the silk exported in 1864 falls far short of that of the preceding year; but the price of the smaller quantity, 12,576 bales, shows an increase of more than 2,000,000 dollars over that of the 23,164 bales exported in the year 1863. This is a very serious matter, the blame of which is laid entirely to the charge of the Japanese Government.

Upon the subject of the silk trade of the port, I cannot do better than embody here *in extenso* the following able letter with which I have been favoured by a well-known resident silk inspector and merchant, J. M. Jaquemot, Esq., than whom no one can be better qualified to treat the subject :—

"Sir,—Agreeably with your request, I have the honour to send you my report on our silk market for the year 1864.

"The first two months of that year were a perfect blank for the silk trade, there was no stock for sale on the market, and the arrivals from the country were completely interrupted.

"In the month of March a few hundred bales were brought down, and business began slowly to revive, but at prices which, to all appearance, were not destined to leave much margin to exporters. The month of April was a little more active, with a continuance of high prices in the face of unfavourable advices from the European markets.

"In the month of May, the Japanese dealers having submitted to some reduction in prices, and reports having been at the same time circulated that the exportation of China silk for the ensuing season was likely to be much shorter than in former years, a very fair business was done, leaving only a small stock of silk on the market, which was completely cleared in June.

"The musters of the new season's produce began to come down in the first fortnight of July, of which about 100 bales were eagerly bought up at high prices. The second fortnight, however, it was stated by the native merchants that the Japanese authorities in the country were interfering with their trade, and no more silk was brought down to Yokohama that month.

"In August the arrivals from the country were limited to about 300 bales, which had been contracted for by some British merchants of this place, and were brought down under the flag and protection of the Daimio of Satzuma. With that exception, the silk trade was brought to a complete standstill. This state of things continued throughout the month of September, without any appearance of the illegal proceedings of the Japanese authorities being removed. Meanwhile, a good many merchants of all nationalities made advances to the native dealers, who repaired to Yeddo and other places in the country, where large stocks were accumulated, and smuggled in some 300 or 400 bales at an enormous risk to themselves, as well as to the foreign merchants who had made advances to them. It is, however, satisfactory to say that, with scarcely any exception, all the money that had been advanced to the native dealers for that purpose were eventually repaid.

"The position of the foreign houses engaged in the silk trade was at that time very painful. The advices from Europe and China left no doubt whatever of the deficiency of the last year's crop in those respective localities, and large orders had consequently been sent to Japan, as being

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almost the only country from whence an abundant supply could be expected. On the other hand, it was well known here that the crop in Japan had been successful and abundant; silk coming from all parts of the country to Yeddo on the way to Yokohama, agreeably with an established custom, was detained by the Japanese authorities, and had accumulated to the extent of more than 6,000 piculs. The native dealers, whose intercourse with foreigners was thus hampered by their own authorities, were indignant, and made repeated applications to the Government at Yeddo, but to no purpose.

"The restrictions continuing to be severely enforced by the Japanese Government, and threatening to bring the trade of this port to a close, the foreign merchants memorialized their respective Ministers, who repaired to Yeddo in the beginning of October, and made such arrangements with the Gorogio as resulted in all the illegal impediments being removed almost immediately.

"So striking was the relief thus given to the trade of this port, that within the month which followed the visit of the Ministers to Yeddo, upwards of 4,000 bales of silk were shipped, of the value of rather more than 2,000,000 dollars.

"The demand was exceedingly brisk throughout the months of October and November, and was eventually stimulated by a considerable depreciation of the value of the Mexican dollar, large quantities of which had been set to China and Japan in anticipation, probably, of heavy purchases of cotton, which, however, did not take place, owing to the financial crisis which broke out in England in September and October last year. The abundance of dollars on this market, and the limited supply of suitable articles wherewith to make the returns, caused, as above stated, a fall in the exchange of fully 13 per cent. in the short space of six weeks. This reduction, all in favour of the exporters of silk, was unfortunately more than counteracted by the enormous rise which took place in the market value of this staple, to a point not only perfectly unprecedented, but which I feel assured the Japanese dealers, even in their wildest dreams, had never thought to attain.

"The excessive height of the prices brought, at last, most of the buyers to their senses; in December the demand slackened sensibly, but prices remained firm to the close of the year.

"The year 1864 has been remarkable for the intermittent character of transactions in silk, owing to the repeated restrictions alluded to above, and the excessive elevation of prices, as will be seen below. It is not, therefore, to be wondered at that the export of silk shows a poor figure, compared with the two former years. The total export of silk from Yokohama to all parts amounted to—

"12,576 bales* in 1864	..	Value 6,150 000 dollars.
"Against 23,164 „ in 1863	..	„ †9,960,000 „
"And 20,601 „ in 1862	..	„ 6,730.000 „

"In these numbers are not included a few hundred bales, more or less, of inferior descriptions, such as waste silk, floss silk, and nubs and husks, the total of which in 1864 may amount to 500 bales, of the value of 40,000 dollars. The average market prices, quoted below, may be found interesting in connection with the above table of exports:—

—	In 1862.	In 1863.	In 1864.
	Per Picul.	Per Picul.	Per Picul.
Mibush and Sincho	$460	$520	$620
Oshio	420	480	580
Coshio	370	430	530
Hashogee	310	370	480

"The remarks I was called on to make last year on the gradual increase of the market value of silk at Yokohama apply with a much greater force to 1864; whatever may have been the motives which induced the buyers, and there have doubtless been some good ones, it cannot be gainsaid that prices have been pushed up to an extreme, nay, a dangerous point. It may be granted in favour of the exporters that the demand for silk, owing to the deficient crops in China and Europe, was the more urgent, as there was no other country in the world from which a supply could be obtained. It must likewise be allowed that the intermittent character of the arrivals from the country, and their uncertainty, acted as a spur on the energies of the merchants, and fanned their eagerness to secure enough to fill their wants with all possible despatch. But it cannot be denied that the foreign buyers have shown far less discretion than ever in this market, in their dealings with the Japanese. In their haste to secure a supply, at almost any cost, they have put themselves in the power of the native dealers, who feel that they have a hold on them which will not be easily shaken off. They threw away the chance that fell in their way of a considerable reduction in the exchange, and gave the full benefit of it to the Japanese merchants: that was a great fault, and it will take I know not how many years to repair the mischief. The ruling prices here show now an absolute loss compared with those of Europe. It may be that the growing scarcity of silk in the western world will eventually force up the prices in England, France, &c., to a par with those which have been paid here within the last four months. But it is well known that an extreme elevation in the value of any article is almost invariably followed by a more or less sudden reaction. The value of raw silk has now reached a point in the markets of Europe which leaves scarcely any profit to the manufacturer; can it be supposed that the latter will continue working without any remuneration? On the contrary, I venture to hope that our merchants here will listen to the advices of reason, and stop in the course they are pursuing, in time to avoid further losses and disappointments.

"I have not alluded hitherto to a new branch of the silk trade which had in former years been very slightly developed owing to the difficulties with which it was surrounded by the Japanese authorities, I mean the silkworms' eggs. In consequence of the fatal disease which continues to attack the silkworms in Europe, great efforts were made last year to get seed from this country, former experiments of it having been quite successful. A considerable quantity was shipped, which may be estimated at 200,000 cards, of the value of 200,000 dollars. Should that seed give a satisfactory result in the spring of this year in Europe, I have no doubt that there will be a very active demand for it next season. It is satisfactory to find that the severity of the Japanese authorities, with regard to the exportation of this article, has been lately much relaxed, and that henceforth it may form no inconsiderable part of our exports.

"Small quantities of cocoons have also been shipped from here; but not having kept or had access to any record of the quantities exported, I only mention it here *pro mem.*; at all events, the value of the quantities exported is almost insignificant."

Raw Cotton.—The second article of export which demands attention is raw cotton, of which 64,000 piculs, valued at 1.792,000 dols., were exported, chiefly to England, in 1864, against 46,697 piculs, valued at 426,204 dols., in 1863, showing a greatly increased cost of the article in this market, so great indeed as to have recently led almost to a stoppage of the trade in this export. The native dealers are very firm in their demands, and must have made large profits on cotton as well as on silk during the year.

Tea.—Of tea there is little to be said. Supplies on the whole have been liberal, but prices were maintained so high as to leave no profit to exporters. It is asserted by some resident merchants that there has been a loss on almost every shipment of the article to London during last year. From the private statistics of merchants, it would appear that upwards of 5,000,000 lbs. of tea, valued at about 1,000,000 dollars, were exported at this port in 1864.

In the month of May last, Japanese tobacco was in active demand for exportation, at rates as high as 6 to 7 dollars per picul. This article however, has not become one of much importance in the market.

In Chow-chow articles for the China market the usual business has been done, but not to a greater extent than in past years. In timber and oil, which formed a considerable item in the exports of former years, there was no business done for export in 1864, the prices asked by native dealers being so high as entirely to preclude purchases.

Taking a general view of the trade of last year, it does, I think, appear that the import trade is the most satisfactory to foreign traders, although there is still a balance of trade to the amount of 3,500,000 dollars in favour of Japan.

Exchange.—The average rate of exchange on London throughout the year was, for Mexican dollars, from 4s. 10d. to 5s. for bank bills at six months' sight. In the months of September and October, however, the rate was as high as 5s. 2¼d. to 5s. 3¼d. for bank bills at six months' sight, and still higher for private drafts. In the month of November about 2,000,000 dollars arrived in three ships, and the rate of exchange fell to 4s. 8⅛d., and at the close of the year it was 4s. 6¾d.

The year 1864 will be memorable as that in which every reasonable man in this country must have been convinced of the utter folly of any Japanese Prince or party attempting to dispute by force the rights of foreigners in Japan. All the elaborate preparations and concentrated force of the Daimio Choshiu at Simonoseki were quickly destroyed in September last by the allied squadron; and the good effect of this check to the folly of that Daimio was soon visible in the greatly-improved state of this market. The last year also was, I regret to say, marked, like some of its predecessors, by a barbarous unprovoked murder of foreigners by Japanese. On the 21st November last, Major Baldwin and Lieutenant Bird, both officers of the 2nd Battalion 20th Regiment, in garrison at this port, were murdered at Kamakura, a place quite within the limits of this Consular district. On the 28th December, Shimidzu Seiju, one of the murderers, was publicly executed for that crime at Yokohama.

The foreign population of the port during the year 1864, including those afloat and ashore, might be taken, perhaps, at from 6,000 to 7,000 persons. Independently of the garrison and the fleet, the number of resident foreigners of all classes increased very considerably; and with this increase of population came a very oppressive increase in the prices of provisions, and generally in the cost of living, so as to render this port a rival to Shanghae in its immoderate expensiveness. House-rent in the Foreign Settlement has continued high, notwithstanding that building has been going on rapidly, and new houses coming into occupation.

The number of British residents on the Consular register at the close of last year was 200, of whom 90 were registered during the year. The resident civilians are, with few exceptions, persons engaged in, or connected with, the commercial pursuits of the port. The medical profession is fairly represented in the resident community, and during the year the skill of resident civil engineers became available in the planning and building of houses. At present there does not appear to be sufficient inducement for members of the legal profession to settle here. There are few resident shipwrights, carpenters, blacksmiths, and artisans, as many no doubt as can find remunerative employment in the port.

Sanitary.—The health of this community during the year has, in the main, been good. Some cases of small-pox occurred, and the exertions made to limit the spread of the disease led to the establishment of a small-pox hospital on the Bluffs, outside the Settlement. This institution, under the able management and careful superintendence of Dr. Willis, of the British Legation, has contributed largely towards mitigating and checking the spread of the disease. A Sanitary Committee also, composed of the heads of a few mercantile houses, were empowered to collect and expend small monthly contributions for the purpose of keeping the settlement clean and free from rubbish and offal, which, if allowed to accumulate, would engender disease. Several attempts have been made to form a Municipal Committee; but so far no such body has been elected for the general management of local matters.

Climate.—I am indebted to Dr. J. D. Hepburn, a resident missionary physician, for a copy of his observations on the state of the weather, memorandum of earthquakes, &c., during the year 1864. This information will, no doubt, prove interesting, and I attach it to this report as an inclosure.

Native Town.—The native population has increased very considerably during the last two years. In the beginning of 1863 the resident population of the native town of Yokohama and its suburbs was, I am informed, under 8,000. By a return received from the Custom-house, I find that the native population of Kanagawa, including Yokohama, is at present 18,722, of which about 12,000 belong to Yokohama. Of this number,

* All bales mentioned in these figures may be estimated at the weight of 85 catties each.

† The declared value in the official Return of last year amounts to 4,127,340 dols.—M. F.

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519 are officials engaged in the Customs and Police administration of this port, and 1,922 are officers and men composing the native garrison and doing duty in the several guard houses. The number of houses in Yokohama-Kanagawa is stated to be 4,482, of which 2,876 are in Yokohama and its suburbs. Of the total native population 9,591 are males, and 9,131 are females. I am glad to observe that in the native, as in the foreign town, building had been sufficiently active during the year to show that the town has been extending and improving. The filling up of the remainder of the marsh or swamp lying immediately in the rear of the town, and which is expected to be completed this year, will be a very important improvement to the settlement in many respects.

Food Crops.—I have heard no complaints of the rice, wheat, and other food crops of last year. There is evidently no want or distress among the people of this district; they all seem to be well employed and to be contented. Their acuteness in obtaining from foreigners the highest possible prices for their produce is quite remarkable. This is effected through combination and reticence in matters of trade; and they certainly have succeeded in running the prices of export produce up to a very high pitch indeed.

Public Works.—A public road about five or six miles in length, and of an average width of thirty feet, had been commenced and almost finished last year. This road runs in a southerly direction from Yokohama, and was constructed by the Japanese Government for the accommodation of foreigners taking recreation in that direction, and perhaps with a view of having the Tokaido less frequented by foreigners. The road in some parts exhibits very respectable engineering ability, and is now quite finished; excepting this, there had been no public work in progress here during the year, and there are no manufactories in this locality. The fishing of the bay and coast employs a good many hands; the agriculture and horticulture of the district engage many others; and the remainder find employment in the sundry pursuits of the town, and in the traffic with Yeddo and other places, from and to which produce and merchandize are brought. The social condition of the Foreign Settlement during 1864 had been much the same as reported to have been during the year 1863. The large number of sailors and soldiers in the port caused spirit-shops to become unexpectedly numerous; the result of this was a great increase in the number of the police cases and criminal charges which came before the Consular Court: 102 cases had been heard and recorded in the course of the year. Some of these were civil suits, arising in the resident mercantile community. The work of the Consulate thus became very heavy for the officers attached to it; and it is to this constant daily occurrence of matters, which demand immediate attention, that I have to ascribe the delay in sending in this report.

I submit this report with the hope that it will be found to contain some useful information, and such as Her Majesty's Government desires.—I have, &c., (Signed) Marcus Flowers.

HAKODADI.

C. Enslie's report on the trade of this port, addressed to Earl Russell, is as follows :—

Hakodadi, January 1, 1865.

My Lord,—Inclosed I have the honour to forward you the trade returns of this port for 1864, and on comparing them with those of the previous year a very considerable increase will be found both in the import and export commerce of Hakodadi.

Notwithstanding the absence of precautionary measures on the part of the Japanese Government to ensure the safety of foreign vessels entering and leaving Hakodadi, the statistics for last year are extremely satisfactory, and show a large increase on those of 1863. During the past year our port was visited by 82 vessels of various nations, 48 of which were British, exceeding both in number and tonnage the total of all the merchant-men which entered Hakodadi during 1863. I would also take this opportunity of drawing your Lordship's attention to the marked increase in British shipping of 1864 over the years 1861 and 1862, in which respectively only 15 and 22 British vessels came to Hakodadi. Few men-of-war, however, called here, the total of 1863 being 12, 2 of which were British, and 10 Russian, whereas only 6 of the latter came to our northern port during the past year, the number of British men-of-war being one less.

This increase would undoubtedly bid fair for the future, were it not for the frequent shipwrecks which have lately taken place. No less than four vessels have been lost within fifty miles of Hakodadi during the last 13 months, 3 of which were British merchant-men. The main cause of these repeated disasters is the danger to which vessels are exposed in coming through the Tsugar Straits, and whatever measures might in future be adopted by the local authorities for the safety of shipping in general, the current in these straits, averaging in calm weather about three knots, will always present insurmountable obstacles to the prosperity of the Hakodadi trade. It is, however, to be hoped that the Japanese Government, appreciating the benefit accruing to them by foreign trade, will, by the erection of beacons or lighthouses at both the entrances of the Tsugar Straits, on the mainland or the coast of Yesso, which is so peculiarly dangerous and deceptive, especially during the winter months, from November to April, endeavour to facilitate the navigation of our vessels, and thereby materially increase their revenue.

It being extremely difficult to state the speed of the current accurately, the following examples will serve as forcible illustrations of the difficulties experienced by vessels entering this harbour. The *Alma* in 1863 made a nine days' passage from Shanghai to the entrance of the straits, and drifting through was 37 days before casting anchor in Hakodadi. The *Waverlet*, in the same year, made a six days' passage, and not wishing to enter this harbour during the night, also drifted to the eastward, and was 43 days coming into port. The *Beaver* left Yokohama in December, 1862, was in sight of Hakodadi, but was compelled to return to the former port after a passage of 43 days. The harbour itself is still in the same state; little has been done for the safe anchorage of foreign ships, although plans of a long talked-of lighthouse to be erected at the entrance of the harbour, near Hakodadi fort, are still entertained. Such an increase in the foreign shipping must be the natural consequence of an augmentation in commercial transactions, and on referring to the comparative table of exports for the last two years, you will perceive that the export trade for 1864 amounts to 414,846 dollars 56 cents, and has, therefore, exceeded that of the previous year by 148,711 dollars 73 cents. The various articles exported from Hakodadi during the last two years have, with one exception, remained the same, although the quantities have increased very considerably. Comboo (seaweed), the principal staple of export, shows an increase of more than 40,000 piculs, representing a value of 150,000 dollars; cut seaweed, also an article of consumption among the Chinese, likewise shows an excedent of 4,400 piculs, valued at 15,000 dollars. The other commodities which have either increased or formed new articles of export are, taking them alphabetically, charcoal, deer skins, ginseng, hotadikaimi, samenhile, salmon, silk, silkworm eggs, sulphur.

Comboo.—The most important article of export at this port during the past year is extensively used by the Chinese, principally as a substitute for salt. It is divided into three sorts, the best coming from Shimaru and Yokadsu, the second quality from Akish, and the third from Kusudri. This article appears in the Hakodadi market throughout the whole year, with the exception of the winter months, and has two crops, the first from September to December, the other from May to August. The average prices paid were:—

1st quality	.. .. ..	2.45 dollars to 3 dollars	
2nd „	.. .. ..	2.40 „	to 2.80 „
3rd „	.. .. ..	2.25 „	

A very considerable increase has taken place in the exportation of this article, but a large stock still remains unsold at Hankow and other ports in China; the prospects for next year are good, and large supplies of this article will be imported from several other parts of the coast of Japan.

Awabee, a kind of oyster, and highly esteemed by the Chinese, has not been exported during the past year to the same extent as in 1863; prices have been very high, and this may partly account for the decrease. The various places whence this article is brought are: the west coast of Yesso, Shendai, Tsugaru, and Nambu. The fishing season commences in March, and, after being dried, this commodity is brought to Hakodadi until November, after which there is a great scarcity.

The prices paid during the past year vary from 17 to 18 dollars, but have now risen to 22 dollars per picul.

Irico, also an article of food for the Chinese, is brought from the west coast of this island. The fishing season is the same as that of awabee, and the prices paid are from 21 to 23 dollars per picul. There is little prospect of an increase in the exportation of the last two commodities as long as large supplies are sent to Nagasaki in native crafts.

Silk has been exported in small quantities, and the prices vary from 430 to 510 dollars. Small lots of good silk still now and then appear in this market, but the native merchants are generally little inclined to incur the risk of sending large shipments in junks across the Tsugar Straits, besides which a very scanty inducement is held out to the small number of foreign merchants residing here. Large purchases have been made in Shendai and Daté by the Kioto merchants, and should this be the case again this year, or the state of the interior of Nipon, at present invested everywhere with strongly armed bands of Ronins, not ameliorate, little hope can be entertained of an increase in the silk trade of this port.

Deer skins are brought to this place from April to August, and come from the north of Yesso; the average price is 13 dollars per picul.

Deer horns have increased in price considerably, in 1863 the prices varied from 3 dollars 50 cents to 4 dollars, whereas 8 dollars have been paid per picul during the past year.

Cuttlefish comes from Esasi, Matsmai, and the west coast of Yesso, Fugaro and Yetzidzen generally during February and October, and the prices paid vary from 14 to 16 dollars 50 cents. During the past year small quantities have been brought to Hakodadi from Sado Island, situated near the west coast of Nipon; it is said to be of a very good quality, and bids fair for the future.

Hotadikaimi, another species of oyster, come from Nambu, and vary in price from 8 to 10 dollars.

Sulphur, exported in small lots last year, is found in large quantities in this island, owing to its volcanic nature. Yessan and Komagataki, two volcanoes within 30 miles of Hakodadi, are the principal places whence this commodity is procured. The average price is 1 dollar per picul.

Oil.—This article of export, principally fish oil, is extracted from herrings, which are caught on the coast of this island and the north of Nipon; the fisheries afford employment to thousands of the Mo inhabitants, and are a source of immense profit to the Japanese, who farm them from the various Daimios, who are charged by the Japanese Government to protect this island. The prices vary from 12 to 14 dollars per picul.

The other kind of oil is extracted from rape-seed, has been exported in small quantities, and averages about 9 dollars per picul.

Tobacco.—Although less was exported during 1864 than in the previous year, still the actual value is much higher, owing to the increase in price, the cost per picul varying from 2 dollars 50 cents to 2 dollars 75 cents in 1863, whereas the prices during the past year averaged 3 dollars 50 cents. This article of export comes from Diwa, Shendai, Nambu, and Yetzidzen; that from Diwa is generally considered the best, owing to the size and colour of the leaves. Mixed with other tobacco it is well adapted for smoking, alone it is however too mild to suit others but Japanese.

Timber.—The Island of Yesso is thickly covered with immense forests, containing numerous kinds of wood admirably adapted for building purposes; oak and ash come from the interior of this island; Shendai and Nambu supply us abundantly with pine. A small export trade has been carried on in this article by one of the foreign British merchants at this port, who has also erected a steam saw mill. As yet little business has been transacted with the Japanese, but there can exist no doubt that the endeavours of the head of the West Pacific Company will be ultimately crowned with a brilliant success, and that the Japanese will speedily appreciate the immense superiority of machinery over manual labour. The machinery in the mill consists of one frame saw, two circular saws, and one tree-nail machine. The engines are 15-horse power (nominal), and the amount of work done per diem is 6,000 lumber feet. The timber exported from Hakodadi is:—

1st. Softwood: Consisting of two species of pine, costs 15-100 boo per cubic foot for logs not over 14 feet in length, if longer much more expensive; price of sawing is 7 dollars 50 cents per 1,000 feet.

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2nd. Hardwood: Oak, ash, beech, &c., the average price is 35-100 boo per cubic foot, sawing expenses 10 dollars per 1,000 feet. No difficulty has been experienced in obtaining timber, and the Japanese are exceeding apt at learning the manner of working the machinery.

Public Works.—With the exception of two forts, one at the entrance of the harbour, the other at Kamida, about three miles from the town, and now the residence of the Governor, nothing has been undertaken by the local Government for some years past to promote the prosperity and welfare of the inhabitants of this island.

Agriculture.—The geographical position of this island renders it impossible for the native inhabitants to undertake any very extensive agricultural operations, and carrots, turnips, potatoes, and peas, are the only things which Yesso produces.

Mining.—Several mines are at present being worked in this island, although, owing to the primitive system adopted by the Japanese, they are of little importance. A new coal mine has lately been discovered in the neighbourhood of Iwanai, in the north-west part of Yesso, it is said to contain coal of a very good quality, and, if properly worked, might produce coal very far superior to that of the other parts of Japan. This mine is the first one worked according to European system, and promises fair for the future.

The native population of this port is very fluctuating, but on comparing the various statistics received I am led to suppose that it averages about 45,000.

Insurance.—In the interest of all the foreign residents at this port, it is much to be regretted that up to the present time no Insurance Company has established a permanent agency here.

Imports.—A very considerable increase has taken place in the import trade of Hakodadi; the statistics for 1863 show a total of 5,132 dollars, whereas during the past year the Custom House returns amounted to upwards of 90,000 dollars; adding to this 20,000 dollars for merchandise, which being reimported from Yokohama and Nagasaki paid duties at those ports, and does not appear in the Hakodadi Custom House returns, an increase is obtained of more than 100,000 dollars. Prospects of a still larger import trade are held out for this year.

General Remarks.—Having thus noted the various mercantile transactions of 1864, I now have the honour of submitting to your notice a brief account of the circumstances under which they took place.

The local Government of Hakodadi with regard to the foreign interests at this port.—Ever since Hakodadi was opened to foreign trade, numerous and endless complaints have continually been made against the native authorites. Most prominent amongst them is the laxity and indolence with which business is conducted here by the native officials, nowise ameliorated by the bad example set by the Governor, who, since his change of residence to Kamida fort, only comes to Hakodadi on business once a week; no request, however urgent, or business, however pressing, can bring him to the Custom House on any other day except Monday, and this must naturally greatly impede the transaction of business in cases which require the presence of the Governor. The apparent indifference of the Governor for foreign interests at this port, and his repeated assertion that the governance of the affairs at Yesso demand his presence elsewhere, are urgent causes for a speedy change in the manner in which affairs are conducted here. Another great cause for complaint is the glaring partiality displayed by the native authorities towards the Japanese in their commercial and private intercourse with foreigners. Notwithstanding the repeated remonstrances of the Consuls, the old system of advancing money on contracts still exists, and continues to be a source of considerable losses to foreign merchants' as in cases of non-fulfilment of contracts no redress can be obtained. One striking instance will serve to illustrate the whole, a Japanese merchant contracted in 1863 to deliver certain merchandise to a foreigner in the commencement of 1864 money was advanced, the contracted time elapsed, but only part of the merchandise appeared. With a view to settle matters amicably, the foreign merchant frequently applied to the Custom House personally, and from May to December he hoped to see the matter settled, owing to the reiterated promises of the native officials, who urgently requested him not to mention the matter to his Consul. At length, however, the Japanese, having in a measure offended against the laws of his country, was seized and imprisoned. It then became an urgent necessity of the British merchant to apply to his authorities, the matter was brought before the Governor, who professed utter ignorance of the case. As yet I am unable to say how this matter will end; owing to the false promises of the native officials considerable time has been lost, the officials to whom the matter was mentioned originally have left for Yedo, and the policy of the Governor justifies me in stating that, justice being a dead letter, the result of my endeavours will in all probability be nil. Not only is Japanese justice at this port one-sided in disputes regarding mercantile transactions, but also in differences which take place, between foreigners and natives in every day life. Numerous instances of theft committed by Japanese upon foreign residents have been brought to the notice of the local authorities, but neither has any justice ever been done, nor the stolen property returned; even in one case when the delinquent was delivered to the authorities he was allowed either through mismanagement or wilfulness to escape.

The greatest of all grievances, and the main bane of foreign trade, is the continual interference of the native authorities with mercantile transactions, and the exorbitant duties which are imposed upon merchandise sold to foreigners. According to treaty stipulations, a 5 per cent. duty is levied on exports, but beside this 6 per cent. is paid on all native produce before it is sold to foreign merchants; of this 2 per cent. is levied by Government on all produce entering Hakodadi, 2 per cent. is also charged by the Toya or agent, and another 2 per cent. is charged by Government on produce when sold to foreigners, thereby giving a total of 4 per cent. for native traders, and 6 per cent. for foreign merchants. One of the native brokers at this port, a person who has considerable influence with the Government officials, owing either to the superintendence of Government monopolies or other causes, has found means to evade the last-mentioned 2 per cent. for foreigners who do business through him, thereby creating privileges for some which all do not enjoy.

Another cause for complaint which has already been brought to your notice is the exportation of Awabee and Nico, articles in high repute with the Chinese, to Nagasaki for sale to the guild, a corporation of Chinese merchants who, without treaty or other rights, are allowed to trade in Japan.

The well-known habits of the Celestials enable them both to pay higher prices in Japan than Europeans, and undersell them in the China markets, thereby doing an immense injury to our commerce.

The depreciation in value of Mexican dollars in Japan, owing to the non-curreney of this coin throughout the country, treaty ports excepted, is another source of considerable loss to foreigners.

Everybody connected either directly or indirectly with foreign trade is not however a loser, for the Japanese Government, to whom nearly all the dollars ultimately come, make from 60 to 80 per cent. by recoinage into Japanese money.

Having thus briefly touched upon the various subjects of interest intimately connected with the welfare of foreign commerce at this port, allow me to say a few words about the present farming system of the various fisheries, &c., of this Island.

Ever since 1854, when the Japanese Government took the control of this island from the Daimio of Matsmai, for which the latter received a pecuniary indemnity and an increase of revenue, several of the Daimios inhabiting the north of the empire, such as Shendai, Fugaru, Nambu, &c., have been charged with the protection of Yesso. To remunerate them in some degree for the additional expenses incurred in the performance of this duty, they were invested with seigneurial rights over the various portions of the island confided to their care. All immediately commenced to encourage the fisheries, which would soon have been sources of considerable profit to them, had it not been for the ignorance or dishonesty of the officers sent to this island, who rented these mines of wealth to native speculators for a mere nominal rent.

This state of things has continued up to the present time, the needy farmers have become wealthy merchants, and the lordly owners have always complained about the useless and heavy expenses, unaccompanied by profit. Now, however, the Daimios commence to perceive their mistake, higher rents have been demanded, and they hope that there fisheries, coming into other and more enterprising hands, will prove more profitable. One example of the price paid for a fishery, and the profits accruing from it, may illustrate the whole. Jamanda, one of the largest farmers, paid a yearly rent of 1,250 rios (1 rio equals 4 boos), his receipts amounted to 70,000 rios, and as his annual expenses did not exceed 15,000 rios, he made a clear yearly profit of 55,000 rios.—I have, &c.,

(Signed) JAMES J. ENSLIE.

NAGASAKI.

The following letter, addressed to Sir R. Alcock, contains Mr. Gower's report on the trade of this port:—

Nagasaki, Jan. 3, 1865.

SIR,—In compliance with your expressed wish to have a kind of memorandum on the trade of this port during 1863, I now have the honour to inclose a copy of the Returns (five in number) which were made for that year, and which I purpose to include in my double Report for 1863-64, which is in course of preparation, and will be sent to the Legation in a few days.

I am sorry there is no material time before your departure to-morrow to complete the Returns of 1864, and thus enable me on facts, namely, on totals, to give a comparative account of the trade during these respective years; but I can safely state that, although continued serious political disturbances greatly affected commerce at this port at that period, the latter year was in general the most prosperous, when also large operations of a new nature were transacted in the sale of steamers, fire-arms, and munitions of war.

The political state of the country in 1863 was at one period of so threatening an aspect as to render foreign life and property in Japan most insecure, and especially so at Nagasaki, owing to its proximity to Kagosima, the capital of the Prince of Satsuma, with whom we were in active hostile relations.

The threatened expulsion of foreigners, and the fear of the native merchants that such would really be the case, caused at different times a sudden demand to spring up for imports, which frequently enabled our merchants to clear off large stocks with facility; but this temporary demand unfortunately subsided as suddenly into complete inactivity as soon as the anticipations of the native dealers with regard to the expulsion of foreigners from the country were dispelled.

The closing of the Straits of Simonoseki again greatly injured the mercantile interest of this port in 1864, this being the depot of exports and imports for the Islands of Kiusiu, Sikoku, and Nipon up as far as the commercial capital of Osaka, native junks being the chief means of conveyance, which invariably chose the safe lake-like route of the Inland Sea.

The principal imports of this port are cotton-manufactured goods, such as grey shirtings, cambrics, camlets, &c., the demand for which is increasing, and we can anticipate will become still greater as the Japanese are now commencing to export so much of the raw material. To these may now be added woollen-manufactured goods. The demand for foreign medicines, in which Dutch merchants principally dealt, has steadily been decreasing.

The principal exports are—

Tea, the cultivation of which is rapidly increasing, and large shipments are now made direct to England.

Vegetable Wax, which is also much cultivated to meet foreign demand.

Raw Cotton, also greatly increased and increasing.

Tobacco.—A considerable business in this article has commenced at very remunerative prices.

Timber formerly was largely exported to China, and increased much the coast shipping; but, owing to the rebellion there having partly been put down, the business in this article has now almost entirely ceased.

So little was done in *Silk*, owing to the great distance from the producing districts, that it is hardly worth while placing this valuable article amongst our principal exports; but there is every probability that under this head will be classed—

Sugar, the cultivation of which is increasing in the Island of Sikoku, and the Prince of Satsuma has sent to England for machinery to manu-

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facture and purify what is now extensively grown in the Islands of Siu-kiu (Lew-chew).

To the accompanying Returns of 1863 I may add that seven steamers were sold to the Japanese, viz. :—

		Dollars.
March—The Sir Charles Forbes	for	58,000
„ The Victoria	„	22,000
April—The Contest	„	95,000
„ The Shanghai	„	135,000
„ The Sir George Grey	„	85,000
October—The Sarah	„	75,000
„ The Shoey-Leen	„	100,000
Giving a total of		$570,000

In conclusion, I have the honour to remark that owing to the successful re-opening of the Inland Sea, trade is rapidly reviving at this port, and that the general opinion of the Nagasaki trading community is, that there is every reason to hope a very flourishing business will be transacted in 1865.

Not having been at this port in 1863, I am not able now to form a correct idea of the real value of trade during that year, which the inclosed Returns only represent in part; but, to the best of my knowledge and means, I shall endeavour to give all the required detailed information and valuation in pounds sterling in my Official Report for the two past years.

BANKRUPTCY COURT.

(*Before Mr. Registrar* Pepys.)

IN RE CHARLES JAMES NASMYTH.

At a first meeting held under the bankruptcy of Mr. C. J. Nasmyth, of 32, Great St. Helen's, merchant, Mr. R. S. Tomlin, of Bank-buildings, Lothbury, Secretary of the Hindustan, China, and Japan Bank (Limited), was appointed trade assignee. No statement of debts and liabilities has yet been presented, but the aggregate amount may be estimated at £60,000, with assets of unascertained value. The Hindustan, China, and Japan Bank (Limited) is a creditor for £12,240, subject to certain securities.

A New Railway Route.—According to a Florence letter in the *Siecle*, a project is on foot to establish direct railway communication between Italy, Switzerland, and Germany, by a passage over the Helvetic Alps, and a few days ago a committee, named by the Italian Minister of Public Works, began its sittings. The statistics distributed among the members of the committee turn in favour of the St. Gothard as being the best passage in the Alps for establishing more direct communications with Frankfort, Bremen, Lubeck, Prussia, &c. But when this passage is adopted, it will be necessary to find the funds necessary to complete so great a work, as more than 200,000,000f. would be required. It remains to be seen if Switzerland and Italy are disposed to provide the funds for this great undertaking, as no private company would be able to contribute more than 40,000,000f. to the work.

Monetary and Commercial.

Our attention having been attracted by rumours which were lately current regarding the Bank of Hindustan, China and Japan, to the effect that several actions were being brought against that bank by shareholders in the late Imperial Bank of China, arising out of the amalgamation of the two banks, we were led to make inquiries, and are enabled to state that no such actions are pending, and that the reports alluded to are entirely without foundation.

The report of the Oriental Commercial Bank, presented on the 23rd of August, recommends a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, which will absorb £5,738, and leave £3,913 to be carried forward.

The report of the English and Swedish Bank for the half-year ended the 30th of June shows an available total of £14,156 (including a previous balance of £2,224), and announces an *interim* dividend of 8s. per share, or at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, which will leave £6,238 to be carried forward.

Joint-stock bank shares have again shown steadiness, and a rise has taken place in Alliance, Chartered of India, Australia, and China, and London Bank of Mexico. Standard of British South Africa also exhibit a partial recovery. Ionian Bank and Mercantile and Exchange were exceptionally dull.

The *Salut Public* of Lyons states that the quantity of raw silk received in that town is very small. The amount registered there last week was 470 bales, weighing 29,681 kilogrammes, against 1,197 bales, weighing 82,941 kilogrammes, received in the corresponding week of last year. Manufacturers still maintain the same mistrust of the future, and the struggle between them and the holders of raw silk is continued. Manufacturers whose stock of raw silk is not yet exhausted abstain from buying as long as possible, and this abstention has caused a fall of 5 per cent. in the price of some articles, such as thrown silk from Broussa.

The remittances of specie to the East show a decline, the amount engaged for transmission by the steamer *Poonah* on the 27th inst. being only £8,415, of which £6,115 is silver for Bombay, and £2,300 gold for Alexandria.

The India Office give notice that the amount for which tenders for bills on India will be received on the 6th of September will be £250,000, of which not more than £100,000 will be drawn on the Government of Bombay.

A meeting of the creditors of Messrs. Scott, Bell, and Co., East India merchants, who suspended payment in the early part of last month, is called for the 31st inst.

An agreement has recently been concluded for the amalgamation of the Estates Bank with the General Exchange Bank in Lombard-street. The latter bank was constituted in the early part of the present year, with a capital of one million, of which £150,000 is, or is in the course of being, paid up. The Estates Bank was formed in January, 1862, with a capital of £500,000, and has already acquired a very extensive connection, through the medium of branches and agencies in England and Ireland. There are about 2,000 shareholders in the Estates Bank, and nearly 3,000 shareholders in the General Exchange Bank, making together nearly 5,000 shareholders; and these, with the combined capital of the two companies, will constitute the basis of a company which ought to become powerful, and to command a large, safe, and profitable business.

The annexed letter raises a question of great commercial importance as regards the rights and practices of the London banking institutions connected with India :—

"32, Great St. Helen's, Aug. 19.

"Sir,—As a question of great commercial importance has been raised by some of the Indian banks, we think you will consider it necessary to insert the following statement in your Money Article.

"We have accepted certain documents—bills which are held by the Asiatic Banking Corporation. According to the universally recognised custom, and in terms of the usual letters of hypothecation of all the Indian banks, we tendered as usual the amount of our acceptances to retire the draughts with the documents attached.

"To our great surprise we have been refused delivery of the documents on the plea that the bank had a right to hold the surplus of the shipments against some claims the bank has on the drawer (who has failed) of the bills, on some transactions entered into in Bombay, and to which we are in no way whatsoever parties.

"The Central Bank of Western India has also made a similar refusal on as strange a plea—that their Bombay office has telegraphed to them not to part with the documents; as if the rights of third parties should be determined by what the different officers of the bank choose to telegraph to each other.

"The letters of hypothecation of all Indian banks provide that the banks have authority to hold and appropriate the documents only in the case of default by the drawers or acceptors. But as long as the acceptors are solvent, and able to pay their acceptances, they are entitled to retire the acceptances, and get possession of the documents attached.

"We cannot help expressing our surprise that gentlemen like the directors and managers of such banks could feel themselves justified in endeavouring to saddle upon others their own imprudent or unfortunate transactions. Be this as it may. The claim and excuse set up by these banks are so entirely subversive of all mercantile credit, confidence, and honour, and calculated to produce such serious consequences, that we feel it our duty to bring the matter to the notice of the public at once.

"We remain your obedient servants.

"Dadabhai Naoroji and Co."

The following, from the *Times'* City Article, relates to the Indian Telegraph line, which is now almost an incubus on our Eastern commerce. The writer assumes that the company have the control of all the arrangements, but the chief blame rests with the Turkish and other Governments, through whose territories the messages pass, and no remedy, therefore, is likely to be adopted until our own Government shall feel it proper to make some representations on the subject :—

"London, Aug. 21.

"Sir,—I trust that your remarks on the disgraceful working of the Indo-European Telegraph may have due effect in the proper quarter, otherwise this most wonderful invention will become a curse to our commerce, and all this through the incapacity or carelessness of the parties who have been intrusted with the direction of the undertaking.

"All the faults enumerated by you are ascribable to ignorance or neglect, as the scientific precision of the telegraph is well known.

"Surely the charge made to the public for the messages are heavy enough to enable the company to place intelligent, able, and trustworthy clerks at the various stations.

"Responsibility, the one thing which would have brought the directors quickly to their senses, is scrupulously guarded against by a clause that in no case is the company responsible for either alterations, mutilations, retardations, or even for non-delivery.

"A chief source of mistakes is that the clerks busy themselves to understand the messages, and often attempt to alter words, in order to make them clear to themselves, while it is well known that the abbreviations used between two correspondents are such that in most cases no meaning could be extracted by a third party; and the only safe treatment of a message by a telegraph clerk would simply be to transmit every letter correctly.

"Pray continue to use your vigilance in this important matter.

"I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

"M."

The right of carrying the Russian flag has just been extended

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to ships the property of commercial firms, having partners or managers who are Russian subjects. Two or more persons may also agree to buy or construct a ship at their common expense, to sail under the Russian flag if one of them, and that the principal partner in the venture, is a Russian subject. The measure is apparently intended to add to the number of the Russian commercial fleet, which, although swelled by many Greek vessels, is still a minority, even in the Russian harbours. The Russian commercial fleet consists of about 2,000 ships, with a total of less than 190,000 tons.

The Messageries Imperiales steamer *Moeris*, which left Marseilles on the 19th instant with the mails, took specie to the amount of £4,000 for Alexandria, and £181,760 for India and China.

Messrs. J. Samuel and Son, East India merchants, of Manchester, have stopped payment. Liabilities said to be small.

Among the dissolutions of partnership announced in the *Gazette* we notice the firm of J. and E. Tetley, tea dealers, of Mincing-lane.

The *Ceylon*, which left Southampton on the 20th, with th heavy portion of the present mails, took the folowing specie, &c.—For Alexandria—sovereigns, £13,000. For Ceylon—precious stones, £344. For Madras—sovereigns, £1,768; gold thread, watches, &c., £411. For Calcutta—watches and jewellery, £1,259. For Singapore—dollars, £25,000. For Hong Kong—bar silver, £20,000; dollars, £1,800; gold thread, watches, &c., £415. For Shanghai—dollars, £43,160; bar silver, £2,000. For Melbourne—jewellery, £80. For Hobson's Bay—jewellery and watches, £1,100. For Sydney—silver coin, £1,000; watches, £1,027. Total, gold, £14,768; silver, £92,960; jewellery, watches, &c., £4,636.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices Aug. 17.
£20	Asiatic Bank Company, issued at £15 prem., £7. 10s paid up	£5	—	—
50	Agra and Masterman's	25	56 to 58 xd.	54 to 56xd.
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	All	24 to 25	24 to 26
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	46 to 47	43 to 45
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	21 to 23	19 to 21
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (10 pd.)	All	—	—
20	Eastern Exchange	5	1⅛ to ¼ dis.	1 dis. to par
50	London Joint Stock	15	47 to 48	47 to 48
100	London and Westminster	20	94 to 96	94 to 96
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	51 to 53	52 to 54
50	Union of London	15	53 to 54	52 to 54
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	7 to 5 dis.	8 to 6 dis.
100	Do. Issued at 2 pm.	25	7 to 5 dis.	8 to 6 dis.
100	Do. New	20	8 to 6 dis.	8 to 6 dis.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	4 to 3 dis.	4 to 3 dis.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	29 to 30 xd.	29 to 30 xd.
100	Bank of London	50	132 to 135	128 to 132
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	¼ to ⅜ pm.	¼ to ⅜ pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3¾ to 4¼ xd.	3¾ to 4¼ xd.
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	76 to 78	76 to 78
50	Do. New	35	17 to 19 pm.	18 to 20pm.
20	China Steamship & Labuan Coal Co	5	—	—
5	Bombay Gas	All	5 to 5¼	5 to 5¼
10	Hong Kong Gas	All	1 to 2 pm.	1 to 2 pm.
20	S. I. Irrigation and Canal	12	4 to 3 dis.	4 to 3 dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company	1	¼ dis. to par	¼ dis. to par.
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	18½ to 19½	19 to 20
5	Oriental Gas	All	5⅜ to 5⅝	—
10	O. Inland Steam	All	1½ to 2½	1¾ to 2½
100	West India Steam Company	60	118 to 122	114 to 116
20	Ceylon Company	7	2⅜ to 3½ pm.	2⅜ to 3½ pm.
20	International Finance Society	5	¾ to 1¼ pm.	¾ to 1 pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	1⅜ to 1⅝ pm. xd	1⅜ to 1⅝ pm.
50	London Financial Association	15	7 to 7½ pm.	6¾ to 6¾ pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	1 to 1½ dis.	1¼ to 1 dis.
20	Société Financière d'Egypte	10	4 to 3 dis.	4 to 3 dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	15¾ to 15¾	15½ to 15¾
10	Upper Assam Tea	5¾	3 to 4 pm.	3 to 4 pm.
10	Do.	All	17 to 19	17 to 19

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—There has been more life in the Tea market during the past fortnight than for some time past. The deliveries continue on a satisfactory scale, and a fair trade has been done both for home use and exportation. The arrivals have been few, and the stock will consequently be found by the end of the month to have shrunk to about 90,000,000 lbs.; on the 31st of May it stood at 125,000,000 lbs. Private telegrams arrived on the 21st instant, with dates to 29th July from Hong Kong; 8,000,000 lbs. of tea had been shipped off in the fortnight, which brings the total shipments of new season's teas to date to 29,000,000 lbs., against 35,000,000 lbs. last year. The quantity of tea on the water is now 33,000,000 lbs., due by the 7th December. The deliveries by that time will be 36,000,000 lbs. Sales of 2,743 packages of Indian and Assam teas commenced on the 22nd, and terminated yesterday. Nearly all sold, Medium and fine kinds went off with spirit at about previous rates, while inferior sorts sold irregularly, and in some instances at lower prices. Congou.—Red and black-leaf from 11d. to 1s. 1½d. have been in fair demand. Red-leaf has been more readily taken by the trade, as being better suited to their wants; better kinds of Monings and Oopacks up to 1s. 8d. have also been in request, while in fine and finest but little has been done. Souchong: The commoner grades are more enquired for. Fine kinds neglected. Oolong: Fine continues very scarce. Common remains without enquiry. Flowery Pekoe: No change to report. Scented Teas: Both Capers and Scented Orange Pekoes, from recent arrivals, have been taken readily at full rates, the latter in some instances showing an advance in price. Green Teas and uncolored Japans: Common Greens are only saleable at reduced rates, while fine and finest kinds have been taken freely, both for export and home use, at very full prices. For uncolored Japans there is no demand, the enquiry for export having altogether ceased.

SILK.—There has been a large business done in the first arrivals of new China Silk. Prices opened on a parity of 28s. for classic N. 3 Tsatlee, but have advanced to 29s., at which rate there seems little or no demand. A fair proportion of the business transacted during the past fortnight may be attributed to the immediate requirements of the home trade: one or two of the export houses have bought freely in anticipation of orders which do not seem to follow, hence we are for the moment brought to a stand still, everybody waiting with anxiety to see how the leading operators will deal with the large supplies close at hand. In Japan Silk there has been some little business principally in second hand parcels. Deliveries from 1st to 24th inclusive:—China, 1,616 bales; Japan, 857 bales. Total, 2,473 bales.

COTTON.—The market opened quietly for the business week ending August 25, but on the 19th and the early part of the week beginning the 21st there was an improved demand, and a fair extent of business was transacted. During the 23rd and 24th there has been less animation, and the market closes dull; but as holders are not pressing their stocks, no actual decline in prices can be noticed. The London Cotton Brokers' Association report sales during the week of 20 bales China fair, at 11d.; and 150 bales Japan fully fair to good fair, 12¼d. to 12⅝d. The sales in Liverpool this week have reached 87,190 bales; of which the trade have taken 49,110 bales; speculators and exporters, 38,080 bales. Imports this week, 17,884 bales; this year, 1,497,630 bales. Actual export this week, 10,037 bales; this year, 891,073 bales. Middling Orleans is quoted at 18½d., and fair Dhollerah at 13d. per lb. The total stock in London on the 24th August was 62,295 bales, against 66,249 last year; the stock of China and Japan 3,743 bales, against 25,129 last year. Of cotton afloat to Europe on the 25th, there were 5,954 bales China, against 69,027 last year, and 294 bales Japan, against 10,205. The total stock of cotton in Liverpool on the 25th was 430,070 bales, against 312,620 last year.

SUGAR.—An improved tone prevailed at the close of the business week ending the 18th, and has since been fairly maintained, and with more free buying towards the close of the present week, important transactions have been effected. By private contract, 900 bags grey Penang have gone off at 33s. to 33s. 6d. In foreign, from the Far East, the only business reported is, by private contract, 2,000 bags Muscovado Manila at 28s. Increased activity prevailed in the market on the 25th, and a large business has been done at full previous rates, and in many instances an advance of 6d. per cwt. has been established. At public sale, 2,576 bags Penang went at, good brown to low yellow, 29s. to 31s. 6d.; low middling to good yellow and grey, 32s. to 34s.

COFFEE.—A fair demand is experienced for Colonial descriptions, and transactions have generally been concluded at the former currency. In public sale, 1,250 casks 750 barrels and bags Plantation Ceylon were taken with some spirit at about last week's rates; fine ordinary to low middling, 76s. to 80s. 6d., middling to good middling, 81s. 6d. to 85s.; but 1,688 bags Native were chiefly disposed of on easier terms, good to fine ordinary, 66s. to 68s. 100 bags fine ordinary dull Manila were sold at 70s. At public sale on the 25th 500 casks, 160 bags and barrels Plantation Ceylon were sold with a fair competition at steady rates.

RICE.—4,900 bags good Rangoon (of the new crop), at auction on the 25th were withdrawn, but part has since been taken at 12s., being dearer. Nearly 40,000 bags old Soft Grain have also been sold privately, at a further improvement in prices, Rangoon, 10s. 6d., Bassein, 10s. 3d., and ordinary Nakrenzie at 9s. 6d. to 9s. 7½d.

CAMPHOR.—Has been much depressed: some small parcels China were forced off at 80s. per cwt., but there are no other sellers under 90s., and a few chests are reported at 92s. 6d. 134 cases at auction retired.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Has improved conspicuously, and large business done at 81s. to 85s. per cwt. for ordinary coarse to fair. 286 bales at auction mostly sold at 82s. to 86s. per cwt. 2nd to 1st pile. Buds: Enquired for: only 2 boxes at auction retired at £11 per cwt.

CINNAMON (CEYLON).—We quote 1st sort 1s. 7d. to 2s. 9d. per lb.; 2nd 1s. 5d. to 2s. 4d.; 3rd 1s. 4d. to 1s. 10d.; 4th and Jungle 1s. 1d. to 1s. 5d. Firm market, with moderate business.

COCOA-NUT OIL.—This market has been firm, with fair amount of business in both Cochin and Ceylon up to the higher quotations of £45 and £43 respectively. 168 casks Cochin, 848 casks Sydney, and 43 casks Manila at auction.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Flat; 140 bags at auction retired. Dragon's Blood: Quiet; of three cases at auction one sold at £5 per cwt. for middling lump. Galangal Root: Nothing doing. Rhubarb: In increased demand, and 3d per lb. dearer; fair business done privately, and 23 boxes sold at auction at 5s. 3d. to 5s. 6d. per lb. for fair round and flat.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Remains steady; 3 cases Siam at auction retired; and of 156 cases Sumatra, half sold at £10. 5s. and £11. 12s. 6d. per cwt. for false packed 2nd quality, and £6. 10s. and £6. 12s. 6d. middling 3rd. Damar: In more adequate supply, and quiet, and 265 cases at auction all retired. Gamboge: Nothing doing.

GUTTA PERCHA.—A little fine quality has been sold for export at 2s. 3d. per lb., otherwise the market is perfectly inactive.

HEMP (MANILA).—This market has been much excited; speculative operations very large; prices had risen £3 to £4 per ton, but have since receded 10s. to 20s. 5,100 bales at auction chiefly placed. Range of prices £33 to £35.

HIDES.—There was a good demand for East India Hides, at the sales on the 17th, for consumption, and a moderate one for export, and the greater part of those offered found buyers generally at the full prices of

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last sales, but occasionally at a slight advance on the best qualities. 374 Singapore Buffalo hides offered and sold at 5⅞d. for best, and 4⅛d. for light.

Horns (Deer).—Remain firm; 4 tons Ceylon and 3½ tons Madras sold at auction at 59s. per cwt. for 11b. average, and 45s. 6d. to 51s. for 2¼ to 2lbs.

India Rubber.—Very scarce; buyers at higher prices, but very little to be had.

Japan Wax.—Quiet, without business.

Oils.—Anniseed: Small sales effected privately from 7s. 6d. per lb. down to 7s. 4d.; market remains quiet; 10 cases at auction retired. Cassia: Lower, and dull; a few cases sold privately at 8s. down to 7s. 10d. per lb. 13 cases at auction retired. Cinnamon: Of 4 cases at auction two cases sold at 2s. 3d. per oz. for fair.

Pepper.—Black: Is again the turn easier. Of 2,107 bags Singapore at auction, four-fifths sold at 3d. to 3⅛d., with one lot at 3¼d. per lb. 2,988 bags Penang sold at 2⅞d. to 3d.; of 1,967 bags Trang, a few sold at 3d.; and 445 bags Batavia retired. White: Steady; and 353 bags Singapore sold at auction at 5¼d. to 5½d. per lb. for middling to fair.

Sago.—Steady; 794 packages at auction sold at 19s. 6d. to 20s. per cwt. for good small, and 21s. to 21s. 6d. middling to fair bold. Flour: Very quiet; 327 bags at auction all retired.

Shellac.—Generally a little better; Button especially recovering 3s. to 5s. per cwt., but demand still very partial; private business small. Of 1,292 packages at auction, about half sold; Orange at 87s. 6d. to 93s.; Garnet, 70s. to 73s. 6d.; Liver, 58s. to 76s. 6d.; Native, 66s. to 72s.; Button, 42s. 6d. to 78s., and blocky 62s.

Spices.—Cloves: A large importation; 5,116 bags Zanzibar sold at auction at 3d. to 3⅛d. per lb. for ordinary to good, being rather lower; 12 cases Penang retired. Mace: Pale sorts dearer; and 17 cases Penang, and 6 cases Singapore at auction, sold at 2s. 4d. to 2s. 8d. per lb. for good palish, and 1s. to 1s. 2d. ordinary to middling reddish. Nutmegs: Firm: 30 cases Penang, and 10 cases Singapore at auction, sold at 3s. 5d. per lb. for good bold, and 1s. to 1s. 10d. middling small to fine medium.

Terra Japonica.—Cutch, Pegue: Very quiet, but very little good quality in the market: 810 bags at auction all retired. Gambier: Is again lower by 1s. to 1s. 6d. per cwt.: 2,588 bales at auction retired: moderate business done privately at 19s. to 19s. 9d. per cwt. middling to fair quality.

Tin.—This metal has been flat, with receding prices, from £89. 10s. per ton down to £87. 10s. cash for Straits; moderate quantities changing hands. Banca sold to a limited extent; latest price £90 cash.

Miscellaneous.—Galls: Very quiet: 85 pockets Bombay at auction were all retired: limited business in China at 62s. to 62s. 6d. per cwt.: enquiry for Japan. Musk: Of 38 caddies Tonquin at auction, two-thirds sold at the former worth, viz., 26s. to 30s. per oz. for fair to good; 21s. to 22s. ordinary rough; and 15s. to 19s. pickings. Rattans: Of 6,686 bundles Singapore, 8,232 bundles Penang, and 1,557 bundles Calcutta at auction, three-fourths sold, but without much spirit, at 3s. 9d. to 7s. 6d. per 100. Sapanwood: Scarce, and dear: 10 tons Siam at auction sold at £18 to £13. 2s. 6d. per ton, and privately old poor Manila has realised up to £9. 10s. Mother o' Pearl Shells: Firm: 106 cases from Singapore at auction retired at £6. 10s. Soy: Continues very quiet; 4 casks at auction retired. Star Anniseeds: Continue very scarce, and are much wanted. Sticklac (Siam): Very flat, and much lower: of 375 boxes at auction, a few only sold at 38s. per cwt. for good, rather small, and 30s. very small. Tortoise-Shell: Of 6 cases Singapore at auction two sold at 12s. and 15s. 6d. per lb., being full value. 11 cases Sydney sold at 10s. 6d. to 12s. ordinary to middling sorts, and 5s. to 9s. scabby pickings. Vermilion: Very scarce; and realised in retail, 3s.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

Iron.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7 to £7. 5s.; nail rod, £8. 10s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10.; sheets, single, £10. 10s. to £10. 15s.; Staffordshire bars, £8. 10s. to £9. 10s.; rails, £7 to £7. 5s.

Steel.—Swedish keg, £15.

Copper.—Sheet and Sheathing, £91 per ton; yellow metal, 7¼d. to 7⅜d. per lb.

Tin.—93s. to 94s. for block; 94s. to 95s. for bar. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 29s. to 30s.

Lead, &c.—English pig, £19 to £19. 5s.; W.B., £20. 10s.; shot patent, £22. 10s.; sheet, £20 to £20. 5s.; spelter, £22. 5s.; zinc, English sheet, £27. 10s.; quicksilver, £7. 18s. 6d. to £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—The last few days there has been some slight improvement in demand for metals, but not sufficient to strengthen the prices or in some cases even to check the downward march. Iron is steady, Copper quiet, Tin dull. Straits has been sold as low as £87. 10s. We quote to-day for fine 88s.; in one instance a forced sale of Banca was made at 90s. In Lead and Spelter no change.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£157,763
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£5,500
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£2,631,142
Singapore	£3,007	£2,6,150
Penang	—	£8,500
Yokohama	—	£51,625

FROM MARSEILLES.

(By the P. and O. Company's Steamers.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£57,966
Penang	—	£1,588
Hong Kong	—	£47,000
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£10,751
Yokohama	—	£13,178

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£56	£21,000
To Saigon	—	£109,190
To Batavia	£3,966	—
To Hong Kong	—	£93,042
To Shanghai	£80	£93,663
To Yokhama	—	£2,184

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4
Silver in Bars	0 5 0¼
Mexican Dollars	0 5 0¼

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Aug. 11	Off the Start	Rangoon	Œlus	
— 14	Falmouth	Do.	Thetis	Harriet (?).
— 14	Off Falmouth	Akyab	White Mountain	Harnden.
— 14	Do.	Rangoon	Fides	Harges.
— 12	Off the Lizard	Singapore	John Moore	
— 15	London	Colombo	Miranda	Good.
— 15	Do.	Do.	J. L. Hall	Richardson.
— 16	Deal	Do.	Planet	Jenkins.
— 16	Do.	Do.	Royal Diadem	Thomas.
— 15	Falmouth	Rangoon	Sabina	Woodward.
— 13	Brouwershaven	Do.	Macassar	Bentveld.
— 14	Antwerp	Bassein	Princeton	Warnack.
— 16	Falmouth	Rangoon	Albert Edward	Lyon.
— 16	Do.	Akyab	Jenny Eastman	Starky.
— 16	Do.	Do.	Daniel Marcy	Ross.
— 14	Texel	Tjilatjap	Hermann de Ruyter	Esmk.
— 14	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Ouderkerk a.d. Amstel	Dingemans.
— 11	Do.	Samarang	Johannes Anthonius	v.d. Straaten.
— 10	Texel	Singapore	Lotus	Henningsen.
— 16	London	Colombo	Corsairs Bride	Brown.
— 16	Liverpool	Akyab	George Washington	Holmes.
— 17	Deal	Maulmain	Pollux	
— 2	Boston	Manila	Hazard	Karstens.
— 15	Texel	Tjilatjap	Schelde	Hoefmann.
— 14	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Maria Anna	Monnom.
— 15	Do.	Banjoewangie	County of Renfrew	Nicolls.
— 15	Zierikzee	Batavia	Jacob	Drenth.
— 15	Do.	Banjoewangie	Hollandia	Wap.
— 13	Santander	Manila	Angela	Owate.
— 16	Brouwershaven	Sourabaya	Henrietta Elis. Susan	Weyboom.
— 4	Boston	Rangoon	St. Louis	Ballard.
— 7	Do.	Do.	Art Union	
— 14	Cadiz	Manila	Espana	Castillo.
— 14	Do.	Do.	Dos Hermanos	Tuton.
— 14	Gibraltar	Singapore	Falcon	Matyuson.
— 20	Zierikzee	Batavia	Corn Wernard Eduard	Swart.
July 29	Havana	Macao	Camoens	Santos.
Aug 23	London	Manila	Osprey	Andrews.
— 21	Texel	Banjoewangie	Theodore Machtilda	Wyck.
— 8	New York	Rangoon	Westward Ho	Williams.
— 24	Falmouth	Do.	Equator	Walling.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Aug. 8	Amsterdam	Padang	Helena	
— 8	Do.	Batavia	Louise	Buys.
— 16	London	Yokohama & Nagasaki	Scindia	Carr.
— 17	Do.	Cronstadt & China	Empress	Parkin.
— 10	Rotterdam	Batavia	Robertus Hendrikus	Molordt.
— 10	Do.	Do.	Bilderdyk	Viltor.
— 15	Cardiff	Java	v. R. Falck	Plas.
— 11	Zierikzee	Batavia	Jan Daniel	Uzendoorn.
— 18	London	Shanghai	James Shepherd	Jean.
July 9	Rio Janeiro	Macassar	Galatea	Gerritz.
Aug. 18	Clyde	Singapore	Japan (s.s.)	Chatfield.
— 17	Shields	Galle	Corneille David	Hacms.
— 21	Swansea	Shanghai	Georges	Farez.
— 19	Liverpool	Yokohama	Eliza Hands	Grinchy.
— 19	Do.	Batavia	Bulgersteyn	Geerling.
— 19	Cardiff	Galle	Zuidlaren	Bruning.
— 21	Do.	Hong Kong	Cathna. Jeba. Hertta	Tonges.
— 23	London	Batavia	Konig Willem III.	Ort.
— 23	Do.	Cardiff & Shanghai	Betty Perlback	Blohm.
— 22	Liverpool	Singapore	Carn Tual	Kellen.
— 24	London	Shanghai	Lansdowne	Spowart.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At London.—For Yokohama: Fusi Yama. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Grenadier. For Shanghai: Maiden Queen. For Hong Kong and Canton: Dilpussund, Sovereign of India. For Singapore: Couranto. For Bankok and Siam, Fairy. For Manila: Loycla. For Colombo: Teviot, Jane Symons, Granville. For Colombo and Cochin: John Bunyan, Blanch. For Colombo and Trincomalee: Charlotte Ann. For Galle, Beypore, Calicut, and Mangalore: Atalanta.

At Liverpool.—For Shanghai: Lockett. For Hong Kong: Her Majesty, Stuart Wortley, Sumatra. For Hong Kong and Canton: Ariel. For Singapore: Carn Tual. For Batavia and Singapore: Braganza. For Bankok: Siam (s). For Manila: Aureliana, San Luis, Alavesa. For Colombo: Meg Merrilies.

At Glasgow.—For Manila: Adolphe. For Singapore: Taymouth Castle.

At Greenock.—For Shanghai: Janet Mitchell.

SPOKEN.

Dwarka, Batavia to Amsterdam, Aug. 15, 15 N., 22 W.

Alexandra, Singapore to London, 118 days out, July 16, 9 N., 25 W.

Prudhoe, Sunderland to Hong Kong, July 20, 12 N., 26 W.

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Honigby (Dutch ship), Cardiff to Singapore.
Young Lochinvar (ship), from Foochow, June 11.
Indian Chief (ship), Liverpool to Galle, July 5, 2 N., 24 W.
Margaretha (Dut. barq.) Sourabaya to Amstm., June 29, 15 S., 7 W.
Theodore (Dut. barq.), Sourabaya to Amstm., July 29, 31 N., 38 W.
Agincourt, Cardiff to Hong Kong, July 21, 13 N., 27 W.
Lord Raglan, London to Japan, July 5, 9 N., 25 W.
James Russell (ship), London to Hong Kong, July 22, 13 N., 26 W.
Therese (Hamb. bq.), Liverpool to Singapore, 25 June, 9 N., 25 W.
Vriendscap, Cardiff to Manila, June 18, 7 N., 19 W.
Van der Palm, Batavia to Rotterdam, July 20, 13 N., 26 W.
Otentosama, Clyde to Japan, May 26, 39 S., 63 E.
Elisabeth Jacoba, Amstm. to Macassar, July 14, 13 N., 27 W.
Matilda, Sourabaya to Amsterdam, July 14, 12 N., 24 W.
Kosmopoliet, Rotterdam to Batavia, July 3, 12 N., 26 W.
Levantine (?), Colombo to London, Aug. 1, 48 N., 32 W.
Vooruyt, Rotterdam to Batavia, June 7, 2 S., 29 W.
George Green, Boston to Galle, July 30, lat. 42, lon. 68.
Amsterdam, Amsterdam to Batavia, July 12, 12 N., 27 W.
Batavier (Dut. barq.), Shields to Batavia, June 22, 5 N., 23 W.
H.M.S. Serpent, Plymouth to Hong Kong, July 11, 11 N., 24 W.
Vellore, Bordeaux to Batavia, July 7, 8 N., 27 W.
A Dutch Ship, No 7,853, Newcastle to Java, June 23, 26 S., 33 W.
Lord Clyde, for Shanghai, April 19, 37 N., 15 W.
Van Camminga, Newcastle to Java, June 23, 26 S., 33 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Coal freights to China are quieter, and rates a shade easier, ships for general cargoes are in fair demand, and move off steadily.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 35s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £44 and £43 and £2. For Shanghai: £53 and £2. 10s. For Manila: £1. 17s. 6d. For Batavia: 24s. to 26s. For Singapore: £29 and £1. 8s. For Galle: £28 and £29 and £1. 7s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

CASUALTIES.

The Carl Julius, from Singapore for Falmouth, which was spoken with in lat. 25 N., long. 36 W., reported that the master died on the 1st of July.

The Electricity, Burmister, from Cardiff for Shanghai, put into Falmouth, Aug. 15, leaky.

The Conqueror, Noel, from Colombo for London, put into Mauritius July 11, making 10 inches water per hour.

The Cowslip, Stephens, from Colombo for London, put into Mauritius, July 12, with foremast and foreyard sprung.

The Luchow (brig) of Hamburg, Ulrichs, for Singapore, which was assisted into Harwich, from off the Shipwash, has been surveyed and will discharge.

The Bintang, Webber, from Liverpool for Singapore, put into Simons Bay, on the 7th of July, with damage, having on the 1st, in lat 36 S., 10 E., experienced a gale from the S.W., during which she lost boats, bulwarks, and rails.

The Hermine Maria Elizabeth, Dyker, from Amsterdam for Japan, which put into Falmouth on the 19th August leaky, has been surveyed and ordered to discharge.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At Ascension.—July 17, from Java, Nagasaki, Mos, and sailed 12 for London.

Off Ascension.—July 9, from Manila, Osprey; 11, from Shanghai, Antipodes; 17, from Colombo, No. 0645, 3rd d.p. from Penang, Britannia, all for London.

At St. Helena.—July 5, Japan (s.). Bell, sailed for Cape of Good Hope and China; 7, from Shanghai, Vanguard, Scott, and sailed for London; 21, from Sourabaya, Cornelia Hendrika, v. Straaten.

At Table Bay.—June 19, Anna, Borkmann, sailed for Batavia.

At Simons Bay.—July 7, from Liverpool for Singapore, Bintang, Webber (with damage); 9, from Hong Kong, H.M. steamer Euryalus; 9, Willem Hendrick, Beckering, sailed for Batavia.

At Mauritius.—July 11, from Colombo, Conqueror, Noel, 12, Cowslip, Stephens, both for London; 11, from Sourabaya, Maurice, Lauratet; 9, Visir, Bregeon, sailed for Singapore; 12, Duplex (s.), Melizan, sailed for Singapore and Hong Kong; 17, Antoinette, Chabannes, sailed for Singapore.

At Reunion.—July 13, from Sourabaya, Maurice, Lauratet.

Last week there was launched from the building-yard of Messrs. Robert Duncan and Co., Port Glasgow, a screw steamer of 1,000 tons, named the Earl Canning, to be fitted with engines of 150-horse power, by Messrs. Blackwood and Gordon, Port Glasgow. Her dimensions are:—Length, 220 feet; breadth, 30 feet; depth to awning deck, 23 feet six inches. This vessel is built for the Bombay Coast and River Company, and specially fitted for the East India trade, under the superintendence of Capt. Johns.

M. Norman, shipbuilder, of Havre, has launched a small steamer, built for the purpose of testing certain inventions for which he has taken out patents, and one of which is the employment of a single paddlewheel of a new form, placed in the very centre of the vessel.

THE CREDIT FONCIER and MOBILIER of ENGLAND (Limited).

Authorised capital	... ...	£4,000,000
Capital subscribed	... ...	2,000,000
Capital paid-up	... ...	500,000
Reserved Fund	... ...	200,000
Dividend Reserve Fund	...	70,000

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The Right Hon. JAMES STUART WORTLEY, Governor.
JAMES LEVICK, Esq., Merchant, King's Arms-yard. } Deputy Governors.
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Offices—17 and 18, Cornhill, London.

THE UNDERSIGNED LICENSED PILOTS
for the
PORT OF SHANGHAI, CHINA,

BEG to inform SHIPMASTERS that their Schooners DANIEL WEBSTER and A. J. WESPEWELT will be found at the OUTSIDE PILOT STATION on the YANG-TZE-KEANG, with thoroughly qualified PILOTS on board. The schooners distinguishable by being painted white, and having the word Pilot on the mainsail.

To regular traders the undersigned are known to be among the oldest and best Pilots on the River:—

DANIEL MARTIN. JOSEPH SHERMAN.
ALEXANDER SMITH. JOSEPH CARGILL.
JOHN COATES. JOHN KURSH.
EDWARD BRAND.

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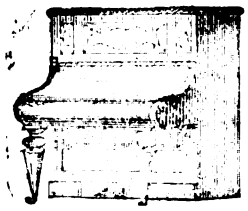

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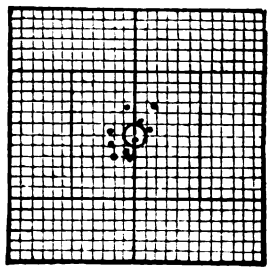

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Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 184.] LONDON, THURSDAY, SEPT. 7, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	May 10		July 5
Nagasaki	"		" 6
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	May 26	July 9	July 15
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	May 26	July 4	" 22
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila			
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			" 10
SIAM— Bangkok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	June 26	July 30	" 31
Penang	" "	" 28	Aug. 2

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Ripon, from Southampton, Sept. 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. W. Foster, Mr. W. Gaskell, Mrs. Andrews and two infants. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Fitzroy, Mrs. Black and child, Mr. Bloor, Mrs. G. Stanford and infant, Miss Fox. To Singapore: Mr. H. Alabaster, Mrs. Alabaster. To Ceylon: Messrs. J. Abbott and Anstruther. From Marseilles, Sept. 12.—To Hong Kong: Rev. J. S. and Mrs. Burdon, Mr. and Mrs. Coxon. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Townend, Mr. R. J. Forrest. To Singapore: Mr. Vander Leemo and three ladies. To Ceylon: Mr. J. F. Capelle, Mrs. Ballantyne. To Galle: Mr. W. Hudson. From Suez.—To Shanghai: Sir Rutherford and Lady Alcock and Miss Alcock, Messrs. Hancock and Robason.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Marseilles, Sept. 20.—To Shanghai via Bombay: Mr. Tootal.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Sept. 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. Henderson, Mrs. John. To Hong Kong: Mrs. Ivor Murray, Mr. Noble, Mr. R. Starkey, Captain Barry. To Ceylon: Mrs. Claughton, Rev. A. and Mrs. Young, Mrs. Ross, Mr. W. Prentice. From Marseilles, Sept. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Brackenbury

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Sept. 27.—To Shanghai, via Bombay: Mr. Lloyd Palm. From Marseilles.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. J. Meldrum.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Oct. 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. A. Brent, Mr. D. Lapraik. To Shanghai: Mrs. Bayne. To Ceylon: Mr. B. H. Plumptre. From Marseilles, Oct. 12.—To Shanghai: Lady Parkes and friend. To Ceylon: Mr. D. B. Lindsay.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Oct. 20—To Shanghai: Miss M. A. Russell. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Hermann and infant. To Ceylon: Lady Chichester, Mr. and Mrs. Wright and two children. From Marseilles.—To Shanghai: Mrs. Herbert and three children, Mr. N. G. Howell.

THE INCOMING MAILS.

The next inward mails, due here on the 12th instant, will probably not be delivered before the 15th, a telegram having been received announcing the arrival of the *Bengal* at Suez on the 5th instant.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

Telegrams have been received from Shanghai via Kiachta to the 29th July, and via Galle, by overland telegraph, to 5th August and Hong Kong 12th August. A famine was anticipated in China. Grey Shirtings and Twist advancing. Silk advancing; total export to date 25,375 bales. Tea quiet: total export 36,000,000 lbs. Exchange at Shanghai 6s. 3d., at Hong Kong 4s. 5¼d. Messrs. Sillar and Bateman have received a telegram bringing same dates as above, and from Foochow to 7th August. The export of Tea for the fortnight had been 10,000,000 lbs., and freights at Whampoa were under £2. None of these telegrams make any mention of the reported fall of Peking, which was evidently untrue. Affairs in Japan are said to be quiet.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

We have received no files of newspapers direct from Yokohama by the present mail. We take the following extracts from Shanghai and Hong Kong journals.

Some influential and well-informed Japanese, who have lately come from the South, say it is the general impression that, in spite of the great preparations made by the Tycoon, and Choshiu and Satsuma, there are hopes of an understanding being come to without a resort to arms. The following is a translation of a circular sent round by the Japanese Government, calling for money to defray the charges of the present expedition :—

TO THE HEADMEN (OF THE CITY).

For some years the expense of protecting the coasts, and also of repairing and building the Tycoon's palaces, besides that incurred during the last three years (in which the Tycoon has been twice to Kioto to visit the Mikado) has been very great. But now he is again about to leave Yedo upon an expedition requiring more money than ever. Therefore :—

Let it be known in Yedo, Osaca, and all the provinces belonging to the Tycoon, that they must give to him as much as they can. And, particularly, tell the merchants of Yedo, who are always with the Tycoon, and whose presence renders their business more safe and very much larger than is the case of the other provinces, and who, although they so profit largely by him, do nothing for him in return, they ought to provide a portion of the profits they have been making for so long a time.

The circumstances are now different to those formerly existing. The Tycoon, really, has not money in anticipation of the present case. So inform the merchants and shopkeepers that they must provide as much as they can. And order the headmen [every five or six houses in Yedo has such an officer] to write out the names of contributors and the amounts they give, and send in the writing to Tachi Chimo. It is to be hoped that all will give their utmost, but let these headmen (of five or six houses) know that if they do not exert themselves in persuading all to give liberally they will be punished.

P.S. This money shall be paid back in ten years, by instalments of so much a year—or so much a month—from next year. Let this be explained to every one.

It may not be generally known, but it should be, remarks the *Japan Herald*, that the Tycoon has a powerful friend in the Emperor of the French. H.I.M.'s troop ship *Sarthe* brought out no less than sixteen 12 pounder rifle guns, with ammunition and naval carriages complete. They were not sent as a present, but the charge made for them was only about equal to the cost of the metal. They were of course delivered free of freight or any extra charge.

The Japanese agents of the Tycoon had left for Europe. They are six in number, and the *Herald* trusts that the commercial spirit thus evidenced may speedily show itself throughout all Nipon. The thin edge of the wedge being now inserted, we feel assured large effects will speedily follow.

NAGASAKI.

A correspondent, writing under date of the 30th June, furnishes us with the following additional details regarding the late outrage at that port. It appears that Mr. Smith, late of Shanghai, was standing at the gateway in front of his house when he saw a Japanese with a double-handed sword at the corner of the street, talking in an excited manner to a Chinaman. Turning round suddenly he saw Mr. Smith, and immediately advanced towards him at a steady pace, but with a

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threatening manner. Mr. Smith took little notice of what was going on, but when the native was within a few paces of him, he was horrified to see him draw his sword and make a sweeping cut at him. As he was partly within the gate posts the cut took no effect, when finding himself totally unarmed, and remembering that his room was locked, he ran towards the Royal Hotel, hotly chased by his assailant. Fortunately, as the ruffian was in the act of making another blow, a dog belonging to Mr. Smith flew at him, and fastened on to his leg. He stopped to cut the dog down, but the animal, true to his instinct, held on until he had received three horrible wounds on his back. Mr. Smith got safely into the hotel, where he met a Japanese whom he begged to come out and see what was going on. When they came into the compound they found that the man had disappeared, and Smith seized the opportunity of getting his revolver. While doing so he heard a thud, as of a heavy cut, followed by a groan. This proceeded from the unfortunate coloured man, William Henry, barkeeper of "The Royal," who, hearing the disturbance, had run to see what the matter was, and was met by the Japanese, who, without a moment's warning, inflicted a cut of about seven inches in length upon his head. As soon as he had done this the Japanese ran away, but a moment afterwards a yell was heard from the next street, and it was found that a Chinaman employed on board the *Australian* had received a severe blow across his face. It is much to be regretted that Smith, who was now armed with a rifle and revolver, did not give chase and shoot the Japanese, down before any further mischief was done. Being, however, a stranger in the place he hardly knew what to do. Meanwhile the Japanese, seeing that no one followed him, pursued his course, and next wounded two Chinese employed in Alt and Co.'s tea-firing establishment, and two others belonging to the *Australian*. Messrs. Maltby and Colthrop, who were returning from a walk, while going through the narrow passage which leads from the native town to the foreign quarter, were astonished to meet the same infuriated individual with a drawn sword held in both hands perpendicularly before him. These gentleman passed without molestation, when suddenly a Chinaman with a frightful wound on his right arm ran up and said, "You see that man have makee cutty my." The Japanese, hearing the loud voice behind, looked round, but seeing that the party were determined to make a stand, he sheathed his weapon and ran into the native town. Lucklessly, neither Mr. Maltby nor Mr. Colthrop was armed, so that it was vain for them to pursue him. The wounded were at once taken on board the *Barossa*, and a party of Marines were landed to patrol the settlement. On the 14th June, the British Consul and Capt. Boys, R.N., had an interview with the Governor of Nagasaki. They endeavoured to impress him with the necessity of having the culprit arrested and punished. The opportunity was also taken of proving how utterly useless are the guard-houses which have been placed round the settlement since September 1864, nominally with the purpose of looking after foreign interests, but really for the purpose of spying. The Governor had intended to pay a visit on board the *Barossa* on the 12th, but in consequence of this sad affair begged to be permitted to postpone it until the 16th. Capt. Boys, however, informed him that he had better again postpone it until he had arrested and punished the culprit. The Governor promised to do all in his power, and signified his intention of punishing the soldiers at the guard-houses who had taken no steps to seize the assassin, although a Chinaman had been cut down only a few yards from one of the sentry-boxes. The name and residence of the culprit are known, He lives at a village near Mongy, and is not a Yakonin, as at first reported, but an ordinary rowdy. Several police officers have been put on his track, but up to the present nothing is known as to his whereabouts.

The Prince of Fizen paid a visit to the settlement a few days ago. He called first on Messrs. Glover and Co., with whom he breakfasted, thence he went to the English Consulate, and subsequently visited Mr. French. He seemed much pleased with European "fashion," and more especially with European chowchow. Two days afterwards he called on board the *Barossa* where he was received with all the honours paid to a European prince of corresponding rank. He remained on board for a considerable time, and lunched with Captain Boys, after which he witnessed the naval exercise. The *Barrosa* hoisted the Prince's flag, and fired a salute of fifteen guns, which was immediately returned by one of the forts.

The wreck of the *Satsuma* has been broken up. Every attempt was made to get her off, but without avail. The investigation will be resumed in a few days. The French barque *Rigi* is reported a total wreck on Cape Gotto.

H.M.S. *Leopard* arrived on the morning of the 27th, and was to have left on the 1st July. The Governor of Nagasaki paid an official visit to Sir Harry Parkes on his arrival.

Messrs. Norton and Hughes and Mr. Kelly, of the *Barossa*, have signalized themselves by a daring pull in an outrigger from Nagasaki to the wreck of the *Satsuma*, a distance of about twelve miles. They started at 3 P.M., and returned at 5 o'clock on the following morning, having taken about two hours to pull each way.

The following is from Messrs. Alt and Co.'s Circular:

IMPORTS.—We have again to report a very small business in imports during the past month. Prices of all plain cotton goods are lower, and, with the exception of 8¼ lb. Grey Shirtings, in little demand. Dyed Brocades are in good demand at quotations. Chintzes, with the exception of very favourite patterns, remain dull of sale, and Turkey Red Cambrics are without change. Considerable arrivals of Camlets has checked, for a time, business in this staple, but for most other woollen goods a fair demand exists. Long Ells, 12 lbs., all scarlet, are still wanted at quotations. Figured Orleans are saleable at $7.60, and for favourite assortments $8.50 is offered. Metals continue dull of sale without improvement in prices. For Flat Bar Iron there is a small demand.

EXPORTS.—Under this head business has been equally restricted, operations having been chiefly confined to barter transactions. Supplies of produce are not large. In Vegetable Wax a small business has been done at $10 to $10.50 per picul. Tobacco and Galls have been in limited supply. In Cotton nothing has been done. Tea: We have as yet no transactions to report in this season's leaf; prices required by the holders of parcels now on offer are almost on a par with last year's, but we look for the opening of the market shortly at a considerable reduction on last season's rates. Small quantities of old import are taken for Shanghai market at about previous rates. Stocks: Ordinary to medium sorts about 1,500 piculs. Fine: None to be had. Silk: No arrivals.

EXCHANGE.—On London six months 4s. 6d. On Hong Kong, nothing doing. Bills on Shanghai, fifteen days have been sold at par. Ichiboos 256 per $100.

FREIGHTS.—To London nominally £4; to Shanghai $3 to $3.50; to Hong Kong $5. Vessels loading: For London, none.

EXPORTS of tea from all Japan from 1st June, 1864, to 1st June, 1865:—

From Nagasaki to United Kingdom	1,771,839 lbs.	
ditto to America	669,148 lbs.	2,440,987 lbs.
ditto Yokohama to United Kingdom	2,529,856 lbs.	
ditto to America	2,222,342 lbs.	4,752,198 lbs.

Total from all Japan from 1st June, 1864, to 1st June, 1865, 7,193,185 lbs

CHINA.

PEKING.

Prince Kung is now totally unconnected with any department of State except the Foreign Board. The Queen Regent (whether the young Emperor's mother or the late Emperor's first wife is not known) is said to transact the business of the State personally, and to do so with much more than the average of male ability. She is not, of course, visible to foreigners, and to few, if any, Chinese courtiers.

The rebels had approached within some 200 miles of the capital (not 100 miles as previously stated). They are a somewhat formidable body, consisting of (1) the Nyen-fei, (2) a body of Taepings, (3) the Mahomedan rebels, and certain other non descript filchers, all massed together, and amounting in numbers to about 300,000, only a tenth part of them being properly armed in European frshion. They have been "turned back" it is true, but their career must be one of devastation for a long time to come.

SHANGHAI.

From this port our latest date is the 15th of July. The English Mail of the 26th of May had been delivered there on the 11th July.

There still seems to be some doubt (says the *North China Herald*) as to whether Burgevine has in reality been handed over to the Chinese authorities at Soochow. Careful inquiries made in that city have failed to elicit any information as to his whereabouts, although the demand for his rendition made by the American authorities did not produce any assertion of ignorance as to his whereabouts. Some three weeks had elapsed since he left Foochow on his overland trip to Soochow, and we can well imagine the privations and hardships which he is probably suffering at the hands of his captors. However culpable he may be, and we indeed can find no excuse for his quadrupled treachery, we can hardly realise without a shudder the treatment to which his custodians probably subject him. It seems to be as yet a moot point whether the Chinese will give him up, or whether they may not take the law into their own

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hands, and either punish him after the form of a trial, or put him out of the way without even that empty farce.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SHANGHAI, July 15, 1865.

You will doubtless have heard before this of the electric telegraph Mr. Reynolds has been constructing to the Beacon, and that one morning just at its completion, some three weeks ago, all the posts were found to have been cut down and destroyed the previous night. Mr. Reynolds laid his complaint before H.B.M.'s Consul, who represented the matter to the Taoutai, demanding the punishment of the offenders, and urging that compensation was due to the owner of the property destroyed.

The reply of his Excellency was made on the 5th instant, and being as a specimen of Celestial impudence and contempt of the "Redhaired barbarians" unrivalled, I cannot resist sending it to you at length.

H.E. THE TAOUTAI, TO H.M.'s CONSUL.

SHANGHAI, 5th July, 1865.

In reply to H.M.'s. Consul concerning the telegraph established by Mr. Reynolds, and pulled down by the country people, the Taoutai begs to state that he ordered the Shanghai Heen and Chwan Sha Ting to report upon the circumstances. The substance of their report was that their police could only discover that the posts were standing one night and next morning were found to have been pulled down;—who did it they could not find out.

Just as they were sending this report, a petition came in from the country people, stating that the posts were prejudicial to the Feng-shui of the place, and that one person had already fallen sick and died without any apparent cause, and imploring the magistrate to request the Taoutai to communicate with the Foreign Consuls, and find out the person who had put up the posts, that he might be called upon to give compensation for the life lost (or to give his life for the life lost).

On the above report the Taoutai reports that there is no doubt that the man who died must have died because the Feng-shui was injured; Mr. Reynolds benefiting himself at the cost of others; but as there was no intention to kill on his part the claim for compensation need not be entertained.

But at the same time he never applied to H.M.'s Consul to obtain permission of the Imperial Commissioner through the Taoutai, but disregarded the treaty in putting up the telegraph, thus casting a slight on the authority of H.M.'s Consul, and the Taoutai would leave it to H.M.'s Consul to make him answer for his actions. He (the Taoutai) has nothing to do with it. As regards the people pulling down the telegraph without first presenting a petition stating that it interfered with the Feng-shui, they should of course be punished, and the Taoutai will cause further investigation on the subject.

H.M.'s Consul asks the Taoutai to give permission to have the telegraph re-established, but the Taoutai really has not the power to do so. He can only memorialise the Imperial Commissioner and ask his permission. When he receives a reply he will further communicate with the Consul on the subject. Translated by CHAS. CARROLL.

Your readers will at once ask who or what is the Feng-shui? I must candidly acknowledge it is difficult to determine accurately. Our friend of the Haymarket, *Lord Dundreary*, might truly say of it, "it's a thing no feller *can* understand." I am rather inclined to the opinion that the Feng-shui bears a likeness to a very old acquaintance of ours, a strong family resemblance to that extraordinary and dreaded visitor of our pinafore days, with a respect for whose powers we were duly impressed by our kind intelligent nurses, the terrific Bogey. As many of your readers may be dissatisfied with this explanation of the Feng-shui, I hasten to place before them another. I have copied from a local journal. "What is it! The Chinese themselves, there is reason to believe, have but an imperfect knowledge of the subject. To some it may be much, to others it may be nothing. It is an idiosyncrasy strong or feeble according to the state of the geomancer's bowels. Fung-shwuey in the native character signifies wind and water. Dr. Morrison describes it as a kind of geomancy deduced from the climate, the aspect of buildings, doors, graves, and so on, and in further illustration of its meaning gives addenda of the words koo-hwo, signifying "befooled by the wind and water-superstition." Dr. Williams' definition of Fung-shwuey is terser still. He gives it simply as geomancy; one of the four branches into which Dr. Johnson says Divination is divided, namely, hydro-pyro-acro and geomancy."

With this introduction of the Feng-shui I leave H.E. the Taoutai's letter to speak for itself, observng only that his report that the men who cut down the posts could not be found, is a falsehood, the country people stating they did it by order of their magistrate, the Ting of Chuen-sha.

Under whatever favouring circumstances Mr. Reynolds laid down his telegraph, it is evident by the treaty that he had no legal right to do so without permission of the Imperial Government; still the destruction of his property and failure of his scheme are much to be regretted.

The establishment of his enterprise, profitable or otherwise it might have proved to him, would have been the introduction of the thin end of the wedge, and formed perhaps a nucleus to not very distant enlarged telegraphic works. Railroads and telegraphs—where could be greater safeguards for China against rebellion?—where stronger levers to lift a land so teeming, industrious, and fertile to peace, prosperity, and strong Government? That the Imperial Government should be blind and imbecile enough not to recognise these facts—that they should fail to see how by the employment of these two agents their present weak, trembling authority would grow powerful and nervous may surprise those unacquainted with Chinese character, but causes extreme vexation, anger, and disgust to others.

The esoteric authorised destruction of Mr. Reynolds's telegraph, and the insultingly absurd, open justification of it, should be carefully considered by the promoters of Sir McD. Stephenson's scheme in the South, and may be serviceable in pointing out some of the rocks in their way.

The "rowdies," a term generally applied here to our houseless and penniless castaways, scamps, and criminals indiscriminately, have again been distinguishing themselves by breaking into a native cash shop. On resistance two of the inmates were shot, but the alarm being raised, the ruffians made off, pursued by the police, and after a desperate struggle, firearms being freely used on both sides, several were captured and others shot down. This event seems to have aroused a long dormant philanthropy on the part of H.E. the Taoutai, who, in a circular to the consuls, dated 4th July, deplores the state of foreign crime, and recognising the causes that have doubtless brought about much of it, expresses a large pity for the villains, "who"—His Excellency picturesquely writes—"as highly principled men traversed many myriads of miles, and encountered the dangers of raging seas, find themselves unable to acquire a competence wherewith to return, and are for many years thrown unsupported upon themselves." After stating that he had thought of supplying them with money to help them back to their homes, but that the number of claimants for such assistance, and the sum of money requisite could not be ascertained, he offers, if three thousand dollars would send away the entire lot at once, to collect and hand the Consuls that amount—provided, he very naively remarks—"they could be prevented coming back again."

The document is a curious one, and on a hasty glance is creditable to H. E.'s good nature and benevolence. Such, however, is far from my appreciation of it. The assistance he offers, he sagely observes, must depend on the non-return of the departed, which to a less subtle brain than a Chinaman's must have demonstrated the impracticability of his suggestion. The premium it holds out to the universal brotherhood of crime to rush hither must have likewise been obvious to him.

The well known severity—the savage cruelty—of the Chinese Criminal Code contrasts too strongly with the excessive tenderness of His Excellency's proposed treatment of the scoundrels of the "hated foreigners," not to throw some doubt on the object of his letter.

The worthlessness of his suggestion I cannot believe to have been unseen by him, and I take his notification as so much "soft solder," slyly laid down for the reception of his letter of the 5th instant, which exposes the true nature of Chinese largemindedness and liberality.

The weather here has not been stormy, but very wet, and for the time of year rather cool than otherwise. The crops having suffered from heavy rains, the Shanghai Hien ordered a general abstinence from animal food during three days (8th, 9th, and 10th inst.), and further instructed the faithful and obedient to be abstemious in their consumption of rice and fish during this time. The propitiation of their infuriated Jupiter Pluvius does seem to have been effected by the penance, the last two days having been dry and very hot.

By the *Reiver's* arrival on the 9th inst. (after a run from Calcutta, including stoppages at Penang, Singapore, and Hong Kong, of twenty days) we had advices from London to 13th June, which mails came up on the 11th inst. per steamer *Aden*. *Apropos* of the *Reiver*, *on dit* that her owner's letters were cleverly landed on the night of the 7th inst., though she did not arrive here till the 9th. On the 8th silk had risen some 15 tls., but not before a thousand bales had changed hands.

By the *Aden's* mail we heard of late President Davis's capture and pending trial. The general feeling among all classes here is one of regret, and a strong hope, in which, as far as I can

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learn, the whole community joins, that the Federal Government will not commit so gross an outrage on humanity as to adjudge a man, who, by the voice of his fellow citizens, was called to, and for no interested and mercenary motives of his own, accept the direction of the rebellion. The execution of Jefferson Davis would, it is felt here, be little short of murder—a lasting stain and reproach to President Johnson's Government and the whole American nation.

The *Aden* brought up Sir. C. Hornby and Judicial Staff, and we may shortly look for a change in our courts here, but as yet no official intimation of anything of the kind has been made. Touching legal affairs, I am reminded of a curious feature of Chinese law, very important to trading men, which has been enunciated before a mixed Court in a suit for breach of contract. A Chinaman having bought some goods "afloat," refused on their arrival to take delivery, and the English merchant who sold them having brought an action against the purchaser, it was decided that unless a seller receive bargain money from a buyer, any contract is null and void, and when bargain money is paid, the claim of a seller, in the event of buyer's non-fulfillment of his contract, does not exceed the amount of the bargain money.

You will have seen by the last mail that another Japanese Embassy is on a visit to Europe, accredited, I am given to understand, to the English and French Powers, but I was unable to learn of their mission further than that it had a politico-military object.

A couple of Satsuma's men have been living here during the last fortnight, whose business seems to be the gathering of information generally, and of the construction of docks particularly. One of them speaks English excellently well, and told me he had commanded and taken over to San Francisco in 1859-60 the yacht Her Majesty presented the Tycoon with at the time the Treaty was negotiated by Lord Elgin. This he states he did without any previous practical knowledge but what he had attained in Yedo through translations of Dutch works on steam navigation.

I attended a horse sale a few days ago, and could not help noticing at it the changed tone of this community. The old vigor and life seemed collapsed. The competition was slack, money appeared scarce, and there were few buyers. A mare named "Miss Mowbray," which I heard had formerly been bought for 1,000 taels, and once raffled for 1,200 taels, was now sold at 215 taels. "Godolphin," a handsome little chesnut Arab, winner of the 1863 Shanghai Challenge Cup, went for 65 taels. "Gorilla," a steeple chaser, for 50 taels. "Upperhand," a well-known one, fetched 45 taels. This depreciation in horse-flesh marks "something rotten in the state of Denmark."

It may interest former boating men of Shanghai to hear that an English eight has been formed. One crew (composed of Johnstone Smith, No. 1; B. W. Fellows, No. 2; H. Cope, No. 3; Rev. W. Grey, No. 4; No. 5 not named; J. A. Maitland, No. 6; E. Whittall, No. 7; A. Dent, stroke; and W. Stout, cox.), went out for the first time on the 5th inst., and pulled up the Soochow Creek above the boat-house. A little difficulty was experienced turning the sharp bends, but it is thought that there is plenty of room on the river for two boats. The eights will form a new feature in the next Autumn egatta.

The Asiatic Society held a meeting on the 6th inst., when an interesting paper forwarded by the Rev. Mr. Brown, of Kanagawa, was read. It was a translation of a Japanese manuscript, containing an account of the seizure, examination and death of Pére Jean Baptiste Sherotte, the last Roman Catholic missionary to Japan previous to the re-opening of the country in 1858. The manuscript bore date about 1708, the writer being the native interpreter through whom the examination of the unfortunate priest was conducted.

Dr. Lamprey also read a paper on the Water Supply of Shanghai, and from the discussion which followed, cockneys will be happy to know that their beloved Thames is not so dirty after all, for water taken from the river at Westminster has by analysis shown a less amount of impurity than what "princely merchants" draw from the Whangpoo at Shanghai.

The Nien-fei are reported to have sustained considerable reverses, and to be retreating from the Shantung province. A son of the famous Imperial General San-ko-lin-sin, named the Po-wang, has also been distinguishing himself against these rebels.

Major Jebb, with Messrs. Cardew and Lempriere, of the 67th Regiment, have returned here with their drill sergeants from the Chinese camp at Fung-wung-shang, recalled to join the head-quarters of their regiment, at present at Shanghai, about to proceed to the Cape. The Fung-wung-shang camp, as many of your readers may know, is about twenty miles hence, and was organised and is upheld by the purse and authority of the Taoutai, acting independently of Pekin. The command of the camp, in which no military officer or instructor is now serving, has, it is said, been given by the Taoutai to Mr. Winstanly.

SHANTUNG.

The Nienfei rebels have sustained severe reverses in this province. The *North China Daily News* has the following intelligence regarding the present aspect of the movement:—

The reports brought down by native couriers from the seat of war in the province of Shantung have lately become somewhat more favourable to the Imperial cause. For many months tales of disaster were repeated and reiterated until it seemed probable that the tide of success would turn altogether in favour of the insurgents, and involve the Imperialists in utter destruction. Now, however, a change has come over the aspect of affairs. Either the vast increase made in the numbers of the Imperialist armies has had a purely mechanical effect on the fortunes of war, or, Chinamen-like, the rebels have been disheartened by some trifling calamity, and are now as eager to escape as they were before anxious to press onwards. The history of strategic operations in China is a history of alternate successes and reverses, not such in the sense wherein we as Europeans would use the terms, but arising from some unforeseen conjunction of circumstances, which has had the effect of encouraging one side while casting the other into a corresponding state of despondency. The miraculous interventions, so often dwelt on in the *Peking Gazette*, in acknowledgment of which temples or votive tablets are decreed to the favouring deity, are simply circumstances unimportant in themselves, whence comfort and support are derived by one side, disquiet and dejection by the other. Whatever be the cause, whether the local deities have declared for the sacred right of kings as opposed to the right of an oppressed people to assert their independence, or whether the overwhelming force brought to bear by the Imperialists is having its natural effect, the result is that the Nienfei bands are gradually *retiring* before the Government troops, and have already sent *large* bodies into Shansi in order to secure a footing in that province. This would appear to be the first step towards a return to the province of Kansu, whence in the first instance they came. There, amid vast plains surrounded by lofty and rugged mountains, the rebellion took its rise, and there it will in all probability be extinguished. However paradoxical it may appear, we are always astonished at either side succeeding in a purely Chinese struggle. The odds are so nicely balanced, as far as disorganisation and want of discipline go, the likelihood of running away is so exactly divided between the two sides, the venality of the officers is so important an element in the constitution of both armies, that we are equally struck with amazement, no matter which side remains faithful to its colours. Whatever may be the cause, the Imperialists are now enjoying the smiles of fortune at the expense of their less fortunate opponents, nor does our experience of the Nienfei lead us to regret the reverses which have of late befallen them.

HONG KONG.

From this port we have files of papers up to the 22nd of July. Up to that date nothing had been heard of the ill-fated steamers *Corea* and *Chanticleer*, although all the steamers lately passing down the coast have searched diligently for some traces of them. The *Azoff* went out specially for the purpose, and looked in everywhere where it was thought probable the vessels might be laying disabled—the search was futile, however, and there is little doubt that both vessels must within a short time of each other have foundered and sunk. From the many conjectures as to the fate of these unfortunate vessels we take what we consider the two most plausible, viz:—The *Corea*, being very light and an extremely crank boat, capsized; and the *Chanticleer*, being very deep, foundered; or that the *Chanticleer*, being ahead, and fearful of the approaching gale, putting back, came into collision with the *Corea*, and so caused the destruction of both. With most of the officers of the *Corea* it was their first trip in her.

The new silver currency was being counterfeited, a gang of "smashers" having put into circulation a large number of ten-cent pieces so carefully executed as almost to defy detection. The body of the coin is iron, on which a thin coating of silver

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has been by some means fixed. The cleverest part of the fraud is the milled edge, which is simply perfect; it was this milled edge which it was supposed the Chinese could not imitate.

The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Company have commenced the issue of notes. $200,000 is the full amount received from London as yet. The design is better than those of the other banks, and much more difficult of imitation. Shares in the bank are quoted at 2 premium.

Some anxiety prevailed as to the fate of that fine collection of books belonging to the Hong Kong Library and Reading Rooms. The library consists of several thousand carefully selected books, both new and old. It is now proposed that it be dispersed among the community through the medium of the auctioneer's hammer. It is easier to disperse a collection of volumes than to amass the same; and, as the books in question are well worth the sum wanted in order to pay off a lien upon them, it is astonishing that some means of paying off that lien (or debt) upon them, and of keeping the library open to the public in some shape cannot be devised.

A Portuguese clerk in the Commercial Bank, named Gutierrez, had defrauded the Bank of some $19,500, by appropriating the proceeds of certain cheques and falsifying the books in his charge. He absconded, and took refuge in Macao; the Governor of which colony not only ignored the warrant issued in Hong Kong for his apprehension, but is said to have even refused to allow the placards offering a reward for his capture to be posted on the walls or distributed in Macao. Should His Excellency persist in this course, there will be an objection to giving Portuguese subjects employment in mercantile firms.

The following short narrative is given by three Malay seamen, supposed to be the only survivors of the crew of the Siamese ship *Goldfinder*, which vessel (bound from Hong Kong to Shanghai) foundered in the late typhoon :—

On the 29th June, at eight o'clock in the morning, our vessel, the Siamese ship *Goldfinder*, J. C. de Castro, master, left the port of Hong Kong, bound to Shanghai. The same night about twelve o'clock it blew very strong, and the gale increased to a perfect hurricane, which continued to rage throughout the night, the vessel being unmanageable. About eight o'clock on the morning of the 30th the ship heeled over, filled and went down, we sinking in her. On rising to the surface we saw several other men swimming and clinging to casks, spars, &c. We three held on a cask for four days and nights, being picked up on the 3rd July by a fishing boat, from which we were landed on the shore hard by, but we are unable to say what was the name of the place. Here we remained eight days, when a junk laden with salt bound to Hong Kong gave us a passage, and we arrived here on the 18th. We saw nothing of either the captain or mate after the vessel sunk, and believe they both perished. Four other Malays who were also clinging to a water cask may possibly have been saved.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Dates hence are to the 31st July. The London mail of the 26th June arrived out on the previous day.

The Governor and suite were to leave Singapore on the 31st, in H.M.'s steamer *Pluto* for Penang, and would be away three months. That steamer and the *Banterer* returned on the 23rd, after a fruitless search for pirates as far as Tringanu. The *Pluto* reported having seen the ship *John Cropper* ashore on the Moran Rocks, a total wreck, and the ship *Maribell* rendering every assistance in her power.

A proposal has been made by the Gas Company to lead the water into and distribute it through the town from the point at which the Government is to hand the waterworks over to the Municipal Commissioners. With the experience Mr. Wells, the secretary to the company, and his assistants, have acquired of the gradients of the town, the undertaking could not be entrusted to more efficient hands. The executive and municipal authorities are fully alive to the necessities of the poor, and ample provision will be made for a gratuitous supply of water to them. They could scarcely do otherwise, seeing that the late Tan Kim Sing's munificent gift of 13,000 dollars, which was given for the purpose of providing his poor countrymen with wholesome water, forms the nucleus of the fund now being employed in carrying his intentions into effect.

Complaint is made that within the last few years a number of European convicts from Western Australia have found their way to Singapore in charge of horses, whilst others have paid their passages. Some of these men are understood to have received a conditional pardon, or are on ticket-of-leave. Scores of such men are abundant in China, where their rowdyism has been carried on in several instances to a great extent. The passport system, says the *Free Press*, should be introduced into all the Australian colonies used as penal settlements, and convicts permitted to go abroad under certain conditions should be enforced to report themselves personally to the head of the police in any of Her Majesty's dominions.

Seven seamen of the British ship *Agenoria* were brought up before the Marine Magistrate on the 24th July for a refusal of duty. They were ordered to forfeit ten days pay, and to imprisonment in the House of Correction for twelve weeks.

Hanakay Maistry, a libe[illegible] Bengalee convict of considerable wealth, died on the 2[illegible]th, at Campong Bencoolen. His estate, which is worth about 50,000 dols., has been divided amongst his sons. He appointed Mr. Woodford one of his executors.

On the 12th July a Chinese entered the shop of a respectable trader, and purchased cloth to the amount of 63 dollars, and requested one of the clerks in the shop to accompany him for the money. As the clerk did not return in reasonable time the master went in search of him. While out, he remembered that a debt of 45 dollars due to him had to be collected that day, so he called at the debtor's shop and asked for payment. To his surprise he learnt that the missing clerk had preceded him by half an hour, and had received the money. He returned to his shop and found the clerk still absent; and eventually the master took out a warrant for his arrest for embezzlement. On the 20th the culprit was found in an empty house at Tangong Katong with five dollars in his pocket. On being arraigned before the sitting magistrate he admitted the charge, and stated that the nacodah of a junk had induced him to rob his master, and promised to take him to China with his booty. It was the nacodah who entered the shop and made the fictitious purchase. After leaving his master's shop he went and obtained the 45 dollars, and handed over the cloth and thirty dollars to the nacodah. By the latter's suggestion he concealed himself in the house where he was found. On the day appointed for his embarkation, he went to the harbour, and learnt to his dismay that the junk had sailed on the previous night. He therefore returned to his hiding-place. Besides the thirty dollars, the nacodah got his victim to pay eight dollars on his account to a shopkeeper in Campong Giam. The prisoner was committed for trial.

A European seaman, named Charles Belton, died suddenly on the 19th July, at the Old Albion, in North Canal-road. An inquest was held, and the verdict was, "Died of Apoplexy." The man had been indulging in drink for four days, being flush of money, having been recently paid off from his ship.

Exchange on the 29th July.—Bank bills 4s. 5½d.; private 4s. 6d. Tonnage excessive, and freights very low.

PENANG.

Recent arrivals from Assahan (say the *Gazette*), report that there were four Dutch steamers and six sailing vessels anchored off Batta Bara, a distance of six hours' sail from Aasahan; that they had attacked four Assahan coasters, and drove the men into the jungle. It is also stated that the Dutch had remonstrated with the Yang-Tuan for flying the British flag, and that they had given the Yang-Tuan six weeks' time to consider whether he would pull down the British flag and hoist up the Dutch in its stead. In consequence of these measures of the Dutch, the native coasters have been afraid to continue their trade. It is also said that the Dutch have instigated the people of Pagarawan to attack the Padang (E. C.) men, because the latter would not shake off the yoke of Assahan and fly the Dutch flag as the former have done. The question of Dutch aggression in the native States on the East Coast of Sumatra is not by any means a new thing, and notwithstanding the numerous protests that have from time to time appeared in the Straits Press, no measures have as yet been taken by our Government towards a settlement of the matter. The trade with these States and Penang is now almost completely paralysed, and there is every prospect of its remaining so if no steps are taken by our authorities. We thought the illegality of the Dutch proceedings in the East Coast was settled long ago by Lord Palmerston's despatch in 1851, but it appears that the Dutch, in consequence of their insignificant position in relation to European affairs, have more time to develop their schemes

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of aggression in the East than we have to look after our own interests. It rests, however, with the Straits Government to represent this matter in its true light to the Home Government, and we hope this time with success.

Notwithstanding the advantages which iron vessels possess over those built of wood, there is one great drawback to their usefulness in these seas, especially the Straits, namely, that of becoming so foul as to seriously impede their sailing powers. In Penang, where there is no dock accommodation, this disadvantage is felt more than in other places possessing facilities for cleaning iron vessels. About six months ago the captain of a large iron built three-masted schooner, the *Yuh-Shun*, succeeded in having his vessel hauled on shore alongside of the jetty, and had her effectually cleaned and painted previous to his voyage to China. At present we have the iron built ship *Edinburgh Castle*, 627 tons burden, which has become dee harbour for some time and had got very foul; but as the bros most of her cargo on board for London, it was impossible to adopt the same process as was taken with the *Yuh-Shun*. The method used by Capt. Inglis, however, which appears to have been perfectly successful, is one that we think ought to be widely known. It consisted of a large triangular sort of brush, made of small stiff green bamboos fixed into a strong frame, and passed along the bottom of the vessel from forward aft, with chains forming guys to keep it close to the bottom of the ship. The length of the sides of this brush was about five feet, and it has brought away some tons of shells of several different species. Some of these shells were very large, and would have proved a very serious impediment to the progression of the ship on her voyage home. We measured one which was five inches long by two and a half broad, and the barnacles were something enormous. These were shown in the Penang Exchange, and a good number have been preserved by several gentlemen who saw them there. This method of cleaning iron vessels is certainly a capital one, and may be of use to others similarly situated as Capt. Inglis. By it a large ship can be thoroughly cleaned in a couple of days without the trouble of beaching, which in many cases, as in this, was impossible.

Another Hamburg vessel, the brig *Johanna*, has been sold at, Penang during the week to a Chinese trader. We append a list of the ships which have been sold within the space of the last three months. Three of them were built by the well-known shipwright, Torkild Anderson, of Apenrade in Schleswig, and most of the others were also built in the Danish Duchies, and owned by Danes, until the Schleswig-Holstein quarrel arose, when they were transferred to the Hamburg flag. The *Snap Dragon* was formerly an American clipper. With two exceptions, Chinese merchants were the purchasers. There is still a good demand to purchase small and middle sized ships:—

1. The Hamburg brig *Capibaribe*, of the burthen of 3,800 piculs, 30 years old, sold for Drs 3.750.
2. The Siamese barque *Snap Dragon*, of the burthen of 12,000 pls., 12 years old, sold for Drs. 17,500.
3. The Danish barque *Therese*, of the burthen of 7,000 pls., 8 years old, sold for Drs. 10,000.
4. The Hamburg brig *Buenos Ayres* of the burthen of 3,500 pls., 12 years old, sold for Drs. 4.600 (now known, as the *Forbes Scott Brown*).
5. The Danish brig *Susanna*, of the burthen of 5,000 pls., 8 years old, sold for Drs. 6,400.
6. The Hamburg brig *Carl and Johanna*, of the burthen of 3,800 pls., 15 years old, sold for Drs 5.100.
7. The Hamburg brig *Johanna*, of the burthen of 2,900 pls., 19 years old, sold for Drs. 3,000.

The Comparative Statement of the value of imports and exports at Prince of Wales' Island during the official years 1863-64 and 1864-65 puts down the total value of the commerce of Penang for the year 1864-65 at rs. 44,962,059, being an increase on the previous year of rs. 4,140,342. The imports of merchandise were of the value of rs. 18,041,425, and the exports rs. 26,913,634. The tables also show that our trade, says the *Argus*, is increasing in imports as well as exports. This speaks volumes for the general prosperity of the inhabitants of Penang and Province Wellesley. Great Britain and her settlements have been our best customers, the trade with the former alone being more than with the whole of Europe. The value of the imports from Europe is stated at Rs. 1,176,210, being in excess of last year by Rs. 675,255. The trade with Calcutta, Bombay, China, Sumatra, the Malayan Peninsula, and British Burmah has increased, but the contrary with America and Madras. With Cochin China, Java, Rhio, and Borneo the exports and imports are absolutely nothing. With British Burmah the table shows the pleasing fact of an increase of Rs. 165,275. To America the imports have been only Rs. 4,190, and exports 224,300, showing a decrease of Rs. 672,030.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

DAVIDSON—On the 18th July, at Hong Kong, the wife of Wm. M. Davidson, of a son.
DICKINSON—On the 29th July, at Hong Kong, the wife of Henry Dickinson, Esq., of a son.
COLLINS—On the 22nd July, at Hong Kong, the wife of Charles Collins, of a daughter.
KING—On the 20th July, at Elgin-terrace, Hong Kong, the wife Geo. King, prematurely, of a son.
MARKHAM—On the 9th July, at H.B.M.'s Consulate, Shanghai, the wife of J. Markham, H.B.M.'s Vice-Consul, of a daughter.
ROYSTON—On the 27th Aug., at the British Embassy, Paris, Viscountess Royston, of a daughter.
SANGSTER—On the 13th July, at 3, Alexandra-terrace, the wife of Charles F. A. Sangster, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

ENNISKILLEN—BRODRICK.—On the 5th inst., at St. George's, Hanover-square, by the Hon. and Rev. Sir Francis Stapleton, Bart., uncle of the bride, William Willoughby, Earl of Enniskillen, to the Hon. Mary Emma Brodrick, eldest daughter of Charles, late Viscount Midleton.
LIPSCOMBE—GREEN.—On the 29th Aug., at St. Martin's Church, Scarborough, by the Rev. R. H. Parr, George Lipscombe, Esq., of Singapore, to Mary Anne, youngest daughter of the late David Green, Esq., of Lydd, Kent. No cards.
LISTOWEL—BRUCE.—On the 31st August., at St. George's Church, Hanover-square, by the Rev. J. H. North, M.A., incumbent of St. George's Chapel, Brighton, the Right Hon. William, Earl of Listowel, to Ernestine Mary, younger daughter of the Right Hon. Lord Ernest Bruce, M.P.
MUNSTER—ERSKINE.—On the 22nd Aug., at Dysart House, Fife, N.B., by the Rev. Robert Cole, chaplain, George Herbert, Count Munster, Marshal Hereditary of the Kingdom of Hanover, to Lady Harriet Elizabeth St. Clair Erskine, only daughter of Lieut.-General the Earl of Rosslyn, Colonel 7th Hussars.
SOUTHERN—NICHOLS.—On the 5th Sept., at St. Leonard's Church, Streatham, Surrey, by the Rev. —. Nicholls, rector, Richard Latimer, of 6, Mincing-lane, City, only son of George Southern, Esq., of 36, Glengall-grove, Old Kent-road, to Mary Elizabeth, eldest daughter of W. H. Nichols, Esq., of Streatham. No cards.

DEATHS.

ASTROM—On the 11th July, on board the Swedish barque Mina, Hulda Maria Gesbaris, daughter of Captain Astrom, aged 14 days.
BISHOP—On the 14th July, at Miss Baxter's School, Bonham-road, Hong Kong, Louisa Bishop, aged 2 years.
BRAND—On the 20th July, at Hong Kong, of fever, William, son of the late Andrew Brand, Esq., of Glasgow, aged 27.
COUTTS—On the 17th July, at their residence, Praya East, Hong Kong, Barbara, wife of Alexander Coutts, of cholera.
GORDON—On the 28th Aug., the Lord Henry Gordon, aged 63.
HANFF—On the 20th July, at Tukwing, Canton River, Rev. S. Hanff, of the Rhenish Mission, of disease of the lungs, aged 24 years.
LAPIDGE—On the 4th June, at Hong Kong, George Lapidge, Esq., Paymaster H.M.'s ship Coquette.
MANN—On the 18th July, at the Seaman's Hospital, Hong Kong, Capt. Mann, of the ship Ruby, aged 35 years.
MARWOOD—On the 17th July, at Hong Kong, Thomas Christopher Marwood, late Master of the brig Trebizond, aged 33 years.
ROBINSON—On the 6th July, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, Captain Robinson, of the British barque Celestial.
SWIFT—On the 17th July, at Wanchi, Hong Kong, John H. Swift, boiler-maker to Messrs. Russell and Co., aged 23 years, of cholera.
WAKEFORD—On the 11th July, at Hong Kong, Frank Darvall Wakeford, youngest son of William and Maria Wakeford, of Southampton, aged 32.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1865-66.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to 30, 1865	...	6469021	10486720	...	1382000	18337741	8184
Corresponding period last season	32708	4722873	9174800	...	2061641	15991522	810

TO UNITED STATES.

							Piculs.
From June 1 to 30, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	1468546	...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

TO THE CONTINENT.

							Bales.
From June 1 to 30, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

						Tea pkgs	Boxes.
From June 1 to 30, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	6701	283
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	500	...

TO AUSTRALIA.

From June 1st to 30th, 1865	357,100 lbs.
Corresponding period last year	37,920 „

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	...	...	...	51,022,600	...
„ 1845 to 1846	...	...	...	57,354,000	18,604
„ 1850 to 1851	...	...	...	65,972,000	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854	...	...	...	77,827,800	61,280
„ 1855 to 1856	...	...	...	92,240,300	50,480
„ 1857 to 1858	...	...	...	76,990,255	68,311
„ 1858 to 1859	...	...	...	65,789,792	83,136
„ 1859 to 1860	...	...	...	85,560,452	64,163
„ 1860 to 1861	...	...	...	90,066,160	70,644
„ 1861 to 1862	...	...	...	109,854,040	79,199
„ 1862 to 1863	...	...	...	121,275,580	72,848
„ 1863 to 1864	...	...	...	117,463,586	46,605
„ 1864 to 1865	...	...	...	121,236,870	32317

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1 to 30th, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	...

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TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1 to 30th, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	...

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1 to 30th, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	...

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1 to 30th, 1865	...	3800	17343	1000	200	49500

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1 to 30th, 1865.....	...	...	...	...	...	...

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cent., and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—September 4, at Falmouth, from Maulmain, T. E. Millidge; 1, at Texel, from Batavia, Margaretha; August —, at New York, from Rangoon, St. Louis; 30, at Sandhamn, from Samarang, Emilie; September 7, at Falmouth, from Rangoon, P. M. Muller.

DEPARTURES.—September 2, from Cardiff, for Shanghai, Nelly; 5, from London for Yokohama, Fusi Yama; 4, from Cardiff for Batavia, Europa; 4, from Liverpool for Hong Kong, Ariel.

SPOKEN.—Graaf van Hoogendorp (Dutch ship) for Batavia, 19th July, 11 S. 34 W. Bulgersteyn, Liverpool to Batavia, 26th August, 48 N., 10 W. Cornelis Wernard Edward, Zierikzee, to Batavia, 27th August, 48 N., 8W. No. 4302, 3rd d.p. Singapore to London, 13th May, off Acheen Head. Sanderson, Sunderland to Galle, 2nd September, 48 N., 7 W. Royal Bride (barque), Colombo to London, 15th July, 5S. 82 E.

At MAURITIUS.—July 18, from Colombo, Eliza Goddard, Davies, and sailed Aug. 2 for ———; 22, from Batavia, Clara Sayers, Bremner, and sailed Aug. 5 for Dunedin; from New York, &c., Suno Nada (s.), Tayne, and left 30 for Singapore; 27, from Singapore, Ocean Belle, Jarvis; 25, Antoinette, Chabanness, sailed for Singapore.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 109 tons (meast.) porter to Hong Kong, and 30 tons naval stores to Trincomalee, from the River Thames.

LAID ON.—At London, for Colombo, Frances.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At SHANGHAI.—From Sunderland, July 9, Fanny; 5, from Newport, Minerva; 11, from Antwerp, Indus.

At HONG KONG.—From Glasgow, July 13, Otentosama (st.), from Cardiff; 16, Victoria, from New York; 21, Enoch Train.

DEPARTURES.

From SHANGHAI.—For London, July 5, Highflyer; 9, Gossamer; 11, Hampton Court. For New York, 13, Caprera.

From FOOCHOW.—For London, City of Aberdeen, Taeping, Lauderdale, Japanese.

From HONG KONG.—For London, July 22, Johanna Marie. For New York, Benefactor.

MR. CHISHOLM ANSTEY.—A telegram from Bombay, dated 8th August, states, that Mr. Chisholm Anstey has been appointed an Acting Judge in the High Court of Bombay.

COUNT KLECZKOWSKI.—By a Royal Decree, dated Bruxelles, 16th August, 1865, Corneille Kleczkowski, Esq., Major of Artillery on the retired list of the Belgian army, and Commissioner of Chinese Imperial Customs at Amoy, has been promoted to the honorary rank of Lieut.-Colonel.

THE PSALM OF LIFE AT PEKIN.—Mr. Burlingame brings an interesting gift from China to Mr. Longfellow. It seems that Mr. Wade, a member of the British embassy at Pekin, who is a skilful Chinese scholar, made a close translation of Longfellow's Psalm of Life, which was then inscribed, as the manner of the country favours, on the door-posts of his house. There the calm, pure wisdom and beauty of its sentences greatly impressed a learned dignitary poet of the empire, who thereupon put it into pure Chinese poetical form of the last polish, and so writing it out with his own hand on a beautiful fan, sent it as a present to his brother bard at Cambridge. It is pleasant for all of us admirers of that charming poem to know that thousands of Pekin folks stop to read, and admire it, too, as they pass Mr. Wade's door.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

Minutes of the 14th regular meeting of the North-China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, held at the Society's rooms, the 6th day of July, 1865.

Present:—G. F. Seward, Esq., V.P., in the chair. Revs. C. H. Butcher and F. K. Mitchell. Drs. Lamprey, Robson, and Jones, Messrs. Alabaster, Giquel, Probst, Kingsmill, Thorne, Maitland, Robinson, Wylie, Meadows, Reynolds, &c., &c.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was proceeded with, and the following gentlemen were elected members of the society.

Resident: C. Dillon, A. C. Dulcken, the Rev. M. Kaufmann, A. Sparrow Knight.

Non-Resident: Dr. Falconer, Dr. Reid, R. Watmore, and A. Littledale.

The following gentlemen were then proposed for election at the next meeting:—

Resident: Proposed by Mr. Kingsmill, seconded by Mr. Mitchel: J. S. Forsyth and H. Gribble. Proposed by Mr. Seward, seconded by Mr. Alabaster: F. Bell. Proposed by Dr. Robson, seconded by Mr. Alabaster: Dr. Jones.

Non-Resident: Proposed by Mr. Kingsmill, seconded by Mr. Mitchel: T. Whitmore.

The following articles were then presented to the society:—

A brick from the porcelain tower, Nanking; presented by Mr. Kingsmill on behalf of Mr. J. McL. Brown. Six bottles of Shanghai snakes and the saw of an extraordinarily large saw-fish; presented by Mr. C. T. Jones.

The thanks of the society having been accorded to the donors, a paper forwarded by the Rev. Mr. Brown, of Kanagawa, being the translation by him of a Japanese manuscript, was read.

The manuscript, the production of one of the litterati in Japan, and written about the year 1708, contains an account of the arrest, examination, imprisonment, and ultimate death of Pere Jean Baptiste Scherotti, the last Roman Catholic missionary to Japan previous to the year 1858. This intrepid servant of the Cross appears to have studied Japanese in Europe, and landed in Japan in disguise. He was immediately arrested and after an imperfect examination at Nagasaki was sent overland to Yeddo. Here the author of the manuscript was called in to interrogate him, the regular interpreters having failed to thoroughly understand him, and the manuscript is the result of this examination, which was prolonged during some four or five days, the prisoner being questioned first about himself, then about foreign countries, and finally about his religion. At the termination of the inquiry he appears to have been remanded to prison, where his patience under suffering and his undying faith so impressed two servants appointed to attend him that they publicly embraced his religion in the full consciousness that the penalty of doing so was death. After this the rigours of imprisonment appear to have been increased, and after some months of suffering he followed his two converts to the grave.

At the conclusion of the paper the acting PRESIDENT remarked that the paper appeared to him to be a most valuable contribution, apart from the mere temporary interest attaching to it, both as affording an insight into the habit of thought of the Japanese and as an indisputable record of facts. Mr. Brown had volunteered to give the society translations of the remaining two parts of the manuscript, and the society would be deeply indebted to him. The paper just read would, he had no doubt, be included by the publishing committee in the next publication of the society, and he thought it well worthy of being so.

Mr. WYLIE remarked that the paper just read was an interesting document in more respects than one. It related to a period in the intercourse of European nations with Japan, the accounts of which had hitherto reached us exclusively through one channel, and that a very suspected one. Indeed, the opponents of the Catholic missionaries had not been slow to impugn the veracity of their statements. He believed that although there was truth that was overdrawn in their reports, yet distrust and suspicion had frequently, to an undue extent, been lodged against them. Here we have an unexpected and unbiased witness coming forward to add his testimony, and it is not a little remarkable how perfectly his narrative coincides with the European accounts we have of this same John Baptist Scherotti, while the document carries with it an air of truthfulness. The two accounts coming from such independent and even antagonistic sources furnish the most satisfactory guarantee for the truth of the main facts of the case. Japanese annals are silent on this sad episode in the national history, but there are doubtless many manuscripts in existence relating to the period in question. He (Mr. W.) had seen a document of a kindred character at Nagasaki, a translation of which he had hoped would have been given to the public ere this. It would be well if students of the language in Japan would set themselves to gather up these mementoes of the past, and render them accessible to their less gifted countrymen; and it is surely a legitimate object of the Asiatic Society to encourage such researches. While thanking Mr. Brown for his contribution, he hoped the society would specially request him to furnish a translation of the remaining portion of the M.S. which promises to throw some light on a tragic chapter in the tragedy of Missions to Japan.

Mr. KINGSMILL then proposed the following resolution:—"That the very cordial thanks of the society are due to the Rev. Mr. Brown for his valuable and interesting translation."

Having been seconded by Dr. Lamprey, the motion was put to the meeting, and carried unanimously.

SUPPRESSION OF THE BISHOPRIC OF VICTORIA.—Some months since, Dr. George Smith, who is now in England, resigned the Bishopric of Victoria (Hong Kong), and it is stated that the difficulties in connection with the letters patent are so great that no successor to Dr. Smith will be appointed. The see was founded in 1849, and the jurisdiction of the bishop extends over the congregations of the Church of England in China, the income being £1,000 a year, payable from the Colonial Bishoprics' Fund. There are about 20 clergy in the diocess.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1865.

THE EXPORT OF SILVER TO THE EAST.

M. C. ROSWAG, a French writer, has recently published a work on the precious metals, which contains some curious facts, and, amongst other matter, some statistics respecting the export of gold and silver coin to the East. "From time immemorial," says M. ROSWAG, "there has been a flow of the precious metals towards the East;" it existed in the time of SOLOMON, of HIRAM, of the PTOLEMIES, and of FRAYAN. MONTESQUIEU said:—"The Indies have ever been and will ever be the same; "whoever trades with those countries must carry money there "and bring none back again." But to descend to modern times. HUMBOLDT calculated in 1800 that the export of gold and silver to India and China was more than five millions and a half a year, of which nearly two-thirds went by the way of the Cape, and the rest by the Levant and Siberia; but he said also that some small portion of this stopped on the road in the Levant. This statement has been examined by other writers, who came to the conclusion that HUMBOLDT'S total was too high by twenty per cent. MONTESQUIEU'S sweeping statement was invalidated between 1825 and 1830 as regards China, for his word *Indies* included all the East, by the import of Sycee silver. Upon this subject M. ROSWAG says—the Chinese gave Sycee silver in payment for the large quantities of opium which they wanted. In spite of the prohibitions both against the exportation of bullion and the consumption of opium, between 40,000 and 50,000 chests of the latter were introduced annually. Setting the value of a chest of opium at £140 he arrives at a total of nearly eight millions sterling per annum, of which he says eighty per cent. was paid in silver. In 1853, he adds, the value of the opium imported into China was estimated at eight millions sterling, and since the last war at 70,000 chests a-year. Since 1853 the current of gold and silver, says M. ROSWAG, has returned to its old direction, in consequence of the increase of the trade, and he quotes from M. NATALIS ROUDOT, an authority on the subject, the following statement of that increase. The total amount of the imports and exports combined, between Europe and America and China, were in 1810 little more than nine millions sterling per annum; while in 1858 they exceeded forty millions, the imports into China surpassing the exports from that country by about one-tenth. The opium is not included in this estimate. In 1856, according to M. NATALIS RONDOT, tea alone represented six millions sterling of the imports. The diminution of the commerce, caused by the civil war in China, is estimated by another French statist, M. LEVASSEUR, at nearly one million and a quarter sterling, and this produced an increase in the export of gold and silver, which was further augmented by the increasing demand for Chinese productions, especially, as regards France for tea and silk; in the former article because of the increased consumption, in the latter principally on account of the diminution in the home product, caused by the disease amongst the silkworms. The balance of the movement in gold and silver in the favour of the East, according to M. ROSWAG, was £6,200,000 in 1856, and only £4,400,000 in 1858. The total export of precious metals from 1848 to 1850 is said to have been under six millions. From 1851 to 1856, six years, the exports to the East are given as follows:—Gold, £4,884,800; of which £4,430,000 went from English ports, and £454,800 from the Mediterranean. Silver, £36,528,000; of which £30,715,000 from England, and £5,813,000 by the Mediterranean. Total, £41,400,000, or, on the average, £6,880,000; of which 97½ per cent. was in silver. In 1857 the total was, Gold, £528,000; Silver, £20,545,000; total, £21,073,000, or three times the average of the six previous years.

Mr. JAMES LOWE'S tables give the exports from Great Britain during the seven years ending with 1858 as above five millions of gold and forty seven millions of silver. Taking, according to the account of M. ROSWAG, £7,200,000 as the average annual export of the precious metals during the period commencing with 1848 and ending with 1856, we have a total of £64,800,000, or about one fifth of the whole production of the mines of the West; while the average of the latter portion of that period was nearly equal to the whole amount of the production.

This immense export of silver to the East is certainly sufficient to account for the premium at which at present it stands in Europe; and as the exportation is still as great, if not greater than ever, and that the West must find, in order to maintain its commerce with the East, from twelve to sixteen millions of silver per annum, it is not surprising that the money markets should be in a curious condition, and that the financial world should be sorely puzzled to find an easy road out of the difficulty. M. ROSWAG, like most writers on the subject, attributes the disappearance of the silver to the secretive character of the Orientals, and to the want of confidence in their Government; but they do not seem to take into account the fact that the accumulation of silver in the East must cheapen it there, as the reverse is happening in the West, and that as soon as that effect appears, the Orientals will help us out of the difficulty. They cannot eat the silver, and they are far two shrewd to keep it by them when they find it deteriorate in value.

JAVA AND CEYLON.

OUR Dutch neighbours, like other nations not far distant from them, are becoming prompt to adopt suggestions from our trading, financial, and industrial organisation. The project of certain Dutch capitalists, detailed in a late letter from our Rotterdam correspondent, for assuming the cultivation of coffee in the Government lands of Western Java is an instance in point. It is seen that individual enterprise can secure larger returns than are possible under the present system, which discourages the introduction of additional European capital, and is neither favourable to quality nor amount of production. Should the Dutch Government accept the proposition, we may anticipate it will lead to very important changes of internal policy. That portion of the scheme that contemplates payment to the labourers and ultimately the division of portions of the land into lots of which they may purchase the right of cultivation, and thus be relieved from obligatory services, would, in its success and extension, raise the condition of the Javanese, and so render them in the end larger consumers of imported articles. The error of the Dutch Government has been in seeking too direct returns, and in endeavouring to appropriate both the profits of production and the gains of trade; but it is easy to demonstrate that a policy less leavened with the spirit of monopoly would have produced more satisfactory results. The Government at the same time must be credited with having rendered the Javanese cultivators the important service of guaranteeing the contracts at which the produce delivered is rated, and taking upon itself the responsibility of the failure of crops where not attributable to a want of due vigilance and care; and it may be made a question whether a similar system of guarantee, free, of course, from the condition of obligatory labour, might not advantageously be adopted in Ceylon as respects its native population, either by the Government or a body of private capitalists. As to any change of Dutch policy in Netherlands India, Ceylon, with the freedom of its industry and trade, has nothing to apprehend. She is on the eve of a still greater development of her resources, for which the requisite financial facilities will be speedily forthcoming.

OUR JAPANESE VISITORS.

We have to correct an inaccuracy in the account given in our last issue of the "Satsuma Expedition." The number of students who remain to complete their education in this country is sixteen, and not eleven as then stated.

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The last homeward mail brought to Europe another party of Japanese, who are at present in Paris, and have been described in the public journals there as members of an embassy from the Tycoon. They turn out, however, to be simply agents of the Government sent to visit France and England for purposes of travel and investigation. The party consists, we believe, of two commissioners, two interpreters, a secretary, and four attendants; in all nine persons.

OUR TRADE WITH CHINA.

In our last issue we published the Reports of Her Majesty's Consuls at the three Treaty Ports in Japan. We now proceed to deal in the same way with the Chinese Consular Ports, commencing with

SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, Dec. 31, 1864.

SIR,—In my despatch of the 29th July I forwarded an approximate estimate of the British trade of this port for 1863, and stated that I was engaged on the preparation of more detailed returns. A great pressure of work during the summer months, and the exceedingly cramped and inconvenient offices in which it had to be conducted during the repair of the Consulate, has hitherto interfered with the execution of this wish.

I now forward a series of eight Returns, which may be valuable for reference hereafter, although I am aware that they are less acceptable at this late date than if they had been earlier supplied. I may mention, however, that similar Returns have not been furnished from this Consulate since 1861, it having apparently been considered sufficient to forward the printed Customs Returns, which, however, did not supply full particulars of British trade as distinguished from the general foreign trade of the port. To arrive at the value of the former, which is given in the Returns I now send, every item of the imports and exports in the elaborate Customs Returns has had to be freshly calculated and retabulated. Certain improved arrangements in the Customs books, lately made by the present Commissioner of Customs, Mr. Dick, will save this office much trouble when making up the Returns of British trade for the year now closing, and I trust, therefore, that they will be much more punctually forwarded.

It is scarcely desirable, at this late date, and in view of the occasion shortly devolving on me of reviewing the trade of the expiring year, to attempt a report of that of 1863, during which period, as you are aware, I was not present at this port. I have therefore limited my remarks to a Memorandum which I forward with the Returns, in which I have condensed in a form which I trust may prove convenient, the statistics which they contain.

In order to save the time that must be lost, especially at this season of the year, in the transmission of these Returns to England through the Legation, I am forwarding copies to the Foreign Office direct, which I trust you will approve.—Respectfully, &c.,

(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

MEMORANDUM OF THE RETURNS OF TRADE FOR 1863.

The series comprises eight Returns:—

Return 1 gives the total amount of British shipping of all classes that entered and cleared from the port throughout the year, and furnishes a comparison with the tonnage of the previous year of 1862. The result is as follows:—

—	Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
1863	1,790	530,921	1,810	554,716	3,600	1,085,637
1862	1,532	390,139	1,531	389,280	3,063	779,419
Increase in 1863 ...	258	140,782	279	165,436	537	306,218

Return 2 gives the distribution of this tonnage, and shows, by a continuation of the same comparison for the two years, that the increase is general to the shipping from all quarters. An analysis of this Return shows that seven-tenths of the British shipping of the port are employed in the local coasting trade, which term includes the trade with the Yang-tze ports, as well as that with Hong Kong and Japan; two-tenths in the direct trade with Great Britain, inclusive of the mail-steamers loading with home cargoes; and one-tenth in the trade with British Colonial possessions and those of other Powers in the East. This conclusion appears by the following figures:—

—	Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
Coast Trade	1,462	342,574	1,602	427,317	3,064	709,891
Great Britain, direct trade...	208	111,925	163	100,727	371	212,652
Colonial trade	120	76,422	45	26,672	165	103,094
Total	1,790	530,921	1,810	554,716	3,600	1,085,637

Return 3 gives the tonnage of each foreign nation trading at Shanghai exclusive of British, and the addition at foot of the British tonnage shows the relative amount of foreign and British tonnage, and furnishes the grand total of all the foreign tonnage of the port. The following is the result arrived at:—

—	Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
Foreign tonnage, other than British	1,416	422,982	1,378	432,588	2,794	855,570
British tonnage	1,790	530,921	1,810	554,716	3,600	1,085,637
Grand total, foreign tonnage	3,206	953,903	3,188	987,304	6,594	1,941,207

The total foreign tonnage of the port for 1863 is thus little less than 2,000,000 tons, the British proportion of which is a ·56 to ·44 of all other States. The tonnage of the Federal States of America consisting of:—

Entered.		Cleared.		Total.	
Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
820 ..	272,428 ..	884 ..	287,021 ..	1,704 ..	559,449

Comprises two-thirds of the foreign tonnage, the remaining third being made up of that of the Hanseatic towns, Holland, France, and Denmark, and fourteen other States.

Return 4 is a statement of duties paid to the Chinese Government. Part I., purporting to be those paid by British vessels, is incomplete, as it does not distinguish the British share (probably eight-tenths) of the opium and coast trade duties which appear in the second part of the statement. The following comparison appears in the collection on all foreign vessels for the last two years:—

	Taels.	£.
In 1862	4,172,019	= 1,433,019
In 1863	2,526,621	„ 894,239
Difference in 1863	1,645,398	538,780

This difference is thus explained. In 1862 the duties on various produce exported from Hankow and Kiu-kiang and the tonnage dues of steamers trading on the Yang-tze were paid at Shanghai. In 1863 Custom-houses were established at those ports, and they collected about 1,600,000 taels, which at once accounts for nearly the whole of the apparent decrease. A rule also came in force, in 1863, which required the issue of drawbacks when applied for by merchants, for duties paid on foreign goods, instead of the exemption certificates which had always been granted before. The former secure a return of duties on the spot.

Return 5 gives the quantities and value of every article of merchandise imported in British vessels; and

Return 6 shows what portion of these goods were again re-exported to other ports. It will be seen that, exclusive of opium and treasure, the—

	Taels.
Total imports were	34,330,680
Total re-exports	23,384,732
Leaving for local consumption ..	10,945,948

Or rather less than one-third—a circumstance which is a marked indication of the character of the trade, as denoting the extent to which Shanghai serves as the emporium for the ports on the Yang-tze and the coast.

Return 7 is a detailed statement of the quantities and value of all the exports in British vessels.

Return 8 is a convenient synopsis of the three previous returns. On the import side it distinguishes the relative amounts of the direct home trade—that with British Settlements—the Chinese coast trade, and that with Japan. It also states, separately, the amount of opium and treasure imported, which, being on foreign as well as on British account, cannot be strictly described as entirely British.

	Taels.	£
The general trade amounts to ..	34,330,608	= 10,871,382
Opium and treasure	31,308,006	„ 10,141,429
Total	66,138,686	21,012,811

Of the former the imports direct from England amount, it will be seen, to 10,723,060 taels, or £3,406,805. 10s. 5d., one-half of which have been absorbed on the spot, and the other half re-exported.

The total value of exports is 29,427,109 taels = £9,349,238, more than nine-tenths of which are home shipments.

The undersigned has not the means of making a detailed comparison of the British imports and exports for the years 1862-63. The general result may be stated to be an increase in the import trade, principally in rice from India, and a falling off in the export trade. The decrease in exports is entirely attributable to the diminution in the production of silk, the export in 1863 being only 2,877,152 lbs., against 9,861,671 lbs. in 1862.

There has been an increase, however, of the export of tea, as compared with 1862, of 13,273,851 lbs., and the raw cotton trade which has been called into existence by the prolongation of the American war, offers no inconsiderable compensation for the loss on silk, as the export in 1863 had reached 54,988,106 lbs., against 18,148,382 lbs. in 1862.

(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES, Consul.

TIEN-TSIN.

REPORT ON THE TRADE OF THE CONSULAR DISTRICT OF TIEN-TSIN FOR THE YEAR 1863.

Section 1.—*Shipping and Navigation.*

British and Foreign Vessels.—The Shipping Returns for the year 1863, as compared with the returns of 1862, exhibit an increase in the number of British vessels trading at the port of Tien-tsin equal to one-half. Indeed, the British vessels exceed all the other foreign flags, exclusive of the Americans, which visit this port, by a little more than one-third. The subjoined Table will fully illustrate the truth of this;—

Flag.	Shipping in 1863.		Shipping in 1862.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British	69	19,108	39	10,671
American	20	6,558	18	4,436
Sundry	45	10,610	54	11,464
Totals	134	36,276	111	26,561

The decrease with the returns exhibit in the number of "sundry" vessels is accounted for, first, by the British merchants extensively employing small steamers in the Tien-tsin trade; and, secondly, by the British merchants having a quantity of light handy sailing vessels suitable for this trade.

First. I mentioned in my Report of 1862, the decrease of "sundry" vessels as compared with 1861, and I employed the following remarks as being, in my opinion, explanatory of the fact:—The increase of small

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steamers in 1862 (as now in 1863), connected with the Tien-tsin trade is, however, the principal cause of the decrease of continental shipping. These small steamers, nearly all of which hoist English colours, are undoubtedly by far the most convenient class of vessels for the traffic at this port. The city of Tien-tsin stands about 65 miles from the village of Taku, upon a river which, owing to its insufficient depth of water and tortuous course, is extremely difficult of navigation. At the mouth of the river (Pei-ho) there is a bar, which renders it unsafe for vessels drawing more than 11 feet 6 inches of water to enter Taku anchorage; while outside in the gulf the weather is often so boisterous, and the swell so high, that vessels cannot discharge their cargoes for several days together. The convenience, therefore, of a class of steam-vessels able not only to clear the bar, but to carry their cargoes right up this 65 miles of river navigation to the very gates of the merchants' godowns is very great.

The trouble of hiring native boats, the slowness and stupidity of the native sailors, their dishonesty, the inconvenience of transhipment, and the delay which it occasions, have induced merchants to employ light swift steamers. Three such vessels have run regularly in 1863 between Tien-tsin and Shanghai, and several others have made occasional trips at moderate intervals.

Secondly. The British merchants at Tien-tsin have a sufficient quantity of sailing vessels of a light draught of water, which renders the chartering of continental vessels superfluous. This was not so in 1861. British vessels could not be obtained of a size small enough for the Tien-tsin trade. The British merchants had, therefore, to charter continental vessels.

But the freight of German and Danish vessels has fallen in the market. The five or six British steamers, which trade between this and Shanghai, have engrossed the trade which belonged to continental vessels in 1861, and British merchants like British vessels better than those flying the flags of other Powers.

Coasting Vessels.—Foreign and Native.—The foreign vessels that visit Tien-tsin are, in the vast majority of instances, engaged in a merely coast trade. The merchants, foreign and native, in Hong Kong, Canton, and the other southern ports, charter foreign ships to transport their merchandise to Tien-tsin; and the merchants, foreign and native, in Tien-tsin employ foreign vessels to export their merchandise to Shanghai, Hong Kong, Canton, and other southern ports; the foreign ships and steamers generally touch at Shanghai, or make Shanghai their destination. The coasting trade at Tien-tsin, the only trade of the port, in the great majority of cases is done by native or foreign Shanghai houses.

Not only are foreign vessels employed in a coasting trade between this port and Southern China, but they import and export native produce. Foreign vessels bring up to Tien-tsin, not only foreign manufactures, but sugar, rice, tea, oil, medicine, paper, and other native produce, for which there is an extensive market at this port; and foreign vessels carry away not merely re-exports, but beans, peas, cotton, wool, hides, fruit, medicine, and other produce of Northern China, as well as the native junks. For particulars of the coasting trade, I beg to refer to my report on the trade of Tien-tsin in 1861-62.

The native junk is rapidly disappearing from the highways of commerce; the native merchants do not engage them; the principle of marine insurance annihilates the native craft. "Can you insure?" is a question which the Chinese merchants almost invariably put. Eighty southern junks came in 1863, one-third of their holds were empty; 127 came in 1862. The eighty junks which entered in 1863 contained rice, sugar, tea, oil, paper, medicine, fruit, preserves, silk pieces, native hardware, wood, prepared opium, birds' nests, fish, sharks' fins, &c., and they took away peas, beans, salt, fruit, vegetables, fish, wheat, barley, millet, medicine, ginseng, &c.

The coasting trade done in this Consular district by the native junk is very great.

Ports and Harbours, Buoys, Lighthouses, and Junk Buildings.—For a description of the ports, harbours, buoys, lights, lighthouses, and junk buildings, I must refer to my Report drawn up in 1862.

Section 2.—*Trade and Commerce.*

Foreign Trade Imports.—The import return for 1863 sufficiently indicates the nature and extent of the trade transacted at Tien-tsin during 1863. Except cotton manufactures, the returns for 1863 compare very favourably with those for 1862.

Manufactured Cotton.—The import of cotton manufactures has, in 1863, steadily fallen off. The civil war in America and the defective supply of cotton in England fully accounts for this. Merchants' manufactures when brought into competition with native cotton manufactures, owing to a rise in their price, ought as a matter of course to go to the wall. Foreign cotton manufactures in 1861 sold at Tien-tsin for about half the prices of native cottons. As a consequence, the people of the towns and villages, scattered through Chi-li and the neighbouring provinces, purchased foreign cottons as being cheaper than their own cottons; but the country population adhered to their native manufactures. The country people, who work a great deal at rough employments, when manufactured cottons sold at one-half the price of native cottons, bought the native rather than the foreign, because the native lasted much longer than our Manchester goods. Native cottons, though not so comely, are much adapted for the rough work of the rural population.

The scarcity of cotton has raised the price of Manchester goods so near the price of native cotton manufactures that not only the country people but the town and village population purchase their home manufactures instead of merchants' goods. Till the normal state of the cotton market returns, and as a consequence till the prices drop very much lower than the prices current in 1863, the native cottons must rule the market.

Woollens.—The import of woollens has been unfavourable. In the Trade Report for 1862 I explained the cause. At Tien-tsin, and throughout North China in general, the winter months are dry, but the cold is very severe; as a consequence the Chinese prefer cottons or silks lined with fur for winter dresses rather than foreign woollens. In upholstery a good deal of woollen cloth is used, but for the most part the woollens are Russian, not English. The English woollens imported into Tien-tsin are too dear, of the wrong colour, and too heavy for the natives. Upon the whole then, the market for British woollens remains insignificant.

Opium.—This import maintains its high character; 182 chests of Malwa have been imported in 1863 more than in 1862; and though the Shensi crop of native opium was fair, the Chinese favour the Indian, not the native drug. The native opium is, though very much cheaper, insipid, and very few of the Chinese smoke native opium, unless it is mixed with the Indian. If they can get the Indian, of course so much the better, but a Chinaman reduced to a state of poverty, to which the habit of excessive opium smoking invariably leads, unable to purchase the Indian, mixes the native with the Indian, or even gathers up the cinders of the Indian opium twice smoked, and smokes them a third time.

Malwa opium is sold for about 600 taels, while native Shensi opium is sold for about 400 taels. In 1862 native opium was offered in the market at 650 taels; this rise in the price of native opium was caused by political disturbances in Shensi, ultimately calmed down by means of bribes and donations, which threatened with extinction the whole trade of that province. The quantity of Indian imported into this district depends entirely on the state of the Shensi crop. When the Shensi crop is deficient, the demand for Indian opium increases, and *vice versa*.

Of the opium imported into Tien-tsin, from 150 to 200 chests a month are purchased for consumption in the capital. What Peking consumes in the native drug I do not exactly know; it must, however, have been large.

Produce of China and the Straits.—The Returns for 1863 show very favourably as compared with those of 1862.

This trade is partly in foreign and partly in native hands. The raw material is imported by foreign merchants, while the prepared material falls to the lot of the native merchants. I should judge that one-half, or perhaps a little more, of this is carried on by the Chinese. The native houses in Tien-tsin have agents in Hankow, Canton, Singapore, acute in business transaction. It is only in dealing with places in which Chinamen do not exist that the native merchants meet with a difficulty; but wherever Chinese reside, the native merchant can do business very much cheaper than the foreign houses in China; and, moreover, his knowledge of the tastes and habits of his countrymen guarantees him against any gross mistakes, especially with reference to prepared commodities.

Foreign Trade Exports.—The Export Returns of 1863 compare favourably with those of 1862.

CANTON.

REPORT ON THE FOREIGN TRADE AT THE PORT OF CANTON FOR THE YEAR 1863.

The Returns annexed to this Report are as follows:—

No. 1. A return of the British shipping at the port of Canton in the year 1863, showing the direct trade in British vessels to and from Great Britain and British colonies.

No. 2. A return of the British and foreign shipping at the port of Canton during the year 1863.

No. 3. A return of the foreign (other than British) shipping at the port of Canton, during the year 1863.

No. 4. A synoptical return of the import trade at Canton during the year 1863, and contrasting the same with the value of the imports in 1862.

No. 5. A synoptical return of the export trade at Canton during the year 1863, and contrasting the same with the value of the exports in 1862.

These returns, like those of the preceding year, have been compiled from the Custom-house Reports, and in so far may be considered as correct; but they must not be assumed as representing the actual trade of this portion of the Chinese Empire, from the fact that a very large business in foreign manufactures and opium is done at the British colony of Hong Kong, and the goods and produce there purchased are conveyed chiefly down the coast, and being landed at the numerous towns, or carried up the rivers, find their way into the interior in all directions. To obtain therefore a true estimate of the amount and value of foreign trade with this part of China would require returns from all these various places, which is simply impossible. The position may be shown in very few words. On a coast line of nearly 700 miles, studded with bays, harbours, cities, and towns, and with rivers such as that called the West River, penetrating far into the interior, there is one treaty port, Canton, and an open and free mart, the colony of Hong Kong. It is but reasonable therefore that if Chinese traders can purchase goods at Hong Kong and land them on the coast, they will not pass them through the foreign Custom-house at Canton, but will ship them direct to their destination. The same may be said with regard to exports from these places. Hence it follows that no estimate can be formed of the foreign trade in this part of China from the published Canton Custom-house Returns, for they represent a local trade only.

A comparison of the returns of the past with the preceding year will show a decrease generally in the trade of the port, but by no means to the extent anticipated. To begin with—

Imports.—The total value in sterling for the year 1863 is estimated at £2,281,354, against £2,412,515 in 1862, showing a decrease amounting to the sum of £131,161 in the past year's trade.

As regards the causes of this decrease, the falling off must be attributed as much to failure in supply as to failure in demand; the rise in piece goods, owing to the American supply of raw cotton ceasing, having brought the foreign into competition with the native manufactures, and as the Chinese prefer the latter, from being heavier and of more lasting qualities, they abandon the former the moment its price places it beyond the denomination of being a cheap article for clothing.

Compare, for instance, the imports of cotton-manufactured goods for the two preceding years, and a large deficiency in plain goods will appear, and particularly in the article of Bombay raw cotton, whilst in fancy goods the difference is rather in favour of 1863. This latter may be accounted for in the heavy stocks on the manufacturers' hands, which rendered their going off beneficially to the holders, and therefore the prices were not affected in a ratio proportionate to that of the plain manufacturers.

But take the imports of woollen manufactures, and it will be seen that the balance is in favour generally for 1863, and this arises from the fact

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that wool has not been subjected to the fluctuations of raw cotton or deficiency in supply, and therefore, if anything, there has been an improvement and not a deficiency in this branch of the import trade.

The result of these comparisons tends to show that the decrease in the value of the import trade of 1863, viz., £131,161 sterling, is owing as much to foreign as to native influences, and that under such circumstances the past two or three years will afford no criterion of the capabilities of Canton as a mart for foreign manufactures.

The import of opium in 1863 as compared with 1862 differs in amount but little. The temptation to smuggle so valuable an article, and the facilities the coast affords for that purpose, are so great, that in all probability what passes through the Canton Custom-house is for local consumption only, and so it will be until the Chinese authorities establish a preventive service.

Exports.—The value of this trade may be taken at £3,862,039, against £4,060,746 sterling in 1862, showing a decrease of £198,707 sterling. This may chiefly be attributed to the short supplies of teas, the export in 1863 being less than in 1862 by at least 7,418,890 lbs., but less though it be, it is more than was anticipated, the opinion being at the close of last season that little or no teas would come again to Canton; but notwithstanding this, not only did they come down, but the teamen held out for high rates, and generally obtained them.

As regards silk, the export of the two years 1862 and 1863 is much on a par.

Of a trade, stationary as this is, there is little to be said. Hong Kong is doubtless a formidable rival to Canton, because, as before observed, it is a free port and a depot for the neighbouring coast of China, but Hong Kong produces nothing and consumes nothing, and it is to the interior provinces we must look for both. At present the disordered state of the Empire paralyses its capabilities, and the necessity of raising a revenue to meet its war expenditure presses heavily on the people, but it is to be hoped, and indeed there is every prospect of an improvement in this state of affairs, and with internal peace will come a development of those mercantile energies which are now only in abeyance and not extinguished. For, seeing that the Province of Kwang-tung alone comprises an area of 79,456 square miles, with a population of above 20,000,000, the adjoining one of Kwang-si 78,250 square miles, with a population of above 8,000,000, Sze-chum, bordering on the latter, 166,800 square miles, and a population of 22,000,000, and Hu-nan immediately adjoining that of Kwang-tung, 74,320 square miles, with a population of 19,000,000, showing a total of 398,826 square miles, and a population of 69,000,000 of inhabitants, it may be safely assumed that our trade with these alone, independent of the other portions of this vast empire, is as yet undeveloped, and their capabilities of production and consumption unknown. It is true that the ports of Hankow and Foo-Chow have withdrawn from that of Canton the chief trade in teas and on the other hand foreign events have swept away from it the great trade in raw cotton which formerly existed, but Canton has seen its worst, and what it is this year it will probably be next, neither better nor worse, unless the peace of the West, and peace in the empire follow, and then indeed there is a hopeful future before it, rich in promises and certain in results. (Signed) D. B. ROBERTSON, Consul.

British Consulate, Canton, June 20, 1864.

SWATOW.

REPORT ON THE TRADE OF SWATOW FOR THE YEAR 1863.

British Shipping.

The Shipping Return for the year 1863 exhibits a large increase in the number of British vessels entering this port. This will best be seen by a glance at the following table:—

ENTRIES.

With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Tonnage.	
1862.	1863.	1862.	1863.	1862.	1863.
130 ..	215 ..	33 ..	23 ..	62,965 ..	93,085

or, total arrivals, 238, against 163 of 1862, being an increase of 75 vessels, and a tonnage of 30,120 over the previous year.

CLEARANCES.

With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Tonnage.	
1862.	1863.	1862.	1863.	1862.	1863.
101 ..	184 ..	58 ..	52 ..	60,815 ..	92,382

The above shows an excess of eighty-three vessels leaving with cargo.

The trade between Singapore and this port has been almost completely driven away by reason of the heavy sums demanded by the Chinese officials on each voyage, and also in consequence of the extortions levied by the villages near Swatow on all Chinese passengers. The amount charged for merely landing them is 10 dollars per head; whereas passengers from Hong Kong by steamer save two dollars, the charge being eight dollars. These are most iniquitous charges; but the officials appear unwilling, or perhaps are unable, to put down extortions levied by such powerful clans as those inhabiting the villages of Swaboe, Goswa, &c. The Singapore vessels now discharge their cargoes into lorchas at Hong Kong, which can, being native owned, dispose of their goods at any of the ports between this and Hong Kong, many going to Cupchi, between which port and Hong Kong a large trade, I am told, has sprung up.

Foreign Shipping.

There has been a very large increase in the number of vessels under flags of continental States frequenting this port, as compared with former returns.

These vessels average from 150 to 300 tons, and are better suited to the coasting trade under Chinese charter than our larger vessels, which require more cargo than can be stowed at Swatow, where there is a paucity of godown room; goods have, therefore, to be retained up country until the vessel is ready to take in her cargo, when it is sent down in boats, which go at once alongside to put it on board. Nearly all the vessels employed in the trade of the port, exclusive of course of steamers, are chartered by Chinese merchants, who much prefer these smaller craft, which are besides chartered at a lower rate than either British or American vessels.

It will be perceived that foreign shipping has increased in much greater proportion than the British; and if steamers be not taken into account, foreign ships exceed the British by sixty-nine vessels—the tonnage of the former being 55,147, and of the latter 31,808, or an increase of 23,344 tons in foreign bottoms. The coast trade in steamers is, however, still monopolised by British vessels.

Imports.

The total value in sterling of the import trade for 1863 is estimated at £1,770,635, whilst that of the previous year was £1,264,444; being an increase of £506,191 over the year 1862, this excess being principally in the following items, viz.:—

In Beancake	£232,053
Beans and peas	50,424
Opium	97,035
Native cotton	84,596
Tin	14,635
Cotton yarn	9,867

In the above imports foreign goods in native bottoms have been taken into account; the value of this trade for the year 1863 amounts to £22,029, which, as compared with 1862, shows a falling off of £35,734. This has been caused by the preference which is now given to foreign vessels by the native merchants over their own unwieldy junks, very few of which now visit this port. The lighter and smaller built vessels of the lorcha or west-coast boat class trade between Hong Kong and this, a line on which there is no traffic in foreign bottoms except by steam vessels. Goods shipped in west-coast boats have a great advantage, as, being native craft, they can visit any of the ports, and so choose their market. Much smuggling is carried on in this way.

Exports.

The total value of the export trade for 1863 amounts to £808,069, which, when compared with that for 1862, shows an increase of £84,479. This excess is chiefly perceptible in sugar, the increase in this article being £51,818. There is also an increase in the quantity of tobacco exported, of the value of £21,273.

Sugar, tobacco, paper, coarse chinaware, and grasscloth, are the principal articles of export.

The total estimated value of the trade of this port for 1863 (exclusive of native trade in native vessels, of which I have been unable to procure any returns) is, therefore, £2,578,704, or an increase of £590,670 over the previous year, being an excess of considerably over half a million sterling; which, considering the many disadvantages this port labours under, in its foreign merchants being denied access to the chief cities through the non-reception by the Chinese officials of Her Majesty's Consul at Chao-chow-foo—the heavy mulcts demanded by powerful village clans on all goods sent inland—as well as the disturbed state of the country, village feuds being the rule and not the exception—will afford a very fair idea of the steady advance of the trade of the port.

Since my last report was written, the Consulate has been removed from Double Island to Kahchio, immediately opposite Swatow, between which two places all the shipping lie. Some dwelling-houses have lately been built at Kahchio, as well as godowns, and more of the latter are in course of erection.

I understand that much extra ground has been set apart this year for the cultivation of sugar, in consequence of the demand in the North of China for this product. The Chinese method of pressing sugar is most rude; the cane is passed between two perpendicular granite cylinders, one being turned by oxen, give a motion to the other by means of cogs cut in the granite, and shod with hard wood; the juice is thus expressed, and runs through a channel cut for that purpose into a large wooden tub, from which it is removed to the boiling-hut closely adjoining. These cylinders are not at all firmly fixed, depending altogether upon their weight to keep in position. I believe a company of Europeans, working one of the modern sugar-mills, might make a large profit, if the Chinese would consent to sell their crops when ready for cutting. They cannot be induced to use the European sugar-mills themselves. Messrs. Bradley and Co. imported one, but the natives refused to purchase or even to try it.

(Signed) G. W. CAINE, Consul.

Swatow, June 15, 1864.

OUR COMMERCIAL INTERESTS IN THE COREA.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR.—That portion of the report of Her Majesty's Consul at Newchwang, descriptive of the triennial fairs that take place on the border line of Corea and China Proper, is certainly suggestive of the profits eventually to be obtained by a direct trade between this country and the Corean peninsula. As the Coreans take from Chinese traders our manufactured cottons and opium, giving besides ginseng root, gold dust in exchange, it is evident that the materials exist for profitable intercourse, the population besides being both numerous and industrious. The relation of the Corea to the islands of the Indian Archipelago would render a settlement there extremely valuable; not to speak of the large coasting trade that might be had with China. You advocated some time since the sending an embassy to this country. The present period would be propitious; and it is to be hoped that the Government will give instructions to Sir Rutherford Alcock to organise an embassy at the first convenient opportunity.—Yours, &c. A TRADER.

London, Aug. 30, 1865.

THE RUSSIANS IN CENTRAL ASIA.

The following, having reference to the occupation of Tashkent by the Russians, is from the *Invalide Russe*:—

Tashkent was occupied some time ago, in accordance with the expressed desire of the inhabitants. The latter, finding it impossible to shake off the yoke of Zadyk Kenisarin, a Khokand chief of mountaineers, who had made himself master of their quiet and industrious town, had repeatedly sent to General Tchernayeff, soliciting his protection. The general at first would not meddle with the internal affairs of the Turkish tribes, although, as he was well aware, Russian exports to Tashkent had considerably fallen off in consequence of the ascendancy of Zadyk Kenisarin; but when he found that the people of Tashkent, rather than submit to the arbitrary rule of their new master, were inviting the Emir of Bokhara to

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come and take possession of the town, he, very much against his will, discovered the necessity of protecting his own interests in a more forcible way, and took Tashkent by storm. The Russian columns were headed by a priest, carrying aloft a crucifix, and the enemy, after some resistance, evacuated the place. The Russians had 25 men killed, 89 wounded, and 28 bruised. This occurred in the night of the 27th of June, and, as the Russian general hoped and trusted, was to be the last and concluding scene of his military activity in those parts. But the Emir of Bokhara, the proud chief of a fierce and fanatic tribe, resented the capture of the contested city as an insult offered to him and his race, and in most offensive language claimed Tashkent, which, it is true, had asked for his assistance a few weeks before, as a place to which he had a lawful title. His troops appeared at the same time in the neighbourhood of the city, and things looked as though he was going to vindicate his claim by force of arms. To have diplomatised with an Asiatic prince would have been useless under these circumstances, and so the Russian general resolved to have recourse to reprisals without loss of time. The Bokhara merchants in Orenburg were placed under arrest, their goods sequestrated, and those on their way to Nijni Novgorod prevented from proceeding on their journey. The Emir was visibly overawed by the energy of the Russian general, and in his intercourse with M. Tchernayeff began to observe again the ordinary forms of politeness, which he had neglected for a time. His troops have since been withdrawn, and his claims, it is possible, will be abandoned for good. Still, Russia must be on her guard. What if he only wishes to gain time, and prepare for making good his claim by superior numbers? Russia has no more ardent desire than to be able to evacuate Tashkent and to restore the inhabitants to their former state of prosperous and self-controlled independence; but the necessary condition of her retreat is the abstinence of the Emir of Bokhara. A Russian force is being concentrated at Tashkent. The troops either cross the Caspian Sea, and, landing on its north-eastern shores, march through the steppe till they reach Lake Aral, when they embark again and proceed in steamers to their destination; or they come from Orenburg, and take water in a military port on the north-western shores of Lake Aral. General Krishanowski, the Governor-General of Orenburg, has just instituted a municipal committee at the capital of his province to consider the question of establishing railway communication between that city and Samara, one of the principal harbours on the Volga. After the construction of this railway there would be a nearly continuous line of steam communication between the central provinces of Russia and Turkistan, the only gap occurring in the steppe on the eastern shores of the Caspian Sea, and being rather less than 500 miles. Bokhara is a cotton-growing country, and sells large quantities of the article to Russia.

Monetary and Commercial.

At a meeting of the creditors of Messrs. Scott, Bell, and Co., held on the 31st ultimo, a statement of the affairs of the firm was submitted by the accountants, Messrs. Coleman, Turquand, Youngs, and Co. The liabilities amount to £1,487,592, and the assets (which have been so computed as to allow a considerable margin for depreciation) are estimated at £1,515,329. This includes a large sum due from Messrs. Dow and Co., of Shanghai, who will also be compelled to suspend, but whose estate, when realised, will probably be more than sufficient to meet all liabilities. A paragraph which appeared in *The Times* City Article stating that Dow and Co.'s suspension had preceded that of Scott, Bell, and Co., and implying that it had been in some measure the cause of the latter, was quite incorrect. It was resolved that Messrs. Scott, Bell, and Co.'s business should be wound up under inspection.

The directors of the Delhi and London Bank (Limited) have declared an interim dividend of 9 per cent. per annum for the half-year ending the 30th June last.

The Royal Bank of Saxony has been founded at Dresden, with a provisional capital of £7,000,000, of which £1,500,000 has been offered to the public, the subscription list having been opened for the purpose on the 28th ult. The houses of Bleidwoeder and Magnus of Berlin, Oppenheim of Cologne, and Rothschild at Frankfort, are represented in the direction. The bank is entitled to commence operations as soon as 20 per cent. of its capital is paid up.

At the half-yearly meeting, on the 28th August, of the Bank of Australasia, the directors' report, announcing the proposed payment in October next of a dividend and bonus at the rate of 14 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, was adopted. This allows £2. 16s. on each old, and £2. 2s. on each new share. In future the old and new shares will stand on the same footing.

It is announced that a call of £4 per share has been made on the shares of Overend, Gurney, and Co. (Limited), payable by the 22nd September, at the banking house of Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, Tritton, Twells, and Co.

Insurances are being effected at Lloyd's upon the steamship *Great Eastern* at 5 guineas premium, to cover her stay in the Medway, and her next voyage to Newfoundland and back.

The announcement made by the directors of the Atlantic Telegraph Company, that it is not their intention to renew the attempt to recover the cable this year, has been considered by the underwriters interested as equivalent to a total loss, and they have settled with the insurers.

The Board of Trade Returns for the month and seven months ended the 31st July, are of a more favourable character than those presented for the past few months. Although the value of the exports is rather below that of the corresponding month last year, still the difference is but slight, and tends to show that the trade of the country is increasing, and that commerce is in a sound condition. The total declared value of exports for the month of the present year was £14,113,410, against £14,394,364 in 1864, and £13,648,840 in 1863, which is a decline as compared with the former period of £280,954, but an increase over the latter of £464,570. For the seven months of the present year the total declared value was £88,242,048, against £92,441,950 in 1864, and £75,663,037 in 1863, which shows a decrease of £4,199,902, compared with 1864, and an increase of £12,579,011 contrasted with 1863. The chief changes have been an increase in the exportation of alkali, gunpowder, beer and ale, coals and culm, cotton yarn, cotton manufactures, haberdashery and millinery, hardware and cutlery, linen manufactures, metals, seed oil, silk manufactures, and woollen and worsted manufactures. But there has been a decrease in linen yarn, machinery, thrown silk, wool, and woollen and worsted yarn. In imported articles the increase has been in raw cotton, flax, and hemp, guano, flaxseed and linseed, tallow, cocoa, coffee, spirits, unrefined sugar, tea, and tobacco. And the falling off in leather manufactures, paper, raw silk, wool, woollen manufactures, and wine. Our trade with the Far East is represented in these returns, as far as distinctively classed, by the figures following:—

EXPORTS TO CHINA AND HONG KONG.

For the Month ended 31st July.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Cotton yarn	—	322,610	3,840 lbs.
Cotton manufactures	3,371,697	5,192,717	12,910,816 yds.
Worsted stuffs	708,262	1,371,718	1,767,961 ,,
Woollen and worsted cloths	141,145	214,455	221,105 ,,
Lead	1,274	567	107 tons

Value for the Seven Months ended 31st July.

Cotton yarn	£70,893	£153,266	£82,925
Cotton manufactures	585,045	1,172,415	1,516,497
Worsted stuffs	327,654	513,791	758,534
Woollen and worsted cloths	197,851	175,084	172,670
Lead	210,644	93,962	22,647

The Cotton Manufactures exported to other ports and countries of the Far East were, in quantity for the month, and in value for the seven months, as under:—

Quantity for the Month ended 31st July.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Ceylon	2,491,274	957,232	391,165 yds.
Singapore	1,908,294	940,280	1,736,058 ,,
Java	1,911,423	1,078,044	2,191,206 ,,
Philippine Islands	1,188,218	80,922	2,694,983 ,,

Value for the Seven Months ended 31st July.

Ceylon	£200,901	£268,937	£151,057
Singapore	271,826	505,971	595,216
Java	174,323	418,898	394,569
Philippine Islands	151,655	334,646	436,237

Of Cotton Yarn, the quantity forwarded to Singapore was for the month 80,000 lbs.. and for the seven months, 933,390 lbs., against 69,000 lbs., and 581,308lbs. in 1864, and 236,600 lbs., and 865,576 lbs. in 1863. The value for the seven months was £86,867 in the present year, £70,133 in 1864; and £91,051 in 1863. To Ceylon 18,200 lbs. was forwarded in July last, and 116,392 lbs. during the seven months. The value of the export to that island for the seven months of the respective years was £9,818 in the present year, £20,200 in 1864, and £26,946 in 1863.

IMPORTS.

Raw Cotton exhibits a considerable increase if compared with the preceding months of the year, and the total import is far more than in 1863, and is gradually mounting up to that of 1864. The figures are as follows:—

Quantity for the month ended 31st July.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
British India	348,547	281,224	275,454 cwts.
China	27,724	71,959	46,043 ,,
All parts	569,245	577,656	585,209 ,,

Quantity for the Seven Months ended 31st July.

British India	1,554,345	1,889,997	1,411,296 cwts.
China	138,193	483,328	256,298 ,,
All parts	2,703,475	4,124,624	3,694,062 ,,

Value for the Six Months ended 30th June.

British India	£9,193,049	£15,023,536	£5,880,043
China	793,888	3,570,152	957,866
All parts	17,811,281	37,858,292	20,478,572

Of Unrefined Sugar, the quantity imported from Java and the Philippine Islands during the month of July was 26,628 cwt., of the 3rd quality (not equal to Brown Clayed), and 4,060 cwt. of 4th quality. The quantity for the seven months, and value for the six months, is returned as follows:—

Quantity for the Seven Months ended 31st July.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Of all qualities (cwts.)	599,794	95,526	453,525

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	Value for the Six Months ended 30th June.		
Of all qualities	£463,268	£105,735	£415,318

Of Hemp the import from the Philippine Islands during the month of July was 41,231 cwt., the general result being represented as follows:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity to 31st July (cwts.) ..	195,917	98,076	145,562
Value to 30th June	£204,129	£130,783	£149,177

Ceylon delivered to us 8,350,253 lbs. of Raw Coffee in the month of July, and the following are the quantities and values for the three years:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity to 31st July (lbs.) ..	37,324,272	36,972,517	38,259,126
Value to 30th June	£1,166,302	£1,081,163	£1,023,562

The present returns furnish the value of the British and Irish Produce and Manufactures Exported to, and also of the Merchandise Imported from, the various countries of the world, during the six months ended the 30th June in this and the two preceding years. The ports and countries of the Far East present the amounts following:—

To	Exports for the Six Months ended 30th June. 1863.	1864.	1865.
China (exclusive of Hong Kong).	£1,186,979	£1,435,531	£1,718,225
Hong Kong	591,598	873,027	791,932
Singapore and the Eastern Straits .	534,824	783,891	853,943
Ceylon	330,023	444,920	291,367
Netherlands India (Java, &c) ..	224,805	518,747	455,190
Philippine Islands	187,724	430,984	524,355
Siam	10,586	11,493	15,204
Japan	43,842	162,554	704,713

From	Imports for the Six Months ended 30th June. 1863.	1864.	1865.
China (exclusive of Hong Kong).	£7,400,054	£6,916,934	£5,108,789
Hong Kong	423,659	1,800,091	499,608
Singapore and Eastern Straits ..	785,278	913,506	863,088
Ceylon	1,475,198	1,420,099	1,255,170
Netherlands India (Java, &c.) ..	12,524	8,378	—
Philippine Islands	718,960	269,987	790,730
Borneo	23,435	6,634	19,842
Siam	16,778	14,522	9,372
Japan	671,586	791,389	415,510

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Aug. 16	Gibraltar	Maulmain	Caroline	Wennerholm.
— 28	London	Shanghai	Antipodes	Col's.
— 28	Deal	China	Vanguard	Scott.
— 25	Off the Wight	Batavia	Otto	Tresling.
—	Bremen	Bassein	British Crown	
— 26	Copenhagen	Akyab	Emily	Arentzen.
— 20	Cadiz	Manila	Reina de los Angelos	Vildosola.
— 31	London	Penang	Britannia	Eladon.
Sept. 1	Do.	Rangoon	Speedy	Tachell.
Aug 30	Falmouth	Do.	Chapman	Morck.
— 30	Off Falmouth	Akyab	Louis Henry	Tegeler.
— 29	Liverpool	Rangoon	Italia	
—	Queenstown	Maulmain	Florella	
—	Off Queenstown	Rangoon	Charmer	
— 30	Falmouth	Bassein	Washington	White.
— 31	Do.	Do.	Mayflower	Otty.
— 31	Do.	Akyab	Lady Blessington	Burnham.
— 30	Liverpool	Rangoon, &c.	Mount Pleasant	Armstrong.
July 22	Callao	Macao	Lima	Costanolo.
Aug. 24	Cadiz	Maulmain	Carin	Matern.
Sept. 1	Deal	Batavia	Dolphin	
— 1	Falmouth	Akyab	Hazard	Tragardh.
Aug. 29	Bremen	Rangoon	Matador	Kimme.
Sept. 1	Liverpool	Singapore	Veloz	Howard.
— 1	London	Colombo	Edward P. Bouverie	Brown.
— 1	Deal	Batavia	Van der Palm	
— 1	Falmouth	Maulmain	Araminta	Bley.
— 1	Nieuwe Diep	Banjoewangie	Marinus Willem	Buyser.
— 2	Deal	Singapore	Alexandra	Small.
Aug 30	Palais (Belle Isle)	Colombo	Esther	Gefflot.
Sept. 2	Falmouth	Akyab	Old Colony	Berry.
Aug. 22	New York	Manila	Famaua	Main.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Aug. 21	Bremen	Singapore	Herschel	Meyerdeck.
— 24	Liverpool	Bankok	Siam (s.)	Bragg.
— 25	Falmouth	Shanghai	Electricity	Bannister.
— 19	Rotterdam	Batavia	Robertus Hendrikus	Mulder.
— 26	Shields	Canton	Laura	
— 23	Amsterdam	Padang	Anna and Jeannette	De Haan.
— 26	Cardiff	Shanghai	Monarchy	Day.
— 24	Sunderland	Galle	Sardinian	Sanderson.
— 29	London	Swansea & Shanghai	James Wishart	Buchanan.
— 24	Shields	Galle	Quentin Metsys	Claeys.
— 27	Do.	Shanghai	Gabalva	Way.
— 27	Cardiff	Do.	John Bunyan	Allen.
— 27	Newcastle	Singapore	J. W. A. Lorenzen	Jessen.
— 27	Hull	China	Glide	
— 29	Shields	Galle	Choice	
—	Hull	China	Two Brothers	Brown.
— 30	Sunderland	Colombo	Rosworth	Nichol.
— 22	Rotterdam	Batavia	Corn. Wernard Eduard	Swart.
— 22	Do.	Do.	Johanna	Verdum.
Sept. 1	Falmouth	Japan	Hermine Marie Elisth.	
Aug. 29	Rotterdam	Singapore	Tonia	Werner.
— 1	Rio Janeiro	Ceylon	Bonnie Dundee	Connor.
Sept. 4	London	Galle, &c.	Atalanta	Griffiths.
— 4	Do.	Cardiff & Hong Kong.	Aline	Kerr.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Fusi Yama. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Grenadier. For Shanghai: Maiden Queen, Antipedes, Sir W. F. Williams. For Hong Kong and Canton: Dilpussund, Sovereign of India, Taitsing. For Singapore: Couranto. For Penang: Devonvale. For Bangkok and Siam, Fairy. For Manila: Loyola. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Kaap Hoorn. For Colombo: Teviot, Jane Symons, Granville. For Colombo and Cochin: Blanch. For Colombo and Trincomalee: Charlotte Ann.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Eclipse. For Shanghai: Lockett. For Hong Kong: Her Majesty, Stuart Wortley, Sumatra. For Hong Kong and Canton: Ariel, Sir Lancelot. For Singapore: Albert Victor. For Batavia and Singapore: Braganza. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Harkaway. For Manila: Aureliana, San Luis, Alavesa. For Colombo: Meg Merrilies.

At GLASGOW.—For Manila: Adolphe. Bella Gallega. For Singapore: Taymouth Castle.

SPOKEN.

MATHILDA, Cardiff to Shanghai, June 22, off Palembang Point.
VIRGILIA, Sunderland to H. Kong, June 24, in the Java Sea.
FINZEL, Liverpool to Shanghai, July 7, off Macclesfield Bank.
QUEEN OF THE AVON, Sund. to H. Kong, June 24, in the Java Sea.
OSCAR (barq.), for Shanghai, off Peshan Island.
HELENA AND ANNA, Nieuwe Diep to Bat., Aug. 3, 37 N., 14 W.
ZEEPAARD, Middelburg to Batavia, Aug 4, 38 N., 14 W.
JAS. RUSSELL (ship), London H. Kong, July 22, 13 N., 26 W.
BONI, Rotterdam to Batavia, Aug. 19, 49 N., 6 W.
FELICIA, Singapore to Falmouth, May 18, in Straits of Sunda.
MARGARITA, Java to Amsterdam, Aug. 4, 32 N., 37 W.
COM. DES KON. V. DER HEIM, Cardiff to Manila, July 6, 1 N., 23 W.
CROMWELL, Boston to Batavia, July 6, 8 N., 28 W.
FIERY CROSS, Foo-chow to London, Aug. 1.
GLENCAPLE, Sourabaya to Amsterdam, July 16, 34 S., 23 E.
ALERT, Sourabaya to Amsterdam, July 16, 35 S., 23 E.
CORSA (ship), Liverpool to Hong Kong, June 5, 37 N., 17 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

In outward freights we have no change to note, and in homeward charter the same stagnation prevails.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 35s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £44 and £43 and £2. For Shanghai: £53 and £2. 10s. For Manila: £1. 17s. 6d. For Batavia: 24s. to 26s. For Singapore: £29 and £1. 8s. For Galle: £28 and £29 and £1. 7s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 209 tons naval stores, including a few combustibles from the river Thames to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Marinus Willem, Bursser, from Banjoewanjie for Amsterdam with a cargo of sugar, tin and arrack, put into Nieuwe Diep, September 1st, very leaky and much damaged, having struck in the west channel of Texel. On the night of the 2nd the pumps had much difficulty in keeping the second deck above water, and much damage to the cargo is expected.

The Nederland (Dutch ship), 706 tons burden, from Batavia for Amsterdam, put into Simon's Bay, 22nd July, leaky and with loss of foremast, and will probably discharge part of her cargo.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At ST. HELENA.—July 23, from Batavia, Juno, Nuss, and sailed 24 for Amsterdam; 24, from Java, Pieter, Hoogerwerf, and sailed for Rotterdam; from Macao, Richard, Hochreuter, and sailed 25 for Falmouth; 28, from Padang, Alcyone, Kruisinga, and sailed 29 for Amsterdam; 31, from Batavia, Holland, Auffmann, and sailed Aug. 1 for Rotterdam; Aug. 1, from Manila, Albis, Wohlers, and sailed for London; from Penang, Ironsides, Tapley, and sailed for Bangor; 4, from Canton, Bucton Castle, Ridley, and sailed for Demerara; 5, from Colombo, Palmerston, Seagrove, and sailed for London; 6, from Sarawak, Malabar, Godje, and sailed for Falmouth; July 22, Liberator, Robertson, sailed for Ceylon.

At TABLE BAY.—July 17, from Clyde, Japan (s.), Bell, and left 23 for Japan.

SHIP LAUNCHES.

On the 24th ult. there was launched from the yard of Messrs. Pile, Hay, and Co., at Sunderland, an iron ship named the Star of the North, 667 tons register, intended for the East India trade, will be commanded by Lieut. Rowle, R.N.R., and is the property of Messrs. A. Pendew and Co., Plymouth. This being the first ship that will sail from the port commanded by a Naval Reserve officer, the event was celebrated by a large attendance of gentry and naval officers, amongst whom were Captain Heard, R.N., Captain Hall, R.N., Lieut. Lambton, R.N.R., and C. G. Yealland, R.N. The band of H.M.S. Active was in attendance, and dancing was kept up on board until about 9 P.M.

There was recently launched from the building-yard of Mr. John Smith, at Aberdeen, a clipper vessel of 420 tons, named Owari. The vessel has been built to the order of Messrs. Glover, of Aberdeen. She is to be commanded by Captain Wright, and is intended for the Japan trade.

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Authorised capital	...	£4,000,000
Capital subscribed	...	2,000,000
Capital paid-up	...	500,000
Reserved Fund	...	200,000
Dividend Reserve Fund	...	70,000

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JAMES NUGENT DANIELL, Esq., Chairman of the Alliance Bank (Limited). } Governors.
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Alexander Dunbar, Esq., Old Broad-street, London.
Charles Ellis, Esq., Lloyd's.
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Paid-up capital, £750,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

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The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

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Amoy, March, 1865.

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FIRST PRIZE GOLD MEDAL

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STEAM FIRE ENGINE,

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INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION,

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ONLY GOLD MEDAL AND FIRST MONEY PRIZE, JULY, 1864.

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LONDON INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1862.—The Report of the Jury states that the Competing Engine by Merryweather and Son was twice disabled, and ultimately withdrawn, and that the Engines of Shand and Mason were severely tested and worked without accident throughout the day.

SHAND, MASON, and CO.'S STEAM FIRE ENGINES, besides carrying off the above honours at all the European International Competitions, have stood the severest practical test that can be had in this or any other country; that being the daily working of the London, Dublin, and other Fire Brigades.

These Engines, with all the recent improvements, are fitted not only as Portable Steam Pumps, but as complete Brigade Fire Engines, and are produced at prices varying from £300 and upwards, weighing from 24 cwt. and upwards, and, considering the amount of work done, are much less in cost than Hand-worked Fire Engines. Steam and Hand-worked Fire Engines and Pumps of all descriptions, and for all Climates.

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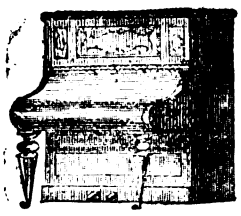

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An elegant ornament for the Drawing-Room, Ball-Room, Dining Table, &c. Price from £1. 10s.

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Capetown ...	Restless ...	312	A 1 9 yrs.	Sept.10
Bombay ...	Ellen Stuart .	1600	A 1 18 yrs.	Sept.20
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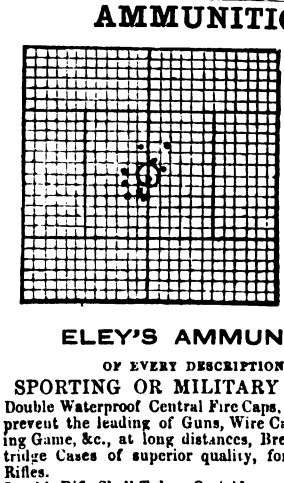

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THE SEVENTH Volume of this JOURNAL commenced on the 3rd of January, 1865. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 185.] LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPT. 16, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	May 10		July 13
Nagasaki	"		" 13
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			" 8
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			
Kin-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	May 26	July 9	" 22
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	June 17	July 26	" 29
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	May 26	July 12	" 22
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			" 31
SIAM— Bangkok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			" 25
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	June 26	July 30	Aug. 7
Penang	" "	" 28	" 9

The next Mails are due in London on the 27th inst.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per French steamer **Mocris**, from Marseilles, Sept. 19.—To Singapore: Miss Ladd, Mr. and Mrs. A. Fraser, Mrs. Van Citteu. To Hong Kong: Mr. T. Hesse. To Ceylon Mr. Henry Dias, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Mutukisna, Capt. and Mrs. Staples, and one 2nd class passenger.

Per P. and O. steamer **Mongolia**, from Southampton, Sept. 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. Henderson, Mrs. John. To Hong Kong: Mrs Ivor Murray, Mr. Noble, Mr. R. Starkey, Mr. Withers, Mr. Lister, Mr. Starkey, Mr. Russell, Captain Barry. To Ceylon: Mrs. Claughton, Rev. A. and Mrs. Young, Mrs. Ross, Miss Gibson, Mr. W. Prentice. From Marseilles, Sept. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Brackenbury. To Ceylon: Mr. C. Domerville.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Sept. 27.—To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. Lambert and two children. To Shanghai, via Bombay: Mr. Lloyd Palin. From Marseilles, Oct. 5.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. J. Meldrum. To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. J. D. C. Nichols, Mr. W. H. Mitchell.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Oct. 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. A. Brent, Lieut. Toller, R.E. To Shanghai: Mrs. Bayne. To Ceylon: Mr. B. H. Plumptre. From Marseilles, Oct. 12.—To Shanghai: Lady Parkes and friend, Mr. F. Myburgh. To Ceylon: Mr. D. B. Lindsay.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Oct. 12.—To Shanghai via Bombay: Mrs. G. W. Bennett and child. To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. James Pope. From Marseilles, Oct. 20.—To Shanghai via Bombay: Mr. F. King, Mr. and Mrs. De Witt C. Brower. From Suez.—To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. Anderson.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Oct. 20—To Shanghai: Miss M. A. Russell. To Singapore: Mrs. Cavenagh. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Hermann and infant. To Ceylon: Mr. R. Massie, Lady Chichester, Mr. and Mrs. Wright and two children. From Marseilles, Oct. 28.—To Shanghai: Mrs. Herbert Hancock and three children, Mr. N. G. Howell. To Hong Kong: Mr. T. A. Lane and Mr. D. Lapraik.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Oct. 27.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Macdonald.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Dates hence are to the 13th July.

A meeting of the American residents was held at the American Consulate to express their deep feeling of sympathy and regret for the brutal assassination of President Lincoln.

The Prussian brig *Typhoon*, which left Hong Kong on the 7th June, was lost on the 30th by striking on a rock. The whole of the hands, consisting of captain, officers, and thirteen seamen, were saved, arriving in two of the ship's boats at Yokohama, on the 3rd July.

Sir Harry Parkes arrived per Her Majesty's steamer *Leop* on the 7th July, and met a cordial reception.

Mr. Harrison, a member of the firm of Glover and Co., w are the Nagasaki agents of Prince Satsuma, has addressed th following to the *Japan Herald* in correction of a statement re specting matters at Nagasaki, which statement was given in th *London and China Telegraph* of the 28th August:—

"Sir,—Permit me to correct an error which appears in t day's issue of the *Japan Herald Market Report and Price Curre* under the head of your Nagasaki intelligence.

"You state that the last advices from Nagasaki bring news of the presence in that harbour of no less than eighteen steamers belonging to Chosiu and Satsuma. In this your correspondent has doubly misinformed you. At the time I left Nagasaki per *Union* (I believe that vessel brings the latest dates), there were eight or nine steamers in port owning the flag of Satsuma, some of which were under charter to the Japanese Government for conveyance of troops, etc., in connection with the Inland Sea expedition. This rather precludes the idea that Satsuma and Chosiu are acting in concert, though perhaps the latter may have quite as many friends as enemies at Kagosima. The report as to the sales of the steamers *Australian* and *London* may, I trust, prove prophetic—whether the buyer be Satsuma or Chosiu.

"With regard to the feeling prevalent at Nagasaki, touching this crusade against Chosiu, there is no lack of sympathy felt and frequently expressed, both by natives and foreigners, towards that ill-used Daimio; and though it may be a present necessity on the part of our authorities to recognise and uphold the measures of the Tycoon, I am prepared to say, Sir, and there are many of my countrymen ready to endorse my sentiments, that the hostile expedition against Chosiu is, as far as Japan is concerned, no less a political blunder than a national wrong. Apologising for intruding expressions in your columns which are contrary to your own views,—I am, Sir, &c.,

"EDWARD HARRISON.

"Yokohama, June 27."

CHINA.

PEKING.

There is no positive news by this mail as to the reported attack of the rebels. The following is from the *North China Herald*:—"Either the vast increase made in the numbers of the Imperialist armies has had a purely mechanical effect on the fortunes of war, or, Chinamen-like, the rebels have been disheartened by some trifling calamity, and are now as eager to escape as they were before anxious to press onwards. The history of strategic operations in China is a history of alternate successes and reverses, not such in the sense wherein we as Europeans would use the terms, but arising from some unforeseen conjunction of circumstances which encourages one side while casting the other into a corresponding state of despondency. The miraculous interventions, so often dwelt on in the Peking Gazettes, in acknowledgment of which temples or votive tablets

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are decreed to the favouring deity, are simply circumstances unimportant in themselves, whence comfort and support are derived by one side, disquiet and dejection by the other. Whatever be the cause, whether the local deities have declared for the sacred right of kings, or whether the overwhelming force brought to bear by the Imperialists is having its natural effect, the result is that the Nienfei bands are gradually retiring before the Government troops, and have already sent large bodies into Shansi in order to secure a footing in that province. This would appear to be the first step towards a return to Kansu, whence in the first instance they came. There, amid vast plains, surrounded by lofty and rugged mountains, the rebellion took its rise, and there it will in all probability be extinguished. However paradoxical it may appear, we are always astonished at either side succeeding in a purely Chinese struggle. The odds are so nicely balanced so far as disorganisation and want of discipline go, the likelihood of running away is so exactly divided between the two sides, the venality of the officers is so important an element in the constitution of both armies, that we are equally struck with amazement, no matter which side remains faithful to its colours. Whatever may be the cause, the Imperialists are now enjoying the smiles of fortune at the expense of their less fortunate opponents, nor does our experience of the Nienfei lead us to regret the reverses which have of late befallen them."

TIENTSIN.

Dates to the 8th July report the import market as still very dull, the only demand for cotton goods being for local consumption. Any inquiry for the interior had been checked by the usual report of rebels in the vicinity. 8¼ lb. Grey Shirtings were quoted Tls. 3.2.5. per piece.

SHANGHAI.

The steamer *Shaftesbury* arrived from England on the 18th July, *via* Bombay, and by her telegrams from London to the 15th June were received. The dates are now down to the morning of the 22d July. There is but little to record since the French mail left on 16th, the items by that opportunity being fully recorded in our issue of the 7th inst.

The following account of the wreck of the steamers *Fukien* and *Lalla Rookh* is from the *North China Herald*:—

Amongst the very few incidents which have varied the current of Shanghai life, the wreck of the steamers *Fukien* and *Lalla Rookh* claim the first place. Full particulars of the former catastrophe have already been published in the local papers. The *Fukien* left Shanghai on the 13th July at 2 P.M. for Hong Kong, and during the night of the same day, she being then in the centre of the "Fisherman's Group," ran stem on to an island with so much force as to raise her bow nearly twenty feet on the surface of the rock. She instantly commenced to fill, and as there were forty fathoms of water under her stern, the utmost expedition was necessary to secure the lives of the crew and passengers. In fact, within twenty-five minutes after striking she sank. Fortunately she had a large number of boats, and the weather though foggy was calm. No difficulty was therefore experienced in landing the people on board, but not a particle of cargo or personal property was saved. Much credit is due to the officers, who are reported to have worked like slaves, and to have utterly neglected their own safety while devoting themselves to the foreign and native passengers. The result was that no accident of any kind occurred, and the entire number of human beings on board was landed safe and sound, but in a most miserable plight, on the island. They were next day relieved by a junk and a foreign brig, by which they were carried to Chinhae, and thence to Ningpo by the *Fire Dart*. It is said that the wreck was occasioned by the captain having mistaken one of the Tripods for the island of Video. No particulars as to the wreck of the *Lalla Rookh* have yet reached us. She left Shanghai on the 18th July, and was seen by the *Fire Dart* at 9 P.M. on the same day. Up to the time of the *Fire Dart's* departure from Ningpo at 5 P.M. on the 19th nothing had been heard of her, and she must therefore have been wrecked during the night of the 18th or morning of the 10th. She was this day, 21st, reported wrecked on the North West Horn, but the time of the occurrence has not been specified.

H.M.'s troop ship *Adventure* left on the 19th July, for Hong Kong, with the 67th Regiment and wing of the 99th, which had been on service at Taku.

A public dinner was given at the Shanghai Club on the 17th to the officers. Among those present, in addition to Col. Yonge and the officers of the 67th Regiment, were Sir E. Hornby, Capt. Waddilove, Capt. Round, R.N., several members of the Consular body, Rev. C. H. Butcher, the representatives of the local press, and several members of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps, in uniform. About 70 sat down to table. Mr. H. Dent took the chair.

The weather had been continuously wet, much to the detriment of the crops in the neighbourhood. Indeed, the Shanghai Hien was so deeply moved by the consideration of the damage which the late heavy rains might do, that on the 6th inst. he issued a notification ordering an abstinence from animal food during the space of three days, viz., the 16th, 17th, and 18th of this moon (July 8th, 9th, and 10th). During these days no animals were to be killed for food, nor were the faithful and obedient to transgress the modest bounds of rice and fish. The object of this penance was to pacify the rain-god, but unfortunately the 11th inst. was wetter than any day which had preceded it. The Magistrate, however, persevered, and again directed that three days should be devoted to fasting, with, as it turned out, the like result. The attempt to cajole the offended deity may therefore be looked on as a notable failure.

The Chinese authorities have come to what we (*North China Herald*) consider an exceedingly wise conclusion with regard to the commandantship of the camp of instruction at Fungwang. We have already set forth the reasons which appeared to us to suggest the appointment of an officer unconnected with any of the regular armies, and these reasons have induced the local government to confer the post on Major Jebb's second in command, Mr. Winstanley. We are convinced that no better selection could have been made, as Mr. Winstanley has had long experience in the Queen's service, and is now fully acquainted with the working of the camp, while he has gained the confidence of the Chinese, and stands in no danger of being suddenly and arbitrarily removed from his post.

It is reported that Burgevine has been beheaded at Soochow. From Nanking it is reported that the Hunan and Hupeh troops stationed at Nanking refused to follow Tseng Kuo-fan on his expedition into the Shantung province. When Li Hung-chang arrived he found the garrison in a state bordering on mutiny, which was not appeased even by his presence, although he is said to possess considerable influence over the hardy warriors of the central provinces. After much ineffectual cajolery, he at length issued a notification giving the troops two days wherein to consider their decision, threatening that those who at the end of that period still persisted in their refusal should be deprived of all their property, and executed. On the day named, the men still holding out, two of the ringleaders were beheaded, whereupon the remainder signified their willingness to start. Since the capture of Nanking the troops have made themselves excessively comfortable, have seized or built houses, and amassed a fair share of money.

The *Moyune* has been purchased by the S.S.N. Co. for 74,500 Taels. Eleven 32nd shares in the *Poyang* were bought by Mr. Gilfillan for Taels 15,000. The *Emperor* was bought in at Taels 11,000. The *Spunkie* bought in at Taels 1,000, and a 32nd share in the *Bunker Hill* sold for Taels 300.

The following notice has appeared in the Shanghai papers:—

The co partnership hitherto existing at this port between F. G. White and Herbert Smith, of Shanghai, and James White and J. Mackrill Smith, of London, under the style or firm of White & Co., expires this day by effluxion of time. All outstanding accounts will be settled by F. G. White and Herbert Smith, who will sign the firm in liquidation.—White & Co., Shanghai, 30th June.

KIUKIANG.

A correspondent, writing under date of July 6th, states that, on the 2nd, a party of braves broke into Messrs. Turner and Co.'s hong at that port, occupied by Chinese only, and smashed nearly all the doors, windows, &c.; in fact, did as much injury as possible to the premises. The Volunteer Corps, under the command of Captain White, late S.V.C., was on duty the whole day, and succeeded in expelling all the braves, together with their boats, from within the limits of the foreign concession. Unfortunately, only three of the persons concerned in the affair have as yet been apprehended, and they had merely interfered with the sentries when in discharge of their duty. The Chinese authorities contributed valuable aid in the shape of eight soldiers armed with fans.

HONG KONG.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Sir,—Macdonald Stephenson's China Railway Company has met with a less prosperous support than its very sanguine projectors appear to have hoped for. The committee, which was formed for the purpose of taking the opinion of the Canton authorities, have recently been called together to receive a decidedly unfavourable report; in fact, if rumour speaks truly, a refusal of any species of sanction on the part of the Provincial Government to any operation in the nature of that proposed. The fact is, that, as many people are beginning to see, China is as little ripe for railways to-day as Turkey was thirty years ago, and stands in infinitely less need of any such appliance than perhaps any other existing nation. The means of communication are so widely ramifying, so convenient, and

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so cheap, that the population feels little inconvenience, comparatively, in the matter of either passenger traffic or of the transport of merchandize. For speed, as a benefit *per se*, it is very difficult to bring an Asiatic to express or feel any lively admiration; what the masses ask for, especially in a country like China, is, before all, freedom from disturbance, and in the next place, safety and moderation in price. The passage boats, which accomplish the journey of twelve miles between Canton and Fatshan in about three hours, charge a Chinese passenger with his baggage the sum of forty *cash*, or twopence, for the journey; and if the China Railway Company were to attempt to compete in price with such opponents, they would, apparently, have to issue tickets at a rate which would not contribute largely to swelling the annual balance. In fact, a more *mal-à-propos* selection of a route for inaugurating railways in China could probably not have been discovered by the most careful investigator. Apart from all consideration of the peculiar vigour of the Cantonese mind in opposing the spread of foreign influence in the interior, the most casual observer of the country to be traversed must be struck by the unusual amount of disturbance of private property and of public traffic which the construction of the proposed railway would entail. Perhaps the most thickly populated nook in all China is the flat and fertile tract of paddy land stretching between Canton and its offshoot, the great trading and manufacturing town of Fatshan. This district, in which the population is numbered by the hundred thousand, is known as the "Ninety-six Villages," the name adopted by the associated country people who have banded themselves for the last twenty years in opposition, first to foreigners and next to the rebel banditti. Only since the capture of Canton in 1857 has it been practicable for Europeans to visit any part of this district in safety, and even now the traditional spirit of Chinese conservatism is nowhere so strong as among these clannish villagers. The mere rumour of a railway through their ricefields has already sufficed to stir up a buzz of discontent among the far-famed "Ninety-six." When to popular opposition of this kind is added the formidable hostility of the vested interests, represented by the large Passage Boat Companies and the contractors for the transport of merchandise, with a powerful infusion of Governmental dislike of all innovation, it appears clear that a little local knowledge and discretion would not have been out of place in the concoction of the China Railway scheme. This, of course, is speaking locally only; in general, I believe, the Peking Government objects in principle to all railways, no matter where placed, on the broad and intelligible ground, that railways mean the extension of foreign influence into the interior, and that this means disorganisation, disorder and revolution. We must wait and see what Sir R. Alcock will do.

Canton has recently been disturbed by a gang of desperadoes from Macao, employed as crimps by the Peruvian Emigration House, set up recently at Canton, under the auspices of the French Consul. These amiable Portuguese half-castes, after living at free quarters on the timorous Chinese inhabitants for several months, signalized themselves at length by a desperate murder, and have finally, it is said, been seized by the Chinese magistrates, and sent to Macao for trial. These are the scoundrels who, all over China, contribute so powerfully to the keeping up of ancient animosities; and so long as Portugal is allowed by civilised Powers to retain Macao as a hotbed for piracy, smuggling, and kidnapping, so long will the seaports of China be infested by ruffians of this class, acknowledging no nationality or authority, and slipping through the fingers of justice whenever she tardily attempts to clutch them.

The rebels, who, until within the last ten or fifteen days, have been occupying a strong position on the head waters of the East River in this province, suddenly decamped on the 18th inst., after a defeat they suffered in an attack on the Imperial forces, and are now said to be moving towards the province of Kiangsi. These constitute the last remaining fragments of the Taiping rebellion. Of two hundred thousand rebels supposed to have been under arms when Nanking fell, this band, to the numbers of about 50,000, is all that is left; and their recent retreat is probably another step on their downward course towards dissolution, into their original elements as predatory bands among the mountains of the Western Provinces.

The following report of the loss of the *Hankow* steamer is from the *Daily Press*:—

On Friday night, the 21st July, at half-past eleven the *Hankow* (being at her moorings at Canton—having made the trip from Hong Kong as usual that day, and being in readiness to return on the next) was discovered to be on fire, Captain Bennett, was not on board at the time, but was at his post a few minutes after the alarm was given, which was done by ringing the bell. All the officers and engineers were on board; no smell of fire whatever was experienced and the first indication of the danger was the appearance of smoke issuing from a part of the fore hatch which was open. Hoses were instantly applied both from the engine and from the deck pumps, but the fire was so deep seated that it gained rapid headway, emitting so much smoke that the men were driven away from the pumps. It was then determined to scuttle her. The engineers opened the connections to let the water into the hold, and an axe was set to work to make a hole in the starboard quarter.

By this time Capt. Haskell of the *Kinshan*, with his officers and engineers, had come to render all the assistance they possibly could. After the smoke had driven the men from the pumps, the Asiatic portion of the crew and of the engine staff deserted. The hole being cut in the quarter, it became necessary to list the *Hankow* over, so that she might fill. Capt. Bennett and Capt. Haskell, with their engineers, contemplated to effect this by shifting over the chain boxes, and they actually went forward to carry out the intention; they did move the chain boxes, but were compelled by the heat and smoke to abandon the design ere it could be sufficiently carried out to be effective. The joiner work near the steam chest was then in flames; within five minutes the saloon and hurricane deck were a mass of fire fore and aft. The last of the flood tide was making, and it was clear the steamer getting adrift with the ebb would be attended with the utmost peril to the numerous boats on the river, whilst if she sank at her moorings dangerous obstruction would be formed in the passage, it was determined to hawl her on shore. A hawser was made fast to the rudder, the mooring chain was unshackled from the buoy, and the steamer was hauled close to the Shameen wall where she was made fast. This was about half-past one, when the steamer was a complete mass of flame. The two engines were produced, but the only good they effected was to keep the hawser from being burnt. At two o'clock the club began to make. The main deck was then all gone and the upper part of the hull was burning. About three o'clock, the fire having got to the water's edge, the wreck filled and sank in about twelve feet water forward and ten feet aft.

The port wheel and shaft fell out with a crash—the starboard wheel was against the wall. The cylinder burst.

The officers and engineers of the unfortunate *Hankow*, Captain Haskell and his officers and engineers, and the tide waiters stationed on board, worked like true and gallant men. Captain Bennett did all that man could do, but to no effect. It was the first night he has ever been out of the vessel this year. He was spending the evening at Messrs. James Purdon and Co.'s, which being hard by, enabled him to get on board almost instantaneously.

The origin of the fire is a perfect mystery. It could not be spontaneous combustion of the coals, because they were only taken on board the day previously. Yet when Captain Bennett looked down the engine-room, he says the coals were in a red heat! They were Labuan coals, too, which emit a dense smoke. The origin of the fire and the absence of indication are simply inexplicable.

The following shipping items are taken from daily papers:—

The British brig *Una*, which arrived in harbour on the 12th July, reports that on the 2nd July, in Lat. 82·47 and Long. 116·07, passed large quantities of wreck, consisting of spars and heavy timber, resembling portions of the hull of a ship, also saw a large junk floating and a quantity of teak planks; came to the conclusion it was the wreck of a Siamese ship. July 3rd saw more wreck, also a junk bottom up. July 4th, in Lat. 22·37, Long 115·59 E., saw several dead bodies, Chinese to all appearance. Experienced light S.W. winds, and strong current setting to the N.E.

The British steamer *Otentosama* reports that on the 27th May, while running in a gale of wind, shipped a heavy sea, washing one man overboard. Through the passage experienced very good weather in general. In Lat. 39 47 N., Long. E., on the 28th June, spoke the British barque *Vince*, from Cardiff bound to Yokohama, 107 days out, in the Java sea.

The British brig *Minerva*, A. Fox master, reports that on the 27th June, off the North end of Formosa, three piratical junks hove in sight, the leading one of which gave chase, but was not able to get within range.

We have to report the probable loss of the *Coniston*, British barque, W. Hobson master. She sailed from this port on the 28th June, bound to Swatow, with a cargo of rice and with 10 Chinese passengers. During the night of the 29th and morning of the 30th she was in company with

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the *Zephyr*, but was lost sight of during the typhoon of the 30th. No tidings from the Coast have reached us, and from the captain of the *Zephyr's* report there is little doubt but that the *Coniston* foundered shortly after parting company.

The Prussian brig *Typhoon*, which left Hong Kong on the 7th June for Yokohama, was lost on the 30th ulto. by striking on a rock.—All hands saved, reaching Yokohama in the boats on the 3rd July.

JAVA.

We have Batavia papers to the 25th July.

An attempt to create a disturbance at Solo, by a Javanese who had managed to gather together about 500 followers, was promptly repressed, and the ringleader and some of his dupes were arrested. No importance is attached to the affair by these papers.

On the 16th and 17th July very heavy shocks of earthquake took place at Ambarawa, Salatiga and Banjoe Biroe. The hospital at Ambarawa and the artillery and infantry barracks were much damaged. At Banjoe Biroe two wings of the infantry barracks fell down, while the walls of the artillery barracks were so much shaken that the building is uninhabitable, as are also the officers' quarters. The large powder magazine was so much injured that it was necessary to remove the gunpowder. The only person hurt was a sergeant of sappers, who has since died of his wounds.

The crop of sugar cane in most parts of Java promises well.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Dates hence to the 7th August. The Governor and suite embarked on the 31st July for Malacca and Penang under the usual salute. Colonel Cavenagh will now have an opportunity (remarks the *Free Press*) of inquiring personally into the wrongs inflicted upon our subjects by the Larut authorities. If half the statements we receive from Penang be true, it is quite clear that the treaties between us and Perak have been completely set aside, and we are in honor bound to demand a reparation for the breach of faith. Our subjects it is said are robbed of the large sums they have invested in the Peninsula, and despoiled of the produce of their industry; they are plundered, and their property is openly sold in Penang before the eyes of the robbed. Should such insults be borne any longer? If the rulers of Perak are unable to controul their subjects, it is incumbent on us to step in and relieve them of the responsibility. If such a state of affairs is allowed to exist much longer, we shall lose our prestige in the Peninsula, and be disgraced in the eyes of our native population.

One day last week a Kling, named Ninamsaw, one of the heads of the Red Flag Kongsi, made some disclosures relative to the internal economy of the society in the Supreme Court, during the trial of a civil cause in which he was defendant, and at the same time handed in one of the books of the Kongsi. The Recorder ordered the book to be impounded. On Saturday Ninamsaw appeared before Magistrate of Police, and laid an information on oath against seven other Klings who with himself are connected with the above-mentioned secret society or Hoey. He fully revealed the manner in which the business of the society was conducted; how disputes between the members of the Kongsi are inquired into, and delinquents punished by the head men; how persons were maintained and employed by them to fight with members of the White Flag Kongsi, and beat those who refuse to pay up their subscriptions to the society; and how the head men bribe the police to favour them. The informant stated that besides the book he had handed in to the Court, there were three others kept by the clerk to the Kongsi in which all the proceedings of the society were entered. The magistrate issued a warrant to arrest all the persons accused of being the heads of the society, and to search their houses for the books referred to. The prisoners were arrained on a charge of conspiracy, and the inquiry was going forward.

A Chinaman was arrested on the night of the 26th July, excavating a quantity of earth, under which the gas-pipes were embedded, in New Bridge Road, evidently with the intention of stealing some of them. He was pursued, and arrested not far from the spot, and, when brought before the magistrate, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

MINTO—On 28th July, at Hong Kong, the wife of G. N. Minto, of a son.

HART—At Ningpo, on the 9th July, the wife of Mr. Geo. M. Hart, of a daughter, still-born.

MARRIAGES.

POWER—YATES—On the 9th Sept., at Holy Trinity Church, Lee, Kent, by the Rev. Benjamin Walter Bucke, M.A., incumbent, Julius Charles Power, Esq., of Her Majesty's Civil Service, Hong Kong, to Frances Sarah Jane, second daughter of John Yates, Esq., of Gloucester-terrace, Hyde Park, Hill-side, Lee, and Wouldham Manor, in the county of Kent. No cards.

DEATHS.

HART—At Ningpo, on the 15th July, Caroline Susanna Dixon, the wife of Mr. Geo. M. Hart, aged 29 years.

COLLIER—Drowned at Woosung, on the 18th July, H. W. Collier, Master, Upper Lightship.

DAVIES—At the Civil Hospital, on the 18th July, William W. Davies, compositor in the "Daily Press" Office, formerly Government Printer at Sydney, aged 60 years.

LOPES—At Macao, on the 16th July, Maria Quiteria Lopes, aged 96 years.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—The transactions of the fortnight in Black Teas have been very large, the markets having a tendency to advance. A peculiar feature in the Kiukiang market is the circumstance of new Congous being shipped thence to Hankow for sale; the result of these shipments is reported to be satisfactory. The new Greens have not come to market, but are expected in about one month.

CANTON.—A steady business has been doing during the fortnight in Scented Teas at rates about equal to those last quoted. The chief feature to notice being the opening of the market for Country Congous. Country Congous: Three chops have been taken at Tls. 32½ to 33½, showing a fair margin on home rates. The present stock consists of teas of a commoner class, and buyers are unwilling to submit to the demands of the teamen.

FOOCHOW.—The loss of two steamers has interrupted communications, and the mail from the South ports has not arrived. The latest dates from Foochow come down to the 12th July. A steady business continued to be transacted in tea. Medium and common Congous were a little cheaper, although the demand for Australia had caused them to attain a standard too high for the London rates. In Souchongs very little was doing. Middling Oolongs were being settled at 17 to 19 taels.

SHANGHAI.—Black Teas: The market continued quiet until the arrival of the London Mail, with improved advices for Congous. A good demand then sprang up for teas with quality, and all desirable parcels were readily taken at an advance of about two taels per picul on last mail's purchases, and in some few instances even higher rates were paid. Several chops of common and medium grades have also found buyers at correspondingly high prices, and our quotations are now nearly on a par with Hankow rates. The best chops of Ningchow are decidedly superior to those of last year, being stronger and of full flavour. Second Crop Oopacks are beginning to arrive, but no settlements have yet taken place; these, however, are wanting in strength, and are no better than those of last season. The business of the fortnight comprises 34 chops, or 16,200 chests at Taels 22½ to 37 for common Oonam to fine Ningchow and Oopack tea, and Taels 15 to 18¾ for fair Black Leaf (Old Tea). Re-shipments of Hankow settlements amount to 13,400 chests, and the stock consists of 24 chops, or 10,400 chests.

HANKOW.—Our dates extend to the 15th July. A steady business had been done in teas throughout the fortnight; at first the second crop Oopacks being considered wanting in strength had been generally neglected, but the news brought by the 26th May mail soon caused a good demand. A few chops mixed first and second crop Oopacks of fair quality and strength were bought at 25 to 27 tls. For the second crop teas, whose quality is decidedly objectionable, we consider that the rates paid are much too high, when the outturn of such teas last year in England is remembered; 78 chops had been settled during the fortnight, leaving a stock of 50 on the market. Quotations were—Oopacks, good to fine, 24 to 30 tls.; fair to good (second crop), 23 to 25 tls.; Oonams, fair to good, 22 to 24 tls.; common to fair, 17 to 20 and 20½ tls.

KIUKIANG.—From this port we have dates to the 16th instant. Black Teas: Arrivals had continued till they amounted in the whole to 25 chops Ningchow and 10 chops Hohow. Settlements had kept pace with the arrivals, and the last purchases showed a rise of 1½ to 2 taels. The quality of the finest teas is decidedly superior to last season's, but they will probably be in short supply. Quotations were—Ningchows fine to finest, 29½ to 30½ tls.; medium to fair, 23½ to 28½ tls. Hohows, fine to finest, 24½ to 26½.

YOKOHAMA.—Since the departure of last mail there has been rather more activity displayed on our Tea market; a very fair business has been transacted, both for the American and home markets, the more favourable news of the state of the latter, received by the mail of the 10th May, inducing several houses to become purchasers. Settlements for the fortnight amount to about 2,750 piculs, comprising about 1,300 piculs New Tea, at a rising price of 50c. to $1 per picul. Stock at present consists of about 850 piculs Old, and 1,200 piculs New.

RAW SILK.—The present mail steamer has about 4,500 bales, whereof 550 bales are Japan.

SHANGHAI.—This market has been very active for the past fortnight, and the settlements may be estimated at 8,000 to 8,500 bales. The higher classes of Tsatlees have found ready buyers at advanced rates, as they arrived from the interior; though for the past few days, owing to the late heavy rains, the arrivals have been moderate. Prices have further advanced 30 taels, and the dealers at the close of the mail are firm for higher quotations. For best Mybash $685 to 700 had been paid. Tsatlee, chops No 1, 530 taels per picul; do. No. 2, 510 taels do.; do. No. 3, 485 to 495 taels do. Taysaam, chops No. 1, 450 to 460 taels per picul; do. No. 2, 425 to 440 taels do.

DRUGS, &c. (CANTON).—Cassia Lignea: 1,500 piculs have been taken for the Continent at still advancing rates. The present stock is computed at 2,500 piculs, and holders require $16.75 for it, which is an advance of 50 cents on the previous quotation. Cassia Buds: $49, nominal, nothing doing. China Galls: 400 piculs are reported sold at $12.25, at which rate further contracts could be placed. Vermilion: $37.50 per box of 50 catties—small sales only. Musk: The report spread last mail to the effect that large supplies of inferior quality were expected, had no foundation whatever in truth, and the article here in the South remains as scarce

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during the fortnight, was immediately taken at a high rate. Rhubarb: No arrivals, and no stock. Galangal: $2.20, in no demand. Essential Oils: No arrivals, and no settlements reported.

CHINA IMPORTS.

(HONG KONG REPORT.)

COTTON YARN.—The business transacted in this article during the pas fortnight is in marked contrast with the advices of many months past, and although we must quote 16 to 24 at a decline of fully $15 per picul, shipments to Japan will no doubt by decreasing our stocks lead to more firmness on the part of importers. The sales of the fortnight are put at 686 bales. Grey Shirtings: Holders of these goods have met the market somewhat freely, and the settlements effected during the fortnight have been upon a larger scale than for some time past; prices, however, show a further decline of about 10 to 15 cents per piece. Sales are estimated at 19,000 pieces, in addition to which about 1,200 pieces of damaged goods have been moved off at auction. White Shirtings have met with a moderate amount of inquiry during the fortnight at a decline in value correspon ding with that established on unbleached goods, and the transactions of the ortnight amount to 6,500 pieces. T-Cloths: These goods again show a d lin as compared with the prices current under date of last circular equal to about 15 cents, per piece, and have also been largely dealt in, the sales of the past fortnight being estimated at 14,050 pieces, exclusive of 4,400 pieces of damaged goods sold by public auction. American Drills: The market continues bare of these manuafctures, but sales of 800 pieces of English Drills are reported at $5 per piece. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: The nominal value of these goods shows a decline, as compared with the quotations given under date of last report, equal to about 25 cents per piece. Transactions during the fortnight have been confined entirely to the last named, of which a comparatively large amount of purchases has been reported, estimated at about 2,000 pieces. There are not now any of these goods in stock. Damasks: There are not any sales of these goods to report. Chintzes: Have found buyers to the extent of 1,500 pieces. Handkerchiefs: 300 dozen have been sold.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: Without alteration to notice in value have found buyers to the extent of 828 pieces of Spanish Stripes, and 148 pieces of Medium Cloths. Long Ells: These goods show an improvement in value equal to about 50 cents per piece, when compared with the quotations under date of last circular. There are not, however, any sales to report in the article, and the stocks are at present extremely limited. Camlets: Have been in moderate request at the quotations given under date of last circular, and the sales advised amount to 740 pieces. Lastings: 200 pieces have found buyers. Blankets: 610 pairs have been sold.

METALS.—Iron, Flat, &c.: A moderate amount of business has been transacted in Iron since the date of last circular at slightly lower prices than were then current. Sales are estimated at 4,100 piculs of Nail Rod, 1,500 piculs of Bar, and 420 piculs of Hoop. In the Canton market 260 piculs of Wire have found buyers at $7 to 8 per picul. Lead: 750 piculs purchased in this market, and 900 piculs placed in Canton, constitute the transactions of the fortnight. Tin: 730 slabs have been sold. Tin Plates: Sales amount to 500 boxes. Steel: 400 tubs have found buyers.

COALS.—At Hong Kong, best Cardiff, $10; English, $9 to 10; Sydney, $6; Labuan, $6; supplies are full. At Shanghai, English steam have been placed at 8 taels; Japan, 6½. Sydney, 6¼ to 7.

COTTON.—Imports from Calcutta of 2,000 bales sold in Hong Kong at $24 to 26.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1865-66.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to 30, 1865	...	6469021	10486720	...	1382000	18337741	8134
Corresponding period last season	32708	4732978	9174300	...	2061641	15991522	810
TO UNITED STATES.							
From June 1 to 30, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	1463546	Piculs. ...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TO THE CONTINENT.							
From June 1 to 30, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	...	Bales. ...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TO SAN FRANCISCO.							
From June 1 to 30, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	Tea pkgs 6701	Boxes. 283
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	500	...

TO AUSTRALIA.

From June 1st to 30th, 1865 ... ... 357,100 lbs.
Corresponding period last year ... ... 37,520 „

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	...	...	...	51,092,600	...
„ 1845 to 1846	...	...	...	57,334,200	18,604
„ 1850 to 1851	...	...	...	63,972,000	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854	...	...	...	77,327,800	61,280
„ 1855 to 1856	...	...	...	92,240,300	50,480
„ 1857 to 1858	...	...	...	76,990,255	68,311
„ 1858 to 1859	...	...	...	65,789,792	83,136
„ 1859 to 1860	...	...	...	85,560,452	64,163
„ 1860 to 1861	...	...	...	90,066,160	70,644
„ 1861 to 1862	...	...	...	109,854,040	79,199
„ 1862 to 1863	...	...	...	121,273,580	72,848
„ 1863 to 1864	...	...	...	117,483,586	46,605
„ 1864 to 1865	...	...	...	121,236,870	32317

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1 to 30th, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	...

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1 to 30th, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	...

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1 to 30th, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	...

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1 to 30th, 1865	...	3800	17343	1000	200	49500

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1 to 30th, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	...

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cent and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	6s. 3d.	6s. 3½d. to 6s. 4d
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	ditto	4s. 5½.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.
At Singapore	6 ditto		
At Manila	6 ditto	4s. 3d.	4s. 3½d. to 4s. 4d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 302 to 303 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 215 to 217 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 10 per cent. prem. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 73 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 28 discount.

Money at Shanghai is abundant, and Bank bills have been discounted at 6 per cent. per annum.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From Amsterdam: July 6, Libra.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: July 16, Peterborough. From Liverpool: 19, Finzel, Bankside, Sarah Scott. From Newport: 6, Minerva. From Sunderland: 8, Fanny; 16, Chanticleer. From Cardiff: 19, Bessie Staunton.

At HONG KONG.—From London: July 11, Yaratilda. From Shields: 11, Min. From Cardiff: 15, Victoria. From New York: 21, Enoch Train.

At MANILA.—From Liverpool: July 8, Sales. From Cardiff: 14, Hercules.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: Aug. 2, Eliza Thornton. From Clyde: 3, Roslin Castle; 4, Helens Bank. From Liverpool: July 25, Der West. From Hamburg: 24, Ceres. From New York: 27, Panic.

At PENANG.—From London: July 10, Ferozepore. From Liverpool: 26, Simoon. From Glasgow: 28, America.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—None.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: July 5, Highflyer; 9, Gossamer; 11, Hampton Court. For New York: 13, Caprera.

From FOOCHOW.—For London: June 21, City of Aberdeen; 28, Taiping; July 6, Lauderdale.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: July 22, Johanne Marie; 12, Valdivia (via Macao). For New York: 22, Benefactor; 20, Western Continent.

From MANILA.—For London: July 14, Zealandia. For New York: 14, Apollo.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: July 22, Lord Raglan. For Liverpool: 22, Scotland; Aug. 3, Early Dawn. For Bristol: Monitor. For Bordeaux: July 23, Helene.

From PENANG.—For London: Aug. 3, Edinburgh Castle. For Bordeaux: July 26, Java; Aug. 7, Helene.

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VESSELS LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Eleanor.

At HANKOW.—For London: Weymouth, Neville, Iron Crown, Hoang Ho, Philip Nelson, Fychow.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Garrawalt, Ethiopian (full), Norwood, Eliza Nicholson (full), Art Union, Ellen Rodger, Golden Spur, John Lidgett, Dunkeld, Star of China, Helen Nicholson, Glenaros, Statesman, W. W. Smith. For Liverpool: Woosung. For New York: Surprise.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Japanese, Dunmail, W. Mitchell, I. M. Joshua, Devana, Berwickshire, Coral Nymph.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Scawfell, Heroes of Alma, Chrysolite, Arab Steed, Layard, Constance, Allendale. For New York: Panama, Nordstern.

At MANILA.—For London: Nelson. For Queenstown: Eduard. For Liverpool: Peerless. For New York: Memmon, Tetuan. For Boston: Fearless, Ocean Rover.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Carldew, Ernest Merck, Hastings. For Liverpool: Early Dawn, Vigil.

At PENANG.—For London: Peter Rohland, Napier, Shantung.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

YOKOHAMA.—To London: Cotton and tea, £3; silk, £4. 10s. per ton of 50 cubit feet.

SHANGHAI.—The market continues extremely dull, and it is difficult to find profitable employment for the large amount of tonnage in harbour. To London and Liverpool the rate is £2 per ton, and for Coast excessively low.

FOOCHOW.—To London: £2 per ton.

HONG KONG and CANTON.—The demand for shipping is very slight, while the available tonnage is much in excess of the requirements, and for home the vessels on the berth have reduced their rate to £1 per ton; to New York, $8.

MANILA.—No settlements have been made, and the nominal rate may be quoted at £1 for clayed sugar, £1. 10s. for unclayed, and £2 for Hemp.

SINGAPORE.—There is no improvement to notice, and vessels are offering at very low rates. To London, sugar, £1; light freight, £1. 10s. per ton.

PENANG.—For U.K. cargo is rather scarce, the vessels on the berth are loading slowly at £1. 2s. 6d. for dead weight, and £1. 10s. light freight.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—July 10, Adeline, Marseilles to Saigon; 12, Veronica, Liverpool to Hong Kong; 12, Ephrem, Bordeaux to Saigon; 13, Lord Clyde, London to Shanghai; 17, Nordlap, Cardiff to Manila; 20, Albertine, Cardiff to Hong Kong; Napoleon III., Newport to Shanghai; 22, Avondhu, London to Hong Kong; 24, Smyrna, Liverpool, order; 26, Ladrador, Cardiff to Manila; 27, Walchern, Newcasle to Batavia; 28, Jaqueline and Elise, Amsterdam to Japan.

From UNITED STATES of AMERICA to CHINA, &c.—July 13, Amaranth, New York to Hong Kong.

From CHINA to ENGLAND and CONTINENT, &c.—July 13, Fortitude, Singapore to London; 13, Bencleuch, ditto; 15, Hippolyta, ditto; 16, Christopher Newton, Singapore to Liverpool; 20, Pak Wan, Macao to London; 24, H.I.M.S. Entrecasteant, Batavia to Bourbon; 25, Paul Johan, Batavia to Rotterdam.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES of AMERICA.—July 10, Pudel, Hong Kong to New York; 12, Sea Ranger, Singapore to New York; Conquest, Manila to Boston; 13, Energic, Singapore to New York; 19, Sumatra, Manila to New York.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

TEA.—The chief and almost only business done since our last has been in the "New Crop" Congous, ex Fiery Cross and Serica. Some considerable excitement took place on their being first offered, and large sales of the best chops were made immediately, at full prices. Slightly easier rates have since ruled in some instances, and it is understood that nearly the whole of both cargoes has found buyers. The cargo of the Fiery Cross was put upon the market on the morning of the 11th, and considerable excitement was caused; the result being large sales at full prices. The Serica was also reported in dock, but few musters were ready until next day, when large sales of her cargo were made, but not all at equally good rates. The prices of the first sales were 2s. 5d. to 2s. 10d., but some few chests and half-chests sold up to 2s. 11½d. and 3s., and some boxet of Packling at 3s. 2d. per lb. Subsequently, a good business has been done, but in some cases at reduced prices; and it is understood that now only a very small portion of both cargoes remains undisposed of. We hear of no sales under 2s. 2d. per lb. Of Oolong, some of "New Crop" brought 2s. 2d. and 2s. 4d. per lb. Of old season, some considerable purchases have been made for export, of fair up to good quality. Uncoloured Japans have also been in demand for export, at higher rates; and the market is almost cleared of desirable parcels. A few Scented Orange Pekoes have been sold at 3s. 1d. per lb. Of Greens there has been no further supply. The United Kingdom Stock was on the 31st ultimo, 85,000,000 lbs., against 88,000,000 lbs. on the 31st August, 1864.

COTTON.—The market opened dull this week, and prices gave way ¼d. to ½d. per lb., but on Wednesday there was an improved demand, and in some cases the decline has been recovered. Of China, 350 bales have been sold in the London market during the week at 11½d. to 12d. for fair. The stock of China and Japan in London on the 14th inst. was 2,726 bales, against 25,262 last year. The total stock in London on that date was 53,411 bales, against 87,544 last year. Of cotton afloat to Europe on the 15th, there were 5,954 bales of China, against 81,692 last year, and 294 bales Japan, against 8,736. The stock of cotton in Liverpool on the 15th was 427,600 bales, against 499,980 last year. The demand for China and Japan in the Liverpool market during the past week has, in consequence of their great scarcity, been chiefly of a retail character, at an occasional decline of ¼d. per lb.

SUGAR.—An upward tendency was manifest during the whole of the week, and yesterday (the 15th) transactions were readily concluded again at stiffer rates, establishing a pretty general advance of 3d. to 6d. per cwt. on those of the 8th instant, and in some cases a greater rise is shown. During the week 1,752 bags Penang were sold at, brown to low yellow, 30s. to 32s., middling to good yellow 32s. 6d. to 34s. 6d. At public sale on the 15th, 1,900 bags Penang went off with spirit at the full improvement, viz.—low to good middling strong grey 32s. 6d. to 35s., fine and fine fine brown 31s. 6d. to 32s. Privately 100 bags clayed Manila went at 32s.

COFFEE.—The public sales of Plantation Ceylon, amounting to 3,550 casks, 2,100 barrels and bags, have gone off readily at an average advance of 6d. per cwt.; fine ordinary to low middling, 76s. to 80s. 6d.; middling to good middling, 81s. 6d. to 85s.; fine middling to superior, 86s. to 95s. Native has not participated in this improvement, but 70 casks, 3,210 bags, mostly found buyers at about last week's rates. Good ordinary, 65s. to 66s.; fine ordinary, 67s. to 69s. Of 3,767 bags Manila, only a trifling proportion was realised, fine ordinary even pale, 72s. At the Dutch Trading Company's sale of 87,000 bags on the 13th inst., all clean qualities went off at full rates an advance of ½ cent on the valuations, good ordinary Java bringing 45 to 54½ cents.

RICE.—The demand has been of a partial character since our last; the business done having been confined to small parcels on the spot at about previous rates. A floating cargo of Nakrenzie, 350 tons, has been sold at 10s. 7½d. for the Continent only.

THE CURRENCY OF JAPAN.

WHATEVER tendency the Japanese Government may have towards the adoption of a more liberal foreign policy, it is certain that the full requirements of foreign trade for further facilities will never be adequately met so long as the present artificial ratio between their gold and silver coinage, and, again, between Japanese and foreign silver coin, is authoritatively maintained. Until the precious metals of that country are suffered to find their level with the world's common stock, we shall continue to suffer in our transactions, as the produce exported so far exceeds in value the quantity of imports consumed as to show a large balance in favour of Japan, which has to be paid in dollars at an immensely depreciated value; while all the profit accruing from the exchange is absorbed by the Japanese Government. In 1862 the excess in value of exports over imports was, at the port of Yokohama alone, $3,728,200; in 1863, it was $3,539,000; and in 1864, $3,553,900. At the other ports the proportions are similar, although the totals are of course considerably less; and nearly the whole of this amount is imported into the country in the shape of Mexican dollars. Now the just proportion which these should bear to the native coin (always supposing the latter to be of equal purity) is about 311 *Ichibous* to 100 dols.; and at this rate a certain sum is allowed, per month, to be exchanged at the treasury by Foreign Ministers and Consuls, in accordance with a well known provision in the treaties. But in the open market these same dollars are current only at a much lower rate, fluctuating, according to circumstances, between 190 and 250 Ichibous per $100. This, as compared with the above-quoted standard of 311 per $100, shows a depreciation in the value of the dollar of from 16 to 38 per cent., supposing the coin received in exchange for it to be of equal purity; but when we state that, so far from this being the case, the silver coinage is so debased as to be of a very inferior standard, while that purporting to be gold consists only of silver, covered with a mere coating of the more precious metal, it will at once be seen what an enormous profit accrues to the Treasury. Consul Euslie, in a lately published report on the trade of Hakodadi, estimates it at no less than 60 or 80 per cent. To the uninitiated it may appear strange that we should take it for granted that this profit is absorbed by the Imperial Treasury; yet such is undoubtedly the fact. Besides the large amount paid in Mexican dollars for silk and other produce, considerable sums go direct to the Government, in the shape of duties, tonnage dues, and ground-rents; and yet these dollars circulate nowhere in the interior of the country, being current at the three treaty ports only. The reason of this is, that the circulation of foreign coin being prohibited in the interior, merchants who have brought their produce to a treaty port for sale, and received its proceeds in dollars, find them useless to take back with them, and are therefore compelled to exchange them for Ichibous, which can only be got from the treasury through native banks, at whatever rate they choose to fix; these banks being of course under Government control. So, for every hundred dollars the merchant gets, on the average, about 230 Ichibous; the dollars, purchased by the treasury for this sum, are forthwith coined into upwards of 300; and so on, *ad infinitum*. The perpetual repetition of so unprecedentedly profitable an exchange as this is undoubtedly a valuable source of revenue to the Government;

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but the idea that the maintenance of such a fictitious premium on native coin tends to enhance the national wealth is quite illusory, and it is to be hoped that ere long the Gorogio will awake to the necessity of abandoning a system so injurious to the real interests of the country. A far richer and more lasting source of prosperity would be found in the removal of all those vexatious restrictions by which foreign trade is now encompassed, and in encouraging, instead of prohibiting, the introduction of foreign coin, which, if it were once admitted into free circulation, instead of remaining at a ruinous discount, would soon find its natural level, or perhaps even rise to a premium, as it did under similar circumstances in China. As the Japanese Government openly avows its inability to coin Ichibous rapidly enough to keep pace with the constantly increasing influx of foreign silver, we have certainly a right to demand the removal of all restrictive regulations affecting the circulation of certain descriptions of our coin—say, for instance, the Mexican dollar, already so largely imported, and the newly-issued Hong Kong dollar; this done, the vexatious "currency question" will soon cease to be an incubus on our trade.

THE NEW GOVERNOR FOR HONG KONG.—The newly-appointed Governor to Hong Kong, Sir R. McDonnell, is expected to leave Halifax for England in the present month.

THE CHINA SQUADRON.—It will be seen by our list of naval appointments (says the *Army and Navy Gazette*), that the Admiralty have adopted the sensible plan of paying off several of Her Majesty's ships stationed at Hong Kong, and recommissioning them on the spot. This step is decidedly an improvement on the old plan of ordering ships home at the expiration of their ordinary term of commission, and pulling them to pieces even when they were in a state of thorough efficiency.—[The appointments appeared in the *London and China Express* of the 11th inst.]

Orontes, steam troop ship, Captain W. H. Hire, is expected at Plymouth in the course of the coming week, to embark supernumeraries for China.

THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S SERVICE.

La Finance remarks:—The Peninsular and Oriental Company having decided to cease the postal service between Suez and the Mauritius, and *vice versa*, at the end of June, 1866, the Mauritius Chamber of Commerce, at the request of the local Government, has recommended that a contract be entered into with the Messageries Imperiales for a monthly service from Mauritius to Suez, and from Suez to Mauritius, for a sum not exceeding £12,000 (300,000f.). In the event of this proposition being accepted by the Messageries Imperiales, the Chambers proposes to offer for two lines, one with Galle and the other with Aden. If the Messageries Imperiales will accept the offer for the establishment of a service with Suez, the Chamber is in favour of an arrangement for another with Ceylon, provided that the public do not have to pay more than £36,000 (900,000f.) for the two lines.

THE LONDON JUTE WORKS.

It is a matter of surprise, looking to the importance of the jute business that the various operations involved in the production of fabrics from the raw article should not before this have been efficiently and economically combined. To the large profits obtainable in the manufacture must be attributed the maintenance of that system of decentralisation under which jute, imported into London, is re-exported to France to be spun for the Dundee and other manufacturers. The London Jute Works Company (Limited), the board of which possesses every practical element that can secure success, in addition to great local and individual influence, designs establishing the manufacture in this city. The saving of the cost of transhipment and present insurance charges themselves afford a wide margin for profit, whilst the conducting of the spinning, weaving, and calendering on the same premises, and the mercantile and financial facilities afforded by a metropolitan location, both with reference to purchases of the raw material and advantageous distribution of the manufactured goods, render this a most desirable investment. The jute business is annually augmenting in an enormous ratio, and this carefully considered organisation, with a board of directors holding in their hands the thread of the extensive ramifications of this business, commends itself to capitalists seeking at once safe and large returns. Applications for shares must be sent in by the 26th inst.

TEA.

(From *Travers' Circular*, Sept. 9.)

The public sales of China tea this week were of moderate magnitude: about 21,000 packages only being offered "without reserve," out of about 28,000 packages printed; fair rates were obtained for nearly every lot offered, and in some instances prices went rather higher than general valuations. Dusty and common broken-leaf Congou sold at from 7¾d. to 8½d., and about 3,000 boxes of common Canton green tea of good appearance, "with all faults," sold at 8¾d. to 9d. per lb.; on other kinds, which were rather more numerous than usual, no change in value can be noted, the small quantity offered in each break being too insignificant to admit of much competition. The private market is decidedly firmer, and there is a good demand for all kinds of Congou and scented teas. Exporters eagerly take up all the Moyune teas of good make for American account, and as yet their requirements are far from being supplied. There is also a good demand for black Congou from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 8d., for shipment to Russia. An unusually large sale of Indian tea is advertised for Tuesday next; catalogues have been issued for about 3,500 packages, and the largeness of the quantity offered, together with the near approach of the time for the arrival of the new season's shipments, may perhaps prevent prices from ruling too high to enable the trade to buy these teas with advantage. The market price of common Congou is from 11¼d. to 11½d. per lb. Sound broken-leaf cannot be bought under 7¾d. per lb.

A private telegram, bringing advices from Shanghai to the 4th, from Foochow to the 7th, and from Hong Kong to the 12th Aug., was received in London on Saturday night by Messrs. Sillar and Bateman. It reports the export of tea for the fortnight to be 10,000,000 lbs., and that there was a fair demand. The last advices brought by the mail state that considerable shipments had been made from Foochow for England and Australia, but none for the United States and the Continent of Europe. The decline in the value of the lower and medium kinds, which took place after the departure of the last mail, had since been partially recovered, while the lowest and finest descriptions had maintained their value. Considerable quantities of second crop Congous had come forward, but the quality was inferior, and the offers made were far below market quotations. Advices from Amoy, dated 10th July, stated that the market still remained unopened, and that the stock of tea at that port had steadily increased, no shipments having been made this season.

The Shanghai correspondent of the *Englishman*, writing on the 21st June, draws a gloomy picture of the state of trade in China, and attributes its unsatisfactory condition to rashness and want of foresight on the part of foreign merchants. It would appear that low prices and overstocked markets in England, and the failure of the Russian demand, circumstances patent to them as well as to the Chinese traders who had made their own contracts in the interior accordingly, had been insufficient to check the eagerness of shippers, who, instead of agreeing to abstain from purchasing till prices had, by the absence of demand, been forced low enough to allow of a reasonable hope of profit, seem to have rushed into the market, and "a competition as keen as though there were not a million pounds in stock in London immediately sprang up." High prices and excessive shipments are certainly evils, but not the greatest, that have resulted from this excessive competition. "Native traders were encouraged to force leaf down from the producing districts before it was fit for packing;' in other words, tea, which, if properly cured, would have commanded a high price in this country, where fine quality is much wanted will arrive in no better condition than the mass of the surplus stock which has so long lain neglected in our warehouses, and, when it is sold, can, on arrival, hardly fail to cause loss to the importer. The news of the reduction of the duty in England appears to have caused even greater recklessness, and a fine opportunity for retrieving past errors was allowed to pass away unimproved. It appears hardly credible to those who have watched the transient effect which the late and former reductions exercised on prices, but we are told that "foreign purchasers agreed to consider the reduction in duty as equivalent to an advance of 6d. per lb. in home rates," and that, in consequence, settlements were rapidly made, in one port at least, at an advance of three or four taels per picul. Such eagerness to ship at any cost could scarcely have been anticipated by those persons in this country who predicted that the present season would be characterised by small exports and late arrivals.

Unless the writer of the remarks quoted above has overstated the case, it is tolerably evident that the teaching of the last two years has been thrown away, and yet it would have been difficult to imagine anything more apparent and more forcible. The only deduction that could reasonably be drawn from the history of the tea trade during the last two years was, that every single condition likely to conduce to making it a remunerative one had been for the most part lost sight of. The quantity exported was very large, but had this been the only error committed, its consequences would have been comparatively harmless; theteas, however, were not selected with due regard to the requirements of the market. Although the demand for the better qualities has long been on the increase, little fine tea was shipped, and a considerable proportion of that sent was improperly cured, and arrived in a condition hardly merchantable, while the majority of the shipments consisted of the lower and medium qualities, of which we had already an over supply. There was thus a heavy and badly assorted stock, and prices in consequence fell considerably, but even then the loss to importers would have been comparatively slight, had not the first cost of these teas in China been unusually high. Foreign competition had raised the demands of the teamen, and these had been acceded to apparently under the impression that the prices realised under exceptional circumstances by a few exceptional parcels formed the standard of market value in this country, and that this standard was likely to be maintained in spite of heavy shipments and inferior quality. If this line of policy is to govern the shipments of the present season—and appearances certainly point in that direction—even heavier losses are likely to result. The foreign merchant will in future have to contend with a formidable competitor for the profits of the export trade. The imitative qualities of the Chinese have been directed to this object, and we shall probably find that they have profited by the lessons for which we have paid so dearly, and have learned to copy all the good parts of our system while they avoid its errors. At all events they will carry on the trade under more favourable conditions than we can hope to do. They will not only be able to deal more advantageously with their own countrymen, and by their superior local knowledge and influence to evade many of the exactions to which we are obliged to submit, but they will also, by buying direct from the growers, escape the profits which foreigners have to pay to middlemen. These are advantages which will go far to neutralise the influence which capital and organisation have hitherto thrown into the opposite scale; and great forethought, together with judicious combination, must be resorted to if foreign merchants wish to retain their hold on the export trade.

The following relates to tea cultivation in Behar:—"We learn that the Ranchee Tea Plantation of Messrs. Thompson, Shaw, and Co. is doing well. The plants are generally looking well, both in size and condition, and the company expect to make a little tea from them this season. The company hope to plant out 140 acres this season, if all goes well. They are of opinion that the soil, though deficient in organic deposit, is as well suited to tea as that of Assam. The climate is rather against a very favourable development of the plant, but the results always obtained are

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they think, sufficient to warrant a fair hope of success. They have also commenced the cultivation of coffee. Mr. H. Stainforth has also opened out nurseries for tea and coffee, which he proposes to plant out on land in the vicinity of Ranchee. In the Hazareebaugh district, the Ramgur Tea Company have extended their tea cultivation at Setagurrah by 208 acres, all planted out. The yield has averaged 300 lbs. of tea per acre from full-grown plants, and the quality, which has been tested by competent judges, is considered excellent. There is another tea concern called Jhoomra, in the Hazareebaugh district, which has about 100 acres of tea planted out; but, though the plants are very promising, they are too young as yet to yield any return. A new company have taken 20,000 acres of land from the Ramgurh Rajah, with the view of opening out a fresh tea plantation on the old road between Hazareebaugh and Ranchee.

Messrs. Rusden, Phipps, and Co. give the total sales and contracts of Congous since 8th May, 1865, and stock on 8th July, 1865, as under:—

	Total Sales & Contracts.	Stock.
Dust and broken-leaf	6 936 ..	2,000
Common to good common ..	9,001 ..	9,800
Flavoury to good flavoury ..	52,367 ..	16,200
Second-class Kaisow	69,737 ..	1,900
Good to fine	45,342 ..	210
Finest	7,708 ..	—
	191,091	30,110

Messrs. John Forster and Co. give the export of tea from Foo-Chow to the United Kingdom and to Australia from 1st June to 8th July for the last four seasons as follows:—

	London.	Liverpool.	Australia.	Total lbs.
Total from 1st June to 8th July (season) 1865-66	11,318,300	392,000	809,400	12,519,700
Ditto ditto ditto ... 1864-65	10,324,000	676,700	—	11,000,700
Ditto ditto ditto ... 1863-64	12,418,200	660,800	590,000	13,669,000
Ditto ditto ditto ... 1862-63	8,968,000	—	1,584,000	10,552,000

Messrs. Fussell and Co. state that the amount exported from Foo-Chow from 1st June to 8th July is composed of—

	lbs.
Congou	10,595,338
Souchong	194,591
Oolong	502,906
Scented Orange Pekoe	349,186
Scented Caper	46,624
Flowery Pekoe	14,374
Sorts	8,934
	11,711,953

THE ASIATIC BANK.

The following letter from the Bank has been published in *The Times*:—

"Asiatic Banking Corporation, 4, Lombard Street, London, Sept. 15.

"Sir,—The attention of the board of directors of the Asiatic Banking Corporation has been directed to the observations contained in your City Article to-day, in which you advert to what you state to be a 'practice adopted by two Indian banks—the Asiatic and Central of Western India—of seizing and retaining collateral securities attached to bills accepted by London houses, although the acceptors punctually tender the amount, and demand their surrender, on the plea that the banks have a right to realize these securities and apply any surplus to the discharge of bad debts which they may have incurred in their own separate and private transactions with the drawers.'

"If the practice of the Asiatic Bank had been such as you describe, there is no doubt it would be open to the observations with which you characterise it, but the corporation have given no rise to the charge thus imputed to them.

"The facts of the case out of which your observations arise are simply these.

"The company's agent in Bombay in April last negotiated for a house at Bombay a number of bills for a large amount, some of which were specifically drawn against cotton shipped to London, on the sole account of the drawer, by various vessels, and some of which were what is called 'clean' bills.

"In entering into this transaction the house at Bombay made an agreement with the bank, by which it was specifically agreed as follows:—

"'And we authorise the corporation to hold and retain the goods while unsold, and the balance of the net proceeds when sold as security for and towards the payment of any other bill or bills which any of the managers or agents of the said bank may have purchased from us, or towards the liquidation of any claim the bank may have upon us, or otherwise to be at our disposal.'

"On the arrival of one of the vessels containing part of the cotton in question, Messrs. Dadabhai, Naoroji and Co. called upon the bank and offered to pay a portion of the bills which was drawn against this cargo. The Bombay house having in the meantime stopped payment, the Asiatic Bank were not prepared to give up the security they held on payment of any part of the bills—it would have been contrary to the agreement that they should have done so; but upon Messrs. Dadabhai and Co. stating the cargo had been consigned to them for sale and sold, they offered them (Messrs. Dadabhai and Co.) to confirm the sale, and to hand over the goods to them on an arrangement that the proceeds should be applied, first in payment of the bills drawn against them, and the balance be deposited in the names of Messrs. Dadabhai and Co. and the bank, to abide the decision of the question, if any, whether the bank or Messrs. Dadabhai and Co. were entitled to the surplus. I subjoin a letter from myself to Messrs. Dadabhai and Co. embodying this offer.

"The question between Messrs. Dadabhai and Co. and the Asiatic Bank has since been settled on the principle of that letter. The point between the parties in substance was whether the Asiatic Bank was bound to give up the security they held by specific agreement upon tender of payment of part of the bills which they held, or whether they were entitled, under the agreement, to hold the whole of their security as cover against all the liabilities of the Bombay firm, as stipulated by the bank in their agreement.

"This was a question of law, depending on an agreement, and not on any usage.

"On this explanation I think you will agree that the conduct of the Asiatic Bank has been in all respects fair and even liberal, and that they are not justly obnoxious to the observations contained in your article.

"It would have been more satisfactory to the bank in the first instance to answer Messrs. Dadabhai and Co.'s letter and your observations, but they were advised by their solicitors, Messrs. Freshfield and Newman, that it might give rise to inconvenience, and form a bad precedent, to make a question of pure legal right a subject of discussion in a daily journal.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"F. W. LAWRENCE, Acting General Manager."

NORTH CHINA ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

(Continued from our Issue of 7th Sept.)

Dr. Lamprey was then called on to read his paper on "The water we drink in Shanghai."

He commenced by alluding to the difference between Europeans and Chinese as regards their notions of water applicable for drinking, cooking, and ablution purposes, and the utter disregard of the latter as to sources or supply, and impurity, so long as it was tolerably clear. The difficulties some portions of the population of China labour under in regard to drinking water, and the necessity for boiling water previous to use, thus render the practice of drinking water hot general throughout the country. The well water of the city and settlement of Shanghai is, generally speaking, unfit for use. It contains a large amount of impurities, consisting chiefly of nitrate of lime, derived from sewers and surface drainage, the soil being found to contain a large amount of lime. This nitrate of lime is found exuding above the surface of the tiles of damp floors and of old buildings, where it effloresces. A small quantity put into good water gives it the unpleasant taste noticed in the river water. The muddy water of the Wongpoo contains from 25 to 29 grains per gallon of alluvial matter suspended in it, it also contains much impurity and organic matter; but on being filtered through animal charcoal it loses a large amount of impurity and becomes sufficiently wholesome for use. It still retains a taste, which most river waters have. The amount of the impurities of the Wongpoo water was compared with those of the water supplied to other large communities, and the advantage the rivers of China possessed over those of Bengal and other places were pointed out, viz.: The rivers of China are not made the receptacle of the dead and the sewage of the towns, &c. The chemical constituents of the sewage of towns though largely thrown over the land in China are immediately appropriated by the growing vegetation and otherwise become modified by contact with the soil. The absence of waste uncultivated jungles in China shows that the source of vegetable organic matter is less than in India. The lake water came next under observation. This, though shown to be a bright sparkling water, was found to contain a large amount of impurities, which were greatly reduced by the filtering process. Compared with the river water it has less organic matter in suspension, and was found to keep better than it. The filtered lake water has a decided advantage over all the waters supplied to Shanghai. The filtering process of Messrs. Farr Brothers was next described, and a sample of the charcoal cylinders they use was shown to the meeting. The important results of this process were shown by reference to the following table, exhibiting the impurities of one gallon of the several waters treated of:—

	Sld. Mat. Grs.	Org. Mat. Grs.
Lake water not filtered	40 ...	4
Lake water filtered through carbon cylinders	28 ...	2
River water filtered through filtering paper, by which 25 grains of alluvial matter was taken from it ...	60 ...	10
River water filtered through carbon cylinders... ...	28 ...	4
Well water not filtered	88 ...	16

In a climate like this, where so many circumstances favour the prevalence of illness, such as fever, dysentery, and at times cholera, it becomes a very important matter that this great necessary of life—the water we use—should not be in any way injurious to us. A perusal of sanitary reports shows how much the health of a community depends on good water, especially during the prevalence of any epidemic such as cholera, consequently we are bound to use every effort to deprive the water we are supplied with of all the impurities we can at the cost of whatever labour and expense. The general neglect of the rain water throughout Shanghai was alluded to. Were this water collected, filtered, preserved in proper jars, and filtered again before use, it would be far better than lake or river water. The living animal and vegetable organisms found in the waters of Shanghai were stated to bear a general resemblance to those found in Europe—and while the presence of the former indicated a very impure condition of the water, the latter were generally admitted to possess a purifying effect. These investigations with a microscope afforded an interesting subject for research. But the more important subject for investigation was the nature of the chemical impurities of the water. It was shown that without being much of a chemist a great deal of useful chemical facts would be ascertained by carefully evaporating a given quantity of water. Weighing the residue, and submitting this residue to greater heat and again weighing it, showed the amount of solid matter and of organic impurities. This has been done, and the result was that given in the foregoing table.

The speaker concluded by stating that he had engaged in these pursuits with the object of ascertaining whether the water supply of Shanghai had anything to do with the sickness of the troops in garrison under his care, and the subject being one of general interest to the European residents of Shanghai, he thought the results of his investigations would be an acceptable subject to lay before the society.

Mr. Kingsmill complimented Dr. Lamprey on the interesting results of his analysis. The occurrence of nitrate of lime in quantity was a very remarkable circumstance, and could only be explained by the peculiar geological character of the valley of the Yang-tsze, where limestone rocks existed almost to

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the exclusion of those containing potash and other alkalies. There were some discrepancies in the analysis of the water from the river Thames, but the highest taken at Westminster showed, he believed, a less amount of impurity than that of the Wong-pu at Shanghai. He did not know what the effect of nitrate of lime on the system would be, but thought there was little doubt of the unwholesome nature of the river water here. Much of this was doubtless owing to the flux and reflux of the tide, which constantly carried back the already impure water to the same spot, the amount of actual drainage from the basin of the river not being sufficient to produce a downward current strong enough to carry these impurities out to sea. Above the reach of the tide the water was much purer, and the analysis of the water from the Tai-hu lake showed, he thought, a satisfactory result. He did not agree with Dr. Lamprey in his recommendation of rain-water, as in Shanghai he had found it very impure, it quickly putrified and emitted a fetid smell. He (Mr. Kingsmill) quoted a passage from Professor Anstead, showing that rain-water was apt to be tainted with various impurities, especially in the neighbourhood of large towns, where many human beings were collected together. He thought that Shanghai was similarly circumstanced.

After a vote of thanks to Dr. Lamprey for his interesting paper, proposed by the Rev. Mr. Mitchel, and seconded by Mr. Probst, the proceedings terminated.

OUR TRADE WITH CHINA.

In our last we gave insertion to the Consular Returns for Canton and Swatow for the year 1863; we now publish the returns for the same ports for 1864, and also Consul Fittock's brief abstract of the trade at Ningpo, of which no regular report is given.

REPORT ON THE FOREIGN TRADE AT THE PORT OF CANTON IN CHINA FOR THE YEAR 1864.

The Returns annexed to this Report are as follows:—

1. A Return of British shipping showing the direct trade in British vessels to and from Great Britain and British Colonies.
2. A Return of British and foreign shipping.
3. A Return of foreign shipping (other than British).
4. A Synoptical Return of the Import Trade.
5. A Synoptical Return of the Export Trade.
6. Summary showing the difference in value of the Import Trade between the years 1863 and 1864.
7. Summary showing the difference in value of the Export Trade between the years 1863 and 1864.

These Returns, like those of the preceding year, have been compiled from the foreign Custom-house Reports, but they by no means represent the actual trade of the port, inasmuch as considerable quantities of foreign goods do not pass through the foreign Custom-house, being imported and exported in native craft. Moreover, as observed in the Trade Report of 1863, a very large trade is carried on between the British Colony of Hong Kong and the neighbouring coast of China in native bottoms, and as it is impossible to obtain returns from the Chinese Custom-houses, or from Hong Kong, which is a free port, so is it impossible to form any correct estimate of what is the amount or value of the foreign trade with this part of China.

Imports.—The value of the import trade of Canton for 1864 may be estimated at about £2,053,539 sterling against that of 1863, £2,281,354 sterling, showing a decrease of £227,815, apparently a large falling off on one year's transactions, and for this several reasons may be assigned.

In the first place the exchange is rated at a farthing higher, no very great difference, but still adding somewhat to the deficiency.

Then the immense drain on the Imperial Treasuries from the rebellion has compelled the levy of additional imposts on articles of merchandise in the hands of Chinese merchants, and therefore the foreign goods trade, like that in Chines produce, has suffered considerably.

Again the import trade of the port is changing hands. Formerly goods were imported by the foreign merchant and sold at this place; but now the Chinese merchant goes to Hong Kong and purchases what he requires, sending it up or down the coast or to Canton in foreign or native bottoms as may suit his convenience. The result is, that most of the business of the port is done at Hong Kong.

A comparison of three years' entries in the foreign Custom-house show a gradual decadence in reported cotton goods It will be observed, however, that the falling-off is chiefly in American goods and raw Bombay cotton; the cause for this being, in both cases, the civil war in America, needs no comment.

The decrease in wollens is not so great in the average as that of other articles. Nevertheless, taking into consideration a population of nearly 1,000,000 in this city alone, with one of at least 30,000,000 in the province, the import trade in foreign fabrics is small enough, and indeed would be of no account at all if that which passes through the foreign Custom-house represented the requirements of the people. But the fact is that the principal portion of the shops in Canton are supplied from goods bought of foreigners in Hong Kong.

Now as stocks under present circumstances are not held by foreigners, it is evident, from the difference between the sales made by foreigners and the Customs entries, that the greater part of the goods imported are brought from Hong Kong on Chinese account; and when it is considered that these are but a very small portion indeed of what finds its way into the city or province by other routes, it may be fairly assumed that the import trade for 1864 has not only not decreased, but, in all probability, has very largely increased, only it has changed hands, the Chinese doing that for themselves now which formerly the foreign merchant did for them, viz., import the goods. In fact, by becoming themselves purchasers at first hand, and breaking the bales up into small parcels, and dispersing them over the province, and avoiding the Canton Custom-houses, they do a very large and profitable business, of which little is or can be known, but affording sufficient evidence to show that the trade in foreign manufactures is quite as large as ever it was, only it has assumed a different shape.

In opium the falling off is also large, the value in dollars being in 1864 1,322,866, against 2,290,234 dollars in 1863, showing a decrease of 967,368 dollars. This deficiency may be attributed to the same causes as those which affect the trade in foreign manufactures, and the great facilities for smuggling which exist. For instance, the import of opium into Canton yearly ought to average 10,000 chests, in value say 6,644,000 dollars, whereas the Custom-house Returns show but 1,322,866 dols., showing a difference of 4,317,130 dollars. Now there is every reason to believe that this latter is not caused by a falling off in imports of the drug, but simply by some portions being smuggled in, and others sent by various routes, and thus avoiding the Custom-house at Canton, thus affording another proof of the difficulty that exists of obtaining a correct estimate of the import trade of this port.

Exports.—In this portion of the trade there also appears a falling off; 9,813,711 dollars in 1864, against 16,083,062 in 1863, showing a deficiency of 6,269,351 dollars in last year's export trade.

This difference extends over almost all the articles of export, as the following Table will show:—

	1863.	1864.
Tea	65,662,268	3,344,678
Silk	2,766,567	1,571,670
Cotton ..	25,339	22,088
Chinese produce	7,628,888	4,875,275

As regards tea, the falling off in that article may be attributed to the fact that during the past year the teas have gone to the Portuguese settlement of Macao, where they can be shipped duty free, and although efforts have been made by the Canton Customs authorities to prevent their being carried there from the interior, still by some means or other they evaded the restrictions, and a considerable business has been done in them at Macao. Those in the Canton market were chiefly a few well-known chops, for which high prices were asked. Doubtless, the depressed state of the market at home had its effect on the trade out here, but the truth is that the day for Canton as a tea-mart is past and gone; Foochow and Hankow absorbing all that used to come down before those ports were opened.

In silk the business done during the past year has been but small. The export to Europe was 1,169 bales, inclusive of 755 bales of waste, and to Bombay and America 5,577 cases; but the crop generally has been short, probably 20 per cent. below the average of years, and prices excessively high. The principal portion has been bought by Indian firms, next by native shops and by American and English houses, but very little has been done by the two latter. Prices have rated from 400 to 550 dollars per picul of 133⅓ lbs., being quite 50 dollars higher than the average of former years.

A good crop from the Canton districts may be taken at 15,000 bales or cases, each 100 lbs. English weight.

From the foregoing remarks on the trade of the port at Canton it will be seen that, as regards foreign merchants, local business has been far from satisfactory, and, indeed, there is but little prospect of its improvement. Should the interior become more settled the communication with the provinces of Yunan—rich in mineral products, Kweichow, and Kwangsi, be opened through the West and North Rivers, then there might perhaps be some hopes for a better state of things; but under any circumstances a new element has developed itself, which is likely to cause a revolution in mercantile affairs. The Chinese have at last learned they can transact their own business without the aid of foreign firms, and are fast adopting that mode. During the past year some of the finest steamers on the coast have been chartered and loaded by Chinese firms without European intervention, and the day is not far distant when the whole of the coast-carrying trade will be in their hands alone. It has been mentioned above that the import trade at Canton is being gradually absorbed by the Chinese merchants, and such is the case also at the ports of Hankow, Tientsin, and other places, nor is it at all improbable that the export trade may, to a great extent, follow the same course. Already at Foochow and elsewhere large shipments of teas have been made by Chinese firms on consignment to England, and the fact has appeared, that whilst foreign merchants have been heavy losers on last year's transactions in the home-market, the Chinese have come out well and even with a profit; the reason being, that as Chinese they can buy and sell with much more advantage than foreigners can, for they are dealing with their own interests and not those of employers—they can work their establishments at less expense, and are content with small returns. It is hopeless, therefore under such circumstances, to compete with them except at a loss: and when the time comes, as it will come, when they will feel their way with greater certainty and open credit with foreign banking establishments, that revolution above referred to will have been completed, and foreigners will find a very different state of things than that which formerly prevailed. In fact, it requires only a more settled state of public affairs and an enlightened policy and encouragement on the part of the Chinese Government to hasten the change now pending, for the people are ready and willing enough, and are fast seeing their way to adopt it.

From whence, indeed, originates the now constant complaint that business is dull, and there is nothing doing? Markets at home may perhaps have something to do with it, but it does not require to go so far from China to obtain a reply. Ask into whose hands the carrying trade on the coast, and the import trade into the ports are falling, and an answer to the question will be found. Foreign merchants must look to this if they have regard for their future prospects.

(Signed) D. B. ROBERTSON, Consul.

SWATOW.

REPORT OF THE FOREIGN TRADE AT THE PORT OF SWATOW FOR THE YEAR 1864.

British Shipping.—There has been an increase during 1864 in the number of vessels entering the port, as compared with the previous year, as per following table, viz.:—

	ENTRIES.					
	With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Tonnage.	
1863.	1864.	1863.	1864.	1863.	1864.
215 ..	206 ..	23 ..	50 ..	93,085 ..	100,760

Or, arrivals 256 against 238 of 1863, an increase of 18 vessels, and a tonnage of 7,675.

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CLEARANCES.

With Cargo.		In Ballast.		Tonnage.	
1863.	1864.	1863.	1864.	1863.	1864.
184 ..	200 ..	52 ..	52 ..	92,382 ..	100,943

And by a further comparison between the entries in 1861 and last year it will be seen that the number of vessels which entered the port in 1861 was 160, with a tonnage of 59,142 against 256 in 1864, and a tonnage of 100,760, or an increase in three years of 96 vessels and 41,618 tons.

Foreign Shipping.—208 vessels, under flags other than British, entered the port during 1864, being an increase of 52 vessels over the previous year. This excess is perceptible under the following flags:—

Hamburg	54 in 1863	against 78 in 1864.
French	2 „	11 „
Siamese	4 „	8 „
Sundry flags	14 „	34 „

Comparing the entries in 1864 under the English flag with those under flags of other nations, it will be seen, excluding the steamers employed in the coasting trade, which are exclusively British, that the latter exceed the former by 51 vessels, with a tonnage of 7,075; but, by the addition of steamers to the list, the entries under the British flag exceed others by 48 vessels and tons 35,428, thus evincing a marked improvement in the employment of British vessels during 1864.

Imports.—The total value of the import trade for 1864 amounts to £1,961,740, or an increase over the previous year of £191,105, and this too, without taking into account the foreign goods imported in native bottoms, of which I have been unable to obtain any return. This excess is observable under the following heads, viz.:—Bean-cake, beans and peas, opium, medicine, native cotton, hemp, oil, and rice.

There has been a considerable falling off in the following articles, viz.:—Grey shirtings, white do., T-cloths, cottons (dyed), American drills, lastings, long ells, cotton yarn, ground-nut cake, and silk piece-goods.

The increase in the amount of rice imported is due to the destruction of the crops by the heavy rains which visited the South of China in the middle of the year, whereby immense embankments were broken down, and fields and villages inundated in all directions. The decrease in cotton goods is attributable to the warfare now raging between the Northern and Southern States of the American Union.

To illustrate the steady development of the trade at Swatow, I have drawn up the following table, giving the value of the import trade for each year since the establishment of the Consulate:—

1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.
£1,106,590 ..	£1,264,444 ..	£1,770,635 ..	£1,961,740

or an advance in 1864 over 1861 of £855,150.

Exports.—The value of the export trade for 1864 amounts to £1,167,907, or an increase of £359,838 over 1863. In sugar alone there is an excess of £416,950, thus verifying to the correctness of the statement made in my report for 1863 that a much larger quantity of land had been set apart for the cultivation of the sugar-cane. There is also an increase under the following heads, viz.:—Alum, cassia, paper fans, hemp, and indigo.

There has been a decrease in tobacco, coarse chinaware, paper, fish, dried and salted, maccaroni, medicine, potatoe flour, preserves, and rice.

The following Table shows the value of the export trade for the last four years:—

1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.
£525,931 ..	£746,640 ..	£808,069 ..	£1,167,907

or an increase in 1864 over 1861 of £641,976.

The total value of the trade of Swatow for 1864 amounts therefore to £3,129,647, whilst that for 1863 came to £2,578,704, being an increase during the twelve months of £550,943.

This port still labours under the disadvantages referred to in my Report of 1863; and I believe that a much larger trade would be carried on here could merchants have access to the city of Chao-chou-foo, as there most of the wealthy Chinese merchants reside, a few of whom only engage in trade through agents at Swatow, but who, I have every reason to believe, would embark more extensively in commercial transactions could greater security be obtained for the conduct of goods from hence to the interior, and *vice versa*, but which are subjected at present to the heavy mulcts levied by the villages near which the produce has to pass. The desire to possess the power of levying black mail at Swatow itself rose to such a height during 1864 that the surrounding villages engaged in warfare to obtain this end during the whole year. On the arrival of steamers or ships with Chinese passengers, these, on leaving their vessels, have been fought for in the harbour among the shipping, and fire-arms discharged most indiscriminately. At present the village of Swaboe has obtained the mastery, and holds the monopoly to levy these demands.

Until Chao-chou-foo becomes accessible to foreign merchants, not much more than the present business can be done on the river running to the north-west of Swatow; but it appears to me that a small tug-steamer of light draught would answer well to tow down from the sugar district, on the branch of the river running to the west of Swatow, boats loaded with sugar; and such an arrangement, I presume, the Chinese authorities would make no objection to, especially as such steamer would not have to pass Chao-chou, the city opened to trade, but would ply between it and Swatow. The distance is about thirty miles, and boats at present cannot manage this under two days, as the river is narrow and tortuous, though deep; and if it be blowing from the north-east, these boats are often detained for two or three days longer. A steamer of this class would also be useful in towing both in and out of the port vessels in calm weather. This service could be performed, I fancy, for a very little over the pilotage charged, viz., 3 dollars per foot.

A considerable trade has sprung up during the year 1864 with Saigon, the French port in Cochin-China. The demand for rice has principally caused this.

There are but few foreign merchants at this port, the Chinese preferring in most instances to manage their own affairs; many of whom, on chartering foreign vessels, employ as supercargoes Chinamen brought up in Singapore, and understanding the English language, by which measure the necessity of employing a foreign firm is avoided.

Swatow, March 1, 1865. (Signed) G. W. CAINE, Consul.

NINGPO.

Consul FITTOCK to Mr. WADE.

Ningpo, Nov. 29, 1864.

SIR,—I had the honour to receive your circular despatch of the 28th of October, in which Her Majesty's Consul is informed that discredit necessarily attached to those Consular officers who have neglected to forward the Trade Returns. Yet it was clearly impossible to prepare them in an office so short-handed as this has been; and, so far as I can ascertain, no commercial reports or returns have been prepared at Ningpo during the past three or four years, notwithstanding that the trade has increased enormously, as the following figures will show:—According to the Returns of 1859, the latest on record in the office, the number of vessels of all nations that entered the port was 203, representing a tonnage of 45,305 tons, while in the year 1863 the number had increased to 1,554 of 252,587 tons. In like manner the imports and exports, which in 1859 did not exceed together 1,500,000 dollars at the outside, in 1863 amounted to 23,000,000 dollars in round numbers; and there is reason to believe these figures, large as they are, will be exceeded when the results of the present year's trade are published.

Consul KNOX to Earl RUSSELL.—(Received May 19.)

Bangkok, March 31, 1865.

MY LORD,—I have the honour to forward the Returns of trade of this port for the year ended December 31st, 1864.—I have, &c.

(Signed) THOMAS GEORGE KNOX.

Inclosure in No. 15.

COMMERCIAL REPORT FOR THE PORT OF BANGKOK FOR 1864.

During the last three years the tonnage cleared at this port has been as follows:—

	Total Tonnage.	British Tonnage.
1862 ..	132,138 ..	26,817
1863 ..	115,914 ..	28,603
1864 ..	171,335 ..	54,771

Thus 1864 shows a large increase in the amount of tonnage cleared at this port. British shipping has fully availed itself of this advantage, the amount employed being very nearly double the average of the last five years.

The large demand for rice in China, together with the almost total disappearance of United States shipping from these waters, account in a great measure for the extended employment of British vessels.

There has also been a considerable augmentation in the tonnage of Hanseatic vessels employed at this port.

In 1863 the total tonnage was 8,948, which in 1864 has risen to 21,124. These vessels are peculiarly well adapted for this trade, as, having been built with a flat floor and good amount of beam, they are able to carry their cargoes on a light draught of water. Thus vessels of a considerable carrying capacity are able to load inside the river, and the cargoes are saved the extra expense incurred when conveyed in lighters to those vessels that have to load outside the bar.

The average depth of water on the bar at spring tides is 12 feet 6 inches. The charge for lighterage to vessels loading outside is 7 cents of the dollar per picul of 133 lbs.

The Siamese shipping employed during the last three years has been as follows:—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
Vessels	126 ..	104 ..	134
Tonnage	47,078 ..	37,981 ..	51,431

Many of these vessels have been constructed in Bangkok by native carpenters. Those built during the last four or five years are fully equal to the average of European vessels.

They are built of teak and well coated with chunam under the copper; although their planking is only fastened to the timber by spike nails, yet there are very few instances, even where they have met with typhoons, that they have damaged their cargoes.

The remainder of the vessels owned by Siamese have been purchased from foreigners.

The principal qualities looked for are a good carrying capacity, with a light draft. During the past year the following vessels have been at this port:—

Name.	Flag.	Foreign Name.	Tons.
Hera	American ..	Fairy	572
Kum Rye ..	Do. ..	Jas. Lawrence ..	251
Maria	British	Maria Gambrill .	852
Pengum ..	Do.	Penguin ..	197
Star of Peace ..	American ..	Star of Peace ..	—

There are now five steam-tugs and lighters employed in towing vessels to and from the bar. Three of them belong to an American firm, one to a Siamese, and the other is a British vessel, lately built at Liverpool, and the property of the captain.

Imports.

The Imports for the last three years have been:—

	1862.	1863.	1864.
Goods imported ..	360,601 ..	614,142 ..	793,999
Gold	99,972 ..	56,118 ..	100,496
Silver	127,085 ..	116,335 ..	273,202
Total	587,658	786,595	1,167,597

This Table shows that in 1864 the imports have exceeded those of the two preceding, as, indeed, they have of all former years. There is, however, nothing further remarkable in the increase, as all the articles usually imported into Siam have fairly shared in it. As most of the goods have been imported from Singapore, it is impossible to state exactly their nationality, but from a glance at the Table it can easily be inferred that by far the greater and more valuable part are of British origin.

Exports.

Rice.—The export of rice during the year 1864 amounted to 125,507 tons.

The increased demand for this grain in China has already led to an extension of its cultivation, and will doubtless lead to more. The price at which it sells is ruled entirely by the demand in China, and the growers, who usually bring their own produce to market, must have realised very large profits during the last few years.

The average price during the last year has been 300 per cent. higher

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than it was before the Treaty of 1855. The land on which the seed is sown belongs to the King, and the rent charged is £2. 10s. per acre. In good seasons the return from the seed is ninety-fold.

There is no system of irrigation, the natives trusting entirely to the rains or the overflowing of the rivers for the necessary moisture.

Manure is not used, and the fields are seldom left fallow. The ground is, therefore, not so productive as it could be made, nor is new land brought into cultivation at the rate which might be expected.

The extended cultivation has been merely on the land which was formerly allowed to remain fallow. Thus, a person having, say ten acres, used formerly to cultivate five, and leave the rest fallow for that year; now he cultivates the whole ten yearly. The land in the vicinity of the rivers and canals is now mostly taken up; but there can be little doubt, that owing to the increased fertility of the new land, it will be found profitable to cultivate it. The constant employment of the same ground, as above alluded to, will also necessitate new land being brought into cultivation.

Only one crop is sown in the year.

Teak.—The Siamese Government have now withdrawn all obstacles placed in the way of foreigners who wished to engage in the inland teak trade. They have also allowed foreigners to rent and work the jungles in which the teak trees grow.

I have, therefore, no doubt but that a very large trade in this timber will spring up during the next two or three years.

Bangkok possesses some considerable advantages over Maulmain as regards the facility with which the timber can be brought down to it. I have also been informed by those who have visited the forests from which Maulmain is supplied, as also the forests from whence the timber is brought to Bangkok, that in the latter the trees are both more abundant and of a larger size. This last fact is one of considerable importance, as, I believe, good lengths of teak plank, say 60 to 70 feet, are much required in England. There is here no difficulty in finding trees of large girth of even greater lengths that that above stated.

Their transport from the spot where the trees are felled to the water, by which they are brought down to Bangkok, is the great difficulty. At present the sole means used for dragging timber in the forests is by elephants. These animals are not even assisted by blocks or pulleys, which, it appears to me, would much facilitate their work at a heavy pull, as would rollers, and, doubtless, many other expedients hitherto unemployed. Whether steam power could be profitably used is a question which will doubtless be solved before long, but the great inequalities of the ground will, I fear, militate much against it. Those foreigners who have obtained leave to work a jungle have a certain tract made over to them, and the payment agreed upon is two rupees for each tree felled.

In order to work a jungle properly an outlay of about £4,000 would be requisite for the purchase of elephants, hire of labour, &c.

Those that have not so large a capital at their disposal could enter into contracts with the chiefs of the different districts, who, having much manual and elephant labour at their disposal, will, I am sure, be found willing to bring the logs to the water and hand them over to the purchaser at the rates agreed on. In Siam proper the jungles are under the superintendence of the Governors of the districts; in the Laos provinces they are the private property of the chiefs, of whom there are five or six in each province.

There are numerous other descriptions of wood in Siam applicable to shipbuilding, but with the exception of "mai takien," the prices are as high as that given for teak, and the great ease with which the latter is worked, together with its well known character for durability, will always give it the preference.

The "mai takien" above alluded to can be had in lengths up to ninety feet. It is a very durable wood, particularly under water, is easily worked, and its elasticity is such that 2-inch planks can be fastened on to the timbers of vessels without the necessity of steaming it. It is to be had in great abundance all along the coast. The present price is high, as the business of bringing it to Bangkok is entirely in the hands of Chinese. The profit which they reap from the transaction must be great, as they charge exactly 100 per cent. more for it in Bangkok than it can be bought at even forty miles distant down the coast.

Sugar.—For many years past the production of sugar has been gradually decreasing in Siam, The heavy taxation to which, in all stages of its production, this article was subjected, is undoubtedly the main cause of its decrease.

This can be easily understood when it is known that the land on which it was grown, the cane itself, the mills and boilers used in its manufacture, and the boats in which it was brought to Bangkok, all and each were taxed, and that not lightly. These taxes, after repeated applications from this Consulate and other quarters, have at last been taken off, with the exception of that on the land, which is 2s. 10d. per acre, and that on the boats is collected on all boats, however employed.

Within the last three months a large steam sugar mill has been erected in the Na chon-chaise district. The native sugar manufacturers are, I believe, now aware of the great advantage it possesses over their own mills, therefore others will probably be ordered. I am informed by those who ought to be well capable of giving an opinion that the land in the Na-chon-chaise district is peculiarly well adapted for the growth of the cane, and, as the same soil prevails over a very large surface, there is no valid reason why Siam should not take high rank amongst the sugar-producing countries of the world. The cane is that known as the Salangore cane.

Cotton.—It is very difficult to obtain any reliable information as regards the extent of the cultivation of cotton in Siam.

This country, like most others in the East, is doubtless capable of producing large quantities of the plant, and it is merely a question as to whether its cultivation will give a higher profit to the growers than many other articles which the soil is also able to produce. Under the present high prices it probably does, and the fact that the amount brought down to Bangkok in 1864 was 13,000 piculs of clean and 7,000 unclean, against 7,200 of the former and 4,550 of the latter in 1863, may be taken as evidence thereof. This cotton was grown at a considerable distance from Bangkok, in the northern part of Siam, and Chinese emigrants from the Island of Hainan are the principal, if not the sole, cultivators.

From the information I have been able to obtain (for I have never visited the district myself), both the cultivation of the plant itself and the means employed in picking and cleaning the cotton are of the rudest description. A patch of jungle is cleared, generally a new one every year, whereby much good timber is destroyed. The ground is lightly hoed, and the seed sown broadcast at the time that rain is expected.

Nothing further seems to be done until the plant has grown up. There is a small quantity of cotton, about 3,000 piculs, grown in Samui, an island in the Gulf of Siam, but so quiet has this been kept by the Chinese that it was unknown to any European in the place until one month since, when it was discovered by a person whom I had sent there to get information. It has hitherto been exported to Hainan.

As it is hardly probable that the present high price of cotton will long continue, as the article grown in this country is of an inferior description, and could not be improved without a considerable expenditure of capital and labour, neither of which requisites are likely to be available in this country, at least for some time to come, I think it may be safely concluded that the supply of cotton from Siam will not be for many years of any importance.

Siam has many other productions, but, with the exception of sapan wood, of which the supply is large, the amount produced has hitherto been small, which may in some measure be taken as a proof that to supply them is not found sufficiently profitable to induce much labour to be employed in the business. I therefore think that for some time to come the principal productions of Siam will be found to be rice, sugar, and teak.

The production of the rice, as I have before stated, has much increased, and the export trade in this article has become one of considerable importance.

I believe this in a great measure arises from the fact that when the Treaty of 1855 was made, it was agreed that the duty on this article should be paid by the exporters. The tax-gatherers have thus had to deal with Europeans who would not be imposed upon, and the native producers were freed from these harpies.

It is otherwise with sugar, which was subjected to an inland duty levied on the manufacturers, who, doubtless, are often imposed upon.

With regard to teak no provision was made, and it therefore became a monopoly in the hands of one of the King's brothers, who so dealt with the matter that during the last three years the supply has been very far short of the demand. I have prevailed on the Siamese Government to allow foreigners to embark in the business of bringing timber to Bangkok, paying a duty of 20 per cent. of its value on arrival at Bangkok, and I have great hopes of seeing a very flourishing trade spring up. Until the present any large logs were seized for the King, and the Governors of the towns on the river by which the timber passed were also in the habit of taking a log or two from each raft for their own use.

Population.—The population of Siam Proper can only be guessed at; but I imagine it must be about 4,000,000. It consists of native Siamese, Chinese, Cochin Chinese, Laos, Pequans, Burmese, and Malays.

With the exception of the Siamese and Chinese, the others are descendants of the prisoners taken by the Siamese armies in former times. Of these various peoples the Chinese seem to me to be the only one at present on the increase. Far more industrious than the rest, the women prefer them as husbands, and as they do not exact the same amount of work from their wives that a Siamese husband would do, the mother has more time to attend to her offspring.

The consequence is, that more of their children arrive at the age of maturity than those of the Siamese and other inhabitants of this country.

The female descendants of this race are in dress and appearance similar to the Siamese; the males, growing the Chinese tail and dressing similar to their fathers, are not easily distinguished from the native Chinaman. From this breed have sprung the native merchants of Siam, who are also for the most part the farmers of the revenue.

The European and American residents in this place are in number about 200 persons.

There are eight mercantile houses, two ship chandlers, three steam rice-mills, and two steam-tug proprietors. Besides these there are twenty-two firms managed by natives of Surat and Bombay, some of which have considerable capital at their disposal; and also a large number of Madrassers, principally from the neighbourhood of Pulicat and Nagore, engaged as shopkeepers in Bangkok and some of the large towns of Siam, as well as doing a pedlar business throughout the country.

I had hoped to have had a table of the different taxes levied in Siam ready for this report. They are, however, so numerous, and I may say in a measure so undefined, though not unfelt, that I have as yet been unable to thoroughly complete it. I will, therefore, content myself with stating that the natives of Siam are, I am certain, more heavily taxed than any other people in the world.

There is a carpenter working in the room in which I am now writing, and this is his story, which I know to be true. He is the descendant of parents who were taken prisoners in a raid made by the Siamese into Saooy about forty years ago. He is therefore what is called the King's slave. He receives from the Royal Treasury the sum of sixteen ticals (£2) a year. For this he owes four months' service in the year.

The right to employ this man's service has been given to one of the King's officers, and to this officer the carpenter pays twenty-four ticals (£3) a year. He therefore pays a personal tax of £1 sterling a year. He has a small garden in which there are five durian trees; on each of these trees he pays a yearly tax of one tical, besides taxes on other trees, amounting to two ticals and a-half a year. He therefore pays on the produce of a garden not an acre in extent the sum of 19s. 3d. a year. He keeps a boat in which his wife takes the produce of this garden to market. This boat is 18 feet long, and he therefore has to pay a tax of 7s. 6d. a year on the boat. When his wife gets to market and has sold her fruit, &c., she finds that everything in the way of eatables which she has to purchase for her husband is also taxed, in some cases 30 per cent.

The greatest evil of all, however, is the Government gambling shops, which are planted all over the place, and where nine-tenths of the people lose the little savings their rulers have left them.

(Signed) THOMAS GEORGE KNOX.

Bangkok, March 31, 1865.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1865.

THE JAPANESE AT THE COPPER MINES AT ALDERLEY.

IN compliance with an invitation given some time ago by CHARLES E. PROCTER, Esq., of Macclesfield, the chairman of the Alderley Copper Mining Company, to Mr. RYLE HOLME and the Japanese gentlemen under his care, as well as to Mr. EDWARD CLARKE, the Portuguese Consul for Kanagawa, Japan, a numerous party assembled on Saturday last to view these extensive mines. During the time occupied in lighting up the subterranean galleries and caves—which for this occasion were illuminated "algiorno"—the Japanese guests made a minute inspection of the works above ground, which comprise a powerful apparatus for crushing the sand stone into powder, which being cast into cisterns filled with muriatic acid in solution, soon yields to this powerful agent what is called liquid muriate of copper. During the drying process which succeeds, there results a fine granular powder, dark purple in colour, pungent to the smell, and in appearance very much like common brown emery powder; this is the muriate of copper, and contains about eighty per cent. of metal, which is then put up into casks ready for sale. The inspection above ground having, in the meantime, been satisfactorily accomplished, a general move was made towards the inclined plane leading to the mouth of the mine. At this time the company in waiting to enter the mine numbered about one hundred persons, all of whom were gratified to learn that Lady STANLEY of Alderley, Lady AMBERLEY, and other members of this much esteemed and noble family, had signified their pleasure to witness the illuminations of the inner works and galleries. Her ladyship, escorted by the chairman and other officers of the works, led the way into the mine, and were followed at a short distance by the guests and a strong muster of the fair sex and other residents of Alderley and Chorley. Shortly after entering the first gallery a general halt was called by Mr. OSBORNE, the experienced captain of the mine, who wisely recommended a little delay until all should be accustomed to the partial obscurity which prevailed, notwithstanding the glimmering lights from numerous candles which were affixed over head and on either side. A sensation of satisfaction pervaded all the spectators on finding that the galleries and passages were so spacious and high as to admit of pedestrianising with complete facility, in many places the paths being sufficiently wide for walking three persons abreast. After this the party emerged into a large chamber, the dimensions of which could not be seen at first; but this was from time to time accomplished by the miners perched aloft, burning magnesium wire, which lit up the cavity and its ramifications with surpassing effect and brilliancy. From this point the works appeared to make a sudden dip downwards; still the path was never impracticable, and walking was continued with pleasing facility for perhaps a quarter of a mile further, which led to the largest cavity of the mine, prettily lit up with innumerable candles and impromptu chandeliers. This spacious cavern, which is about half a mile underground, was very brilliantly illuminated with blue lights, magnesium wire, as well as rose, yellow, and white port fires; and at this, the culminating point of interest, the Japanese could be seen gliding with alacrity into the different lodes or subsidiary galleries from which the copper stone is daily being extracted in large quantities. The spectators were here entertained for a full quarter of an hour with such a variety of illuminating effects as elicited frequent exclamations of gratification, and gradually as light after light disappeared in a blaze of brilliancy the company retraced their steps back to the cheerful light of day. Subsequently the invited guests of the chairman assembled at the Queen's Hotel in Chorley, where a sumptuous repast was provided, to which ample justice was done by all, including the Japanese visitors, who handled their knives and forks and ate and drank like men who had never in their lives done otherwise. After the cloth was drawn the Chairman, C. E. PROCTER, Esq., in feeling and appropriate language, proposed the health of her Majesty the QUEEN, and the Lady of the Manor of Macclesfield, which having been most loyally responded to, was immediately followed by that of his Majesty the TYCOON of Japan. Only a short interval had elapsed when the Chairman again called upon the company to fill their glasses, and after expatiating at some length on the gratification he had experienced in having had it in his power to show some attention to the representatives of the Prince SATSUMA during their short stay in this neighbourhood, begged to propose the health of his Highness the puissant Prince of SATSUMA, and also that of his representatives then present. This was briefly replied to in the Japanese language by Mr. SHEKKI, and was then rendered into good English by Mr. TAKAKI. Mr. HOLME, of Yokohama, Japan, in responding to the kind manner in which his health had been drunk, took occasion to express to all concerned his high appreciation of the very cordial reception which had been accorded to the mission of which he was in charge, and the only manner in which he could mark his estimation of the chivalrous conduct of Mr. PROCTER, the Chairman of the Alderley Copper Mining Company, was by calling upon all around to drink his health with all the honours.

The Chairman, having once more requested a hearing, proceeded to mention his regret that the moment was rapidly approaching when his Japanese guests would have to depart. As the train which had to take them away would arrive in a few minutes, he was necessarily compelled to be brief, and would therefore at once propose the health of one present, which he was sure would be well received. He begged to propose the health of Mr. EDWARD CLARKE, the Portuguese Consul for Japan. Mr. CLARKE in reply would not refrain from referring to the generous manner in which his friends in this locality had responded to his earnest desire that the heads of the important mission sent by Prince SATSUMA to this country should be shown everything of interest connected with this his native country, and he had no doubt whatever but that the cordiality and goodwill which had been exhibited by everybody to these illustrious visitors would bear good fruit in due season. Thus concluded the proceedings of a day of more than ordinary interest to the inhabitants of Alderley, Chorley, and the neighbourhood.

THE SINGAPORE SCREW PILE PIER.

WE have had the pleasure of inspecting the drawings for the Screw Pile Pier about to be constructed at Singapore by Mr. George Wells of Westminster; Mr. George P. Bidder past President of the Institution of Civil Engineers, being the consulting engineer. When the work is completed it will be the finest construction of iron in the Far East, and will supply a want that has been felt since the foundation of the settlement. At present, as is well known, the shipping anchor at a distance of about a mile from the town. The beach is long and shallow, and the object of this work is to enable vessels to load and discharge their cargoes with expedition, and without risk of damage in lighters, by means of four lines of rails carried out to the end of the pier—a distance of 6,590 feet, or upwards of a mile and a quarter from the commercial centre of the town. The construction is to be of the same material as the Madras Pier, which has been so successfully carried out under the management of the contractor for this new work. There are no engineering difficulties to contend with at Singapore, and the work will, therefore, be finished in much less time than would otherwise be the case. The screw piles are of iron, 20 to 48 feet in length and 4 to 6 inches in diameter; all to be formed of solid malleable iron, braced with T iron in such

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a manner as to form a structure of singular grace, fulness, and strength, with no element of decay about it, such as would in the tropics appertain to a structure of wood or any other material than solid iron. The present slow and old-fashioned process of loading and discharging the numerous vessels that frequent the port will be entirely changed by the appliance of numerous steam cranes along the lines of rail; and ships will be enabled to moor alongside the pier at berths more or less remote from the town, according to the draft of water. There will be not less than 24 feet at low water along the end of the pier, where an iron-roofed store, a thousand feet in length, is to be erected. So amazing has been the increase of trade at this most important Eastern mart, that by the last official returns the tonnage of square-rigged vessels arriving and departing reached the gross amount of above two million tons. It is easy therefore to form an estimate of the probable traffic and consequent profits likely to accrue to the company, now registered under highly respectable auspices to carry out this urgently needed undertaking, which will have to obtain from the local Government in the first instance a fitting space for their warehouses and depots. The provisional list of directors is formed of names that are a sufficient guarantee for the interests of the proprietary being carefully attended to, and when the company has so far progressed with the works as to be in a position to receive dues, we have no doubt those who invest in this undertaking will be amply satisfied with the yearly dividends. The contractor guarantees interest for two years at five per cent., by which time the company will be in the receipt of a regular and handsome income. It is most gratifying to record the progress of our Eastern possessions at all times, but this enterprise stands forward as the best proof that could be desired of the value and importance of the Straits Settlements now about to be transferred from the Indian Office to our Home Government. We shall expect to find the people of Singapore readily availing themselves of so good an opportunity for investment, and taking good care that only a fair proportion of the shares are left to residents in England. The ground necessary for the undertaking has been applied for by a committee of four of the most respectable merchants in Singapore, who have authority from the Pier Company to take the steps needful for promoting its interests. We hear it is intended to reclaim all the waste beach between Tanjong Mallang and the Fish Market by means of a sea-wall filled in behind with earth. This will certainly be a very great improvement to the town, besides rendering of high value that which is now worse than useless being positively an eyesore at low water. There will thus be ample space provided for warehouses and other purposes of trade; and when the iron pier stretches its graceful structure out into the centre of the shipping, Singapore will have added another to its many claims for being considered the grand emporium of the commerce of the Far East.

FRANCE AND THE FAR EAST.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Sept. 1.

The Paris papers have spoken of the new Ambassadors who have just arrived from Japan, and for a few days the terms of the announcement remained uncontradicted. An application made to the Government has resulted in the information that the new comers have no ambassadorial character; they are simply agents charged to visit France and England and to study Western civilisation and industry, and recommend such improvements as may suggest themselves to their minds as applicable to their own country. The mission consists of:—Shibata-Huigano-kami, Government commissioner; Midzousina Rakutaro, chief secretary; Shioda Saburo, secretary interpreter; Fomita Tatsudo, attache; Obana Sokunoske, commissioner; Foukutchy-genutchy, interpreter, making, with their suite, nine persons in all. Shibata-Huigano-kami is said to be a man of position and intelligence, whose visit is likely to afford useful results. Such a mission is calculated to be of more use in the state of affairs between Japan and the Western Governments than political embassies, which are naturally limited in the extent of their observation and fettered by ceremonious regulations.

The *Moniteur* contains some remarks on the closing of the gambling houses in the French concession at Shanghai, an act which, says the writer, will call forth nothing but applause, but which may give rise to serious difficulties. It raises in fact a fiscal question which must be solved without loss of time, or the resources of the concession will be placed in jeopardy and the municipal services interrupted, which would be a still greater evil than that which has been put down. The income from the tax on the gambling houses is stated to have amounted to three hundred thousand francs, or twelve thousand pounds. No monetary difficulty, says the writer in question, could possibly outweigh the high morality which dictated the suppression of these houses to the Consul-General; and the new budget drawn out by M. Bremer de Montmorand will, it is confidently anticipated, meet all the urgencies of the case.

The French complain terribly of the irresistible love of appropriation inherent in the Annamite mind, and, if the following be not an exceptional case, the complaint is well founded. Rear-Admiral Baron d'Arricau brought a young Annamite home in his ship, and found the boy an admirable servant, full of intelligence and activity. Scham, as the lad is named (says the Admiral), could attend a dinner of fifteen or twenty persons without any assistance, and perform the service with more facility than two Frenchmen or three Englishmen. All Scham's good qualities were however negatived by his extreme love for what did not belong to him; in the space of three months he stole the Admiral's shirt-studs, a gold eye-glass and chain, a watch, a gold medal, and five hundred francs in gold—his taste was evidently auriferous. Some of the coin was found upon him, but the jewellery could not be traced, and in spite of entreaties and threats, nothing could be got out of Scham either by the Admiral or the Abbé Pernon, who acted as interpreter; so, much against the wish of the former, the lad was taken before a magistrate. There was considerable difficulty in ascertaining Scham's age; he said he was nineteen, but he looked like a boy of fifteen; the Abbé thought he might be eighteen or nineteen, but the Court gave the young scamp the benefit of the doubt, declared him to have acted without discretion, and sent him to a house of correction for a twelvemonth.

A battalion, consisting of six hundred men of the first regiment of Infantry of Marine, has just been despatched to reinforce the French troops in Cochin China.

SILK IN FRANCE.

(FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.)

The scarcity of silk continues to cause great inconvenience and uneasiness, the stock of plain manufactured silks at Lyons is said to be small, and fancy goods do not find a ready market. The smallness of the sales arises principally from the high prices asked, and the same applies to raw silk, which manufacturers object to take at the rates fixed by the holders. The dearness is attributed to the Japanese and Chinese, who are supposed to be thoroughly well-informed as to the condition of Europe in this matter, and to be speculating on the disastrous condition of French, Italian and other silk growers; and hence the firmness of the markets and the rise in prices at Yokohama and Shanghai. So much for the opinion of the French economists, who, unfortunately, rarely look an economic question fairly in the face, and too often disregard the simple law of supply and demand in their difficulties. What demand there has been at Lyons of late has been chiefly for Japanese silk; of Chinese there is a very small supply. Generally, the amount of business at Lyons is estimated at not more than half of what it was at the same time last year.

The double meaning of the French word *carton* has given rise to an error with respect to the fraud which has been perpetrated in connection with Japanese eggs. Carton signifies a paper or pasteboard box as well as a piece of pasteboard or cardboard, and it should be explained that it is not the boxes of the Acclimatization Society which have been bought up filled with worthless European eggs and then sold as Japanese, but the pieces of cardboard themselves, upon which the Japanese eggs are fixed, and which are marked previously to the deposit of the eggs with large Japanese characters. Of course such a fraud was likely to be successful, as few would suspect the deposit of French eggs on these old Japanese cards. The announcement that the French authorities in Japan will, in future, affix a special stamp or mark, with the date of the year, on all sheets of silkworms' eggs to be sent from Japan, by persons of all nations, without any charge, and, further, that instructions as to the precautions to be taken in the arrangement and transport of the precious seed will be given to all who apply for them, has given great satisfaction.

An exhibition of insects useful and injurious to man is now

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open in the *Palace de l'Industrie* in the *Champs Elysees*, and in it there are some interesting collections of the thousand-and-one industriously mischievous creatures that feed on our trees, vines, cereals, plants, and other things—not forgetting our own precious bodies—and of the means employed for their destruction; but the two heroes of the exhibition are bees and silkworms. With the former we have nothing to do here, but the apiarist will doubtless find much to interest him. Those who wish to see the *Bombyx cynthia* or Ailanthus silkworm in almost every stage of development will find it worth while to visit the exhibition, where hundreds of these beautiful creatures are feeding and spinning, while hosts of the great moths are busy laying eggs for another generation; there are also large quantities of cocoons and specimens of the silk, raw and dyed. Some of the results exhibited are those produced directly from the Japanese eggs, while others are those of insects of the third and fourth generation in Europe. In addition to the Ailanthus worms may also be seen, feeding on the same kind of tree, other worms produced by crossing the former with the *Bombyx Arrindia*. We were present the other day when M. H. Givelet, who has bred the Ailanthus silkworm for four or five years at the Chateau of Flamboin, delivered a lecture on the subject, and the deep interest it excited proves the importance that is attached to this new and hardy worm. In the exhibition may be seen the apparatus used by the breeders of these worms in France, the methods of arranging the cocoons so as to allow sufficient air for the development of the chrysalis, and of keeping the moths while depositing their eggs, all in positive use, and therefore supplying more information at a glance than could be obtained from a dozen volumes of description. In a postscript to a printed report on the culture of the Ailanthus worm, M. Givelet says that he has already 20,000 cocoons of this year's production in his stores, and that he estimates those still on the trees in his plantation at about three times that number. M. Givelet promises to publish a full account of his experiments, with hints for the cultivation of Ailanthus silk on a large scale, during the coming winter.

Literature.

The French press has of late been more prolific than our own in the production of works having special reference to the Far East. We select for notice the following:—

Revue Orientale: Paris. 8vo.—The ninth volume of this publication has recently appeared and contains a large amount of matter relating to the Far East. It includes, amongst other papers, the address delivered by Professor Leon de Rosny, the editor of the *Revue*, at the opening of the Imperial School of living Eastern tongues, on the study of the Japanese language. M. Leon de Rosny tells in simple language all that is known respecting the origin of the Japanese people and of their language, dwells with gusto upon the attention which these people have given to the study of the exact sciences, pays a high tribute to their ability, and shows how prominently they stand forth amongst all the nations of the East in energy and the desire for progress, quoting, amongst other things in support of his views, the saying of one of the Japanese Ambassadors in Europe:—"I cannot sleep now when I think what liberties are at present denied to my country;" and urging the study of the Japanese language, of which he is one of the most accomplished masters, as one of the surest means of furthering the true political and commercial interests of the European world in relation to the Far East. M. J. Umery gives a succinct account of the Cochin Chinese money of the dynasty of Ngouyen, with cuts of six different coins. M. Stanislaus Julien supplies a note on the inscription of Teng-Koung, which he thus translates:—"This tomb, overshadowed by tufted trees, has existed for 3,000 years. Alas! the Prince Teng will one day inhabit this residence." The last paper in the volume consists of the annual report of the *Société d'Ethonographie*, which is growing rapidly in importance, and gives much of its attention to the East. In addition, the volume in question contains a considerable amount of miscellaneous matter, illustrated by well-executed plates, *fac similes* of ancient documents. Appended to the review is a useful list of works on Oriental subjects published in France, England, Germany, Holland, Scandinavia, and India.

Tableau de la Cochin Chine, by E. Cortambert and Leon de Rosny: Paris. R. 8vo. This is another work published under the patronage of the Ethonographical Society and not so recently as the above, but it is scarcely known in England, and contains a large amount of interesting and useful information, and a large number of well executed cuts illustrated of Cochin-Chinese manners and customs.

Collection Ethnographique: Paris. Quarto.—This is a serial publication of photographs, from the life, of examples of the various races of the human family, published, under the auspices of the Ethonographical Society of Paris, by its President, the Marquis d'Hervey-Saint-Denys. The figures are entirely nude, and taken in three positions—front, back, and side views; the photographs are six or seven inches high, and are executed with great care. The four numbers issued represent a Chinese, a negro, a half-caste woman born of Indian and negro parents, and a Portuguese Jewess.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

ROTTERDAM, Sept. 8.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

There is no political news of any importance; the dead season prevails still, and the journals can find nothing to interest their readers but the cattle plague, which made its appearance here after some cattle were returned from the London market, because they could not be sold at the price fixed. Rigorous measures are taken by our Government, and, as the plague prevails only in two of our provinces, we flatter ourselves with the hope that it will spread no further. You will remember that Mr. Thorbecke, the premier, was in Dresden, when the plague broke out. The Opposition are earnest in telling the public that this plague reached this country because the Minister neglected his duties. This may show you of what nature are our Tories.

All the members of the Royal family have returned to the Hague. It is said that the Prince of Orange will make a trip to Paris within a few weeks—perhaps after the Princess Anna Murat has thoroughly recovered from her late accident.

If I am well-informed, the Minister of the Colonial department is discussing with the Governor General the question of augmenting the staff of functionaries in India. As the States General will be opened within a few days (on the 18th) the truth or falsehood of this *on dit* will soon be proved, because most important colonial questions will be debated immediately Parliament has re-assembled. I hear that the Bill about the cultures will be discussed among the earliest.

A very interesting *brochure* was published to-day by Mr. Nosse, who was banished from the East Indies because he issued some mutinous articles. In my next I will give you some extracts of this important publication.

The Dutch Indian Steam Company was brought forward at the Hague on the 27th August. The aim of this company is to establish a steam-packet line between Europe and our East Indian possessions. The capital is fixed at 3,600,000fl., with power to increase it to 7,200,000fl., in shares of 1,200fl. The managers are Messrs. William Patrick Andrew, of Montague-square, London; David Begg, of Canons-park; George Ponton Gunnis, of Glasgow; William Mackinnon, of Glasgow; John William May, Netherlands Consul in London; Henry Oliver Robinson, Civil Engineer, of London; and Robert Salmond, banker, of Glasgow. Offices will be opened at the Hague, London, and in Netherlands India.

A series of decrees, rendered necessary by the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Holland and France, were issued some days ago. The most important enacts that Dutch vessels arriving in France from British Possessions in Europe shall be treated like French, English, Belgian, Swedish, Norwegian, Bremen, Hamburg, Lubeck, and the Grand Duchy of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, arriving from the same possessions. The other decrees enact that the French flag has the same rights as the Dutch, in reference to the trade with Java and Sumatra; that goods of Dutch origin or manufacture, imported into France otherwise than by land, or under the Dutch or French flag, shall pay 25c. the 100 kilogrammes, when they are free from import duty in France or have to pay less than 3f. the 100 kilogrammes; and the surcharges set forth in the law of 28th April, 1816, when they have to pay mare than 3f. The decrees further enact, that the stipulations in the treaties of commerce between France and England, Italy, Belgium, the Hanse Towns, Sweden and Norway, Switzerland, the Zollverein, Spain, and Mecklenburg-Schwerin are applicable to Holland, and that the stipulations in the treaty with France are applicable to the said States.

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COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The market was in a calm condition, but somewhat firmer after the quantity which will be offered by the Trading Company was known, and it was stated that there were many impure sorts amongst the parcels. 45c. is willingly paid for good ord. Java. 287 b. Padang ex Solid were sold at 40½c., and 1,000 b. Java ex Luconia at prices that did not transpire. The unsold stock of the Trading Company amounts to 372,200 b., of which 87,000 will be offered in the forthcoming sale, while the stock on ceduls amounts to 62,877 b. The total stock in Holland consists of 512,77000 b., against 462.600 b. in 1864.

SUGAR.—The market has been more animated during the last week. Here, as at Amsterdam, about 8,000 kr. were sold. The quotation now is ¾f. to 1f. above the July prices, while for the higher numbers 1¼f. is willingly paid. Refined is also quoted ½f. higher.

TEA.—Nothing was transacted in the Chinese sorts after the public action, at which 99 ¼-chests superfine Congou were sold at 125c.; 92 ¼-chests fine Congou at 120c.; 101 ¼-chests finest Oopack Congou at 95c.; 400 1-16th chests fine new season's Congou at 115c.; 217 ¼-chests extra super. new season's Soochow at 100c.; 200 ¼-chests finest new season's Oopack Congou, at 108c. to 109c.; 12 ¼-chests superfine flowery Pekoe at 130c., and 236 ¼-chests superfine Soochow at 90c. For Java tea there is much demand at full prices.

RICE.—There is some inquiry, but holders decline to sell without an advance, so that some parcels are sold only for consumption. All that was offered at former prices was willingly taken.

SPICES.—The prices paid at the auction of the Trading Company were above the valuation, as there was much demand, but nothing could be bought at the auction prices. For Nutmegs an advance is willingly paid; for Cloves and Mace there is also much inquiry. Cinnamon: the 1231 fard. Cassia Vera offered yesterday at auction, were paid with 26c. to 26½c. The quotation now is: Nutmegs, No. 1, 71c.; No. 2, 59 to 60c.; No. 3, 35 to 36c.; No. 4, 27 to 28c. Mace, D, 64c.; E, 60 to 61c. Cloves, Nos. 2 and 3, 23 to 24c. Cinnamon, 110c. to 112c. Stock of the Trading Company:—Nutmegs, 165 casks; Mace, 95 casks; Cinnamon, 625 fard.; and Pepper, 893 b. For the last-named article there is more inquiry and 417 b. ex Anderkirk a.d. Amstel were sold at 19c. entrepot.

TOBACCO.—The trade is calm, being occupied inspecting the large parcels, which will be offered in public sale on the 22nd. The stock now amounts to 15,187 b. Java, 2,769 p. Manila and 168 p. Japan.

COTTON.—The market was dull; there was only some demand for export.

HEMP (MANILA).—In much demand at 66f.; nothing can be had under 68f.

HIDES.—The Trading Company offered at inscription 2,428 p. E.I., ex Joseph Willem; 3,388 p. ditto. ex Noach; 1,695 p. Buffalo, ex Silentidun, which were all sold at prices that were kept secret. Also 221 p. Buffalo, ex Hollandia were sold by inscription. Stock on the 31st, 25,547. East Indian, 15,165 p. Buffalo; 20,301, Buenos Ayres; 5,276 West Indian, and 3,628 Austria.

INDIGO.—The demand for Java Indigo is very animated; of the private parcels imported in the last week, 150 chests were brought into the market and sold at 25 to 30 cents advance. 42 chests Java and 123 Bengal will be offered at private auction on the 26th, the other private parcels, without doubt, will be taken before they are offered on sale.

SAPANWOOD.—800 pieces were sold at very high prices.

BANCA TIN.—Several ceduls were sold at 54½f. to 54¾f., but nothing can be bought now under 55f., in consequence of the higher quotation of Straits Tin in England. Billiton with some demand; 400 sl. were sold at prices that did not transpire, and 1,500 sl. at 53½f.

COCOA NUT OIL—With much demand at full prices.

MONEY.—As the Bank returns were less favourable, there was some fear in our monetary circles that the Bank should rise its discount, but till now it was not yet confirmed. In the open market, however, the money is firmer and less disposable at 4 per cent.; at the Bank the rate of discount is unaltered, viz., discount for bills, 3 per cent.; acceptances, 3½.

STOCK.—Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents., 62 5-16ths; Three per Cents., 73 1-16th; Four per Cents., 97; Trading Company, 146; Dutch Railway Co.'s shares, 130; Four per Cent. Loan, 90; Rhenish Railway shares, 112½; Loan 1865, 93; Central Railway Co.'s shares, 123; Society for Exploration of the State Railway, 123½; E.I. Railway, 91; Netherlands Credit and Deposit Bank, 107; East Indian Bank, 80¾.

CHANGE.—London, 3 mo., f.11 80; 2 mo., f.11.83½; short, f.11.92; Paris, 3 mo., f.46.95; 2 mo., f.47.05; short, f.47.40; Hambro', 3 mo., f.35; 2 mo., f.35.11; 3 mo., f.35.35; St. Petersburg, 3 mo., f.152.

SHIPPING.—ARRIVALS.—Aug. 29, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Otto; Sept. 1, at Brouwershaven, from Sourabaya, Van der Palm; at Texel, from Banjoewangie, Marinus Willem; 3, at Texel, from Batavia, Margaretha.

DEPARTURES.—Aug. 25, from Texel, for Batavia, Jan van Brakel; 30, from Brouwershaven, for Batavia, Koffyboom; 29, from Texel, for Japan, Zwaan; Sept. 3, from Texel, for Batavia, Johanna; 7, from Brouwershaven, for Batavia, Ary Scheffer; from Texel, for Padang, Padang Packet; for Batavia, Willemina and Clara; for Sourabaya, Henriette Geertruida.

LOADING AT ROTTERDAM.—For Sourabaya, Jeannette and Cornelia, Jannetje, Van der Palm; for Batavia and Samarang, d'Elmina, Eva Johanna, Wilhelmina Johanna, Jupiter; for Batavia, Argo, Ouderkerk van den Amstel, Dordrecht; for Batavia and Sourabaya, Medea; for Kanagawa and Nagasaki, Maria; for Decima, Pantalon; for Singapore and Hong Kong, Mary Goddard.

At AMSTERDAM.—For Batavia, Electra; for Kanagawa and Nagasaki, Gloria, for Decima, China; for Padang, Excelsior; for Sourabaya and Macassar, Henderika; for Sourabaya, Vertrouwen, Presto.

FREIGHTS.

Batavia, 12f. to 15f.		per last of	2,000 kilo., dead weight.
„ 20f.	25f. and 15 per ct.	„	„	120 sqr. Amst. ft. lgt. w.
Samarang, 15f. to 20f.			„	2,000 kilo. dead weight.
„ 20f.	25f.	„	„	„ 120 sqr. Amst. ft. dead w.
Sourabaya, 20f.	25f.	„	„	„ 2,000 kilo., dead weight.
„ 30f.	35f.	„	„	„ 120 sqr. Amst. ft. lgt. w.
Padang 30f.	35f.		„	„ 2,000 kilo., dead weight.
„ 40f.	45f.	„	„	„ 120 sqr. Amst. ft. light w.
Macassar, 50f.	60f.	„	„	„ 2,000 kilo. or 80 sqr. Eng. ft
Singapore, 30s.	35s.	„	per ton of	1,000 kilo., dead weight.
„ 40s.	45s.	„	„	40 sqr. Eng. ft., light w.
Hong Kong 40s.	45s.		„	1,000 kilo., dead weight.
„ 40s.	50s.	„	„	40 sqr. Eng. ft., light w.
Decima & Kanagawa, 50f.		„	per last of	2,000 kilo., dead weight.
„ 60f.		„	„	„ 80 Eng. feet. light wght.
Melbourne & Sydney, 40s. & 5 per ct. pr. ton			„	1,015 kilo., dead weight.
„ 45s.		„	„	„ 40 sqr. Eng. ft. light w.

INSURANCE PREMIUMS for Java and Sumatra, 2½ per cent.; manufactures, 2 to 2½ per cent.; coin, 1½ per cent.; for China direct, 3 to 3¼ per cent.; via Java, 3¼ to 3½ per cent.; for Japan direct, 3½ to 3¾ per cent.; via Java, 3½ to 4 per cent.; from Java and Sumatra, 3 to 2½ per cent.; from China, 4 to 4½ per cent.; from Japan, 4½ to 5 per cent.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From Java, per Marinus Willem, Mrs. Kamsma and family, and Huijer.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

For Java, per Jan van Brakel, Miss C. Conneman, Mr. A. Van Viegen; per Susanna Johanna, Mrs. J. J. Bode and family, L. Krancher and family, Miss Bode and Bellé.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SEPTEMBER 7.

Dr. Petermann, of Gotha, a well-known German geographer, having lately offered a reward of 1,000 to 2,000 dollars to any German who would sail from a German port before the end of August to reconnoitre the whereabouts of the pack-ice to the north of Spitzbergen, and between the meridian of that island and Nova Zembla, preparatory to a great German exploration of the Arctic Seas, to be sent out in the spring, to endeavour to reach the North Pole, Capt. Werner, a scientific officer of the Prussian Navy, offered to take the command in person, provided he could obtain from his Government permission to do so, with two months' leave of absence from his ship, which is stationed at Kiel. He further offered to pay all the expenses of the expedition out of his own pocket, in case the sum could not be raised in any other way. But this latter sacrifice on his part was not required, as an appeal to the German public has been so successful,—the Senate of this city heading the list of donations with the munificent contribution of 2,000 dols.—that the subscriptions amount to more than the sum required. The Prussian Naval Minister, however, thought proper to refuse Capt. Werner's request, and the expedition was then confided to two Hamburg merchants, captains of experience in Arctic navigation, and an iron screw steamer of 150 tons and 40-horse power was chartered for the voyage. Some delay having been caused by her preparation it was not till the 30th of August that she arrived in this port; but such was the energy displayed by the gentlemen of the committee formed here, that she was provisioned, coaled, and supplied with the needful stores and instruments so quickly that she was able to sail the next day—being the latest period available to claim the reward offered by Dr. Petermann. The expedition was accompanied by three naturalists, to make different scientific researches. The vessel was to sail direct for Hammerfest, in Norway, near the North Cape, and within the Arctic Circle, where it was proposed to reinforce the expedition by some of the hardy fishermen of that port, who frequently, in the exercise of their daily calling, sail up to Spitzbergen, sometimes even in open boats.

I regret to add that the expedition has suddenly come to grief. Whilst the officers of the steamer were sitting at dinner, and before they were out of the Elbe, three severe bumps were felt, and it was found that the shaft was broken. Signals of distress being made to the first steamer passing in from sea, the captain bore down and took off the commander of the expedition, bringing him up to Hamburg, whence he despatched a steam-tug to tow up the disabled steamer that had anchored near Cuxhaven. As the vessel must be docked to have a new shaft put in, a delay of at least a week or ten days must take place before she is in a condition to go to sea, and then it will be too late to do any good, as in those high latitudes their six months' night sets in on the 23rd of September, and it would be useless and dangerous to be groping about in the dark amongst icebergs in unknown waters; the expedition is postponed till the spring.

The accounts of the Fair at Nijni-Novgorod are anything but favourable. Complaints are made that the wholesale trade is dull and the retail trade still more so. Of dried and

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preserved fruits but little is to be had, in consequence of the small number of Persians who have arrived, and who usually bring considerable quantities of those commodities. From Bokhara, too, but few people have come, probably owing to the unsettled state of affairs in that country. If they don'tarrive soon it will be bad for the Russian dealers, as last year they were unable to liquidate all their claims and credit wasgiven them till the present fair, as the prices of cotton were so unremunerative. Moreover, in former years, the landowners of the surrounding country used to make purchases of many articles and lay in stocks to last them from fair to fair, but now their pecuniary affairs are in such a poor condition that they are unable to buy at all. A good deal of Persian cotton has arrived, but it is in the hands of commission houses. The silk trade, too, is dull, though it may improve towards the end of the fair, as the Asiatics before returning home usually buy silk articles to take home with them as presents to their relatives and friends. The prices are from 25 to 30 per cent. dearer than last year, and the manufacturers assure their customers that the wholesale prices of raw silk have risen 60 per cent. On the other hand, there is a brisk demand for cotton piece goods, and fair prices are realised. The tea trade is quiet, but it may also improve, as the principal buyers had not yet arrived.

The Zoological Gardens in this city have just received a beautiful leopard and some jelarangs, a present from Mr. Mooyer, of Singapore.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—There is more demand for consumption, and abetter feeling prevails, considerably improved by the telegram from Rio Janeiro. Market closes firm. Sales, 18,000 bags.

SUGAR also rather better. Among the sales were 3.000 bags of East India. Refined unequal: common mills in great demand at full prices, middling and fine neglected, and might be had a trifle cheaper. Sold, 18,000 loaves.

RICE very firm, but without much activity. Arrived since last mail, 11,000 bags of Bassein (sold) per India, 6,200 bags Necransie, per Carl, and 14,500 bags per Edward Albert (the two last not yet sold).

SPICES.—Of Cassia Lignea 4,000 chests have been sold by importers at 9 sch. bco. Flores lower. Cardamoms have improved, and are likely to go higher. No alteration in pepper or ginger.

SPELTER.—Prices rather in favour of buyers, but the only transaction known is 3,000 centners at 14 8 sch. for arrival. Loco scarce and held higher. Imports from Jan. 1 to Aug. 31, 187,000 centners, against 373,400 during the same period of last year. Present stock 6,000 centners, against 15,000 in 1864.

SHIPPING.—ARRIVED.—Aug. 30, Edward Albert, from Rangoon.

SAILED.—Sept. 5, Madura, and Cary and Jane, for Hong Kong.

LOADING.—Melissa and Fromm for Singapore, Colima for Macassar and Hong Kong.

STEAM SERVICE BETWEEN SAN FRANCISCO AND HONG KONG.—The United States Postmaster-General has accepted the tender made by the Pacific Mail Steam-ship Company for the mail steamship service between San Francisco and Hong Kong, touching at Honolulu, Sandwich Islands, and Kanagawa, in Japan, as authorised by Act of Congress. The compensation for the twelve round trips out and back is 500,000 dols. The company is to build four first-class side-wheel steamships, of from 3,500 to 4,000 tons burthen each, and the first steamship of the company is to leave San Francisco for China on or before the 1st January, 1867. The term for the contract is ten years from the date of the commencement of the service. The distance from San Francisco to Hong Kong is 7, 050 miles, and from San Francisco to Kanagawa, the nearest coal depot, is 5,475 miles. The average rate of speed of the steamships is not to be less than 200 miles a day.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE CHINA SQUADRON.

Commanders.—George D. Broad, late Inspector of the Weymouth Coast Guard Division, to the Cormorant, 4, screw gun-vessel, when re-commissioned in China, vice C. M. Buckle; Henry L. Round, to the Argus, 6, paddle sloop, reappointed when ships are re-commissioned in China; John W. Webb, to the Rattler, 17, screw sloop, reappointed when ships are re-commissioned in China; Charles E. Stevens, to the Perseus, 17, screw sloop, reappointed when ships are re-commissioned in China; Richard H. Harington, who was promoted in November last from the Euryalus, to be Inspecting Commander in the Coast Guard Service at Ramsgate, vice George Palmer.

Lieutenants.—Frederick P. Doughty, of the Victory, to the command of the Weazel, gunboat, at China, when re-commissioned, vice H. G. Hale; Howard Kerr, to command the Cockchafer, gunboat, when re-commissioned in China, vice E. M. Dayrell; Uvedale C. Singleton, late of the Devastation, and Robert S. Hunt, late of the Harrier, to the Princess Royal, 73, flag-ship, at China.

Masters.—Frederick W. Rea, late of the Challenger, to the command of the Manila, iron screw vessel, when re-commissioned in China, vice H. W. Burnett; Haben B. Hunt, late of the Phaeton, Francis B. Christian, late of the Firefly, and William H. James, promoted from the Dee, to be additional to the Princess Royal.

Second Master: Robert Towers of the Dromedary at Woolwich, to be additional to the Princess Royal.

Surgeons: George F. Elliott, M.B., B.A., promoted from the Lion, and Raymond H. Carroll, promoted from the Salamis, to be additional to the Princess Royal.

Assistant Surgeons: Frederick A. P. Hains, M.D., and John N. Stone (acting), to be additional to the Princess Royal.

Midshipmen: Ernest R. Rolfe, John R. Prickett, John D. Deane, Edward Goldney, William Henry Monckton, William H. Bristow, Charles Edward Huggins, Philip E. Creswell, and Herbert S. Taylor, to the Princess Royal, for disposal.

Naval Cadets: Richard B. Sayce and Richard Keown, to the Princess Royal, for disposal.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAMER "COREA."

On the 28th ultimo the following communication was received from China, relative to the missing company's steamer *Corea* which, it is feared foundered, with all on board, during a fearful typhoon:—

"Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company's Office, Hong Kong, July 11, 1865.

"To the Managing Directors, London.

"Gentlemen,—It is with the utmost sorrow that I have to inform you that the company's steamer *Corea* is missing, and that the greatest fears are entertained of her having perished in a typhoon which she is known to have encountered on the night of the 29th ult. She was despatched from this port on the evening of the 29th at 6 o'clock, on the usual east coast voyage to Swatow, Amoy, and Foochow. For some days previous the heat had been very intense, the barometer inclined to be low, and the weather had the unsettled appearance it has so common here at this season of the year. Still there was no striking indication of immediate bad weather, and at the moment of leaving Captain Bird expressed his belief that if it should blow at all, it would be nothing more than a monsoon breeze. This was at 6 o'clock, and the suddenness with which the storm burst on the coast may be gathered from the report of a steamer called *Oriflamme*, which left this only two hours before the *Corea*, and narrowly escaped foundering, having been more than once on her beam ends, and with her fires extinguished, and several feet of water in her hold and engine-room. This has been verified by reference to the officers of the *Oriflamme*, so there is no doubt of its correctness.

"The intelligence of her not having reached Swatow was first brought to me very early on the morning of the 8th by the *Azoff*. On hearing that the *Corea* was missing, Captain Baker very properly obtained immediate despatch from Swatow, and came down as close along the coast as it was safe for the ship to do, but without obtaining any tidings of the missing steamer.

"I then applied to the Admiral for a gunboat to visit the various bays between this and Swatow, and made inquiries of the Chinese authorities whether any seamen had been wrecked on the coast. But there happened at the moment to be no vessel of this class ready for sea. I at once despatched the *Azoff* again on this errand, sending in her an armed party of sailors and marines, with a lieutenant in command, whom the Admiral placed at my disposal, as on many parts of this piratical coast it would be dangerous to land without due protection.

"My instructions to Captain Baker were to visit all parts of the coast as high as Swatow, and on arriving there, if no intelligence had been obtained to induce him to proceed elsewhere, he is to return to this port in a more easterly direction, and on his way to examine Pratas Shoal, if by any emote possibility the *Corea* might have been driven there.

"Besides the *Corea*, there is also another steamer missing, which left this port four hours before her on the same voyage—the *Chanticleer*, belonging to Mr. Douglas Lapraik. No traces of this has been heard of either. In estimating the chances of the *Corea* having escaped, the fact of another steamer being missing is not favourable, for where either of them safe the probability is that in the 12 days which have elapsed since the gale she must have been heard of. The direction of the wind and current has been continually from the south, and this fact is also ominous, as had the steamer run off in the only safe direction, viz., south to east, the prevailing wind, even had she been disabled, would have driven her towards the coast again. The only ground of hope then appears to be that she may have been dismasted, or her machinery also disabled, so that progress of any kind is for the time impossible. I cannot hold out this as a strong hope, but I deeply regret to say it seems the only one which professional men entertain, taking all the circumstances into consideration.

"The *Corea* had on board a very small cargo, and only three European passengers besides the Commander's wife, Mrs. Bird. That lady had only been there a few months, but she was in delicate health, and Captain Bird asked to be allowed to take her to Swatow on a visit to some friends. Of the other passengers one was Mr. Noble, manager of the Agra Bank, one was a Portuguese, and one a German.

"I communicate these details with much pain, and would gladly smother the fears I have been compelled to express were the hopes of safety greater; but it is my duty to narrate the plain truth, however painful. It is the common dread, and one which I cannot but share, that an awful catastrophe has befallen these two steamers within a few hours of their leaving this port. I have the honour to remain, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"THOMAS SUTHERLAND,

* "Superintendent of the Company's Works, Hong Kong."

LOSS OF THE "COREA" AND "CHANTICLEER."

(From Mitchell's *Maritime Register.*)

Our readers will see in our impression of to-day a notice of the supposed loss of the steamer *Corea*, one of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's fleet, and of another vessel named the *Chanticleer*, on the coast of China;

* [Mr. Pember, tea taster to Messrs. Silverlock and Co., was also on board.—ED.]

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but, brief as the account is, it contains all that is known respecting these vessels up to the receipt of the latest advices. It has been furnished by Mr. Sutherland, the company's agent at Hong Kong, and is fully corroborated so far by all the telegrams received by the managing directors up to the close of the last month. The *Corea* was employed on the coasting line between Hong Kong, Swatow, Amoy, and Foo-chow, and at 6 in the evening on the 29th of June, left Hong Kong on her ordinary voyage. Four hours earlier the *Chanticleer*, belonging to a house in Hong Kong, left also for Swatow. Neither ship has since been heard of. From a report furnished by the *Oriflamme*, we collect that a vessel, supposed to be the *Corea*, was seen about 11 P.M. It was then blowing a gale from the northward, with a rising sea. It would appear that about fourteen or fifteen hours after the *Corea* had left Hong Kong—that is, between 8 and 9 on the morning of the 30th June—a terrific cyclone burst upon the town and harbour of Hong Kong, carrying everything before it, and driving vessels ashore and foul of each other in all directions. The gale raged at its height for about six hours, and we fear the list of casualties we have received is by no means complete. Business at Hong Kong, we are told, was, during this visitation, and indeed during the whole of the 30th, entirely suspended; and, up to the time the last mail left, vessels were arriving reporting casualties which had befallen themselves, or which they had witnessed.

The occurrence of a typhoon in the China Seas, at certain seasons of the year, is not an event which is likely to take any one by surprise accustomed to the navigation of those seas. There is, however, this peculiarity about the tempest in which the *Corea* is reported to have perished—it appears to have come on with little or no warning. The asmospheric disturbance which commonly precedes a typhoon is well marked, and the barometer falls rapidly many hours before the cyclone sets fairly in. In this case, however, up to 6 o'clock in the afternoon of the 29th of June, there appears to have been no premonition of the approaching storm. "For some days previously [writes Mr. Sutherland] the heat had been very intense, the barometer inclined to be low, and the weather had the unsettled appearance it has so commonly here at this season of the year. Still there was no immediate indication of bad weather, and at the moment of leaving, Captain Bird, of the *Corea*, expressed his belief that, if it should blow at all, it would be nothing more than a monsoon breeze." Our own report from Hong Kong of the same date is quite reconcilable with this statement. It says that the barometer had been gradually falling on the evening of the 29th, and that during the night the sky assumed a lurid aspect, with frequent discharges of vivid lightning. These, unquestionably, were all indications of an approaching storm, but they probably presented themselves after the *Corea* and the *Chanticleer* had left the harbour of Hong Kong, and had passed out to sea. According to the log of the *Oriflamme*, the weather outside at 6 P.M.—the hour at which the *Corea* left Hong Kong—gave no indication whatever of a cyclone. There was a gentle breeze from the westward, with a long rolling swell from the S.E. According to this account, the typhoon commenced at 11 P.M. with a gale from the N. The barometer then stood at 29 60. Three hours afterwards the barometer had fallen to 29 30, and at 4.40 A.M. on the 30th of June the wind flew suddenly round to S., blowing a hurricane. From this point the cyclone drew away towards the westward, and so passed off—the barometer showing 28 50. Another report gives the barometer 28 15, the lowest reading which we find in any of the accounts yet received of this remarkable storm. It would seem that the indications of the approach of these typhoons differ considerably in different localities. A number of vessels left the harbour of Hong Kong on the same evening as the *Corea* and the *Chanticleer*—some earlier and some later—but none of them appear to have had any premonition of the approaching hurricane. If they had, there can be little doubt that they would not have ventured out to sea. The facts connected with this typhoon seem to be sufficiently peculiar to be made the subject of scientific investigation. It has been witnessed by so many vessels, all of whom appear to have kept very accurate logs of its characteristics, that little difficulty would be experienced in the collection of the necessary data, on which to found conclusions which might add materially to the knowledge already possessed respecting these sudden and terrible atmospheric disturbances, and which appear to acquire their greatest intensity in the Eastern Seas.

TEA.

(*Travers' Circular*, Sept. 2.)

There have been no public sales this week of either Chinese or Indian Teas. Privately there is more doing business at rather firmer prices; the home trade demand is much stronger, and export requirements for good green teas and uncoloured Japans still increase. If it were not for the near approach of the arrivals of the new season's tea, the market for the finest kinds would probably wear a stronger aspect than it does, but, as in previous years, many are waiting for the new teas. Fine Monings and Kaisows are now becoming extremely scarce; broken leaf is in request for the home and export trades. Green Teas have been freely placed upon the market, but as yet little business has been done, the high price asked preventing large sales. The Board of Trade Returns just published show an increase in our exports during the seven months ending July 31st of 1,382,330 lbs. over the corresponding period last year; but the increase in the quantities entered for home consumption during the same period is still more considerable, amounting to 5,285,772 lbs. This contemporaneous increase in the exports and home consumption of tea presents a marked contrast to coffee, where one ascends as the other descends, with all the regularity of a well-assorted balance.

By the last advices from China we learn that the exports of tea to England up to the present date have been 20,352,600 lbs., against 20,813,100 lbs. at the corresponding period last year, showing a decrease of 460,500 lbs. This trifling falling off is, however, only temporary, as very large supplies are expected this season, and it would appear that political affairs could alone interfere with shipments. Some little alarm, therefore, has been caused by the rumoured capture of Peking by a new set of rebels, the Nyen-fei. Should the report, which seems destitute of foundation, be eventually confirmed, it may have the effect of producing a temporary advance in the price of teas; but all previous experience of Chinese civil wars warrants us in believing that there will be no cessation of commercial intercourse on that account, and that, whatever party may be in actual possession of Peking, the Chinese will continue to bring forward their supplies of tea as usual. To the natives, however, a revival of the evils of the late civil war must be most disastrous, by the impediments offered to the cultivation of the tea lands, and by the exactions alternately levied by the contending parties. We may form some idea of what the native trading community are likely to suffer in war, from their sufferings in peace. The report of the English Consul at Swatow gives some particulars which show to what extent extortion must have been carried:—"The desire to possess the power of levying black mail at Swatow itself rose to such a height during 1864, that the surrounding villages engaged in warfare to obtain this end during the whole year. On the arrival of steamers or ships with Chinese passengers, these, on leaving their vessels, have been fought for in the harbour among the shipping, and fire-arms discharged most indiscriminately. At present the village of Swabŏe has attained the mastery, and holds the monopoly to levy these demands" (p. 201). On the other hand, the foreign merchant loses all idea of security for his merchandise, inasmuch as he knows it to be liable to seizure by the rebels in the one case, and in the other, subject to a partial forfeiture, in the shape of illegal duties, even at the hands of the legitimate Chinese rulers. For, in the discussion of Chinese affairs, it must always be borne in mind, how despotic and irresponsible is the rule which the mandarins are permitted to hold over the provinces committed to their charge; provided only they are able to remit their apportioned amount of revenue to the Court to which they profess allegiance, it matters little from what sources it may have been derived. Thus the Mandarins are often called upon to meet the pecuniary exigencies of a government which finds it difficult to make its ordinary revenue keep pace with an increased war expenditure; and what method so easy and expeditious as an additional tax levied upon the European merchant? In this way we may account for the seeming inefficiency and supineness of the Chinese Government in affording redress where the interests of foreigners were concerned, a fact more than once alluded to in the Consular Reports from China. But another circumstance, of even more moment to the British merchant in China than the success or discomfiture of Imperialists, Nyen-fei, or Taipings, is the gradual encroachment of the Chinese upon the trade carried on, hitherto, almost uninterruptedly by the Europeans. Not only have they succeeded in partly wresting from us the coal-carrying trade and the import trade into many of the ports, such as those of Hankow, Tien-tsin, Kiu-kiang, and other places, but they have even commenced a rivalry with European merchants in the export trade. Availing themselves of the superior facilities which they must, as natives, necessarily enjoy, and emulating the enterprise of the British merchant, they have already made large shipments of tea from Foochow and elsewhere to England, without English intervention. It is, of course, immaterial to English buyers whether the shippers in China are their own countrymen or Chinese; in fact, it might, to some extent, be an advantage that the goods should be forwarded by the Chinese; as if sent by them, it would tend, in the long run, to reduce the price of tea by saving the profits of middlemen.

Turning from our own trade to that of America, we see that the exports of tea from China have been this season 1,468,500 lbs., against 186,700 lbs. at the same time last year, an increase of 1,281,800 lbs., which may be accounted for on the supposition that during the continuance of the civil war, shippers in China were reluctant to risk their goods in the American market, and, consequently, the greater part of the carrying trade fell into our hands, the Americans obtaining their supplies from England instead of direct from China. Now, however, that peace is re-established, trade will flow into its former channel, and America will once more obtain her supplies direct from China. From Japan the exports from the 1st of June have been 13,590 lbs., against 43,626 lbs. last year; a decrease sufficiently accounted for by the interruption to trade caused by the disputes between the Tycoon and Prince Satsuma.

With regard to the quality of the black-leaf, the reports from China are far from favourable, as fine teas are very scarce; the samples of the second crop, too, are said to be inferior to those of last year. The explanation of this is to be sought in the fact that the teamen, in their anxiety to participate in the benefits of the reduction of duty, have exercised undue haste in pressing their teas forward; so, though the arrivals from the river-ports are tolerably numerous, buyers decline to purchase at present prices, expecting to see a fall. The quality of the Green Tea has been so very unsatisfactory, that no purchases have taken place for the English market. A small quantity has been shipped for America at former prices; but in all probability these will be the last until the arrival of the new crop.

Broken-leaf Congous cannot be bought here under 7¾d. per lb., and the price of common Congou is from 11¼d. to 11½d. per lb.

Monetary and Commercial.

The small quantity of fine bar silver brought by the West India steamer has been disposed of for the Continent at 60⅞d. per ounce, showing a decline of ⅛d. since the previous arrival. In the interval the market has been flat, and there have been but few transactions. The Mexican dollars have not yet been disposed of.

The biddings for bills on India took place on the 6th at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were—to Calcutta, £134,600; to Madras, £9,000; and to Bombay, £100,000. The *minimum* price was, as before, 1s. 10⅛d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 10⅜d. on Bombay. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 1s. 11⅛d. will receive in full, and on Bombay at 1s. 11⅛d. about 72 per cent.; above these prices in full. These terms show a slight increase in the demand for means of remittance to the East.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer

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Ripon, from Southampton on the 4th inst., was:—In gold, to Alexandria, £3,500; to Madras, £1,706. In silver, to Penang, £11,500; to Yokohama, £220; to Shanghai, £2,926; to Singapore, £25,000. Total, in gold, £5,206; in silver, £39,646.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices Sept. 11.
£20	Asiatic Bank Company, issued at £15 prem., £7. 10s paid up. .	£5	15 to 17 pm	—
50	Agra and Masterman's	25	57 to 59	58 to 60
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	27½ to 28½	27 to 28
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	49 to 51	49 to 51
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	27 to 29	27 to 29
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (10 pd.)	All	—	—
20	Eastern Exchange	5	2 to 1 dis.	2 to 1 dis.
50	London Joint Stock	15	50½ to 51½	19 to 51
100	London and Westminster . . .	20	96 to 98	96 to 98
25	Oriental Bank Corporation . .	All	52 to 54	52 to 54
50	Union of London	15	53½ to 54½	54 to 55
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan . .	25	5 to 3 dis.	5 to 3 dis.
100	Do. Issued at 2 pm.	25	5 to 3 dis.	5 to 3 dis.
100	Do. New	20	6 to 4 dis.	6 to 4 dis.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi . . .	10	3½ to 2½ dis.	3 to 2 dis.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	29 to 30	29 to 3
100	Bank of London	50	135 to 138	135 to 138
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India .	4	¼ to 1 pm.	¼ to 1 pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3½ to 4½	3½ to 4½
50	P. and O. Steam Company . .	All	75 to 77	75 to 77
50	Do. New	35	17 to 19 pm.	17 to 19pm.
20	China Steamship & Labuan Coal Co.	5	—	—
5	Bombay Gas	All	5½ to 5¾	5½ to 5¾
10	Hong Kong Gas	All	1 to 2 pm.	1 to 2 pm.
20	S. I. Irrigation and Canal . . .	12	4 to 3 dis.	4 to 3 dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company . .	1	¼ dis. to par	¼ dis to par.
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal. .	All	18½ to 19½	18 to 19½
5	Oriental Gas	All	5¾ to 5¾	5¾ to 5¾
10	O. Inland Steam	All	1½ to 2½	1½ to 2½
100	West India Steam Company . .	60	119 to 122	120 to 123
20	Ceylon Company	7	3 to 4 pm.	3½ to 4 pm.
20	International Finance Society .	5	1½ to 1½ pm.	1½ to 1½ pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2 to 2½ pm.	2 to 2½ pm.
50	London Financial Association . .	15	8½ to 9½pm.	8½ to 9 pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	¾ to ¼ dis.	¾ to ¼ dis.
20	Société Financière d'Egypte . .	10	5 to 4 dis.	4 to 3 dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company . . .	All	15¾ to 16	16 to 16¼
10	Upper Assam Tea	3½	3 to 4 pm.	3 to 4 pm.
10	Do.	All	17 to 19	17 to 19

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—The market during the past fortnight has partially recovered from the depression that previously existed, and the market shows a strengthening tendency. The Fiery Cross and Serica had arrived, and their teas realised 2s. 2d. to 3s. 2d., leaving a profit of 4d. to 9d. It is anticipated that the other vessels to follow will meet an active demand. Telegrams from China to 12th August give the export at 36,000,000 lbs., against same time last year 41,000,000 lbs., with nothing doing in Tea at Shanghai, whereas last year an active trade was being carried on. For export a considerable business has been done for Canada and New York, chiefly in uncol oured Japan kinds, and there are now none to be bought from importers; medium to fine Young Hysons have also been largely dealt in. To Russia and other parts the demand has been limited. The Deliveries for the month are satisfactory, reaching 12,000,000 lbs. Congou.—The demand for red and black leaf from 11d. per lb. and upwards has continued, a fair business has been done both by the trade and shippers, and prices have remained firm. Better kinds up to 1s. 8d. have also been dealt in to a fair extent. In fine and finest kinds business has been restricted, owing to the small quantity on offer. The samples of new Kaisows received by overland mail are exceedingly fine, and the arrivals of the first clippers are looked forward to with interest; the Oopack do not appear to turn out so well, but the samples generally have been too small to form an accurate opinion upon. Souchong.—No change to notice in this description. Oolong.—Common must be quoted lower; fine continues scarce and wanted. Flowery Pekoe.—Nothing doing. Scented Teas.—Common kinds not inquired for; fine and finest maintain their prices. Greens and Uncoloured Japans.—Fine and finest kinds of Greens continue to command extreme prices; common are very difficult to place at a further reduction. Uncoloured Japans again in great demand for export, and full prices have been paid. The deliveries of this class for last month were considerably above the average, being 315,590 lbs., and the stock has run down to 794,000 lbs. Public sales: The China Tea sales commenced on the 5th inst., and terminated on the 8th; 27,879 packages were put up, of which 20,529 packages were printed "without reserve"; of the above only 9,970 packages were Congou; the remainder consisted chiefly of low Greens, Scented Teas, Souchongs, and Oolongs. The auctions have proceeded with fair spirit, and prices, on the whole, may be considered full. Dust and common red-leaf sold from 7¼d. to 8¼d., clean blackish-leaf realised 1s. 0¼d. to 1s. 0½d. Inferior greens sold as low as 2¼d. per lb. 3,904 packages of Assam and Indian Teas are advertised for the 12th inst.

SILK.—We have had a comparatively quiet fortnight in Silk. The expected importations of China Silk come forward so slowly that we have been almost without fresh material for business—all that reached London between the 12th to 15th August, about 5,000 bales, were sold for arrival or taken eagerly upon landing, and for a full fortnight we were left without fresh supply. In the meantime the deliveries are not so satisfactory as could be wished. Comparatively small proportion of the large quantity sold here has been taken out of the warehouses. It must not, however, be forgotten that some 2,500 bales were imported direct in Marseilles, and the bulk of these are said to have been taken into consumption. Our prices generally are scarcely up to the highest moment. 29s. was paid for rather a large parcel of No. 3 Tsatlee, but that is no longer obtainable. In Japan Silk we continue without any arrivals of new Silk, and our remaining stock is not of a tempting character. In the almost entire absence of European Silk the first arrivals will no doubt be taken at full rates. In Canton Silk several large parcels were sold either for arrival or immediately upon landing, at comparatively moderate prices; but in subsequent sales 24s. 6d. to 25s. was realised for No. 1. In Bengal Silk some little business is doing, but nothing of importance.

CHINA.	Usual Imports. s. d. s. d.
CHINA:—Tsatlee, No. 1 & 2	29 0 to 30 6
„ No. 3 & 4	26 6 to 28 0
„ Hangchow	26 6 to 27 0
Yuenfa	17 0 to 25 6
Taysaam	19 0 to 25 0
„ Skeins	None.
Long Reel	21 0 to 22 6
Canton	22 0 to 25 0
Thrown	None.
JAPAN:—Mibush, Dyepot	28 6 to 30 0
Idah Bricks, ...	24 6 to 27 6
Sodai	26 0 to 27 6
Oshu, re-reeled	25 6 to 26 6
Koshu, Selé	26 0 to 27 0
Aechezan slips	24 0 to 25 0
Mashtah do.	24 6 to 25 6

STATE OF THE WAREHOUSES.

	Sold Stock. Sept. 1, 1865.	Sept. 1, 1864.	Unsold Stock. Sept. 1, 1865.	Sept. 1, 1864.	Delivered. Jan. 1 to Sept. 8, 1865.	Jan. 1 to Sept. 8, 1864
Bengal.....	3,093 ...	3,430 ...	1,725 ...	3,025	6,970 ...	4,978
China	1,444 ...	7,353 ...	3,671 ...	1,406	18,743 ...	20,170
Japan	2,070 ...	3,942 ...	1,389 ...	1,395	8,537 ...	13,012
Canton.....	95 ...	225 ...	57 ...	27	412 ...	1,963
Chinese Thrown .	16 ...	468 ...	16 ...	25	105 ...	745

COTTON.—There was a very active demand throughout last week, and as compared with the quotations of the week preceding most descriptions on the spot show an advance of ¼d. to ½d. per lb. For arrival a large business was also done, the latest transactions showing an advance of ¼d. per lb. on the prices paid last week. 220 bales of China, fair to fully fair, went off at 11½d. to 12d. No Japan sold in London during the week. The total stock of China and Japan in London on the 7th was 2,931 bales, against 26,410 last year. Of China afloat to Europe, on the 8th, there were of China, 4,954 bales, against 69,871 last year, and of Japan 294 bales, against 8 736 last year. The total stock in London on the 7th was 58,141 bales, against 90,262 last year. The stock in Liverpool on the 8th was 361,200 bales, against 452,990 bales last year.

The Liverpool report of the week's business is, that China has improved ¼d. to ½d. per lb., the limited supply placing that description in a relatively strong position.

SUGAR.—A strong demand from the home trade last week, with some inquiry from speculators, produced considerable briskness in the market, and extensive sales resulted, further advancing prices 6d. to 1s. per cwt. On the 8th, 2,249 bags Penang were taken, good brown to low yellow and grey, 30s. to 32s. 6d. By private contract, sales are reported of 36,000 bags Clayed Manila at 31s. to 31s. 6d., and 44,000 bags Unclayed at 27s. 9d. to 28s. 9d.

COFFEE.—187 casks, 90 barrels and bags Plantation Ceylon, at public sale, went off on the 8th at fully previous rates; 31 casks, 1,783 bags Native were chiefly sold, good ordinary 65s. 6d. to 66s.

RICE.—General quietness prevailed in the market last week, particularly for landed parcels, of which only trifling sales have been concluded. The floating cargoes reported sold are, two Rangoon, together 1,600 tons, at 12s., and one, 1,600 tons Nakrenzie, at 11s., all for the United Kingdom.

CAMPHOR.—Remains very flat: some small transactions in China are reported within our quotations of £4. 10s. to £4. 15s.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Has further improved quite 2s. per cwt., and moderate business done privately: 402 cases at auction sold at 87s. to 89s. per cwt., 2nd to 1st pile. Buds: Quiet, and of 61 boxes at auction, a few only found buyers at £10. 15s. per cwt.

CINNAMON (CEYLON)—We quote 1st sort, 1s. 7d. to 2s. 9d. per lb.; 2nd, 1s. 5d. to 2s. 4d.; 3rd, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 10d.; 4th and Jungle, 1s. ¼d. to 1s. 5d. 66 bales sold well at auction at quite the par of the last quarterly sales.

COCOA-NUT OIL.—This market has again been firm, with limited business in both Cochin and Ceylon up to our higher quotations of £45 for the former, and £43 for the latter; fine quality becoming scarce; 28 casks Cochin, and 252 casks Sydney at auction.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Rather cheaper, and 68 bags at auction sold at 80s. per cwt. Dragon's Blood: quiet; only two cases at auction sold at £6 per cwt. for fair lump. Galangal Root: is cheaper; but 1,084 bags, of recent arrival, offered at auction, all sold at 12s. 6d. to 14s. 6d. per cwt. Rhubarb: in increased demand, and again 3d. to 4d. per lb. dearer; good business done privately, and of 37 boxes at auction, one third sold at 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d. per lb for fair round, and 4s. 7d. middling flat.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Remains steady; and of 90 cases Sumatra at auction, two-thirds sold at £12 to £12. 12s. 6d. per cwt. for fair to good second quality; and £6. to £6. 17s. 6d. middling to fair third. Damar: Steady; of 60 boxes at auction, two-thirds sold at 49s. to 49s. 6d. per cwt. for good picked. Gamboge: Nothing doing.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Quiet; 14 tons and 22 baskets at auction all retired.

HEMP (MANILA).—This market has relapsed into a condition of great quietness: transactions very trifling. 1,764 bales at auction all retired.

HIDES.—There was a good demand for East India Hides at the sales on the 31st ult., both for consumption and export, and nearly all the moderate quantity offered found buyers at from last sale prices to ¼d. per lb. advance on the better descriptions. 620 Penang Ox and Cow hides offered and sold.—Light, 5½d. to 6½d. per lb.; heavy 4½d. to 5½d. per lb. 1,560 Singapore and Penang Buffalo hides offered and sold at from 5¼d. to 6d.

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HORNS.—Buffalo: Steady; but 4 tons Penang at auction were returned. Deer: Remain firm; 1¼ tons Ceylon sold at auction at 61s. per cwt. for 1½ lb. average.

INDIA RUBBER.—Good quality remains very scarce; auctions confined to 140 baskets Penang, retired at 1s. 4d. per lb.; and 133 baskets common Assam ball retired at 9d., since sold at 8¾d.

JAPAN WAX.—Fine saucers dearer; ordinary cheaper; 261 boxes at auction, mostly sold at 71s. to 75s. per cwt. for good to fine, and 51s. to 54s. 6d. inferior.

OILS.—Anniseed: Small sales effected privately at 7s. 2d. to 7s. 3d. per lb. Cajaputa: Dearer: and of 5 cases at auction, two sold at 3d. per oz. Cassia: Again rather lower, and dull: very little business. Cinnamon: Of 8 cases at auction, three cases sold at 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. per oz. for very fine heavy, being dearer. Mace and Nutmegs: Rather dearer: 7 cases sold at auction at 3¼d. to 4¼d. per lb. for fair to good.

PEPPER.—Black is again the turn easier. Of 6,658 bags Singapore at auction, two-thirds sold at 2⅞d. to 3¼d. per lb. Of 4,812 bags Penang, about half sold at 2¾d. to 3d.; with Trang at 3d. to 3⅛d.; and 160 bags Tellicherry sold at 4½d. White had shown some little signs of improvement, which, however, disappeared at recent sales; when of 719 bags Singapore, two-thirds sold at 5⅜d. to 5½d. per lb., against 5¼d. to 5⅝d. just before obtained privately.

SAGO steady, with very little business privately, and none at auction Flour very quiet: 630 bags at auction all retired. Tapioca: 78 bag. middling white Penang went at 3d. to 3¼d.

SHELLAC.—Button continues to recover, and other kinds are firm, with a little more appearance of demand. Of 1,850 chests and bags at auction rather more than half sold. Orange, 75s. to 92s. 6d. per cwt.; Garnet, 61s. to 73s.; Liver, 60s. to 61s.; Button, 45s. to 84s.; and block and blocky, 61s. to 85s.

SPICES.—Cloves: Penang rather cheaper; but 94 cases at auction mostly sold at 1s. 0½d. to 1s. 2½d. per lb. for fair to very good. Zanzibar steady, and 592 bags sold at 3⅛d. to 3⅜d. per lb. Mace: All sorts dearer, and 12 cases Penang, 15 cases Singapore, and 35 casks Batavia at auction mostly sold at 2s. 2d. per lb. for middling palish, and 11d. to 1s. 8d. inferior red to fair reedish. Nutmegs: The small sizes are 1d. per lb. dearer, and all sorts firm; 66 cases Penang and 10 cases Batavia at auction sold at 2s. 6d. to 3s. 8d. per lb. for middling to good bold, and 11d. to 1s. 10d. ordinary small to fine medium.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Very quiet, with little doing; but some inquiry for good quality. Of 1,055 bags and cases at auction, a few only sold at 23s. to 23s. 6d. per cwt. for mixed. Gambier: In fair demand for immediate requirements, and tolerable business done at 19s. to 20s. per cwt., as in quality; only 200 bales at auction, partly sold at 20s. for good block. During the last day or two the market has become heavy on the receipt of increased supplies.

TIN.—This market has become firmer, with extended demand, and good business done in Straits, mainly at £88. 10s. to £89 per ton cash.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Galls: Firm; auctions confined to 50 cases China, of which 10 sold at 65s. per cwt., and 112 cases Japan retired. Musk: Quiet; 16 caddies Tonquin at auction all retired. Rattans: Auctions confined to 1,710 bundles Penang, retired and subsequently sold at very moderate value. Sapanwood: Firm; only 5 tons Ceylon at auction, sold at £11. 7s. 6d. per ton. There is a good deal of inquiry. Mother-o'-Pearl Shells: Firm; 37 cases Manila at auction retired; privately 100 cases, recent arrival, sold at £5. 10s. per cwt. Soy: Continues very quiet; nothing doing. Star Anniseed: Continues very scarce, and is much wanted. Sticklac (Siam): Meets with somewhat brisk demand, at the recent reduction, and of 662 boxes at auction, nearly all sold at 40s. to 42s. 6d. per cwt. for good to fine; 29s. 6d. to 30s. small and broken; and 27s. 6d. to 28s. 6d. block. Tortoise-shell: Nothing of any consequence doing. Turmeric: No China offering: nothing doing in Java. Vermillion: Continues scarce; 4 boxes sold at auction at 2s. 10d. per lb.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7 to £7. 5s.; nail rod, £8. 10s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10.; sheets, single, £10. 10s. to £10. 15s.; Staffordshire bars, £8. 10s. to £9. 10s.; rails, £7 to £7. 5s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £15.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £91 to £93 per ton; yellow metal, 7¼d. to 7⅜d. per lb.

TIN.—92s. to 94s. for block; 93s. to 95s for common bars. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 29s. to 30s. 6d.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, W.B., £22. 10s.; shot, patent, £22. 10s.; sheet, £20 to £20. 5s.; spelter, £21. 15s.; zinc, English sheet, £27. 10s.; quicksilver, £7. 18s. 6d. to £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—During the first part of the past month, August, this market was extraordinarily stagnant; the last week or two however has shown some slight improvement. Iron is unchanged in price, with the exception of Scotch Pig, which is rather higher. Both Welsh and Staffordshire are in good demand. Copper: The price continues steady, but the demand is very moderate. Ores and Regulus are cheaper. For Chilian there has been a fair enquiry. Australian is not much asked for. Tin: English is without animation and may be bought under Smelters' official quotations. It was thought the low prices would have checked the Cornish production, at present, however, there is no sign of any falling off. Banca and Straits have been bought more freely for consumption, especially for Tin Plate purposes, this manufacture being now very active; but, notwithstanding, the Tin Stocks show no diminution. Tin Plates are in very great demand, many of the works having orders in hand for three or four months in advance. Price is about 1s. per box dearer than a month since. The quantity shipped last month was 95,000 boxes, against 60,000 boxes in August, 1864. Lead continues dull in the extreme, and price is depressed. The falling off in the exports to America and China during the year have been very considerable. Spelter was quiet during the month, but without much affecting the price, until the last few days, when it has fallen about 10s. per ton. The Stock here is 7,389 tons, against 11,431 tons, 1st September, 1864. Quicksilver remains unchanged.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton rom the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£160,698
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£5,500
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£2,231,142
Singapore	£3,007	£271,150
Penang	—	£20,000
Yokohama	—	£51,845

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£57,966
Penang	—	£4,568
Hong Kong	—	£47,000
Foo-chow-Fo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£40,751
Yokohama	—	£13,178

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£56	£21,000
To Saigon	—	£109,190
To Batavia	£3,966	—
To Hong Kong	—	£93,042
To Shanghai	£80	£93,663
To Yokhama	—	£2,184

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4
Silver in Bars	0 5 0⅝
Mexican Dollars	0 5 0¼

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Sept. 8	Liverpool	Rangoon	Zouave	Blair.
— 9	Falmouth	Bassien	Antioch	Hemingway.
— 9	Off Falmouth	Macao	Richard	Hochreuter.
— 9	Do.	Akyab	Thomas Wood	Gadd.
Aug. 31	Gibraltar	Maulmain	Caledonia	Holtz.
—	New York	Shanghai	Egmont	
—	Do.	Do.	John Norman	
Sep. 10	London	Maulmain	Florella	Peabody.
— 11	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Fiery Cross	Robinson.
— 11	Do.	Do.	Serica	Innes.
— 10	Deal	Colombo	Crouch Brothers	Squarey.
— 9	Falmouth	Rangoon	Scharnhorst	Holman.
— 5	Off Scilly	Batavia	Codan	
— 7	Do.	Do.	Juno	Nuss.
— 9	Liverpool	Akyab	Samuel C. Grant	Hinckley.
Aug. 29	New York	Shanghai	Canvass Back	Sanderson.
Sep. 12	London	Colombo	Avert	Owen.
— 9	Off Dungeness	Akyab	Daniel	Hazard.
— 11	Falmouth	Do.	Miranda	Moller.
— 11	Flushing	Maulmain	Ost India	Carlsson.
— 12	London	Colombo	Otoumi	Hall.
— 9	Off the Wight	Singapore	Amazone	Nielsen.
— 13	Deal	Do.	Conference	Read.
— 13	Do.	Batavia	Cornelia Hendrika	
— 11	Texel	Do.	Sourabaya Packet	Olivier.
— 11	Off Dungeness	Do.	Helen Baird	Harris.
— 10	Texel	Do.	Vrede	Duivenboden.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Sept. 5	Shields	China	Lady Avery	
— 4	Rotterdam	Batavia	Maria Johanna	Peters.
— 7	Newport	Singapore	Herschel	Meyerdirck.
— 12	Clyde	Do.	Taymouth Castle	Hinds.
— 9	London	Colombo	Teviot	Wheelan.
— 6	Amsterdam	Batavia	Henrietta Gertruida	De Boer.
— 9	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Her Majesty	Seymour.
— 8	Amsterdam	Batavia	Hendrik	
— 8	Rotterdam	Do.	Ary Scheffer	
— 8	Shields	China	Columbine	
— 9	Cardiff	Shanghai	Glasgow	Smith.
— 12	Liverpool	Manila	Aurelana	Basterra.
— 4	Hamburg	Hong Kong	Cary and Jane	Jensen.
— 11	Newport	Shanghai	Janet Mitchell	Norman.
— 11	Sunderland	Do.	Emerald	McKenzie.
— 12	Do.	Hong Kong	Anne Longton	Harding.
— 13	London	Colombo & Trincomalee	Charlotte Ann	Bruce.
— 13	Do.	Shanghai	Maiden Queen	Smith.
— 13	Do.	Cronstadt & Columbia	Isabella Ridley	Watson.
— 14	Liverpool	Batavia & Singapore	Braganza	Shilston.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Tiphee. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Grenadier. For Shanghai: Sir W. F. Williams, Antipodes, Serica. For Hong Kong and Canton: Dilpussund, Sovereign of India, Taitsing, Fiery Cross. For Singapore: Couranto. For Penang: Devonvale. For Bangkok and Siam, Fairy. For Manila: Loyola. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Kaap Hoorn. For Cape of Good Hope, Mauritius, and Batavia: Konig Willem III. For Colombo: Jane Symons, Granville, Frances. For Colombo and Cochin: Blanch.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Eclipse, Castlehow, Cambrian. For Hong Kong and Canton: Sir Lancelot. For Singapore: Albert Victor. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Harkaway. For Manila: San Luis, Alavesa. For Colombo: Meg Merrilies.

At GLASGOW.—For Manila: Bella Gallega.

SPOKEN.

STAFFORD, Sarawak to London, Aug. 23, 16 N., 30 W.

RICHES (?) (Dut. barq.), Ningpo to Amstm., Aug. 28, 26 N., 36 W.

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DROMAHAIR (?), Singapore to Bremen, July 12, 31 S., lon. 14.
MORAVIA, Sunderland to Hong Kong, July 17, 16 N., 28 W.
DOELWYK (Dut. ship), Rotterdam to Batavia, Aug. 9, 10 N., 25 W.
SYDNEY EGGERS, London to Hong Kong, Aug. 11, 14 N., 25 W.
MACASSAR (Dutch barque), for Macassar, July 15, 33 S., 19 W.
QUINTET, Amsterdam to Sourabaya, July 26, 8 N., 25 W.
BURDEOS Y HABANA, Havana to Macao, Aug. 12, off Cape de Verds.
BARON V. P. V. ROSENDAAL, N'castle to Batavia, June 6, 27 S., 36 W.
WM. DIXON, Singapore to Liverpool, July 19, 33 S., 15 E.
BLANDINA DUDLEY, Cardiffe to Galle, Aug. 12, 17 (?) N., 25 W.
CELEBES, Batavia to Rotterdam, Aug. 10, 4 S., 19 W.
KONINGLYKE NEDERLANDSCHE YACHT CLUB, N'castle to Bat., July 27.
ALICE RITSON, Colombo to London, June 18, 3 S., 86 E.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

We have no alteration to report in outward berth freights since our last issue, and coal freights remain without animation. In homeward charters no business has been transacted of any account.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 35s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £40 and £1. 16s. For Shanghai: £50 and £2. 6s. For Manila: £1. 17s. 6d. For Batavia: 24s. to 26s. For Singapore: £29 and £1. 8s. For Galle: £1. 7s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have accepted the Charlotte Ann for the conveyance of stores from the River Thames to Trincomalee, and have ordered the Taitsing to be surveyed for the conveyance of 109 tons porter from the Thames to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

Advices from Mauritius, under date August 7, state that the Johanna Maria (Dutch ship), from Banjoewangie for Rotterdam, which put in there June 9, for repairs, had been condemned and sold with part cargo; the rest of the cargo would be transhipped into the Kensington (ship), which would probably sail about August 20.

The Mountain Ash, from London for Hong Kong, arrived at Port Elizabeth with loss of jibboom and foretopmast.

LAUNCH OF A NEW SCREW CLIPPER FOR THE CHINA TRADE.—On the 9th inst. Messrs. A. and J. Inglis launched from their building yard, at Point House, Glasgow, a vessel of the screw and sailing class, destined for the Australian and China trade. She measures in length of keel and fore-rake, 245 feet; breadth moulded, 34¼ feet; depth ditto, 22¾ feet; tonnage, 1,400. She is fitted up with all Messrs. A. and J. Inglis's latest improvements, and will accommodate 40 first-class and 400 second and third-class passengers. She is also fitted with a screw propeller, which may be taken up and let down as circumstances require, the engine power for driving which is 250-horse power nominal. As she glided into her element she was named the Erl King by Mrs. Capt. Ware, wife of one of the owners. This vessel has been built to replace the Sea King, and is under the management of Messrs. Robertson and Co., London. She is to load for Melbourne and Sydney, and thence proceed to China.

ARRIVAL OF THE FIRST TEA CLIPPERS.—The Fiery Cross and Serica arrived together off the Isle of Wight on the 10th inst., having left Foo chow together on the 28th May, being 105 days. By a stroke of good fortune, however, a tug steamer ran alongside the Fiery Cross, and, having taken her in tow, reached Gravesend at the same tide. No other tug being in the vicinity, the Serica stood out to mid-channel in order to catch the flood tide, but did not get or see a steamer again till she got to the Foreland, and, in consequence, lost the tide. Had the Serica been fortunate enough to have fallen in with the tug sent out to bring her in from off the Isle of Wight all would have been well, as both ships would have gone up the Thames together. As it was, however, the Fiery Cross got into dock twelve hours in advance, and thus secured the premium, which, we believe, is £1 per ton.

THE LONDON JUTE WORKS

(LIMITED).

CAPITAL £200,000, IN 20,000 SHARES OF £10 EACH.

FIRST ISSUE, 10,000 SHARES.

DEPOSIT ON APPLICATION 10s. PER SHARE, AND ON ALLOTMENT £1 PER SHARE.

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A. HALCOMB, Esq. (Halcomb and Co., Limited), Sack Contractors, 30, Mark Lane.
RICHARD HEALD, Esq., Linen and Jute Cloth Merchant, 3, Little Trinity Lane, Cannon Street West.
JOSEPH JACKSON, Esq., Carpet Manufacturer, Shoreditch, and Northumberland Park.
J. HERMAN MOLLWO, Esq., Gloster Villa, Sudbury.
P. S. PUNNETT, Esq., Chairman of the Hop Planters' Joint Stock Company (Limited), Southwark, Chart Sutton, Staplehurst, Kent.
WILLIAM WALLACE, Esq., Manufacturer, Bread Street, London, and Belfast.
THOMAS WHITE, Esq., Hop Planter, Wateringbury, Kent, and 48, Portland Place, W.
HENRY YEATES, Esq., Jute Spinner and Cloth Manufacturer, Abingdon, Berks.

Bankers—The LONDON and COUNTY BANK, London, and its Branches.
Solicitors—Messrs. HAMBER and HARRISON, 20, King's Arms Yard, Moorgate Street.
Broker—JOSHUA S. MOORE, Esq., 17, Throgmorton-street.
Auditors—Messrs. JOHNSTONE, COOPER, WINTLE, and EVANS, Coleman Street Buildings.
Secretary—Mr. J. A. SIMPSON.

Temporary Offices—Langbourn Chambers, 16½, Fenchurch-street, E.C.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

This Company is established to spin and weave Jute by steam power in London.

The fabrics produced from it are sackings, baggings, hop-pocketings, woolpacks, carpetings, hessians, packing canvas, tarpaulings, paddings, sacks, and bags for all kinds of produce, seeds, &c.

Dundee owes its high position and prosperity almost entirely to this branch of trade, and draws its supplies principally from London. The carriage to and from, insurances, and incidental expenses, amounting to about 13 per cent. on the value of raw material and manufactured goods, will be saved to the Company.

It is well known that the present Jute mills are altogether inadequate to meet the growing demand for goods, and that London offers many advantages for Jute spinning and weaving over any other place in Great Britain. It is the great emporium for Jute imports, and the chief mart for Jute manufactured goods. An abundant supply of labours can be at all times secured in London.

It will be observed that the Board of Direction is composed of gentlemen who possess a thorough knowledge of the different branches of the Jute trade; and the Directors, therefore, in confidently anticipating an average dividend of from 20 to 25 per cent. upon the Company's operations, invite shippers, Manchester warehousemen, hop-planters, millers corn and coal merchants, and all other purchasers of Jute goods, to become interested in the company, it being desirable that the customers of the Company should also be shareholders.

Full copies of the prospectus may had on application to the Bankers, Broker, and Offices of the Company, where also (and at the Solicitors) its articles of association may be seen.

THE LONDON JUTE WORKS (LIMITED).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the LIST of APPLICATIONS for SHARES in this Company will be CLOSED on the 26th inst.

By order,
J. A. SIMPSON, Secretary.

Sept. 12, 1865.

THE CAPE, INDIA, AND CHINA AGENCY.

ORDERS for GOODS of all descriptions executed, and Shipped by the Overland Route or by Clipper Sailing Vessels. Consignments of Produce realised. The Goods are selected by parties who have had personal experience of the requirements of the markets at the

CAPE COLONIES, INDIA, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

TERMS:—One-half the estimated cost to be remitted with the order, and the balance on receipt of Bill of Lading and Invoice.

Commission, 2½ per cent. on Orders over £50, and 5 per cent. on amounts under £50

Orders and remittances should be addressed to the MANAGER.

Office, 12, George-yard, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

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SPECIALLY SELECTED FOR EXPORTATION.

BUTLER & McCULLOCH, SEED MERCHANTS, ESTABLISHED UPWARDS OF A CENTURY, COVENT GARDEN MARKET, W.C.

CAREFULLY PACKED FOR ALL CLIMATES.

Complete Collections o Vegetable and Flower Seeds from £1 to £10 each

Descriptive priced Catalogues post free to all parts of the world.

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TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

J.C.&J.FIELD. LONDON

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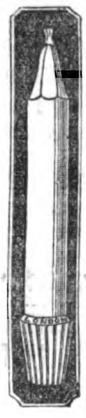

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ORIGINAL MANUFACTURERS OF THE

PRIZE MEDAL PARAFFIN CANDLES,

As supplied to Her Majesty's Government, and the celebrated UNITED SEVICE SOAP TABLETS (richly perfumed and free from cocoa-nut oil), inform their Friends and Residents in Tropical Climates, that their name is on every Candle and Soap Tablet, as also on the NEW PATENT HARD SELF-FITTING CANDLE, *most useful to Colonists, fitting anything from the neck of a bottle to the muzzle of a gun, without paper or scrap ing.*

WHOLESALE AT THE WORKS,

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TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA, INDIA, AND THE CAPE.

CHINA AND GLASS FOR EXPORTATION,

Nos. 49 and 50, OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W.

JOHN W. SHARPUS

BEGS to call the attention of Residents abroad to his IMMENSE STOCK, which is now replete with all the most Modern and Classic Designs in China, Glass, Earthenware, Parian Statuary, and Bohemian Glass, suitable for Exportation.

PARIAN STATUARY AND BOHEMIAN GLASS.

Dinner Services, to dine twelve persons ... from	£3	2	0
Ditto richly gilt ... ... ,,	3	13	6
Handsomely painted and gilt ... ... ,,	5	15	6
Rich coloured Bands, handsomely gilt ... ,,	7	7	0
Porcelain Service, in rich coloured bands, handsomely gilt ... ... from 25 guineas.			
A variety of patterns, expressly for China, India, and the Colonies.			

Dessert Services.

For twelve persons, in neat coloured borders, from	£1	1	0
Ditto antique borders and coloured wreath ,,	1	8	0
A variety, coloured borders, with gold and, flowers on the finest Porcelain ... ... ,,	0	15	0
Ditto ditto from 5 to 10 guineas and upwards.			
hina Breakfast Set, gold edge, viz., 6 breakfast cups and saucers, 2 plates, 1 slop, 1 sugar basin, 1 milk jug ... ... from	0	12	6

Tea Services.

White china, gold edge ... ... from	£0	17	0
Neat painted band and flowers ... ... ,,	1	8	0
Elegant pattern, handsomely painted and gilt ,,	2	2	0
Splendid Services, of the most elaborate workmanship & design, rich painted & gilt, £8 8s. to 14	14	0	

Glass Department.

Particularly neat cut Wine Glasses ...	£0	5	6 per doz
Handsome cut ditto from ... 12s. 6d. to	1	1	0 ,,
Neat good strong Tumblers...	0	4	6 ,,
A large variety of patterns ... 10s. 6d. to	1	4	0 ,,
Pale Ale Tumblers for India... 12s. d. to	2	2	0 ,,
Modern shape Decanters	0	8	6 per pair.
Cut glass and engraved ... ... 21s. to	2	2	0 ,,
Custard and Jelly Glasses ... 4s. 6d. to	0	10	6 per doz.
Cut glass Water Jugs ... ... 5s. to	1	1	0 each.
Best glass Salt (modern shape) ... 9d. to	0	2	9 each.

Price Catalogue may be had on application, containing full description of Kitchen Requisites, Toilet Ware, Cutlery Plated Cruet Frames, Hot Water Plates and Dishes, at extremely reduced Cash Prices.

Dinner Service, to Dine 12 persons, Turquoise and Gold 15 Guineas.

PORT OF AMOY.

SHIPOWNERS, AGENTS and COMMANDERS are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING and SPARRING VESSELS, and for CLEANING and PAINTING Iron and Steam Ships.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, is in complete working order, and at average spring tides can take vessels drawing 16 to 17 feet water. The Dock is fitted with a Caisson Gate and with a Centrifugal Steam Pump of great power ensuring despatch in all states of the tide. An ample stock is kept on hand of Timber, Oregon Spars, Sheathing Copper and Yellow Metal, and of every description of material for Dockyard use.

The premises comprise an Engineer's Workshop, Brass Foundry, a large Smithy and Carpenter's Workshops, and the works are superintended by Resident Europeans, viz., a Shipwright, an Engineer, and a Blacksmith. Dry Godowns for the reception of vessel's stores, &c., when requiring to discharge them.

Amoy, March, 1865.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.
Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

BANKERS.
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The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)

Branches and Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo Kandy, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Point de Galle, Manila, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow, Nagasaki, and Kiu-kiang.

Deposits received at ten days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed period, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued and Bills negotiated payable in India China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government loan notes effected so that the interest may be paid in England. Every other description of Banking and Agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

HONG KONG and SHANGHAI BANKING COMPANY (Limited).

CAPITAL, $5,000,000.

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HEAD OFFICE—HONG KONG.

V. KRESSER, Manager.

Has at present Agencies and Branches at—

Shanghai.	Calcutta.
Singapore.	Bombay, and
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LONDON OFFICE—25, OLD BROAD-STREET
W. H. VACHER, Agent.

ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.—Incorporated by Royal Charter. Authorised Capital, £2,000,000. Paid-up Capital, £500,000.

Head Office—No. 4, Lombard-street.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Melbourne.

The Corporation grant drafts and negotiate bills of exchange payable at the above places, issue letters of credit, and conduct every description of banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian securities, the receipt of dividends, &c. and undertake the safe custody of securities. They also receive deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of interest and exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

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Present prices, 7s. 3d. per dozen quarts, and 4s. 9d. per dozen pints. Free on board, protected by his own and the Brewer's Labels and Patent Capsule.

DYSENTERY, CHOLERA, FEVER, AGUE, ETC.

CHLORODYNE.

CAUTION.—*Vice-Chancellor Wood affirmed in Court that Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE was undoubtedly the Discoverer of Chlorodyne (see "The Times" of July 13, 1864), and all others must be spurious.*

Eminent Hospital Physicians of London stated on oath that they prescribe CHLORODYNE largely, and mean no other than Dr. Browne's.

The General Board of Health, London, state as to its efficacy in Cholera and Dysentery—"So strongly are we convinced of the efficacy of this remedy that we cannot too forcibly urge the necessity of adopting it in all cases."

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From W. Vesalius Pettigrew, M.D.:—"I have no hesitation in stating that I have never met with any medicine so efficacious as an anti-spasmodic and sedative. I have used it in Consumption, Asthma, Diarrhœa, and other diseases, and am most perfectly satisfied with the results."

Dr. M'Grigor Croft, late Army Staff, says:—"It is a most valuable medicine."

Dr. Gibson, Army Medical Staff, Calcutta:—"Two doses completely cured me of Diarrhœa"

Government supply both the Army and Navy with it. A Sheet of Medical Testimonials accompanies each Bottle.

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Be not misled by the statements of unscrupulous persons, as the Defendant was termed by the Vice-Chancellor.

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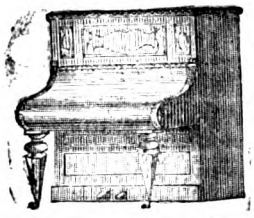

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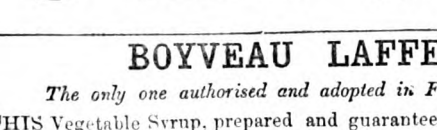

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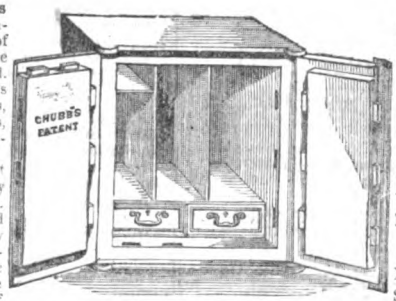

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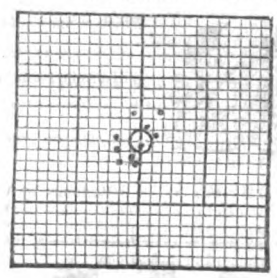

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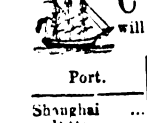

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Ditto ...	Young Lochinvar ...	A1 13 yr.	E.I.D.	To follow.
Kanagawa (Yokohama ...	Eliza Shaw...	A1 15 yr.	E.I.D.	With des.

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FOR SINGAPORE, with immediate despatch, having the bulk of her cargo engaged and on board, the magnificent Clyde-built clipper ship ALBERT VICTOR, 858 tons register, A 1 at Lloyd's for thirteen years, coppered and thoroughly copper-fastened; built last year for the China trade by Messrs. R. Steele and Co., Greenock, and has proved herself one of the finest and fastest ships afloat. Loading in Prince's Dock.

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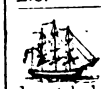

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Reserved Fund ...	...	...	200,000
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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS"

A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 186.] LONDON, WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 27, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Subscription per ann., postage included, Sup. [illegible]

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London 16th Sept.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	May 10		July 13
Nagasaki	"		" 12
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			" 8
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	May 26	July 9	" 22
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	June 17	July 26	" 29
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	May 26	July 12	" 22
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			" 31
SIAM— Bangkok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			" 25
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	June 26	July 30	Aug. 7
Penang	" "	" 28	" 9

THE INCOMING MAILS.

The mails due in London this day, did not reach Suez until the 21st, and will not arrive in London until the 2nd or 3rd Oct. The French mail, with ten days' later news, will probably arrive about the 4th or 5th. We therefore give in to-day's issue the events in this country and the Continent in reference to the Far East.

Telegrams from Shanghai, 21st August, announce that Sir Harry Parkes was re-establishing the Legation at Yedo. Export of silk stated at 29,750 bales. Exchange, 6s. 2¾d. At Canton, 4s. 5¼d. Total export of tea, 45,375,000lbs. to 28th August.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Mongolia, from Southampton, Sept. 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. Henderson, Mrs. John and native servant, and one 2nd class passenger. To Hong Kong: Mrs. Ivor Murray, Mr. Noble, Mr. R. Starkey, Mr. Withers, Mr. Lister, Mr. Russell, Captain Barry. To Ceylon: Mrs. Claughton and European servant, Rev. A. and Mrs. Young, Mrs. Ross, Miss Gibson, Mr. W. Prentice, and one 2nd class passenger. To Calcutta: Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Tottenham and ayah, Maj. and Mrs. Drew, Miss Wilson, Capt. and Mrs. Prendergast, two children and European servant, Capt. E. L. Earle, Dr. Dalziel, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Tilton, infant, and European female servant, Mr. Gay, Rev. J. and Mrs. Robinson, Miss Robinson, and native servant, Mr. E. Rule, Mr. E. Lockwood, Maj. and Mrs. G. R. Brown, Lieut. S. S. Smith, Capt. Wellington, Dr. and Mrs. Baillie, Col. and Mrs. Middleton, three infants, and European and native servant, Mr. C. Wood, Mrs. Poole and daughter, Miss Mackeson, Messrs. P. Cooper, J. Wellborne. Taplin, and Galbraith, Ensign A. K. Abbott, Cornet Loyd, Mrs. J. J. Oliver, Mr. A. Winchester, Mr. Saché, Lieut. W. Cotton, Mr. H. P. Mulock, Capt. Cadell, Mrs. J. Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. Macfarlane, Mr. Bleanerhassett, Mr. Lydiard, Mr. Luard, Assistant Surgeon Thorburn, Mrs. D. A. Pinto, Mrs. Cunninghame, ten 2nd class passengers, and one child. To Madras: Lieut. Plunkett, Mr. Le Faun, Lady Pitcairn, Mr. J. Palmer, Staff Surgeon S. Bayfield, and Staff Assistant Surgeon K. Macaw, and eight 2nd class passengers. To Suez: Mr. H. Belford, Mr. Curling. To Alexandria: Mr. T. B. Pyesmith and female servant, Mr. A. McKean, Mr. A. Peake, Mr. Coyle, Mrs. Airs, child, and two female servants, and seven 2nd class passengers.

From Marseilles, Sept. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Brackenbury, and European servant. To Ceylon: Mr. C. Somerville. To Calcutta: Mr. R. White, Captain Duncan, Mr. E. Grigg, Mr. T. Teil, Captain and Mrs. Graham, Mr. W. Garben, Mr. R. J. Shaw, Mr. J. Anderson, Captain and Mrs. Paske, and European servant, Mrs. G. Dove, Major T. C. Merrick, Mr. S. Whitney, Mr. G. Henderson, Mr. G. Morrison, Mr. W. H. Taylor, Mr. Lord, Lieutenants F. Medhurst and Biscol, Mr. B. C. Boevey, Miss Lake, Mr. Torkington, Lieut. A. B. Davis, Lieutenant and Mrs. Whitmore, Mr. W. Butler, Mr. A. P. McDonald, Mr. Petersen, Miss Jervois. To Madras: Mr. D. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Allan and infant, Miss Hill, and European servant, Lieutenant Beaver, Mr. B. Anderson, Rev. J. Hall, Major Puckle, Lieutenant Churchward.

From Suez.—To Calcutta: Mr. Beattie, Colonel and Mrs. Goodwin, Mr. A. Y. Caridia.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Sept. 27.—To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. Lambert and two children. To Shanghai, via Bombay: Mr. Lloyd Paton. From Marseilles, Oct. 5.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. J. Meldrum, Mr. Morel. To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. J. D. C. Nichols, Mr. W. H. Mitchell, Mr. F. B. Nicholls. To Shanghai via Bombay: Mr. W. Hart.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Oct. 4.—To Hong Kong: Mr. A. Brent, Lieut. Toller, R.E. To Shanghai: Mrs. Bayne. To Ceylon: Mr. B. H. Plumptre, Mr. W. L. Kisch. From Marseilles, Oct. 12.—To Shanghai: Lady Parkes and friend, Mr. F. Myburgh. To Ceylon: Mr. D. B. Lindsay.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Oct. 12.—To Shanghai via Bombay: Mrs. G. W. Bennett and child. To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. James Pope. From Marseilles, Oct. 90.—To Shanghai via Bombay: Mr. F. King, Mr. and Mrs. De Witt C. Brower., Mrs. Muirhead and infant. From Suez.—To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. Anderson.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Oct. 20—To Shanghai: Miss M. A. Russell. To Singapore: Mrs. Cavenagh. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Hermann and infant. To Ceylon: Mr. R. Massie, Lady Chichester, Mr. and Mrs. Wright and two children. From Marseilles, Oct. 28.—To Shanghai: Mrs. Herbert Hancock and three children, Mr. N. G. Howell. To Hong Kong: Mr. T. A. Lane and Mr. D. Lapraik.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Oct. 27.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Macdonald Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Barnes. To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. J. B. Leslie.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, 4th Nov.—To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Lipscombe. From Marseilles, 12th Nov.—To Singapore: Mr. W. Alten, Mr. W. Paterson. To Hong Kong: Mr. R. C. Lambert and friend.

THE ASIATIC AND CENTRAL BANKS.

We have published in previous numbers, a portion of the correspondence relating to the refusal on the part of the Asiatic Bank, and the Central Bank of Western India, to surrender shipping documents to the acceptors, on receipt of the amount of the specific bills drawn against such shipment. This allegation is a serious one, calculated to subvert all confidence, and, indeed, to cause a revolution in the whole system upon which this description of business has been conducted ever since the establishment of Banks in India and China. We are glad to find, however, that such is not likely to be the case. It appears that the transactions alluded to were not of the ordinary nature, but were mixed up with other bills upon which the banks held no security at all, and the drawers of the bills having failed, the banks sought to hold on to the *whole* of the value of the shipping documents, which, under ordinary circumstances, they had certainly no right to do. If that question is disputed, there will be no end of trouble and costly law suits. In fact, the drawees of a bill will, when granting acceptance, have to obtain from the holders an undertaking that they will on the payment of the said bills surrender the shipping documents. Indeed, we would urge all acceptors to adopt this course, to prevent disappointment and litigation, as in some cases the banks may be justified by virtue of their agreement with the drawers to claim the whole proceeds of the goods represented by the shipping documents. In that case it is of course the duty of the drawers to advise the drawees of such an agreement, but that cannot be relied on, and the course we suggest will lay bare at once the real position of the drawee. We give below the letters published since our last issue, but seeing that Messrs. Dadabhai Naoroji and Co. deny the truth of the statements made by Mr. Lawrence, the Manager of the Asiatic, it is fruitless to attempt a solution of the matter by this correspondence. In all such cases charges are made of *suppressio veri*, and this case forms no exception :—

"Asiatic Banking Corporation, 4, Lombard Street, London, Sept. 15.

"Sir,—The attention of the board of directors of the Asiatic Banking Corporation has been directed to the observations contained in your City Article to-day, in which you advert to what you state to be a 'practice adopted by two Indian banks—the Asiatic and Central of Western India

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—of seizing and retaining collateral securities attached to bills accepted by London houses, although the acceptors punctually tender the amount, and demand their surrender, on the plea that the banks have a right to realize these securities and apply any surplus to the discharge of bad debts which they may have incurred in their own separate and private transactions with the drawers.'

"If the practice of the Asiatic Bank had been such as you describe, there is no doubt it would be open to the observations with which you characterise it, but the corporation have given no rise to the charge thus imputed to them.

"The facts of the case out of which your observations arise are simply these.

"The company's agent in Bombay in April last negotiated for a house at Bombay a number of bills for a large amount, some of which were specifically drawn against cotton shipped to London, on the sole account of the drawer, by various vessels, and some of which were what is called 'clean' bills.

"In entering into this transaction the house at Bombay made an agreement with the bank, by which it was specifically agreed as follows :—

"'And we authorise the corporation to hold and retain the goods while unsold, and the balance of the net proceeds when sold as security for and towards the payment of any other bill or bills which any of the managers or agents of the said bank may have purchased from us, or towards the liquidation of any claim the bank may have upon us, or otherwise to be at our disposal.'

"On the arrival of one of the vessels containing part of the cotton in question, Messrs. Dadabhai, Naoroji and Co. called upon the bank and offered to pay a portion of the bills which was drawn against this cargo. The Bombay house having in the meantime stopped payment, the Asiatic Bank were not prepared to give up the security they held on payment of any part of the bills—it would have been contrary to the agreement that they should have done so; but upon Messrs. Dadabhai and Co. stating the cargo had been consigned to them for sale and sold, they offered them (Messrs. Dadabhai and Co.) to confirm the sale, and to hand over the goods to them on an arrangement that the proceeds should be applied, first in payment of the bills drawn against them, and the balance be deposited in the names of Messrs. Dadabhai and Co. and the bank, to abide the decision of the question, if any, whether the bank or Messrs. Dadabhai and Co. were entitled to the surplus. I subjoin a letter from myself to Messrs. Dadabhai and Co. embodying this offer.

"The question between Messrs. Dadabhai and Co. and the Asiatic Bank has since been settled on the principle of that letter. The point between the parties in substance was whether the Asiatic Bank was bound to give up the security they held by specific agreement upon tender of payment of part of the bills which they held, or whether they were entitled, under the agreement, to hold the whole of their security as cover against all the liabilities of the Bombay firm, as stipulated by the bank in their agreement.

"This was a question of law, depending on an agreement, and not on any usage.

"On this explanation I think you will agree that the conduct of the Asiatic Bank has been in all respects fair and even liberal, and that they are not justly obnoxious to the observations contained in your article.

"It would have been more satisfactory to the bank in the first instance to answer Messrs. Dadabhai and Co.'s letter and your observations, but they were advised by their solicitors, Messrs. Freshfield and Newman, that it might give rise to inconvenience, and form a bad precedent, to make a question of pure legal right a subject of discussion in a daily journal.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"F. W. LAWRENCE, Acting General Manager."

"London, Sept. 16.

"SIR,—Mr. Lawrence has given his version of our case. We give below a few facts, and leave them to speak for themselves.

"1. Mr. Lawrence gives an extract from the letter of hypothecation, signed by the drawer, and endeavours to make the public understand as if in that letter a specific agreement had been entered into with the drawer.

"We herewith send you a printed form of the usual letter of hypothecation used by the head office of the Asiatic Bank in London, and also a copy of the Bombay letter of hypothecation from which Mr. Lawrence has given the extract. You will see by comparing them that, instead of there being any unusual alteration in the Bombay letter, it is word for word the same with the printed form usually used in London by the head office itself.

"The forms used by all the Indian banks at their different branches are generally similar to those used by their respective head offices, and the Bombay agent of the Asiatic Bank has, it appears, simply made his form similar to that adopted and printed by his head office itself.

"Mr. Lawrence has thought proper to give an extract of the clause only, instead of giving the whole paragraph of which the clause itself forms a part, or the public would have seen that the whole paragraph refers to the case of dishonoured bills only He should also have given an extract of the very first paragraph of the letter of hypothecation, which would have shown that the documents are collateral securities for the payment of the bills in question only.

"2. The news of the failure of the drawer was communicated to Mr. Lawrence by us on the 19th of June last. Seven weeks after, on the 12th of August, on the arrival of some of the vessels, the Bank itself sent us their usual letters asking us to retire our acceptances as usual, and it is only when, and in reply to the Bank's own invitation, we applied on the 14th of August to retire our acceptances, that the Bank first set up their present claim.

"3. As to 'the liberal and fair' treatment given to us, we need simply give an extract of our solicitor's letter of the 31st of August to the solicitors of the Bank :—'I regret to find that your present letter does not fully accord with the offer of fairness and liberality given in your last, inasmuch as that you insist upon the arrangement being based entirely upon the one sided view you take of your clients' alleged rights, ignoring altogether the view of my clients of their rights. I should have expected that pending the decision of the rights in question you would have shown impartial consideration to both views, and left the whole matter of the rights of both parties in equal abeyance by including the question of the clean bills in the present arrangement, as proposed by me, to be paid immediately on the question of rights being decided. But if, from the circumstances of your clients' advantageous position of being in the possession of the bills and documents, their taking the advantage of exacting terms from my clients which in common fairness they ought not to insist upon, be what you mean as fair and liberal dealing with my clients' position, it is very clear that we entertain widely different views on that subject.'

"In addition to this the Bank has forced the stipulation upon us that we must include our conditional acceptances also in the arrangement of which Mr. Lawrence has sent you a copy, but which promised letter we have not till this evening received.

"Mr. Lawrence is mistaken in stating that we had already sold any portion of the cotton, and he has been already informed of this mistake in our letter to him on the 22nd of August last.

"Mr. Lawrence is also mistaken in saying as if the Bombay house had failed after our application to retire on the arrival of one of the vessels. The fact is that we made known to Mr. Lawrence the failure of the Bombay house on the 19th of June, while the very first shipment which the Bank refused to deliver arrived only on the 10th of August.

"The Central Bank, we hope, will yet justify their conduct, which we are sorry to say is more high-handed than even that of the Asiatic Bank, inasmuch as that they have not only no justification of their conduct, but that they would not even come to some reasonable arrangement about the sale of the cotton till the question of the rights is decided.—We remain, your obedient servants, "DADABHAI NAOROJI and Co."

THE RUSSIANS IN CENTRAL ASIA.

Such is the title which has been for some time flitting about, until a decided handling has resulted on the part of the press and writers generally. We have before us a pamphlet on Russia, Central Asia, and British India, by a British subject, in which the writer very unhesitatingly condemns our fears (if we have any) as to Russia, by her operations in Turkistan, really threatening our supremacy in India, in which we most heartily agree. We append some extracts from the pamphlet, and also a leader from *The Times* on the subject :—

The way to throw light on this question is by entering upon what is, but ought not to be, a *terra incognita* to most of the English and Indian reading public—the position of Russia in Central Asia. Much new information is given on this subject by the circular despatch of Prince Gortchakoff issued in St. Petersburg last November, which, as Vice-Chancellor of the Empire, he forwarded to the embassies and legations of the Russian Empire located in foreign countries. The following is a summary :—

"The position of Russia in Central Asia is analogous to that of all civilised States who, finding themselves in contact with half-savage and nomadic tribes, are compelled—as much in the interest of their frontiers as in that of their commercial relations—to take measures for imposing respect upon inconvenient and turbulent neighbours. Such has been the task of the United States in America, of Holland in her colonies, of England in India. All have been forced to follow this course, in which ambition has very little part, and wherein the great difficulty consists in knowing where to stop.

"Such, also, is the reason which has actuated Russia in establishing herself upon the one side at Syr-Daria, and upon the other at Lake Issyk-Koul, and in consolidating those two lines by advanced forts, which have gradually been pushed forward into the heart of those distant regions, without, however, securing the permanent tranquillity of the frontiers of the empire. For, first, between the extreme points of this double line there is an immense unoccupied space, in which the forays of pillaging tribes continue to paralyse colonisation and hamper trade through caravans. Further, the constant fluctuations of politics in those countries must be considered. Turkestan and Kokhand, now united, now separated, always at war either with each other, or with Bokhara, render fixed relations and regular intercourse utterly impossible. The Cabinet of St. Petersburg is nevertheless unwilling to adopt the line of policy England has followed in India, by subjugating in detail by force of arms the small adjoining States which had rendered themselves obnoxious to their neighbours. Russia desires not to aggrandise herself beyond measure in Central Asia, but to consolidate the organisation of the provinces she possesses. Taking up this point of view, the Russian Government has determined upon three principal measures. First, it has ordered that the two fortified lines, the one reaching from the Chinese frontier to Lake Issyk-Koul, the other extending from the Sea of Aral to Syr-Daria, should be united by fortified points, so as to place all the posts in a position mutually to support each other, and not to leave any gap through which the invasions of the nomadic tribes can be carried out with impunity. It has been further decided that when the line is thus completed, advanced forts shall be established in sufficiently fertile places, not only to secure their provisionment, but also to facilitate regular colonisation—an essential condition to the future prosperity of the country and of the civilisation of the neighbouring tribes. Lastly, this fortified line must be fixed in a definitive manner, in order that the Russian Government may escape dangerous encroachments, which, from reprisal to reprisal, would culminate in a policy of unlimited extension.

"The mission is often attributed to Russia, viz., to carry civilisation into the Asiatic countries adjoining the empire. Civilisation possesses no more efficacious agent than commercial relations, and these, which everywhere require order and stability, render a radical transformation of manners in Asia essential. Above all, it is important to make Asiatics understand that it will be more to their advantage to favour and protect trade through caravans than to plunder the traders."

While the advance of Russian troops in Central Asia is regarded by military men simply as a black cloud, others amid the darkness can see a silver lining to it, and that while Russia is opening military roads, she is at the same time constituting a settled Government and forming routes by which the commerce of all nations will be ultimately facilitated and advanced. Even in Russia the principles of free trade are making progress, and the tendency of legislation there of late years has been to favour the

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settlement of foreigners and to remove those restrictions on commerce and strangers which operated so injuriously during the abitrary reign of Nicholas. The *Russian roads will serve for the transport of English manufactures*, of Indian tea, coffee, quinine, &c. to the shores of the Caspian, from thence to be forwarded to Nijni Novogorod and Moscow by rail. As far back as 1849, English calico reached Yarkand and Kokhand, the latter place was visited by agents of English houses. The looms of Kashmir contribute to swell the bazaars of Yarkand which are three and a half miles in length.

It is only when one steams down the magnificent Volga, 3,000 miles in length, through populous and industrious districts, that the facility of access from Russia to Central Asia becomes so obvious. With 300 steamers on the Volga, railways soon to connect Moscow with Astrachan, and a steam fleet on the Caspian, Bokhara and Khiva are within easy reach of Russia, the demand for cotton and tea has impelled her merchants along this line, ever since the days of Peter the Great, who wished to develope the trade between Siberia and Central Asia.

Her policy of internal improvement and her disgust with the treatment she has received from the Western Powers in connection with Poland, are directing the attention of Russia to Asia as her natural home, the seat of the old Sclaves—where she is away from European complications. The Oxus will bring Russia in contact with Western China, which is Mussulman, bitterly disaffected towards the Chinese Government, and urged on by the Taipings, so that ere long Thibet and Southern China are likely to be independent of the Chinese Government.

To those who have seen the good working of a *peasant proprietary* in Europe, and value the principle in its effects in elevating the social, moral, and religious condition of a people, the accession of such a power as Russia to the cause of a free peasantry must prove a powerful auxiliary in Asia. Serf emancipation in Russia is based on peasant proprietorship, and, what would surprise many in England, each Russian village is constituted into a little municipality, a *mir* or world of its own, in which the rustic mayor may be seen sitting with a noble dignity on the bench to administer justice in village disputes—an admirable training for self-government. The Russian peasants, with their roving propensities, are sure to scatter the seeds of this improvement wherever they go, and to encourage the Asiatic peasant in his resistance to that bane of Asia, feudalism, and to recall to the Indian peasantry their remembrances of their own beautiful village system, which was so long a blessing to the ryot of India; and in no country is it more necessary than in Asia, where feudalism and landlordism have desolated the fairest regions. The news of Russian serf emancipation has spread to India, and has excited joy and thankfulness in the breasts of millions of natives there; the native papers of India cordially hailed serf emancipation in Russia, and, like the great American Republic, which has just shaken off the incubus of slavery, welcome Russia as a coadjutor on the side of the masses.

The history of the Anglo-French alliance is an encouragement, for though French influence is extending all through the East; though Egypt is almost tributary to France; though the empire of Algeria has made the Mediterranean almost a French lake; though Cochin China is her feudatory, and her flag waves in numerous parts of the Pacific, yet little jealousy is now expressed by England, and very properly: yet sixty years ago nothing was so rife as rumours of a French invasion of India with the aid of Persia; and so serious was the danger considered that an Anglo-Indian expedition was sent up the Persian Gulf to meet it; but England and France act in harmony in the Eastern and Chinese seas, and the old notion that they are natural enemies is now nigh well exploded, fifty years' peace having shown the fallacy of it. England considers there is room enough for both; and disputes like those regarding the Canal of Suez and Tahiti are settled by mutual accommodations and concessions. Why should not a similar feeling be manifested towards Russia? particularly as Russia was for 300 years the ally of England, while France was for 500 years her bitter and perpetual rival—the Russian character assimilates more with the English than the French does in its commercial and colonising propensities, in its love of domestic life, of home, &c. The Sclavonic race has always succeeded better in colonising and developing the resources of distant countries than the Latin race—as is shown in the failure of the French in Algiers and other countries.

The changes in Russia since the death of Nicholas are more favourable to a better understanding. The leaden despotism of the reign of the Emperor Nicholas was well characterised by Mr. Cobden as "expending its surplus energies in the affairs of other countries, after having interfered with the management of every great thing and small at home." The prophecy of Monsieur Thiers that "the Russian colossus, with one foot on the Bosphorus and the other on the Sound, would enslave Europe and drive liberty to seek her retreat in America," might have been in some points applicable to the reign of Nicholas, but there is a *wide gulf* between the Russia of Nicholas and that of Alexander; the former incubus on the country has been happily removed, and the acts of the present Emperor now show a different state of things. Serf emancipation a success, Provincial Assemblies and open Courts now in action, will cause Russia soon to cease having the epithet applied to her of an *empire des facades*, and ought to alter the feeling of England towards her; while detesting the bureaucratic and anti-progressive party in Russia, ought we not to extend our sympathy to the liberal and progressive party in Russia?

Tilly, in his valuable work, "Eastern Europe and Western Asia," among many interesting particulars regarding the recent change of policy in Russia, mentions an anecdote of a Russian gentleman who had just returned from a forced visit to the Caucasus, and asked M. Tilley how long the Emperor Nicholas had been dead. M. Tilley replied, "Five years." "Nonsense," said the Russian, "it is five hundred years, if you calculate by the change which has already taken place in the country in free action and boldness of sentiment." Herzen, who has laid bare the wounds of Russia with no tender hand, is in this respect an impartial witness. He writes:—

"The morrow after the death of Nicholas the *debâcle* (thaw) has commenced; the Government, *nolens volens*, is carried away by the torrent. Literature, the first to awake, has vigorously commenced informing the public on the venal and corrupt official administration. All the people begin to speak of reforms. The administrative incapacity of Nicholas, the sterility of his labours, the uselessness of his cruelties, had been too evident during the Crimean war. Public opinion has pronounced a unanimous verdict on the tomb of this crowned sergeant. The retrograde despotism of Nicholas has had its day; Russia enters into a new historic phase, which will have neither the aggressive character of the time of Peter the Great nor the counter-revolutionary one which has signalised the gloomy reign of Nicholas; the grand problem to be solved by Russia is the development of the national element by the organic assimilation of the social science elaborated by the West."

The autocracy in Russia cannot long stand before the swelling tide coming up from the masses; nor does the present Emperor wish for it—he is preparing a safe way for a liberal Government by the establishment of provincial assemblies, now in actual and successful operation. Carlyle years ago remarked, in his Latter Day Pamphlets, "Democracy sure enough is here; one knows not how long it will keep hidden under ground even in Russia." It has come up and with a mighty tide, and as a modern writer remarks, "he will be able to form but a poor guess as to the future of Russia who does not allow a large share in moulding the future to the democratic element." Though little known to Englishmen, there are certain reforms in action now in Russia which must modify the policy and position of Russia in Asia;—by occupying her attention with domestic affairs, render Russia less ambitious of extensive dominion—more eager after intension than extension—more anxious to improve and develop what she has, than to stretch after distant things, as she feels her first wants are population and railroads. The Germanised Russian of Petersburg is passing away, and the new Sclavonic Russian is coming forward. Russia has now, and will for many years have, her hands full of social reorganisation and domestic politics, *which cannot be carried out without a policy of moderation and conciliation in foreign affairs*. These reforms, though slow, are sure; they are not like French reforms, "sudden flashes in the depth of the general night, which the darkness, by contrast doubly dark, swallows up everlastingly again."

Among the chief reforms now in operation are the following:—

The *passport system* is administered very mildly. A Russian noble now has only to pay 5s. for a passport, instead of £50 under Nicholas. More than 100,000 Russians were in consequence travelling on the Continent last year, and are brought more in contact with liberal ideas.

Decentralisation of the local administration, by the institution of local elective committees will enfeeble the power of that incubus on Russia—the bureaucracy—and will give the initiative of a number of economical and administrative measures to persons who are most interested in them. By lessening the centralising power of the Government, it will diminish the military mania.

Provincial assemblies have been this year instituted throughout the empire for local legislation. Finland, two years ago, obtained complete autonomy, the Diet now regulates its own finances. Five classes elect:—Nobles, merchants, citizens, clergy, and peasants. At elections a practical spirit very different from the French has been shown, the members directing their attention to roads, postal communication, land settlement, manufactures, statistics of revenue, etc.

Russia is *opening up a way for Anglo-Indian trade in Bokhara*; her roads, steamers, and subjugation of wild tribes are preparing for this, and will enable the pressing demands for English broad cloth to be supplied at Bokhara; already a considerable quantity of English articles is introduced by way of India, and they are preferred to those of Russia when the two come in competition. There are from 2,000 to 3,000 natives of Hindostan in Bokhara engaged in various trades; even the rude tribes of the Tartar steppes know the value of English articles but cannot get them. Atkinson in his Amour informs us, "*English* merchandise will sooner or later find its way into the northern provinces of China, through the Tartar merchants engaged in trade among the Kirghis hordes. It is a well known fact that the caravans that travel from Kulja into some of the interior provinces of China encounter greater dangers than will be met with between Yarkand, Kashgar, and the Indus." Iron and copper, sulphur and saltpetre are found near Kulja. Semipolatinsk, the great central Russian mart for trade in Siberia, is but little more than half the distance from the Indus that it is from Nijni Novogorod. A good deal of indigo is sent from the Punjab through the Affghan passes, and even the Cossacks of the Amour have entered into contracts to supply wood for Shanghai in China.

(THE TIMES.)

It is only about twenty-five years ago that a remarkable map was published under the title of "Acquisitions of Russia," and the whole world was invited to view with alarm, and if possible resist with effect, the aggrandizement of so menacing a power. We ourselves had already acted on the principles thus illustrated, and by way of interposing some political barrier between Russia and Hindostan had undertaken an expedition into Central Asia, which cost us an army, and almost an empire too. Somebody or other had been besieging Herat, not a striking fact in itself, for Herat was always besieged by somebody, but this was the wrong person, and if he took it it would be tantamount to giving the Russians a key to British India. That was the doctrine strenuously maintained, and so popular was the belief, that when it was observed that the key seemed a long distance from the door, the remark was censured as heterodox, sceptical, and unpatriotic. Nothing, in fact, could rid us of the conviction that Russia was advancing towards our Indian Empire with a view of devouring it, and so we rushed to meet half-way a phantom of our own creation, and paid a penalty which ought not to be soon forgotten. We recall these events at this moment for the sake of contrasting them with the wiser opinions now happily prevailing. The premisses of our former reasoning were sound enough, but the conclusion was wrong. Russia was advancing in the East, and advancing in the direction of India—not so rapidly, it is true, as we were advancing in the direction of Russia, but still with some pertinacity, if not success. Our annexation of the Punjaub carried us right up to the frontier of Independent Tartary—the single country now interposed between the Russian territories and our own. Russia, even up to the present hour, has made no conquest equivalent to that, but she is busy in Tartary, and some of her doings in that mysterious region have just been obscurely reported. A quarter of a century since, such intelligence would have been considered

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alarming; we can now receive it not only without apprehension, but positively with some degree of satisfaction.

"Turkistan" is the scene of the new Russian "encroachments." We are not sure that we can exactly identify the spot, but we can get near enough for the purpose. The region lying to the east of the Caspian Sea, bounded on the north by Asiatic Russia, on the south by Affghanistan and the Punjaub, and on the east by China, is the single remnant of the ancient land of the Tartars still preserving their name. It is called "Tartary," or "Independent" Tartary, because it has not yet been absorbed in the empire of Russia or China. It is the original country of the Turks, and not only the Turks, but the Huns; indeed, it was to investigate the ancient home of his race that an enterprising Hungarian recently penetrated into these unknown territories. It may, therefore, be very properly called "Turkistan," but it is by no means certain what particular portion of its enormous deserts is now designated by that name. In the north-western region of the Tartar territory lies a vast inland lake, called the Aral Sea, and into that sea, from the frontiers of China and Affghanistan respectively, flow two large rivers, the Sir and the Amoo. These famous streams, known in ancient history as the Jaxartes and the Oxus, divide Tartary into three equal portions or belts. On the Amoo, or a branch of it, lies the capital of Khiva; on the Sir, that of Kokan. A little below Kokan lies a district called actually "Turkistan," with a town of the same name, and this is, probably, the seat of Russian operations, but the country of the present Turcomans lies far away to the west, and on the very borders of the Caspian Sea. That is as much as we can say for the geography of the story.

RUSSIA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The Emperor and his Court have been at Moscow. But you must not expect me to give my impressions of Moscow as a city. I am no painter of scenery, and would rather portray the people and their rulers. Suffice it to say that this picturesque capital is one of the most striking sights in Europe, and that no one can pretend to have seen Russia without spending at least a few days in it. And here I may say it is surprising to me how few of my countrymen avail themselves of the facilities offered for such a visit. "Murray" affirms that there is no country on the continent where people meet with less official annoyance; you are free to come and go on condition of exhibiting your national passport. A railway brings you to St. Petersburg in three and a half days from London, and the four hundred miles to Moscow may be performed with the greatest ease, in the most comfortable railway carriages; and, as for the *cuisine*, commend me to the refreshment-rooms of the principal stations on the Moscow line. Travelling appears to agree with the good Russians, for I have never elsewhere beheld such a continuous and wholesale consumption of massive aliments. The train takes twenty hours to do the distance, and I should say that four to five hours out of them are spent at the stations in eating and drinking. It seemed as if no opportunity was ever allowed to escape either of eating huge portions of various roasts, or of coaxing the appetite with a raw cucumber or a herring. Sundry also were the small glasses of corn brandy with which the whole was washed down. Beer, too, appeared to be a favourite beverage, nor was I surprised at it after tasting the contents of a cool bottle stampedjwith an eagle, and the name of the English brewer—"Danielson." It was certainly most luxurious travelling. Most of the passengers were provided with pillows, and many had packages very much like luncheon baskets, which contained, as I soon discovered, sundry delicacies in the way of fruit, cake, bottles of milk (for the babies, of course), and invariably bonbons. There was much smoking, too, of those cigarettes which we now purchase so largely from the Russians. But enough of the manners and customs of the natives in travelling. We must away to the Kremlin, were the people are gathering in masses so dense as soon to fill the large square in front of the palace, and the cathedrals. It was with much difficulty that your correspondent secured a good point of observation. The police held the people rigorously back, employing a device which I would not recommend to the authorities in Scotland-yard. It consisted in their seizing the caps of the most prominent or pushing individuals, and flinging them over the heads of the crowd behind. Of course, the poor Mujik cannot afford to lose his cap, even in cheering his sovereign, and he is, consequently, obliged to fight his way back in search of his property. The trade of the Moscow hatters is, however, thereby made considerably brisker, and, after all, is not the promotion and protection of trade the chief care of the Imperial Government?

The sight with which I was rewarded for my perseverance and squeezing was certainly one of the most impressive that could possibly be imagined. It was the feast day at the Cathedral of the Assumption, where the Tsars are crowned, and the Emperor (who generally visits Moscow at this period) on this occasion came to show his new heir to the people. The pageant at the Winter Palace, described in one of my letters, was but mere form and ceremony; on this day the people welcomed and recognised their future ruler in their old city of Moscow, under the shadow of its holiest habitations, hallowed as they are by miracle-working relics, by the shrines of departed saints, and by the tombs of a long line of princes, dukes, and tsars.

I cannot pretend to give a description of the ceremony, or levée, that took place within the palace on the morning of the festival, and my personal narrative must needs begin with the appearance of the Emperor and his suite at the top of the "Red Stairs," where the old Tsars of Muscovy were wont to let the people see the "light of their eyes," and where several important and even bloody scenes of Russian history were enacted. I may mention that those steps trodden by Dukes, Tsars, and Emperors, were also ascended in 1812 by Napoleon and his marshals. But before the Emperor appears to his subjects outside the palace, let us at all events ask the court chronicler whether any striking incidents have occurred inside. First we learn that the deputy-mayor of the city presented bread and salt to His Majesty as a token of welcome. The Emperor thanked the town council for "associating each of his visits to Moscow with some good deed." They had established seventy free scholarships in the gymnasia, and had commuted some heavy debts owed by certain guilds of the town. Then His Imperial Majesty was presented with some more bread and salt by a deputation from the freed peasants of Moscow. "Is our mother, the Empress, well?" asked the head of the deputation. "Yes," replied the Emperor, with a smile, "and sends you greeting." The clergy from the eight churches of the palace next met the Emperor at the door of the banqueting-room, the ancient part of the Kremlin Palace. Receiving their salutations the Emperor passed on, and issuing out at the top of the "Red Stairs" made an inclination of the head, and taking the Tsesarevitch by the hand showed him to the people as the heir to the crown of all the Russias. The cheers that followed were, to say the least, deafening. There is something peculiar in a Russian cheer—it is like a buzz kept up at the pitch of booming artillery—there is nothing elastic in the sound, but still it is an honest expression of loyalty, and not to be compared with the trained vocal demonstrations of the Russian army. The buzzing seemed as if it would never cease, and the huge bells of John the Great's tower vied with the human throats in making an all-pervading tumult of sound. In ancient days these bells were destined to produce by their simultaneous ringing, whenever the Tsar addressed the people, a tremulous motion in the air, which the Muscovites were taught to ascribe to the all-mighty voice of their potentate. There was one bell, too, that was rung specially at night to invoke the Divine gift of an heir-apparent to a newly-wedded Tsar. All those bells now combined in proclaiming the glad tidings of the Tsesarevitch's arrival at Moscow. This almost indescribable commotion of the air only subsided when the Emperor, followed by his two sons, Alexander and Wladimir, and by his brother the Grand Duke Michael of the Caucasus, entered the old Cathedral of the Assumption, at the door of which he was met by Leonidas, the Suffragan Bishop of Moscow, who officiated in the absence of Philaret, the venerable Metropolitan. I was disappointed at not seeing the old prelate, for he is held in great repute by the people, and is, I am told, far more enlightened than his other colleagues "on the Bench." His appearance too is said to be very striking, bowed as he is with the age of more than eighty winters, yet fulfilling the high duties of his office with the utmost energy of mind. The coming of the Emperor to the Cathedral of the Assumption has of late years been marked by the political speeches of Philaret, but this time the Metropolitan was unequal to the task. Confined to his bed, or, I believe, to his cell in the garden of Gethsemane, near the monastery of the Trinity, where he has caused a grave to be dug for the reception of his body, his Holiness wrote to the Emperor a letter which was delivered to His Majesty before the commencement of service. "Most gracious Sovereign," wrote the Metropolitan, "thou hast this day again been pleased to remember thy old capital. It shines with the light of thy countenance. Amidst the peaceful waves of thy faithful people, amidst the loud exclamation of its light, thou goest to the temple of thy coronation. Enjoying the light of thy countenance thy people will at the same time gaze with eager eyes on thy newly appointed successor. The church in its rejoicing opens wide its gates to thee in all grace. The consolation has not been granted to me as formerly of meeting thee, most gracious sovereign, at the threshold of the temple, and of uniting with thy imperial (literally, Tsarish, prayer my humble petition—May my soul be humbled unto God. However, by the grace of God, I have still the consolation of sending thee from the depths of my seclusion a message of true sympathy, and of raising from the bottom of my heart the voice of prayer to the Almighty. May He receive with favour thy good desires, and make thy people and thy reign happy in them. May they be, in the words of the prophet, the working of truth, peace, beneficence, and the source of welfare. May the All-good Providence preserve thee and thy successor, in true surety of the unity, the solidity, the good government and the well-being of Russia for all ages." The Emperor replied to the Metropolitan, in a rescript, to the following effect:—"When visiting my ancient capital I have been accustomed to hear from you the pastor's words of Christian love, and to receive through you the blessing of the orthodox church, our mother. And this day, before entering the holy cathedral with the heir to my throne, I received your written greeting, so full of good wishes towards myself and towards Russia, which is so dear to me. I regret that the state of your health should not have permitted you to meet with that sympathy in person, and I pray God that your strength be restored and that your days may be long lengthened, to the advantage of the Russian orthodox church, of which, for half a century, you have been the support and the ornament.—Commending myself to your prayers, I remain ever your well-disposed—ALEXANDER."

My excuse for quoting this correspondence is that it throws much light on the relations between sovereign, priest, and people. Since the days of the great Patriarch Nicon, the crown has been very jealous of the power of the church, and has restricted it accordingly. The Emperor is as omnipotent over the church as he is over the army and navy, but I do not see that there is much need for the exercise of any autocratic power—the clergy seem deferential enough (notwithstanding the little episode about the archangel Michael and the book-burning sword), and I am sure there is humility enough in the Metropolitan's letter.

The cathedral was so full that it was quite impossible to follow the Emperor into it. Like many thousands of others, your correspondent was forced to be content with a view of the proceedings in the open air. In the cathedral the Emperor and his family no doubt went through the usual service of the Russian church, kissing towards the end of it, with much reverence, the forehead of the Metropolitan martyred by the terrible John. I cannot move a step without hearing of that tyrant. He is evidently to Moscow what Peter the Great is to St. Petersburg, with this great point of similarity, that they both killed their eldest sons. It is difficult to say which was the worse tyrant, for even as regards cruelty, Peter's treatment of the Streltsi was equal to John IV.'s devastations at the head of the Opritchna.

But see that meek people, so tyrant-ridden, flocking to the review which the Emperor is about to hold. They have not yet forgotten their days of bondage, and hail with loud delight their liberator. Everything, even enthusiasm, is on an enormous scale in this country. It was not a small crowd of idle apprentices and truant boys that went to see the soldiers put through their evolutions, but a vast proportion of the whole population of Moscow, which numbers about 400,000.

The behaviour of the mob was wonderfully good, and there was really very little use for the mounted policemen who pranced about and backed their chargers just like in other countries. It was a capital opportunity of viewing the raw material of the nation, and I could not avoid coming to

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the conclusion that the stuff was good enough, and only wanted a little better handling. But somehow or other a Russian crowd gives one a feeling of insecurity. The masses of rough morijiks, whom you know to be ignorant and somewhat fanatical, outnumber so palpably the representatives of modern civilisation, that you feel painfully helpless in such a minority. Here was Russia on a reduced scale—a plain boundless to the view on which the people formed but a small living oasis; there was the chief of the State surrounded by a parasitic staff, testing the efficiency of the troops which represented and supported his authority over the country; and there were the dark masses of freed serfs, inoffensive enough, apparently, in face of that large trained force, but wonderfully powerful in combination with it against the lilliputian body of educated and reasoning citizens. My eye took in at a glance all that the malcontents in Russia complain of. How dim must be the prospect of liberty to such a helpless minority! Those masses had only to be kept in good humour; it was only necessary to give them privileges, more land, and as much immunity as possible from state charges, and where would be the party for constitutional government? The lifting of a finger by the Tsar would be a sufficient signal for their utter extinction; not that Alexander II. would ever do it, but there unmistakably is his warrant of office. He derives his authority from the great bulk of the nation, and what can make him relinquish it? Certainly not a fear of insurrection on the part of a comparative handful of men spread over an enormous surface, and therefore incapable of any practical co-operation; the nobles may make speeches and write addresses, the press may grumble in disguised accents, but as long as the Emperor is upheld by 59,000,000 out of 60,000,000 it is difficult to say what argument could be found forcible enough to cause him to divest himself of any portion of his prerogatives. It is only His Majesty's own good judgment, and a pressing want of cash, that can be looked to for the introduction of a less absolute form of government.

PAYING OFF H.M.S. "EURYALUS."

The Euryalus, 35, wooden screw frigate, 2,371 tons, 400-horse power, Capt. William M. Dowell, C.B., was paid off on Saturday, the 23rd inst., after a commission of three years and eight months as the flagship of Sir Augustus L. Kuper, K.C.B., in China and Japan. The Euryalus was commissioned at Portsmouth on the 23rd January, 1862, by Capt. Josling, for the flag of Rear-Admiral Kuper, and sailed from England in the following March. After calling at Madeira, the Cape of Good Hope, and Singapore, she arrived at Hong Kong on the 12th of August, and on the 29th sailed thence for Yokohama, Japan. After visiting Yedo and Nagasaki, she proceeded to Shanghai where Admiral Kuper relieved Rear-Admiral Hope, in the Impérieuse, in command of the station. The seamen and marines of the ship were shortly afterwards landed from the Euryalus and marched to Kahding to oppose the rebels, who were then advancing towards the town. While engaged on this duty two officers and a large number of the men died from cholera, and many others were invalided. The Euraylus afterwards proceeded to Hong Kong, where she remained until February, 1863, when she said for Yokohama. Afterwards, in August of the same year she sailed with the fleet for Kagosima, the stronghold of Prince Satsuma, and engaged the batteries there on the 15th and 16th of August. On that occasion Captain Josling, the commander of the ship, and eight seamen were killed. On the 17th August the Euryalus returned to Yokohama, and remained there until September, 1864, when she sailed with the combined allied fleets, representing the English, French, Dutch, and American flags, for Simonoseki, where an attack was made on the batteries, a force landed, and the acts of bravery performed by a midshipman and two seamen of the Uryalus which led to their being each invested with the Victoria Cross at Portsmouth on Friday last. In this second day's action Captain Alexander was wounded severely, and several of the men were also killed and wounded. The officers and crews of the other ships were not wanting in bravery on the occasion, as an instance of which we may mention that the commander and gunner of one of Her Majesty's ships, with the commander of his Dutch Majesty's ship Medusa, landed from a boat during the night, after the first day's action, and spiked the guns of a powerful battery on the right of the Japanese works, at a time when it was known that the woods which reached down to and surrounded the battery on sides but its sea face were swarming with Japanese. In the action of the following day this battery was powerless. From Simonoseki the Uryalus returned to Yokohama, Nagasaki, and from the latter port to Chusan, whence the Admiral proceeded to Shanghai and Ningpo in the Coromandel screw gunboat, tender to the flagship. The Euryalus, on the return of Admiral Kuper in the Coromandel, proceeded to Amoy, Hong Kong, and Singapore, giving up the command of the station on the 22nd of May last, at the last-named port, to Vice-Admiral King, who had just arrived from England in the Princess Royal. On the 27th of May the Euryalus sailed from Singapore for England, called at Batavsa, the Cape of Good Hope, St. Helena, and Ascension, on her way home, and arrived in Plymouth Sound on the 4th, where she afterwards disembarked Rear-Admiral Sir A. Kuper and his suite, and then sailed for Portsmouth. Of the crew of the Euryalus, John Richards, Admiral's coxswain, and William Hewett, sailmaker, are recommended to the Admiralty for medals and gratuities for long service and good conduct.

Naval and Military.

On Saturday a detachment of the Woolwich division of Royal Marine Light Infantry, in command of Lieut. Rutherford, and comprising three sergeants, four corporals, two drummers, and fifty privates, left head-quarters for Portsmouth, there to join detachments from other divisions, ordered to embark on board the *Orontes*, for China, to relieve detachments of the corps now serving on board gunboats at that station, which are about to be paid off. The Basilisk has also to be commissioned for China.

The officers of the late ship Bombay, who now belong to Her Majesty's ship Narcissus, presented, on the 15th August, a sword to the French Admiral Chaigneaux, in recognition of the assistance and kindness rendered to the survivors of the destruction by fire of the Bombay near Montevideo, by the Admiral and the officers and crew of his flagship Astrée. The presentation had been delayed for the usual formal permission to accept which the rules of the service require, and advantage was taken of the celebration of the anniversary of the birthday of Napoleon, and a dinner given on board the Astrée in honour of the occasion to deliver the sword to Admiral Chaigneaux.

The Bellerophon, 16, 1,000-horse power, iron-clad frigate, built under the plans of Mr. Reed, was again taken to the Maplin Sands on the 22nd, for the purpose of resuming her speed at the measured mile, Maplin Sands. The vessel was in charge of Captain Randolph, of the Steam Reserve; Mr. Matthews representing the firm of Messrs. Penn and Son, the makers of the engines. Six runs were taken over the measured mile, when the average speed was found to be 13·645 knots; mean number of revolutions 57; pressure of steam 22lbs.; vacuum 26; pitch of screw 21 feet 8 inches; and mean draught of water 20 feet. At the close of the trials the Bellerophon was moored off the dockyard, in readiness for being docked the next day.

Decorations of the Victoria Cross have been bestowed on Mr. Duncan Gordon Boyes, midshipman; Thomas Pride, captain of the afterguard; and William Seeley, ordinary seaman, of Her Majesty's ship Euryalus, in compliance with a general order promulgated from the flag-ship, of which the following is an extract:—

"The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty having transmitted to Admiral Sir Michael Seymour, G.C.B., Commander-in-Chief, decorations of the Victoria Cross, which the Queen has been pleased to confer on Mr. Duncan Gordon Boyes, midshipman; Thomas Pride, captain of the afterguard; and William Seeley, ordinary seaman,, of Her Majesty's ship Euryalus, to commemorate acts of bravery performed by them during the operations in the Straits of Simonoseki, Japan, as recorded in the *London Gazette* of the 21st of April last; and Her Majesty having signified her commands that these decorations should be presented in such a public and formal manner as may be considered best adapted to evince Her Majesty's sense of the noble daring displayed by them before the enemy, and to testify her wish that a decoration which officers and men equally share may be highly prized and eagerly sought after by all, of whatever rank or degree, in Her Majesty's naval and military services—their lordships have specially commanded that in the discharge of this duty nothing is to be omitted which may tend to redound to the honour of this officer and these men, and enhance the value of the decoration."

Capt. Cowper Phipps Coles, R.N., has been presented by the Grand Duke Constantine of Russia, Lord High Admiral of the Imperial Navy, with a massive gold snuff-box, set with diamonds, and bearing the initials of the Grand Duke in diamonds on the centre of the lid. Such an acknowledgment of the worth of the turret principle, which has been so long and persistently advocated by Capt. Coles, must be highly gratifying to him now that the turret is already fitted to about a dozen vessels of the Imperial Russian Navy in the Baltic, and has been tested under all possible conditions of wind and weather.

The 3-gun paddlewheel sloop Alecto, 800 tons burden, recently paid off at Woolwich by Commander Blake, from the south-east coast of America, has been taken into the river to be broken up, having been condemned and stripped as unfit for further service. The iron paddle sloop Trident, having been stripped to her outer hull, now lies off the dockyard at Woolwich, in readiness to be sold by public auction. Her engines and a portion of her fittings will be disposed of separately.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, Sept. 24.

As usual, the Prime Minister closed the session of the States General in the name of his Majesty the King. Mr. Thorbecke congratulated the Legislature on the result of the session, as it had been one of progress and activity, which was shown by the principal measures passed, viz., the Bill for regulating the international sugar duties, the new tariff for the Netherlands East Indies, the repeal of the Communal Excises, &c. One day after the sitting was closed, the new one was opened by his Majesty with the following Speech from the Throne:—

Gentlemen,—It gives me pleasure to be able to announce to you that our relations with foreign Powers continue to be most friendly. My Government has given every possible attention to the interests of commerce and navigation with foreign States.

At home, as well as in our colonial possessions, our land and sea troops honourably fulfil their mission. The expedition which our navy, united with those of other Powers, has gloriously terminated in Japan against the Prince of Nagato, has greatly contributed to establish our relations with that country on a better footing.

The condition of our colonies is generally favourable. I regret that in the interior Java has suffered from earthquakes. The new administrative regulations tend to increase the prosperity and welfare of Surinam and Curacca.

In the course of the present session Bills will be laid before you to regulate the press in the East Indies, and other questions touching agriculture and industry.

We may congratulate ourselves that not only the Government, but the provinces and communes, and private societies, rival each other in zeal in the construction of works of public utility; the works undertaken to procure for the capital a more easy communication with the sea are progressing rapidly; the corps of engineers of the Waterstaat continue honourably to fulfil their mission; the construction of state railways continues uninterrupted; various new sections will be thrown open to traffic during the course of the year; other lines of international interest will also be completed. The returns of the lines already open are satisfactory. Private enterprise co-operates powerfully in the extension of our railway lines. The opening of an international line, which recently took place, will soon be followed by the opening of other lines, by which the network of our railways will be connected with the railways of other countries.

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I hope that the liberal terms of the convention settling the question of telegraphs, concluded at Paris with the co-operation of the Netherlands, will contribute to give more extension to our international telegraphic relations.

The result of the harvest are better than the severe winter and the extraordinary drought which prevailed during the spring had led us to expect.

I have learned with sorrow that a malignant disease prevails among the horned cattle in one of our provinces. Measures have been taken to prevent its propagation. Should further measures be required, I shall solicit your co-operation.

The produce of the fisheries, both by sea and river, is most satisfactory.

Our industry continues to make marked progress. Peace, which has happily been re-established in another part of the world, and the treaties which I have recently concluded, will exercise a favourable influence upon commerce.

The various institutions for public instruction are worthily fulfilling the task entrusted to them; considering the increasing want of them, their development becomes an imperious duty. Since the law on instruction has been in practice the attendance at the schools becomes more and more general.

The projects of law on the organisation of the National Guard, on military barracks, and other Bills which were not passed last session, will be again laid before you.

Projects of law for completing our civil code will soon follow those already laid before you. The draft of the Bill to regulate the state police is ready, and will be laid before you during the course of the session.

The financial condition of the State is favourable, and will suffice to provide for all the wants of the service and to continue the sinking of the public debt. The abolition of the communal custom-houses will not entail any new expenses.

I sincerely hope, gentlemen, that the mutual good-feeling between the Government and Parliament, with the blessing of the Almighty, may tend to the development of the prosperity of the country.

I declare the ordinary session of the States-General to be opened.

Like every Speech from the Throne, this also tells us nothing at all with many words. Every party finds something to praise or to blame the Government for. The indignation, however, is general, that not one word is said about the Bill to repeal the newspaper stamp duty, which, as you will remember, was withdrawn. It is not likely that it will be brought in again during this session. Our legislative Solons seem to shrink from repealing a law which is superlatively illiberal.

The cattle plague has now prevailed here some weeks, and occupies all the public attention. Measures have been taken by the Government to oblige every municipality to do all that is possible for preventing its spreading. Cattle markets are suspended, surveyors appointed, and the expropriation law is carried out in full, so that the authorities are empowered to seize and kill all cattle with suspicious symptoms. In spite of these measures, however, this plague has spread more and more, and has now attacked three provinces.

I told you that the Opposition reproached Mr. Thorbecke that he caused this plague, by not forbidding the importation of cattle and preferring to remain in Dresden. Nothing could have been more natural than that this charge should be brought forward at the opening of Parliament. In both Chambers the Opposition at once reproached the Premier that he had been careless, and as a proof that this was so, an amendment was proposed to augment the sum of 100,000f. asked by the Minister of the Home Department for the expropriation of cattle and necessary expenses to 500,000f. This and a similar motion, however, were rejected by a large majority.

The Finance Minister will deliver his annual statement today, when he lays the Budget before the Chamber. Nothing is known of its provisions. The reply to the Speech from the Throne will come on for discussion in the Second Chamber on Monday next. The debates on the reply are already finished in the First Chamber.

The Queen has started again for Germany.

H.M.'s steamers *Cycloop*, *Maas* and *Waal* will depart on the 1st of October for the East Indies.

The Trading Company chartered the *Argo* for Rotterdam, the *Vertrouwen*, *Clio* and *Zoeloph* for Amsterdam, to convey produce from Java to those ports.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The market was very firm. Since the last auction of the Trading Company there is much demand, and several numbers of that auction find buyers at an advance, with the exception of the Malang sorts. The private lots sold consist of 2,400b., ex Medea, at 44½c.; 753b., ex Catharina Maria, at 45c; and 986b., ex Hollandia, at 43½c. Besides, were sold by inscription, 369b. Coro, ex Santa Rosa, at different prices; and 228 casks and 77b. Plantation Ceylon, at 47 to 49½c.

SUGAR (RAW).—The 28,761kr. Java offered at auction by the Trading Company were all sold. The result was very favourable, as the prices were 1½f. to 1¾f. above those of July; the greatest quantity was bought by our refiners. The disposition to buy is still strong, and further large business has been done at still firmer prices.

RICE.—12,500 Neeransie were sold at 7¼f. For fine qualities Java there is much enquiry, but there is no stock.

SPICES.—Continue in active demand, and prices improved importantly. Nutmegs, No. 1, are sold now at 74c., No. 2, at 66c., No. 3, 43c., No. 4, 31c., but holders decline to sell further without an advance. Mace cannot be bought under 69c. for D, and 65c. for E; some of the holders decline to operate without a further advance of 1 to 2c. The quotation of cloves is for No. 2, 25 to 26c.

TEA.—The Trading Company will sell at auction, on the 25th of October, the teas imported during 1865; but the quantity is very trifling when compared with those offered in 1864, which amounted to 14,489, chests. The market is now inactive, in consequence of this auction being announced.

TOBACCO.—Java Leaves: Several auctions took place on the 20th and the Trading Company sold at public sale 790 p. Java *Kotta* at 28½ to 128 c., in average 88 c., and 168 p. Japan at 22½ to 38 c. On the 27th of this month will again be offered, 4,371 p. Java, and on the 4th October 8,586 p. do. of different marks.

RATTANS.—The Trading Company will sell at auction on the 15th of October 59,100 bndl.; the market is steady, but not in active demand, only 3,300 b. Banjermassing, ex Codan, were sold at prices that did not transpire. The general opinion, however, is that firmer prices will be paid at auction, because the Company's stock only amounts to 60,000 b.

JAVA INDIGO.—The market is still very active, but the private stock being very unimportant only a trifling business was done at an advance of 30 cts. on the last sale's prices. On the 26th and 28th of this month will be offered at public sale 119 ¼-chests and 775 ½-chests Java and 663 chests Bengal.

CUTCH.—With a lively demand, and for very large parcels 16¾f. was paid; nothing can be bought now without a considerable advance, the stock being unimportant.

COTTON.—For East Indian and Japan sorts there was no demand, and no transactions took place.

HIDES.—At inscription were sold 500 p. Sourabaya Buffalo, 217 p. do. Ox, ex County of Renfrew; the prices did not transpire.

BANCA TIN dull; the nominal quotation is 55f., but buyers decline to operate.

ARRACK.—20 ¼-casks and 10 ½-casks Sourabaya, ex May Queen, and 125 casks Batavia, ex Ouderkerk a. d. Amstel, were sold at prices that did not transpire.

JAVA COCHINEAL.—The market was animated; on the 26th Sept. 69 ch. will be offered at auction.

MONEY.—The market, whilst apparently tending to further strength, remains with very little animation, though it is clear that throughout the Stock Exchange stocks of all descriptions are not very large for delivery; perhaps a few good purchases would cause an advance in prices. The New Brazilian Loan met with a great demand, and a considerable quantity was bought here. The discount market remains still unaltered. Dutch Two-a-Half per Cents., 62¾; Three per Cents., 72½; Four per Cents., 95¼; Trading Company, 146½; Dutch Rhenish Railway, Four-and-a-Half per Cents., 112; shares, 287½. 'Change on London, 3 mo., f.11.80; 2 mo., f.11.84; short, f.11.93½; Paris, 3 mo., f.46.87½; 2 mo., f.47; short, f.47.35; Hambro', 3 mo., f.35; 2 mo., f.35.11; short, f.35.45; St. Petersburg, 3 mo., f.152., Vienna, 3 mo., f.104.75.

SHIPPING—ARRIVALS.—September 16, at Texel, from Banjoewangie, Cornelia Hendrika.

DEPARTURES.—September 18, from Brouwershaven to Batavia, d'Elmina; to Kanagawa, Pantalon.

FREIGHTS.—Quotations of Messrs. Sauchey and de Fletter, shipbrokers, Rotterdam:—For Batavia: Ouderkerk, a.d. Amstel, 725 tons; Dordrecht, 754 tons; Argo, 537 tons; Mary and Hillegonda, 754 tons. Batavia and Samarang: Eva Johanna, 979 tons; Wilhelmina Johanna, 647 tons; Jupiter, 756 tons; Johannes Anthonius, 720 tons. Batavia and Sourabaya: Medea, 753 tons; Otto, 706 tons; Van der Palm, 487 tons. Sourabaya: Jeannette and Cornelia, 492 tons; Jannetje, 654 tons. Kanagawa and Decima: Duocimina, 246 tons.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

SEPT. 14.

The Swiss Consul at Yokohama writes home to his Government that great events are on the eve of taking place in Japan, and that a war between the Tycoon and Prince Nagato is unavoidable. The former, who enjoys the sympathies of the European Powers, is going to take the command of his army in person, and lead them to battle. On the other hand, Prince Nagato is making the most formidable preparations, and has engaged in his service several European officers to drill and discipline his troops.

Some further particulars of the progress of the fair at Nijni Novgorod have been published in the Russian journals. The prices of tea have been fixed at 106 roubles for the better descriptions, which is somewhat higher than last year, when 100 rs. was paid for the same qualities. The quantity of tea brought to the fair is less than last year, though more than 40,000 chests have arrived, and the dealers assert the quality to be very superior. Concerning the absence of the Bokharians, different reports are in circulation. Some people assert that they will still turn up, whilst others maintain they will not arrive at all. The latter presumption is the most probable, for more than half the period of the fair has already elapsed, and they are known to be generally very punctual. It is reported that the Bokhara cotton — at least a great part of it — has been stopped at Orenburg, where a committee of six or eight dealers has been formed for the purpose of settling the affairs of the Bokharians, and liquidating the debts they left behind them at the last fair. Two or three members of this committee are to

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send the cotton to the fair for sale and superintend the liquidation of the debts out of the proceeds of the sale. But in the meanwhile some merchants have arrived from Khiva with the intelligence that the Bokharians had protested against the formation of a committee of Russian dealers and their proceedings, that they were able and willing to settle their own affairs without any extraneous interference, and were going to send a deputation to St. Petersburg to make a representation on the subject to the Russian Government. However that may be, the merchants at Nijni Novgorod are placed in a dilemma by the state of uncertainty, for they are now obliged to hold the goods they have sold to the Bokharians, who, perhaps, will not come at all, instead of disposing of them to other purchasers. With regard to the fur trade, which is chiefly carried on by Moscow houses, it is stated to be very satisfactory. It may be considered surprising that Moscow people and not Siberians should have monopolised this branch of trade, as most of the furs and skins come originally from Siberia; but it must be remembered they arrive in a raw state and are carefully dressed by the furriers at Moscow, who have a peculiar manner of doing it, and their superiority in this branch of industry is so great that no foreigners can successfully compete with them.

Field-Marshal von Gablenz, who commanded the Austrian contingent in the war against Denmark last year, is appointed by the Emperor to the chief civil and military command in Holstein under the title of "Imperial Statthalter." This office is spelled *stadtholder* in Johnson's Dictionary, but the learned Doctor is here wrong in his etymology, for the word is not derived from *stadt*, a town, but from *statt*, instead, literally *locum tenens* or lieutenant. The field-marshal will have his head-quarters in the neighbouring town of Altona, where Mr. W. Pustau's splendid house on the Palmaille has been taken as his residence, and is now being fitted up for him against his arrival next week. The house was used last year as the military hospital for the wounded from the seat of war, under the management of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, at whose disposal it was placed by its proprietor.

The Board of Trade of this city gives public notice that after the lapse of eight months there will be a competition to fill the vacancy in the Hamburg Consulate at Canton. Candidates for the appointment are requested to send in their applications, accompanied by the needful certificates, to the secretary of the above-named Board.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—A good demand has sprung up from different quarters, which has tended to enliven the market. Though there is no noticeable alteration in prices, many holders expect a rise very soon, and have in consequence withdrawn their samples for the present. Sales of the week 12,000 bags.

SUGAR.—Raw is from 4 to 8 Sch. Bco., higher with a fair amount of business doing. Refined steady. Sales 18,000 loaves. Ordinary qualities scarce and much inquired for.

RICE.—The only sale reported is 7,000 bags of Rangoon lately arrived per *Edward Albert*.

Nothing to say about Spices.

TEA.—Market very firm and common sorts looking up. Among the the sales by importers were 468 packages Kaisow Congou, 301 ditto Congou, and 299 ditto Pecco, all ex *Persia*; besides which were 500 chests common Congou, and several parcels middling Congou, as well as a few lots of Souchong, Tonkay, and Imperial.

SPELTER.—Prices have rather improved as the stock continues low, 2,000 centners ex warehouse having fetched 14 Marks 14 Sch. Bco. Contracts for later delivery may be made at a lower figure, but buyers are scarce.

SEPTEMBER 23.

The fair at Nijni Novgorod is over, the Bokharians having turned up after all. The following particulars are translated from an article in the St. Petersburg *Russian Gazette*:—At length the Bokharians, so long expected, have arrived at the eleventh hour; but they have brought with them only money, having left their merchandise partly at Orenburg and partly in the Steppes. Their arrival has given general satisfaction, as they are considered honest people and good customers. The merchants are now tranquillised, for there is no doubt that many of them would have become bankrupts if the Bokharians had not come to receive and pay for the goods sold them, as well as settle their outstanding accounts from last year's fair. Unfortunately, the cotton from Bokhara will be too late, as the navigation will soon be closed for the winter; its absence will raise the price of Persian cotton, and have an unfavourable influence on the cotton trade in Russia generally. The book trade during the fair has been very insignificant, the whole value sold being only 40,000 roubles, of which sum 25,000 r. are for church missals and prayer-books. Of iron 400,000 poods were brought to the fair, but not all sold, and prices ruled rather lower than last year. The greatest part of this metal was produced in the Ural mountains. A meeting of the Fair Committee was about to be held, to take into consideration several proposals for the improvement of the fair in future, and facilitating the carriage of goods.

The *Voice* contains a letter from Nijni Novgorod of the 4th inst., from which I translate the following extract: "The fair may be considered as over, for the merchants are taking their departure, being driven away by the wretched weather, and not even waiting for the official closing by the hauling down the flags. At the end of last week many of the shops were closed, and there remain here now but the wholesale dealers in tea, iron, and manufactured goods. The tea trade is bad; 35,000 chests of Kiachta were sold, but more than 20,000 remain on hand, which will probably be sent to Moscow for disposal. All the best teas were sold, and the remainder is of inferior quality. The prices obtained were moderate, and towards the end of the fair underwent a further reduction to find purchasers. There was a fair demand for refined sugar. The drug trade was dull, and no higher prices could be realised than current at St. Petersburg. This week madder was sold at 7½ roubles, and Bokhara cotton fetched 14 to 16 roubles per pood. Of Kislyar wine not much was sold; the price obtained was 2 roubles 60 copeks per eimer. Made wines were not in request, and their imitations are superseded by the local fruit wines. The business done in leather was extensive, and the greater part of the *yuchten*, or "Russian leather," was disposed of. Cotton manufactured goods were in great demand at the end of the fair, the common descriptions being all sold. On the whole iron was dull. No complaints are heard of the settlement of accounts, and at the Bank there are no protested bills. The demand for gold is not large and the price therefore moderate. The new premium loan sold readily at 110½ per cent., including the current interest. Gold stands at 6 r. 20 cop., and for silver the Persians readily pay 21 to 21½ per cent. agio, and for silver roubles 16 per cent. agio."

The captain of the Hamburg barque *Atalanta*, now in the China Seas, writes home to his owners here that he fell in with and saved the crew of the Oldenburg barque *Nubia*, under the following circumstances:—It appears that the *Nubia* was on her voyage from Singapore to Hong Kong, with a cargo of coals, and after leaving Hainan, where she had put in to land some passengers, she was attacked on the 28th of June last by a number of piratical junks. On their approach the captain, being convinced of the uselessness of offering resistance to such overwhelming numbers, took to his boats with the crew, and landed on the coast of Hainan, and after wandering along the beach for three days reached Hai-kow, where they fell in with the *Atalanta*, receiving every kindness and attention from the captain, who took them down to Saigon, for which port he was bound. They subsequently were informed that the *Nubia*, after being plundered by the pirates, was burned by them on the 29th June.

The Zoological Gardens of this city have just received some valuable additions by a present from Mr. J. N. Hulss, the Hamburg Consul at Manila, consisting of a dwarf musk (*Tragulus Kantschil*), and two very rare pigeons (*Phlegoenas cruenta*). The society are already indebted to that gentleman for several other animals, especially a couple of Kerabau oxen. He had collected quite a little menagerie at Manila, among which were some rare and valuable monkeys. During the voyage home Mr. Hulss tended these animals himself, but they unfortunately all died except those above-mentioned.

Mr. Waldemar Nissen has been appointed by the Senate of this city to be Consul for Hamburg at Hong Kong.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—No alteration in values, but a lively business has been done at previous rates, and market closes remarkably firm. Sales of the week 15,000 bags.

SUGAR.—The late advance in raw is fully supported with sales of considerable extent, among which were 8,300 bags of Brown Manila. Refined firm; sales 18,000 loaves.

RICE.—Business of limited extent, but prices well supported, and some descriptions even 4 sch. banco dearer.

SPICES.—No alteration in prices, and nothing done by importers in the way of sales.

SPELTER.—Some orders for the United States have been executed at 14 mks. 8 sch. bco., but on the whole the market is inactive. The quotations are 14.9 for slabs, ex. warehouse, and £14.6 to 14.7 for forward delivery.

SHIPPING—Sailed: From Cuxhaven, Sept. 19, Fromm, to Singapore. Loading: at Hamburg, Melissa, for Singapore; Garland, for Singapore and Hong Kong; Fidelio, for Hong Kong; Colima, Macassar and Hong Kong; Catharina, for Shanghai.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 27, 1865.

THE NIENFEI REBELS.

DISTRACTED China no sooner feels relief from the suppression of rebellion in her southern and central provinces, when the hydra-headed monster rears itself in the northern dominions of that vast empire, threatening the capital itself. As the last embers of the Taiping insurrection became extinguished in the ashes of Chang-chow, near Amoy, so the Nienfei Rebels had invested the provincial city of Chi-nan or Tsi-nan, in Shantung, attaining a formidable position with strengthened forces. As a *point d'appui* on the route to Peking, it was at once evident to the Imperial Government that unless a powerful army be sent to drive the enemy from that base of operations, he might soon capture the city and march into the province of Pechelee. With an alacrity unusual in Chinese warfare, the famous General SAN-KO-LIN-SIN took the field and encountered the enemy, with whom he fought several successful engagements, but unfortunately at the cost of his own life. This event, while it disheartened his army, roused the energy of the Nienfei, and they gained further successes, until at one time grave thoughts were entertained of the probable capture of Peking. Indeed, the news of this having been accomplished was telegraphed to Europe by way of Russia, and for a time there was no data to refute the report. The intelligence by the last mail from China puts us in possession of the facts, which show that there was apprehension of an important victory over the Imperialists, but no foundation in the rumour. It appears that TSENG-KWO-FAN, the General who materially aided in suppressing the Taiping rebellion, left Nanking with a considerable force of infantry, armed chiefly with rifles, and made a bold assault on the rebels at the departmental city of Haichow, from whence they were driven, and retreated in great confusion to a position some twenty-five miles north of that which they previously occupied. Meanwhile a body of twenty-three thousand Tartar troops was despatched from Peking to the relief of Chi-nan, under the command of PO-WANG, a son of SAN-KO-LIN-SIN, who is desirous of emulating the skill and courage of his father, and, in conjunction with the Imperial Commissioner of Tien-tsin, is vigorously carrying out his operations against the enemy. In consequence of these active measures, it is reported that the tide of success has turned against the insurgents, who are retiring before the Government forces into the province of Shan-si, on their way back to that of Kan-soo from whence they came.

As to the origin of the rebellion, we have no reliable data to ascertain that. At the same time all accounts go to prove that it is perfectly distinct from the late Taiping movement. There is no religious element in it, so that it differs also from the Mahometan rebellion, which every now and then breaks out in the Shansee province. From their bold advance in the direction of Peking, doubtless with the design of upsetting the Imperial Government, it has been supposed to have a purely political origin. No doubt that element prevails in the movement, in consequence of its success, but we are of opinion that the Nienfei were simply banditti who issued from their rocky fastnesses in the mountain region of Kan-soo, to commit depredations on the industrious inhabitants of the plains; just as the brigands of the Abruzzi used to plunder the inhabitants of the campagnas of Italy. Such, indeed, is the chief element in all these Chinese insurrections. The Taiping rebellion originated certainly as a religious movement, but as it grew its ranks were augmented by bands of marauders for the sake of *loot*. What the meaning of the name of Nienfei—or, as it is pronounced, Nyen-fee—signifies, we have not ascertained, nor do our contemporaries in China seem to know. But there is evidence to conclude that it is a *sobriquet* given to them by the peaceful inhabitants, as "Chang-maou," signifying "long-hair," was given to the Taipings in consequence of their allowing their hair to grow, without shaving the head as the Imperialists do. Be that as it may, these people seem to be a bold and daring race, who may yet cause considerable trouble to the Imperial Government unless they follow up their successes with unusual vigour, and crush out the organization of the movement before the leaders and the main body reach their native fastnesses, which are almost impregnable. In their incursions the Nienfei are on a par with the Taipings in devastating the country and ruining the peaceful and industrious inhabitants. Consequently there is no sympathy between these marauders and the people, in their crusade against the Government. Were it otherwise it would soon assume a formidable aspect. If, for example, the Nienfei were to respect private life and property, and thereby enlist the sympathies or obtain the co-operation of the people in Shantung and Pechelee, in all probability they might succeed in a *coup d'etat* at Peking, where the corrupt Mandarin rule is obnoxious and grinding on industry. As it is, the people, of the two evils, choose the least, and silently or sullenly prefer the existing system to what might be worse in its stead. It was the respect for private property paid by the English and French allied forces during the Peking campaign that raised them so high in the opinion of the inhabitants, which has left behind much good feeling towards the foreigner in China; while the destruction of the Imperial palaces and forts, conveyed the fact that this immunity from depredation was not for want of power. Moreover, the independent position of our troops who remained after the war, and their aid in suppressing the Taiping rebellion, has not only raised the *prestige* of our name amongst the people, but the most prejudiced mandarin is now forced to admit the benefits his country derived from our co-operation. Fain would the Government secure our aid in the suppression of this new rebellion, but their solicitations are in vain, when they see the last of the British regiments leaving China this year, and the neutrality regulations rigidly enforced. It is clearly our duty now to leave the Government to its own resources in crushing out these insurrections. By doing so we not only save our blood and treasure, but force the cunning and astute Chinese to bear the brunt of war in their distracted country, which they so well know how to "squeeze" in time of peace.

POSTAL CHARGES BY THE FRENCH MAIL.

WHEN the French Government subsidized the *Messageries Imperiales* to convey a monthly mail to China and other localities in the Far East, the British and other foreign communities having interests there accepted the postal communication as a boon in addition to the bi-monthly English mails transmitted by the Peninsular and Oriental Company. At the time of its initiation, it was understood that its rates of postage for newspapers, as well as letters, would not materially differ from the English rates *via* Marseilles. Having full faith in the arrangement, we published a separate issue of the *London and China Express*, to meet the requirements of our subscribers; and so far, have no cause to complain of the French postal authorities, in conveying that issue to its destination. In forwarding copies of our journal to China, we deal with the English Post-office, and have always understood that if a newspaper is insufficiently stamped it is liable only to *double the newspaper charge*. It would appear, however, that in this we are mistaken, and the French *charge letter rates* in that case; which very materially alters the advantages of sending printed matter by their mails. This anomaly in postal arrangements has transpired through a correspondence between Mr. MOSSMAN, late of Shanghai, and the Secretary of the General Post-office, which will be found in another column. From that it will be seen the French Mail leaving Shanghai on the 16th June, and delivered in London 8th August, brought copies of the *North China Herald* and *North China Daily News*, which were charged letter rates, as they were insufficiently stamped. The rate levied is "20 centimes for every weight of 40 grammes, or fraction of 40 grammes," equivalent in English computation to twopence

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for one ounce and a-third. Be it so. It is a fair enough rate, but the condition mentioned in the letter of Mr. PARKHURST that, "if insufficiently prepaid they (the newspapers) are treated as letters," is monstrous, and against all the laws regulating newspaper postage throughout the world. We have endeavoured to find the Imperial Decree under which this rate is imposed, but have failed in doing so. In our search, however, we came across a decree issued by the Empress EUGENIE, acting as Regent in the absence of the EMPEROR in Algeria, wherein similar restrictions attend the transmission of samples of merchandise from France to Shanghai. The rate on such packets is 13 centimes for every 40 grammes, or fraction of 40 grammes, with this condition—"*Les échantillons de marchane* "*dises qui ne rempliraient pas ces conditions seront taxés comm-* "*lettres.*" With this we have no fault to find, but when the same restriction applies to newspapers we think it is time that it should be altered. Meanwhile it will put our contemporaries in China and other places in the East upon their guard how they affix stamps to their issues by the French Mail, for it may throw the whole into the waste basket of the French Post-office, when rejected by their subscribers, as it did in the above case with the *North China Herald* of the 12th June—a copy of which is not to be found perhaps in England. However, as we are not aware the subject transpired before, we have a strong notion that there is some blunder lying with the French officials, who may have applied the new decree of the 10th May, 1865, regulating the transmission of samples of merchandise, erroneously to newspapers. We are supported in this belief by having received two copies of the *North China Herald* under a 40-centime stamp. According to the statement in Mr. PARKHURST's letter this must have been insufficient, inasmuch as the single paper addressed to Mr. MOSSMAN had 20 centimes only, and should have had 30 centimes. On this head the French postal authorities should set us right, by publishing the regulations in the English journals connected with China, otherwise it will damage their receipts, as well as the circulation of the newspapers.

Correspondence.

POSTAL CHARGES BY THE FRENCH MAIL.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—Perhaps you will deem the following correspondence of sufficient importance to publish in your journal, as it affects the transmission of newspapers and other printed matter by the French Mails. Absence from London has prevented my forwarding it sooner.—Your obedient servant,

SAMUEL MOSSMAN.

23, Charlotte-street, Bedford-square, September 18, 1865.

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE.

SIR,—By the French Mail of the 16th June from Shanghai, a copy of the *North China Herald*, a newspaper published there, was presented at my residence by the postman, for which he made a demand of five shillings and fourpence (5s. 4d.), although it had the usual stamp of 30 centimes to frank it. On inquiry at the office of the *London and China Express*, and of several friends who receive that journal, I found that the same charge was demanded of them, also that a packet of the *North China Daily News* was marked £2. 12s. 6d., all of which, of course, were refused.

As I am connected with the journals in question, and this extraordinary demand is calculated to damage their circulation, I have to request that some information be given so as to remedy any defect in their transmission through the French Post-office, and ask that you would point out what is the cause of this extraordinary charge—whether it lies within the jurisdiction of the French or English Post-office authorities, and upon what grounds it is made?—I remain your obedient servant,

August 10, 1865. SAMUEL MOSSMAN.

TO SAMUEL MOSSMAN, ESQ.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 10th ultimo, I beg leave to inform you that the newspaper to which you refer was received from France with the unpaid letters from Shanghai, and that it was correctly charged, so far as this office is concerned.

Inquiry has been made of the French Post-office upon the subject, and it appears that newspapers sent from Shanghai to this country *via* France, are liable to pre-paid postage at the rate of 20 centimes for every weight of 40 grammes or fraction of 40 grammes, and that, if insufficiently prepaid they are treated as letters. The weight of the newspaper in question exceeds 40 grammes, and the value of the stamp affixed to it is only 20 centimes.

Under these circumstances, no reduction can be made in the charge of which you complain, and the newspaper will be disposed of as refused.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, W. PARKHURST.

General Post-office, September 6th, 1865.

SIDNEY LOCOCK, Esq., lately Secretary of Legation at the Hague, has been appointed Secretary to the Legation in Japan.

THE Bombay and Bengal Steam Company despatch a steamer once a month from Liverpool to Alexandria, corresponding with another from Suez for Bombay. Passengers for the Straits and China may be glad to avail of this line, which is of course much cheaper than the P. and O. Company's scale. Rates of passage and freight may be ascertained from the agents in London, Messrs. Reynolds, Mann, and Co.

MR. BRACKENBURY, the Consul for the Philippines, left by the mail of 26th inst.

The biddings for 20,00,000 rupees (£200,000) in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were:—To Calcutta, 10,51,000 rs.; to Madras, 1,49,000 rs.; and to Bombay 8,00,000 rs. The minimum price was as before, viz., 1s. 10½d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 10¾d. on Bombay. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 1s. 11¾d. will receive about 47 per cent., and on Bombay at 1s. 11⅞d., about 49 per cent.; above these prices in full.

A general meeting of the Oriental Bank Corporation will take place on the 19th October, when an interim dividend for the past half-year will be declared.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Mongolia*, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was:—In gold, to Alexandria, £10,000; to Madras, £1,692. In silver, to Hong Kong, £5,109; to Yokohama, £2,160; to Shanghai, £9,630. Total, in gold, £11,692; in silver, £16,899.

HEALTH OF THE NAVY.

The report just issued on the Health of the Navy in the year 1862 shows that the number daily sick was 3,370, or 57 per 1,000 of the force in the service afloat corrected for time, which was 58,870. There were almost exactly three entries on the sick list for every two men, and a mean of about 18 days' sickness to each man of the force. But a very large proportion indeed of the sick rate in the Royal Navy is from boils, simple catarrh, and injuries of a more or less trivial nature, the duties of the man-of-war's man involving such constant exertion that it is necessary to pay much more attention to trifling ailments than their immediate importance would seem to call for, in order to avoid the risk of their aggravation. The ratio of sickness from disease, properly so called, is in reality very small. The Cape station showed the highest rate in 1862, owing to duties in the Mozambique Channel and in the Zambesi river. The number of men invalided from the navy in the year was 1,944, or 32 per 1,000; and the number of deaths 902, or 15·3 per 1,000. But eliminating disturbing elements arising from accidental duties, that is to say, excluding deaths from casualties by wounds and injuries and deaths from outbreaks of cholera and yellow fever, the death rate in the service as a service is reduced to 9.6 per 1,000, which is very little higher than the death rate among the healthiest class of outdoor labourers in England. It may be said that the death rate in the navy is reduced by invaliding, but the vast majority of invalided men labour under diseases of by no means a fatal nature, and very many of them re-enter the service. The rate of mortality no the Cape station was as high as 23·7 per 1,000; but the station had to sustain the loss of two boats' crews massacred at Bareda in the Arabian Gulf, by Somalis, to whom they had applied for goats and water. Excluding death by violence the ratio of mortality at this station was only 4·3. On the India and China station the mortality rose to no less than 66·3 per 1,000, the great majority of deaths being from dysentery and cholera contracted in river service against the Taipings. The surgeon of the *Euryalus* sketches incidentally a fearful picture of the state of Shanghai, to which his ship returned after the capture of Kahding. He says he learnt that the mortality among the Chinese who had crowded into Shanghai for refuge was at one time so great that there was no burial-ground for about 2,000 of the daily deaths, and the corpses were enclosed in boxes of deal boards, loosely put together, or packed up in straw or matting, and left to rot in the sun. Mortality on the American coast has to bear a certain number of deaths caused by the Mexican expedition. Vera Cruz is a city of open sewers, and is situated on a level surface, the fall towards the sea being so trifling that the courses for foul water, &c., require repeated sweeping during the day. The Mexicans are very particular as regards this act of cleanliness, but under the conjoint rule of France, Spain, and England it became neglected, and the neglect was avenged. The accumulation of offal is kept down by the turkey buzzards, everything being placed on the outside of the houses for removal by these, the scavengers of the place. But besides the perils abroad from foes to health and life, Dr. Mackay has the old tale to tell in this report of foes in our own household. On the very threshold of the seaman's entry into the service, and in the seaport towns of his own country, he has been left exposed to such a mass of disease as renders these localities more destructive to health than the most pestilential rivers of Africa. It is considered that from Portsmouth and Plymouth more syphilitic disease has been sown broadcast over the globe than from any other cities on the face of the earth. Partial measures have at length been devised to mitigate this evil, but it is hoped the day is not far distant when effectual steps shall be taken to remove to the utmost this foul scandal from the nation. The surgeon of the *Euryalus* has reason to believe that most of the 48 cases of syphilis in his return for the first quarter of the year were caught in the same house at Portsmouth; therefore, he adds, "the sanitary precautions necessary for preventing such a common source of immense loss of labour to the service are simple enough." "I have now," he says, "a man under treatment who has had successively the primary, secondary, and tertiary forms of the disease; a strong, hale young man when he joined the ship, he has now become useless to the service. It is one example among many. The disease was almost unknown in Malta until 1860, owing to a system of surveillance established by custom, but whether derived from the knights or from the French it is not easy to say. In 1860 the Maltese women discovering

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that there was no law upon the subject, refused to submit to the rules of custom. The results of this suspension of surveillance were unhappily so marked that it was found necessary to pass an ordinance in 1861 reviving it. "The beneficial consequences of this law," writes the Deputy Inspector-General, "have far exceeded my best expectations." Facts like these are unmistakable. The bane and antidote are both before us.

THE TAHITI COTTON AND COFFEE PLANTATION COMPANY.

The third ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of this company was held at the London Tavern; G. S. Tower, Esq., in the chair.

The report of the directors stated—"They have at last the gratification of announcing the arrival of cotton from your plantations. Eight bales came forward last month, and were sold at 42d. per lb., and 100 bales have just arrived at Liverpool. Mr. Stewart states he will ship from 16,000 to 18,000lb. by each packet, monthly, *via* Panama, and estimates the crop he was picking at 30 tons weight. He has ordered bagging for 1,000,000lb. weight to meet his anticipated necessities for next year, and calculates by March next his crops will have produced £80,000. The first batch of Chinese emigrants arrived on the 27th February. Further credits have been opened for fresh shipments, and the advices just received from the company's agent at HongKong justify the belief that before the end of the year Mr. Stewart will have a thousand coolies at work on the plantation, independent of the native labour he may be able to command. The distance at which the estates are situated, and the delay in drying the cotton when picked, preparatory to ginning, have been the principal causes which have prevented the earlier arrival of the whole of the March crop. This alone prevents the declaration of a dividend, which your directors confidently hope to be in a position to announce at the next meeting. To meet the disbursements for the shipment of the Chinese, and working expenses which will have to be defrayed before the next crop is available, your directors recommend issuing the remaining shares as may be required, but in accordance with the wish expressed by you at a former meeting, will only issue them, in the first instance, to the shareholders at par, rateably in proportion to their present holding."

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said he could not help referring to the report, and congratulated them on the great success which they had achieved. Original statements of the prices appeared to him exaggerated. The estimated price of cotton was 2s. per lb., but the samples sold realised 3s. 6d. per lb. The manager believed the value of the cotton was £80,000. At the last meeting a statement was made as to the expenses of getting coolies and labourers. They could not pay those expenses, and they did not wish to make a call, and it would be necessary to issue new shares at par. He begged to move the adoption of the report.

In reply to questions as to the produce of the estates at Tahiti,

Mr. Swarries, the manager, said he had received a letter from Mr. Stewart, their manager at Tahiti. If they wished he would read extracts. "When there is much rain the flowers fall off, but they are immediately succeeded by others. The plants now have as many flowers and more cotton than they had two months ago. I think I cannot be very far wrong in estimating the present crop, with what has been already sent, at 500 bales, or 75,000lb. of cotton. To meet the current expenses, and to enable us to continue the planting and carry on our operations until we can get the crop of 1866, I would strongly recommend the issue of the remaining 2,888 shares. I will have 700 acres planted in September, which will yield a crop of from 60,000lb. to 90,000lb. But to save this crop it is absolutely necessary that 700 Chinese should arrive here in January, 1866. In March I calculated having 1,000 acres planted with cotton, and 100 acres with coffee. I recommend that we should remain content with 1,000 acres of cotton for the present, and then throw our most valuable resources to it, considering of all things it is the most certain and profitable crop. This season has been exceedingly backward and wet, but the plants are loaded with flowers and capsules, and a month's dry weather would enable us to pick out at least 300 bales. Heavy rains are usual in May, so we have reason to believe we will soon have fine weather." As regarded coffee, he wrote:—"The coffee I received from Ceylon has been planted, but I am not certain that it will do well. I have, however, planted the Tahiti seed, from which we can have as many plants as we possibly require. The Tahiti is a superior coffee, and by the next mail I can send you a sample of some picked from bushes grown wild in forests of guava and breadfruits. The coffee-trees, for they cannot be called bushes, are fifteen feet high, and are in the stem as large as a man's arm. You asked me about the time required for planting coffee until it came into bearing. From the time the seed is sown in the nursery until the plants are ready to be sown, it takes a period of ten or twelve months. Sometimes in the second year, a part succeeds always, but in the third there is always a considerable crop. In the fourth year, after setting out the plants, the crop is heavy. I have a ton of coffee to the acre. This fourth year and the year in the nursery makes up the five years, as originall stated in the prospectus. There is no doubt about Tahiti being the finest estate for coffee planting in the world. I have one valley in particular, and to which I am now making a road at present. But before five years I feel certain that it will be of more value than the whole capital of the company. I am very anxious to get coffee planted, but hitherto it has been quite impossible with the aid I have at my disposal. To work this properly—to work it to the greatest extent—would require 2,000 labourers. With 1,000 acres of cotton, and with the advantages that the remainder offers to coffee planting, the result will be magnificent." I have culled, gentlemen, these extracts from the letters received to-day, assured they will convince you of the confidence entertained by our excellent managing director, Mr. Stewart, in the speedy fulfilment of his most sanguine expectations and as evidence of the forethought and judgment he brings to bear on the business he has in hand. To add words of mine would be to paint the butterfly's wing or to gild refined gold. The facts and data supplied to us are worth more than any fine speaking, as they presage dividends, and those of no ordinary kind, and it is the hope of such which has banded us together, and the belief in our realisation of large profits it is that must account for the pleasant faces before me and the gratulatory tone of the present meeting. The report was unanimously adopted and thanks voted to the chairman.

STEAM NAVIGATION ON THE PACIFIC.

(GLOBE.)

We shall very soon have to chronicle a new triumph of shipbuilding and engineering science in the inauguration of two mail routes across the Pacific. The comparatively narrow Atlantic is crossed already in manifold directions—from various English and French ports to numerous points on the American coast between the mouths of the River Plate and the St. Lawrence. The Indian Ocean is also traversed by the steamers from Suez to the Mauritius and Australia; but the enormous breadth of the Pacific has not yet been overcome. There are lines of mail steamers in its waters, but they only skirt the coasts. On the American coast there are the lines from Panama to San Francisco and Valparaiso. On the Asiatic coast there are the steamers of the Peninsular and Oriental Company and the Messageries Imperiales, plying between Galle and the ports of China and Japan; and we may include the inter-colonial lines of New Zealand and Australia. To these undertakings, involving, some of them, the passage of distances as great as on the Atlantic mail routes, there is now about to be added the transit of the Pacific itself, involving the passage without coaling of much greater distances than what have yet been accomplished on any oceanic mail route. One of the two enterprises we refer to—and perhaps the least remarkable—is the American project to cross the North Pacific between San Francisco and Hong Kong, but touching at Honolulu in the Sandwich Islands, and at Kanagawa in Japan. The service was authorised by an Act of Congress approved last February; and last week we were informed from Washington that the Postmaster-General had accepted the tender of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company for its execution. For a subsidy of half a million dollars the company undertake to build four first-class side-wheel steamers of from 3,500 to 4,000 tons burden each, and to make 12 round trips and back in the year, the speed to which they are bound being two hundred nautical miles per day. The term of contract is for ten years, to commence on or before the 1st of January, 1867. The distance from San Francisco to Hong Kong is 7,050 miles, and from San Francisco to Kanagawa, the nearest coal depot, 5,475 miles. This latter distance does not very much exceed that on some of our Atlantic lines, and, as we shall see, the enterprise is outstripped in this respect by the other Pacific route to be inaugurated. But in importance it will be second to no other route across the Pacific. The Americans are already calculating that when it is established and the Pacific Railway, "which will now become an absolute necessity," completed, New York must become the great commercial emporium of the world. Without expecting any such result as this, the line, if well managed, should prove a formidable competitor to the overland route from Europe to China and Japan, especially to the latter country. At Hong Kong the time of journeying to England by both routes will be about equally balanced, but at Kanagawa the American route will have the preference. The Americans, however, can surely calculate on sending all their own passengers, letters, and light goods to China in that way, at a great saving of time compared with the tedious roundabout by Europe. This will be a gain of money as well as time, but whether the prerogative of London as the world's emporium—the clearing-house, where international accounts are balanced and paid—will thereby be infringed, is by no means so certain. The inauguration of the second mail route from Panama to Wellington, New Zealand, appears to be much nearer execution, the ships being actually built or building. The Australian colonies, partly from dissatisfaction with the frequent break-downs and chronic slowness of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's service from Galle, and partly from a desire to have a fortnightly communication with home, have long been agitating for a monthly line to Panama, in addition to a monthly service by way of Galle. In the spring of the present year, accordingly, the colonies of New South Wales and New Zealand, the latter having the most direct interest, finally executed an agreement by which their objects will be effected. The Panama, New Zealand, and Australian Royal Mail Company, which had for some time established a profitable intercolonial service, have now agreed to place four steamers on the line from Wellington to Panama. The subsidy, which the two colonies have halved, is £110,000 per annum, and the speed to which the company are bound 10 knots per hour. One of the ships, called the *Ruahine*, is already built, a fine twin-screw of 1,640 tons; and at her trial trip in May last accomplished a speed of 15 knots with the tide, and nearly 13 against. She is fully rigged as a sailing vessel, so as to take advantage of the regular trade winds, which will practically be with the vessels in both directions. She may, therefore, economise fuel and yet attain the *minimum* speed; but she is able to carry 1,200 tons of fuel, which is more than would be necessary, steaming at full speed the whole distance. When it is considered that that distance is 7,200 miles, the fact is sufficiently striking. It is confidently expected that the *Ruahine* and her sister ships will make the passage between Panama and Wellington in 25 days, so that the entire passage between Wellington and Southampton may be only 45 days. This will be a clear gain of 15 days on the present postal time between England and New Zealand, which quite accounts for the colonial zeal in pressing on the matter. For our part we cannot but welcome the means which bring us into quicker and more frequent communication with our colonies; while we may congratulate them in the present case on their energy in helping themselves in a matter they believe so vital. In connection with this new route we may notice that the Australian colonies, especially Queensland, Victoria, and New South Wales, are favouring a project to connect themselves with Galle by steamers touching the north-eastern extremity of the island continent at Cape York, in Queensland, instead of, as at present, near the south-western extremity in King George's Sound. The Dutch have already a line connecting their various colonies in the islands of the Indian Ocean between Singapore and the island of Timor, and it is proposed to continue it from Singapore to Galle, and from Timor to Cape York. This project, if carried out, as seems likely, will abridge the period of communicating with Queensland and Victoria, while new South Wales and South Australia will have the advantage by the Panama route. It is not likely that the opening of the two great mail routes we have described will be more than the beginning of a series by which the Pacific, like the Atlantic, will be covered with these steam highways. Looking at the mutual commerce already existing among the new-born States on the sea-

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board and the old empires newly opened to commerce, mail services must spring up to conduct that commerce with efficiency. It is not looking very far forward to imagine lines of steamers connecting Australia with China, with San Francisco, and with Valparaiso. We may expect, besides, additions to the routes which have more direct connection with the European lines. Already a line from Australia to Valparaiso has been spoken of in connection with Mr. Wheelright's project for a railway over the Andes and across the South American continent; and this line, it is expected, will furnish, in conjunction with the River Plate lines to England, a new route to the Antipodes as quick as any of the existing routes. The Panama route may again be chosen for China as well as Australia, while there is some prospect of an intercolonial railway through our own possessions across the North American continent, which would enable us to establish a competing mail line with the American one to Japan and China. Without mentioning other ideas which have been formed, these probabilities are enough to show that their beginning, the opening of the two routes we have described, will be an event of no small consequence in the commercial history of our time.

THE FYCHOW GIANT.

The following description of the "Giant" is from the *Standard*. We cannot profess to eclipse it by any account of our own. Indeed, we might spoil it by "knowing too much."

Chang-woo-Yow, the Chinaman of gigantic proportions who has travelled from the land of the Celestials to these western regions of barbarism for the purpose of exhibiting his manly proportions to the gaze of the British public, held the first of his levees on Monday evening at the Egyptian Hall. Chang, very shortly after his arrival among the pale faces, was permitted to pay his respects at Marlborough House, and having thus chin-chinned the rulers of the land, he now purposes to satisfy the curiosity of all classes of the barbarians among whom he is temporarily sojourning. He is most undeniably a mighty man, if not a man of valour, and enjoys, at the present moment, the honourable distinction of being, not only one of the greatest, but, beyond all dispute, the greatest personage in the three kingdoms. To look at him, as he sits in state, surrounded by other members of the party, whom he dwarfs into insignificance, one is inclined to fancy that the force or freak of nature could no further go in the development, in one human framework, of bone and muscle. But the visitor who supposes this is in error. If we may trust what we are told of Chang in the autobiography which is distributed in the hall, he comes of a race of giants, of whom he modestly confesses that he is the least. No man is a prophet in his own country, or in his own family, and we are given to understand that the giant of the Egyptian Hall is looked down upon literally, as well as perhaps metaphorically, by his immediate relatives.

His father and his grandfather overtopped him considerably. Of those children of Anak he is hardly a worthy descendant. A brother of his, now in the ranks of the Imperial army, though a few inches shorter than Chang, is in all other respects a bigger and stouter man than our hero. Nor are the ladies of his family unworthy of their lofty descent. Chang once had a sister who, when in the flesh, was some ten inches nearer to heaven than he is; but this charming maiden, who stood a trifle over eight feet and a half out of her shoes, was lost by death to the family circle, of which she was, Chang tells us, the consolation and the pride. The premature decease of this young lady, still in the bloom of her hopeful youth, struck Chang to the heart. All the maxims of the ancient philosophers, with which he is well adquainted—for Chang is a scholar as well as a "phenomenon"—failed to aleviate his affliction; and, as a last resource, the unfortunate youth (who is said to have not yet reached his twentieth year) resolved to go upon his travels.

At Shanghai, he tells us, he first looked upon the face of the white man, and what was more to the purpose, one of the white faces looked upon him with other eyes than those of idle curiosity. Chang found, to quote his narrative in the touching simplicity of the original, that the "face was kind." In a little time he further learned, "with great joy"—we quite believe it—"that his hand was open and his heart was good." Here was the balm in Gilead to bind up the broken heart of poor Chang. What all the philosophy of Confucius had failed to accomplish was effected *instanter*, as soon as he discovered that the white faces promised not only good hearts but open hands. Stripped of the beautiful allegory in which Chang has enveloped the transaction, the plain English of it is that a bargain was concluded between Chang and the English agent, and the former consented for a consideration to be made a show of. But Chang would not come alone. He stipulated that a wife meet for him should be found. In his autobiography he opens an uncommonly long yarn about this lady of his affections, who possesses, he tells us, "the five cardinal virtues, benevolence, righteousness, propriety, wisdom, and truth." Thrice fortunate giant to have acquired such a domestic treasure. The possessor of this unheard-of combination of feminine virtues is a pleasing-looking Chinese women, without, however, anything remarkable about her, except that her feet are as small and as distorted as the feet of Chinese ladies usually are.

Chang also brings with him a wretched little dwarf, Chang-Mow, and three so-called other dwarfs. The party altogether consists of four men and two women. Chang, himself, is well worth seeing. It is not merely that he is so very big, though even on that scorce the opportunity of looking at some old-fashioned unmistakable giant is one that does not often occur in these days. But there is an air of intelligence and mildness about his countenance which propitiates the good wishes of the visitor. Chang is none of your fee-fo-fum giants, delighting in deeds of violence and cruelty. Assuredly, there is nothing low, mean, or vulgar in that statuesque countenance, upon which, as Chang sits in his chair of state, you gaze with something of the feelings suggested by the Egyptian statuary in the British Museum or at the Crystal Palace. And when Chang walks down the room, shaking hands on each side with most genuine ease and grace, the impression gains ground on all sides that he is the most amiable, best behaved, and accomplished giant that ever breathed.

The serene affability of his countenance is in strong relief to the sharp-featured visage of Chang-Mow. In the case of that unfortunate little mannikin there is nothing whatever to attract. Mere personal deformity, in itself, is, to our thinking, never a fit thing for exhibition. The dwarf, however, answers the purpose for which, we suppose, he was included in the establishment—that of bringing out, in the highest degree possible, the greatness of Chang. Kwang, the compradore, has an intelligent countenance, and addressed the audience in very tolerable English, which would have been better still, we fancy, if he had not been suffering under great, yet not unnatural nervousness. The giant made a speech in his own tongue, as also did the dwarf. To the fairer part of the audience Chang's wife displayed, with considerable bashfulness, her feet, a privilege in which the members of the sterner sex were, very rightly, not supposed to participate. Both the lady and her attendant seemed highly amused at the ungovernable curiosity shown by their English friends, and were several times compelled to hide their faces behind their fans during a fit of uncontrollable laughter. Mr. Siddons acted as a medium between the Chinese and the audience, and performed his duty with sufficient and commendable briefness. The room in which the levee takes place is appropriately decorated in the Chinese style. The audience was large, in fact larger than the place could conveniently accommodate.

SWINHOE'S PHEASANT.—The *Illustrated London News* has the following notice of Swinhoe's pheasant:—"Ouri Illustration represents one of the most beautiful of the fine collection of pheasants now living in the gardens of the Zoological Society of London. It is a newly-discovered species, which has been worthily named after its discoverer, Mr. Robert Swinhoe, F.Z.S., Her Majesty's Consul in Formosa. 'Few of Her Majesty's consuls,' says Mr. Gould, in his great work on the birds of Asia, 'have more assidiously availed themselves of the opportunities afforded them of collecting the birds of the distant regions in which they have been located than Mr. Swinhoe, and fewer still have shown greater acumen in discriminating and pointing out the distinctions which separate nearly allied species. It is but a just tribute, then, to the merits of this gentleman that so remarkable and beautiful a bird should be named in his honour.' To the same gentleman the Zoological Society are likewise indebted for the male specimen of this bird now in their collection, from which this present figure is taken, and which is the only example of this species which has as yet been imported into Europe. In its native state, Swinhoe's pheasant inhabits the high jungles of the interior of the little-known island of Formosa, rarely descending into the lower hills. In size it is somewhat smaller than the common silver pheasant, which it also resembles in its red wattles and in the form of its tail. The Zoological Society are shortly expecting the arrival of a fresh batch of specimens of this pheasant, which have been shipped to them by Mr. Swinhoe, so that next spring we may hope to witness the reproduction of this species in the Society's gardens; and before many years are passed we have little doubt that a new and brilliant addition will thus be introduced to the pheasantries of this country.

THE BISHOPRIC OF VICTORIA (HONG KONG).—We are enabled to state, on what we deem undoubted authority, that the recent announcement respecting the suppression of the Victoria bishopric is altogether erroneous; and that the nomination of a successor to Bishop Smith is only delayed for a time, in the early expectation of a legislative enactment defining the legal status of the Colonial Church and Episcopate. The following letter from Bishop Smith appeared in *The Times* of the 22nd inst.:—"Sir,—My attention having been called to a paragraph in *The Times* announcing the 'suppression' of the colonial see of Victoria, vacated eight months ago by my resignation, I am happy to inform your readers that, although I am aware of such an impression having been conveyed by remarks made some time ago in conversation by a member of the Government to more than one person with whom I am acquainted, more recent personal inquiries of my own at the Colonial-office have convinced me that no intention of suppressing the bishopric is entertained by the Government.—I remain, Sir, your obedient servant, GEORGE SMITH, D.D., late Bishop of Victoria.—5, Church-terrace, Lee, S.E., Sept. 20."

NEW LINE OF STEAMERS.—We are glad to find that a line of steamers (which has been very much needed for the past twenty years) has been established between Manila and Singapore. It has been a constant source of complaint that mails and passengers should have been so often delayed on the old route between Hong Kong and Manila. We understand that the *Reyna*, under the Spanish flag, has already opened the service, and that she will be followed shortly by another vessel. As soon as these vessels have shown their efficiency, we trust that our postal authorities will be willing to alter the route for our correspondence, and make a fair, if not a handsome allowance for the service. The agents in Singapore are Messrs. Paterson, Simon, and Co., and in Manila Messrs. Philipps, Moore, and Co.

THE Emperor and Empress of Russia have been graciously pleased to receive Judge Monockjee Cursetjee (of Bombay) and his daughter, at the Palace of Tsarsko Selo, near St. Petersburgh.

THE Rev. J. T. Smith, M.A., late consular chaplain in China, has been appointed chaplain of the Refuge for the Destitute, Dalston, N.E.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

ALLARDICE—On the 17th Sept., at 23, Lansdowne-road, Kensington-park, the wife of D. Allardice, Esq., of a son

EVANS—On the 21th Sept., at The Cedars, Colchester, the wife of J. H. Evans, Esq., of Hankow, China, of a son.

MARTEN—On the 21st Sept., at 26, Sandford-place, Glasgow, Mrs. W. T. Marten, of Batavia, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

ANNESLEY—ROCHFORT.—On the 19th Sept., at St. Mark's Church, Bath, Francis Charles Annesley, first cousin of the present Earl Annesley, and son of James Annesley, H.M.'s British Consul-General at Amsterdam, and Clementine, Baroness Blockhausen, to Matilda Caroline, fourth and twin daughter of Brevet-Colonel Cowper Rochfort, Madras Army

MACLEAN—HARVIE.—On the 13th Sept., at Ashgrove, Kirn, Argyllshire, by the Rev. R. W. Thomson, A. H. Maclean, Esq., Glasgow, to Anne Brown, eldest daughter of Alex. Harvie, Esq. No cards.

PEEBLES—STEEL.—On the 14th Sept., at Carfin, near Lanark, N.B., by the Rev. B. C. Brown, of Airdrie, Robert Davie Peebles, Manager of the Bank of India, London, to Agnes Georgina, third daughter of the late John Mure Steel, Esq., solicitor in Airdrie. No cards.

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DEATHS.

BIRD—On the 30th June last, supposed to have been lost, with every soul on board, on his passage from Hong Kong to Swatow, in the P. and O. Co.'s S.S. Corea, caught in a typhoon off the Coast of China, James W. D. Bird, the Commander, second son of John Jackson and Elizabeth Bird, of Boughton Monchelsea, Kent, in the 35th year of his age; also Isabella Jane, his wife, a passenger, aged 25.

DENCE—On the 3rd Aug., at Hankow, China, of dysentery, Robert Dence, Esq., aged 27, while preparing to return to England by the October mail, after an absence of five years from his native land.

EARL—On the 9th July, at sea, George Windsor Earl, of Penang and Wildwood, Hampstead, Magistrate of Province Wellesley.

GORDON—On the 19th Sept., at Southampton, in his 80th year, Lieutenant-General Henry William Gordon, Colonel-Commandant 3rd Brigade Royal Artillery (father of Colonel Gordon).

HARBOUR—On the 29th-30th June, in a typhoon in the China Seas, Edward Henry Harbour, Esq., passenger on board the Chanticleer, only son of James and Jane Harbour, 3, Upton Villas, Kilburn, aged 31.

HARPER—On the 25th Sept., in London, Patrick Rose Harper, Esq., of Banff, N.B., late of Hong Kong, China, aged 40.

LITCHFIELD—On the 18th July, at the Glebe, Sydney, New South Wales, Marian Jackson, the wife of Edwin Litchfield, Esq., of H.M.'s Commissariat, and elder daughter of the Hon. John Smale, Esq., H.M.'s Attorney-General for Hong Kong.

NOBLE—On the 29th-30th June, on his passage from Hong Kong to Foo-chow, in the P. and O. Co.'s s.s. Corea (caught in the fearful typhoon in the China Seas on the above date, and is supposed to have foundered with all on board), Henry Noble, Esq., Manager of the Agra Bank, eldest son of John Noble, Esq., of Gower-street, Bedford-square.

PEMBER—On the 29th-30th June, lost, in a typhoon in the China Seas, Howard Pember, passenger on board the P. and O. Co.'s steamship Corea, fourth son of J. E. Pember, Esq., of the Stock Exchange, and Streatham, Surrey, aged 23.

PIGNATEL—On the 14th Sept., at Bayswater, Victorine Josephine Marie Pignatel, third daughter of Eugene Pignatel, of Lyons, aged 21.

RANGEL—On the 20th Sept., at Edinburgh, Georgey Strachan, eldest son of Rufino Rangel, Esq., aged 10 years.

RICHARDSON—On the 30th June last, lost, with all on board, in a typhoon off the Coast of China, in the P. and O. screw steamer Corea, of which ship he was third officer, Montague Charles, the second son of the Rev. H. K. Richardson, rector of Leire, Leicestershire, aged 27.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

The Cotton Market has further improved ½d. to ⅝d. for American, and ¼d. to ½d. on all other kinds. China quoted 14d. to 14½d., and Japan 15d.

MANCHESTER MARKETS.—The circular of Sam Mendel, dated Manchester Sept. 26th, says:—Sales at daily advancing prices have enabled spinners and manufacturers to establish a very considerable advance. There is a strong market to-day, but with less excitement than over the past few days; buyers are evidently checked by the rapid rise in the value of both yarns and goods, and less inclined to operate further on a large scale. 7 lb. Grey Shirtings quoted at 14s. 3d., 9 lb., 18s. 9d. Cotton Yarn, Nos. 16-24, at 2s. to 2s. 1d.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Sept. 25, Burdwan, from Canton; 20, off Dungeness, from Padang, Alcyone; 25, at Falmouth, from Rangoon, Peder Aneus; 24, at Liverpool, from Singapore, William Dixon; 26, at Falmouth from Singapore, Singapore.

DEPARTURES.—Sept. 18, from Brouwershaven for Japan, Pantalon; from Rotterdam for Sourabaya, Jannetjee; 23, from Cardiff for Shanghai, Betty Perlbach; from Swansea for Shanghai, Fort Regent; 20, from Lisbon for Batavia, Konig Willem III. (s.s.).

SPOKEN.—Tricolor, from Hong Kong, July 12, 35 S., 28 E. Woodville, Nagasaki to London, July 17, 35 S., 20 E. Sir James, Bristol to Galle, Aug. 16, 2 S., 21 W. Olive Branch, Columbo to London; Aug. 6, 19 S., 3 W.; Eaglet, London to Colombo, 13 N., 24 W.: Susanna Johanna, Rotterdam to Batavia, 50 N., 7 W.; Louise, Amsterdam to Batavia, Aug. 23, 41 N., 12 W.; Pudel, Hong Kong to New York, July 18, off Frederik Hendrik Rocks, working up the Straits of Banka.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices Sept. 16.
£20	Asiatic Bank Company, issued at £15 prem., £7. 10s paid up. .	£5	15 to 17 pm.	15 to 17 pm.
50	Agra and Masterman's	25	56 to 58	57 to 59
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	26½ to 27½	27½ to 28½
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	—	49 to 51
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	28 to 30	27 to 29
25	Do. New, issued at 10 pm. (10 pd.)	All	—	—
20	Eastern Exchange	5	1½ to ⅝ dis.	2 to 1 dis.
50	London Joint Stock	15	50½ to 51½	50½ to 51½
100	London and Westminster . . .	20	96 to 98	96 to 98
25	Oriental Bank Corporation . .	All	52 to 54	52 to 54
50	Union of London	15	53½ to 54½	53½ to 54½
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan . .	25	5 to 3 dis.	5 to 3 dis.
100	Do. Issued at 2 pm.	25	5 to 3 dis.	5 to 3 dis.
100	Do. New	20	6 to 4 dis.	6 to 4 dis.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi . . .	10	3½ to 2¾ dis.	3½ to 2¾ dis.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	29½ to 30½	29 to 30
100	Bank of London	50	137 to 140	135 to 138
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India .	4	¼ to 1 pm.	¼ to 1 pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3½ to 4¼	3½ to 4¼
50	P. and O. Steam Company . .	All	75 to 77	75 to 77
50	Do. New	35	17 to 19pm.	17 to 19 pm.
20	China Steamship & Labuan Coal Co	5	—	—
5	Bombay Gas	All	5¾ to 5¾	5¼ to 5¾
10	Hong Kong Gas	All	1 to 2 pm.	1 to 2 pm.
20	S. I. Irrigation and Canal. . .	12	3½ to 2½ dis.	¼ to 3 dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company . .	1½	½ dis. to par.	½ dis. to par
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal. .	All	1½ to 19½	18½ to 19½
5	Oriental Gas	All	5¾ to 5¾	5¾ to 5¾
10	O. Inland Steam	All	1¼ to 2¼	1¼ to 2¼
100	West India Steam Company . .	60	119 to 122	119 to 122
20	Ceylon Company	7	3¼ to 4 pm.	3 to 4 pm.
20	International Finance Society .	5	1¼ to 1¾ pm.	1¼ to 1¾ pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2 to 2¼ pm.	2 to 2¼ pm.
50	London Financial Association . .	15	8¼ to 8¾ pm.	8¼ to 8¾ pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	¼ to ⅜ dis.	¼ to ⅜ dis.
20	Société Financière d'Egypte . .	10	5 to 4 dis.	5 to 4 dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company . . .	All	15¼ to 16	15¾ to 16
10	Upper Assam Tea	3½	2½ to 3½ pm.	3 to 4 pm.
10	Do.	All	17 to 19	17 to 19

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—There have been no arrivals since those of the Fiery Cross and Serica, reported in our last. Opinions are divided as to the quality of this season's yield, some judges noticing a larger proportion of second class than usual, but the teas are more free from old leaf, and therefore more appreciated. There has been a limited demand for the broken-leaf and dusty kinds of congou at previous prices; those with leaf up to good common have been inquired for from 10d. to 1s. per lb. Fair to good flavory kinds have been dull of sale at about former prices. Good to fine Kaisows, of old season, have been difficult to move, owing to the arrivals of new tea; and quotations are in a measure nominal. In common to fair blackish-leaf kinds transactions have been limited, at about previous rates; the few sales of medium kind show a gradual hardening of the market. In fine there has been but little done. A Chop of Sinest of old season has been taken for the Russian market at 2s. 6d. In new-make Canton kind there is no material alteration to notice. Common Oolongs have been heavy of sale; the fair qualities have found buyers to some extent at full prices for export to New York. Fine are in moderate demand for home consumption. There has been some demand for fair to medium Souchongs for export, and a few parcels have been sold at previous prices. Flowery Pekoes remain as before. In Scented Teas, of old season, there has not been much doing. Common to fair kinds fully maintain former value; but good qualities have been rather more difficult of sale. New Foochow Orange Pekoes have sold from 2s. 10d. to 3s. per lb. In Uncoloured Japans the limited quantity offering checks business; prices show a further small advance. The public sales of Indian teas comprised about 4,000 packages, nearly the whole of which found buyers at very full prices; the finer kinds of Pekoe dust and broken Pekoe selling 2d. to 3d. per lb. higher. In Green teas prices have been very firm, with a slight advance in some kinds suitable for export, the demand for America still continuing. The common qualities of all sorts remain difficult of sale, but all the good to fine kinds of Hyson, Young Hyson, Imperial, and Gunpowder have met with a ready sale. In Canton-made there is no change to notice, they being still very difficult of sale. The public sales of the 14th inst. comprised 3,900 packages Indian tea, of which nearly the whole found buyers. On the 19th inst. 17,033 packages China tea were brought forward, and 11,415 packages were sold, 11,215 packages being printed without reserve. The estimated stock in the United Kingdom on the 31st Aug. last is now returned at 89,500,000 lbs., against 88,500,000 lbs. at the same date of 1864.

SILK.—We have had a continuance of business in China Silk during the past fortnight, and prices of the best descriptions, owing to their comparative scarcity, are firmer, while ordinary and inferior qualities remain as before. In Japan Silk the few bales of new Mibash already arrived have been sold at 32s. 6d. to 33s.; the quality appears fairly good, but the size not so fine as could be desired. Deliveries from 1st to 23rd inclusive:—China, 2,558 bales; Japan, 816 bales; total, 3,374 bales. The quotations are:—Tsatlee, No. 1, 30s. 6d. to 31s.; Taysaam, No. 1, 26s. 6d. to 27s.; Mibash, No. 1, 32s. 6d. to 33s.; Idah "Bricks," No. 1, 29s. to 30s.

COTTON.—Since our last there has been a very large demand, at gradually advancing prices, and with the exception of Western Madras, which is only ¼d. to ½d. dearer, we raise our quotations ¾d. to 1d. per lb., the market closing firm, but not quite so excited as during the earlier part of the week. Owing to the small quantity on the spot, the principal business has been for arrival, the latest sales showing an advance of ⅜d. to 1d. per lb. on last week's prices. During the week there were sales on the London market of 160 bales China, fully fair to good, at 12½d. to 14d., and 30 bales Japan, fully fair, at 14d. The stock of China and Japan in London on the 21st was 2,630 bales, against 24,123 same time last year. The total stock in London was 47,421 bales, against 84,672 at the same date of 1864. Of Cotton afloat to Europe on the 22nd inst., the China consisted of 5,954 bales, against 74,756 at the similar period of 1864; and of Japan 294 bales, against 9,115 bales last year. The total stock of cotton in Liverpool on the 22nd inst. was 350,000 bales, against 497,180 bales last year. At that port the market was animated throughout the past week; sales were effected to an unusually large extent, and prices gradually advanced. Middling Orleans is quoted at 19½d., and fair Dhollerah at 14½d. per lb. There being a restricted supply of China and Japan only a moderate business was done in these kinds, but prices are 1d. per lb. higher than at the close of last week.

SUGAR.—An active demand has prevailed since our last; only a moderate supply has been offered by auction, but privately considerable business has been done at very full prices up to fully 6d. per cwt. advance, and at the close of the week business was checked by holders who did not appear as sellers except at higher prices. At auction 5,927 bags good Muscovade Manila were bought in, but sold afterwards at 28s. 6d. to 29s. 6d. By private contract of sales reported on the spot there are—Manila, clayed, 30,000 bags, 32s.; Muscovade, 8,000 bags, 28s. 9d. to 29s.; and on the 22nd inst., also privately, 6,000 bags Manila, at 32s. 3d. to 32s. 6d.

COFFEE.—The improved demand noticed in our last has continued for Colonial descriptions, and prices show some advance. Ceylon: 1,252 casks, 86 barrels, and 335 bags Plantation offered by auction, sold readily at a further advance of 6d. per cwt., fine fine ordinary to low middling 78s. to 81s. 6d.; middling to good middling colory, 82s. 6d. to 87s.; 762 bags Native sold freely at rather higher prices, good ordinary, 65s. 6d. to 66s. 6d.; fine ordinary, 67s. to 68s. Of other East India, the quantity offered has been mostly taken at fully the relative value; 234 bags Singapore from 72s. 6d. to 73s. 6d. for fine ordinary pale; and 772 bags Manila, partly taken, fine ordinary pale, 70s.; black, 20s.

RICE.—The market continues very firm. During the past and the preceding week about 30,000 bags new Nakrenzie have been sold at 11s. to 11s. 3d. On the 22nd, 2,950 bags Rangoon, paddy, were sold by auction at 10s. to 10s. 6d.

CAMPHOR.—In improved demand, with fair business in China at 92s. 6d. to 97s. 6d. per cwt., and Japan at 95s. to 97s. 6d.; sales of the latter for arrival recently effected at 100s.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Is again about 3s. per cwt. dearer; and 560 boxes sold at auction at 87s. to 92s. per cwt. for 3rd to 1st pilo. Privately a large quantity has changed hands on more than corresponding terms.

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Buds: Quiet; 39 boxes at auction retired at £11 per cwt. Cinnamon (Ceylon): We quote 1st sort 1s. 7d. to 2s. 9d. per lb.; 2nd, 1s. 5d. to 2s. 4d.; 3rd, 1s. to 1s. 10d.; 4th and Jungle, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 5d. Steady, with moderate business on former terms.

COCOANUT OIL.—This market has been very animated, with a large business at gradually advancing prices, closing £3 to £5 per ton higher than at the date of our last; fair sales have also been effected for arrival; 1,207 casks Cochin and 121 Ceylon at auction.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: flat; only 10 bags at auction, and those retired. Dragon's Blood and Galangal Root: nothing doing in either. Rhubarb: A recent arrival of 65 boxes was advertised for public sale, but 30 boxes having been sold privately the remainder only was offered, and sold at the extraordinary prices of 10s. 6d. to 10s. 7d. per lb. for fine flat, and 9s. 11d. to 10s. round; but 49 cases, various small parcels of inferior and ordinary quality, were all retired, there being, at present, no demand for these descriptions.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Continues steady; of 92 cases at auction, one-third sold at £10. 7s. 6d. to £11. 15s. per cwt. for false packed second quality and £6. 15s. fair third. Damar: Has brought about previous terms; and of 124 cases at auction, about three-fourths sold at 48s. to 49s. per cwt. for good picked. Gamboge: Firm; 29 cases sold at auction at £9. 2s. 6d. to £9. 15s. per cwt. for middling pipe.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Fine quality firm and scarce; of 44 baskets and 8 tons at auction, only 5 baskets sold at 2s. 2d. per lb. for fine.

HEMP (MANILA).—Demand has recently improved, and sales to some extent have been effected up to £35 per ton for good roping. Only 145 bales old at auction, sold at £33 to £33. 10s. per ton.

HIDES.—The quantity of East India offered at the sales on the 14th was moderate, and with a good demand for consumption and a moderate one for export, nearly the whole found buyers at prices generally showing an advance of ¼d. to ½d. per lb. upon those of the last sales. 727 Singapore Buffalo Hides offered and sold at from 5⅞d. to 6¾d. per lb. 992 Java Buffalo Hides offered and sold at 3¾d. to 5⅝d. per lb.

HORNS.—Buffalo: Firm; and 11 tons Penang, 4 tons Manila, and 2 tons Madras, sold at auction at 43s. 6d. to 44s. per cwt. for 3½ to 4 lbs. average; 39s. to 39s. 6d. for 2¾ lbs., 21s. 6d. for 1⅛ lb. Deer: Firm; and 4 tons Cochin, and 1 ton Ceylon sold at auction at 61s. per cwt. for 1½ lb. average, and 46s. to 49s. 6d. for 1⅜ to 2 lbs.

INDIA-RUBBER.—Good scarce, and wanted; 91 baskets Penang at auction retired; and of 98 packages Assam one-third sold at 7¾d. per lb. for ordinary ball.

JAPAN WAX.—Steady: of 30 boxes at auction, one-third sold at 73s. per cwt. for good saucers.

OILS.—Anniseed: has been dealt in to a large extent at advancing prices, and the considerably increased quotation of 7s. 9d. has recently been obtained: sales having also been effected for arrival at 7s. 6d. per lb. Cassia: firmer: of 27 cases at auction about half sold at 7s. 9d. per lb., and private business has also been done at that figure. Cinnamon, and Mace and Nutmegs: only two cases of each of these oils at auction, and all retired.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7 to £7. 5s.; nail rod, £8. 10s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10.; sheets, single, £10. 10s. to £10. 15s.; Staffordshire bars, £8. 10s. to £9. 10s.; rails, £7 to £7. 5s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £15.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £91 to £93 per ton; yellow metal, 7½d. to 7¾d. per lb.

TIN.—92s. to 94s. for block; 94s. to 95s. for common bars. Tin plates best charcoal, I.C. 29s. 6d. to 31s.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, W.B., £20. 10s.; shot, patent, £22. 10s.; sheet, £20 to £20. 5s.; spelter, £21. 10s. to £21. 15s; zinc, English sheet, £27. 10s.; quicksilver, £7. 18s. 6d. to £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—Since our Circular of the 5th inst. some slight improvement in the demand for metals has been apparent, but for the most part prices are no better. In Scotch Pig Iron there has been some speculative business, and the quotation is now about one shilling per ton dearer. For Copper there is rather more demand, but no advance in price. Tin: English is without change. Straits have been inquired for, but we cannot report any advance in price; several parcels have changed hands at 88s., at which more is offered. Tin Plates very firm. Lead dull. Spelter also dull.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton rom the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£170,328
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£5,500
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£2,236,251
Singapore	£3,007	£271,150
Penang	—	£20,000
Yokohama	—	£54,005

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£57,966
Penang	—	£4,568
Hong Kong	—	£47,000
Foo-chow-Fo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£10,751
Yokohama	—	£13,178

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£56	£52,840
To Saigon	—	£109,190
To Batavia	£3,966	£3,360
To Hong Kong	—	£104,542
To Shanghai	£80	£120,143
To Yokhama	—	£2,184

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4
Silver in Bars	0 5 0⅞
Mexican Dollars	0 4 11⅞

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Sep. 15	Falmouth	Rangoon	Johanna Emilie	
— 13	Off Falmouth	Batavia	Nagasaki	
— 14	Queenstown	Maulmain	Iris	Patterson.
— 14	Do.	Do.	Atlantic	Tarras.
— 16	London	Singapore	Clarendon	King.
— 16	Falmouth	Akyab	Malta	Wahlman
Aug. 19	Pernambuco	Sumatra	Tonquin	Kimball.
Sep. 17	Off Falmouth	Akyab	Senator Iken	Dannemann.
— 18	Falmouth	Do.	Elizabeth Cushing	Brown.
— 14	Copenhagen	Do.	Freira	Sorensen.
— 14	Do.	Do.	Hazard	Tragardh.
— 16	Palais, B.I.	Singapore	Blanche	Bisson.
—	Gironde	Do.	Robur	Baudroult.
— 19	Off Falmouth	Manila	Alice	
— 21	London	Singapore	Civilo	Lansea.
— 19	Off Plymouth	Sarawak	Stafford	
— 19	Trieste	Singapore	Falco	Martinsen.
— 21	Deal	Manila	Albis	Wohlers.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Sep. 15	Harwich	Singapore	* Luchow	Ulrich.
—	Clyde	Manila	Adolphe	Erquinga.
Aug. 11	Rio Janeiro	Batavia	Cornelia	Croeser.
Sep —	Hamburg	Hong Kong	Carry and Jane	Jensen.
—	Rotterdam	Japan	Maria	v. Wulven.
—	Amsterdam	Sourabaya	Hendrika	Lasink.
— 16	Cardiff	Singapore	Pieter Adolph	Jaskl.
— 16	Sunderland	Shanghai	Jorgen Bruhn	Jorgenson.
— 18	London	Singapore	Couranto	Peirce.
— 18	Do.	Shanghai	Sir W. F. Williams	Wilson.
— 18	Do.	Cardiff & Shanghai	Fair Leader	
— 18	Newport	Singapore	Ionia	Werner.
— 19	Cardiff	Hong Kong	St. Croix	Roberts.
— 19	Swansea	Shanghai	Jas. Wishart	Buchanan.
— 19	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Lennox Castle	Dobbie.
— 19	Jersey	Swansea & H. Kong	John Milton	Pirouet.
— 20	Cardiff	Hong Kong	David	Barbottin.
—	Antwerp	Galle	Charl[illegible]	Lechere.
— 21	Sunderland	Batavia	Alblasserdam	Hoen.
— 23	Colombo	London	Jane Symons	Burnard.

* After repairing.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Tiptree. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Grenadier, Conference. For Shanghai: Antipodes, Serica. For Hong Kong and Canton: Sovereign of India, Taitsing, Fiery Cross. For Penang: Devonvale. For Bankok and Siam: Fairy. For Manila: Loyola. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Kaap Hoorn. For Colombo: Granville, Frances, Crouch Brothers. For Colombo and Cochin: Blanch.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Eclipse, Castlehow. For Hong Kong and Canton: Sir Lancelot. For Singapore: Albert Victor, Cambrian, Queensberry. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Harkaway. For Manila: San Luis, Alavesa. For Colombo: Meg Merrilies.

At GLASGOW.—For Manila: Bella Gallega.

SPOKEN.

BELTED WILL, Foo-chow to London, August 18, 25 S., 6 E.
PALESTINE, Colombo to London, August 20, 21 S., 3 E.
COREA, Liverpool to Hong Kong, June 5, 37 N., 17 W.
NIKO (Dutch barque), Batavia to Amsterdam, August 8, 35 S., 22 E.
AVA (barque), Colombo to London, July 17, 26 (?) S., 20 E.
CONFIANCE (Fr. ship), Batavia to Nantes, 41 days out, off Cape Agulhas
JAPARA (Dutch ship), Batavia to Rotterdam, 35 S., 24 E.
MOULIN, Cardiff to Manila, June 21, 38 S., 24 W.
ARDENCRAIG (barque), Colombo to London, July 28, 8 S., 81 E.
CITY OF ABERDEEN, Foo-chow to London, August 11, 24 S., 57 E.
No. 7952 3rd d. p. (Ham. sh.), Singapore to Lon., Aug. 26, 23 N., 37 W.
SOVEREIGN, Rio Janeiro to Shanghai, 43 days out, May 27, 39 S., 61 E.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

A fair amount of business has been done during the past week from London for the China ports, and a large quantity of freight is still offering. Coal freights to Shanghai are in brisk demand at £52 per keel from the Tyne, for other ports, however, they are somewhat heavier.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 35s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £40 and £1. 19s. For Shanghai: £50 and £2. 6s. For Manila: £1. 15s. to £1. 17s. 6d. For Batavia: 24s. to 26s. For Singapore: £29 and £1. 8s. For Galle: £28 to £30 and £1. 5s. 6d.

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These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 10 tons combustibles, and 10 tons naval stores from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Numa Vidal, Roura, from Sumatra for Marseilles, put into Mauritius Aug. 7 for repairs, having sprung a leak July 21, in 33 S., 24 E., during a very severe gale, which lasted 24 hours.

The Japara, Zweede, from Batavia for Rotterdam, which was spoken Aug. 7, in lat. 35 S., long. 24 E., was leaky, and had broken one of her pump boxes. She was supplied with another by H.M.S. Rapid.

The following notices have been posted at Lloyd's:—The Johan Lange, Lampcke, sailed from Padang on the 10th Feb. for Holland, and has not since been heard of. The Chanticleer (s.s.), Sargant, left Hong Kong June 29 for Swatow, and has not since been heard of.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At ASCENSION.—Aug. 7, H.M.S. Serpent, sailed for Japan; 2, from Singapore, Clarendon, King, and sailed for London; 15, from Sourabaya, Alert, and sailed for Amsterdam.

At ST. HELENA.—Aug. 7, from Nagasaki, Woodville, Laurence, and sailed for London; 8, from Colombo, Palmyra, Richards, and sailed for London; 9, from Sourabaya, Glencaple, Crowder, and sailed 10 for Amsterdam; 11, from Hong Kong, Magdalena, Schmidt, and sailed for Monte Video; from Sourabaya, Prins Carl, Hartzell, and sailed for Rotterdam; 12, from Singapore, Silver Cloud, Carr, and sailed 14 for London; 14, from Colombo, Gulnare, Stevens, and sailed 15 for Gibraltar; 17, from Batavia, Fanny, Wulff, and sailed 21 for Amsterdam; from Singapore, West, Hawkins, and sailed 22 for London; 22, from Foo-chow-Foo, Black Prince, Inglis, and sailed for London.

At MAURITIUS.—Aug. 7, from Sumatra and Reunion, Numa Vidal, Roura (with damage).

THE NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY.

(ESTABLISHED 1st JANUARY, 1863.)

CAPITAL, TAELS 1,250,000, IN 250 SHARES OF TAELS 5,000 EACH.

Paid up Capital, Taels 1,000 per Share.

DIRECTORS.

L. G. DUNLOP, Esq. (Messrs. Birley, Worthington, and Co.), Chairman.
E. H. Lavers, Esq. (Messrs. Gilman and Co.).
Sol. D. Sassoon, Esq. (Messrs. David Sassoon, Sons, and Co.).
H. Howe Wiggins, Esq. (Manager Commercial Bank Corporation of India and the East).
David Reid, Esq. (Messrs. Reid and Co.)

The Company being about to be reorganised for a further term of three years, from 1st January, 1866, application for Shares will be received by the undersigned until 31st October current.

A certain number of Shares have been allotted to London, but further applications from there will be received until 30th November.

Application for Shares, from persons not resident in Shanghai, must be accompanied by Power of Attorney to their Agents, to sign the Deed of Settlement on their behalf, and generally to represent them in all matters connected with the Company.

By order of the Directors,

J. S. MACKINTOSH, Secretary.

Shanghai, July 12, 1865.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

No.

TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY.

Gentlemen,— hereby request you will allot to Shares in the above Company, and agree to accept such Shares, or any less number you may allot to ; and agree to pay the first call of Tls. 1,000 per Share, and all subsequent calls, and to subscribe the Deed of Settlement whenever required to do so.

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant.

Application for the Shares allotted to London must be made to—

ASHTON AND CO.,
AGENTS,
HATTON-COURT, THREADNEEDLE-STREET.

PORT OF AMOY.

SHIPOWNERS, AGENTS and COMMANDERS are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING and SPARRING VESSELS, and for CLEANING and PAINTING Iron and Steam Ships.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, is in complete working order, and at average spring tides can take vessels drawing 16 to 17 feet water. The Dock is fitted with a Caisson Gate and with a Centrifugal Steam Pump of great power ensuring despatch in all states of the tide. An ample stock is kept on hand of Timber, Oregon Spars, Sheathing Copper and Yellow Metal, and of every description of material for Dockyard use.

The premises comprise an Engineer's Workshop, Brass Foundry, a large Smithy and Carpenter's Workshops, and the works are superintended by Resident Europeans, viz., a Shipwright, an Engineer, and a Blacksmith. Dry Godowns for the reception of vessel's stores, &c., when requiring to discharge them.

Amoy, March, 1865.

THE BANK of HINDUSTAN, CHINA, and JAPAN (Limited).

NOTICE OF CALL OF £5 PER SHARE ON 20,000 NEW SHARES.—THIRD ISSUE.

Notice is hereby given, that the Directors have this day made a CALL of £5 per Share on the 20,000 New Shares in this Company, PAYABLE on the 12th day of October next, at the Banking-house of the Company, 1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London. Interest at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum will be charged on all calls not paid on the above date.

By order of the Board,

R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

No. 1, Bank-buildings, Sept. 18, 1865.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England.

The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)

Branches and Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo Kandy, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Point de Galle, Manila, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow, Nagasaki, and Kiu-kiang.

Deposits received at ten days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed period, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued and Bills negotiated payable in India China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government loan notes effected so that the interest may be paid in England. Every other description of Banking and Agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

HONG KONG and SHANGHAI BANKING COMPANY (Limited).

CAPITAL, $5,000,000.

HALF ALREADY PAID-UP.
HEAD OFFICE—HONG KONG.
V. KRESSER, Manager.

Has at present Agencies and Branches at—

Shanghai.	Calcutta.
Singapore.	Bombay, and
Manila.	London.

LONDON OFFICE—25, OLD BROAD-STREET
W. H. VACHER, Agent.

ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.—

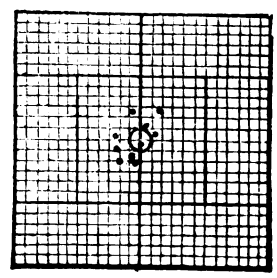
Incorporated by Royal Charter. Authorised Capital, £2,000,000. Paid-up Capital, £500,000.

Head Office—No. 4, Lombard-street.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Melbourne.

The Corporation grant drafts and negotiate bills of exchange payable at the above places, issue letters of credit, and conduct every description of banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian securities, the receipt of dividends, &c. and undertake the safe custody of securities. They also receive deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of interest and exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

AMMUNITION.



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Represents average shooting at 500 yards with

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BEST
ENFIELD
CARTRIDGES

ELEY'S AMMUNITION
OF EVERY DESCRIPTION FOR
SPORTING OR MILITARY PURPOSES.

Double Waterproof Central Fire Caps, Felt Waddings, to prevent the leading of Guns, Wire Cartridges, for Killing Game, &c., at long distances, Breech-Loading Cartridge Cases of superior quality, for Shot Guns and Rifles.

Jacob's Rifle Shell Tubes, Cartridges and Caps for Colt's, Adams', Deane's, Tranter's, and other Revolvers.

BALL CARTRIDGES

For Enfield, Whitworth, and Henry Rifles; also for Westley Richards', Terry's, Wilson's, Prince's, Deane's, and other Breech Loaders.

"Black Buck Shells," for 10, 12, and 16 Bore Breech Loaders.

The "Metford" Shell Bullet, for Enfield and Whitworth Bore Rifles.

Bullets of uniform eight made by compression from Soft Refined Lead.

ELEY BROTHERS, GRAY'S-INN-ROAD, LONDON, W.C. or of Messrs. SMITH, ELDER, and CO., and their Agents.

Wholesale Only.

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JOSEPH GILLOTT,
METALLIC PEN MAKER TO THE QUEEN

BEGS to inform the Commercial World Scholastic Institutions, and the Public generally that, by a novel application of his unrivalled Machinery for making Steel Pens, he has introduced a NEW SERIES of his useful productions which, for EXCELLENCE OF TEMPER, QUALITY OF MATERIAL, and above all, CHEAPNESS IN PRICE, must ensure universal approbation, and defy competition.

Each Pen bears the impress of his name as a guarantee of quality; they are put up in boxes containing one gross each, with label outside, and the fac-simile of his signature.

At the request of numerous persons engaged in tuition J. G. has introduced his WARRANTED SCHOOL and PUBLIC PENS, which are especially adapted to their use, being of different degrees of flexibility, and with fine, medium, and broad points, suitable for the various kinds of Writing taught in Schools.

Sold Retail by all Stationers and Booksellers. Merchants and Wholesale Dealers can be supplied at the Works, Graham-street, Birmingham; at 91, John-street, New York, and at 37, Gracechurch-street London

WHITWORTH RIFLES.

THE MANCHESTER ORDNANCE AND RIFLE COMPANY beg to give notice that WHITWORTH ORDNANCE RIFLES and AMMUNITION are manufactured by Mr. Whitworth's Patent Machinery only at their works in Sackville-street, Manchester.

Application may be made either at the above works, or at the Company's Office, 28, Pall Mall, London, S.W.

The Rifles and Ammunition may be also obtained through the agency of any respectable Gunmaker.

N.B.—In the International Match at Wimbledon in 1864 all the competitors used the Whitworth Rifles

THE CAPE, INDIA, AND CHINA AGENCY.

ORDERS for GOODS of all descriptions executed, and Shipped by the Overland Route or by Clipper Sailing Vessels. Consignments of Produce realised. The Goods are selected by parties who have had personal experience of the requirements of the markets at the

CAPE COLONIES, INDIA, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

TERMS:—One-half the estimated cost to be remitted with the order, and the balance on receipt of Bill of Lading and Invoice.

Commission, 2½ per cent. on Orders over £50, and 5 per cent. on amounts under £50

Orders and remittances should be addressed to the MANAGER.

Office, 12, George-yard, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

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WHO HAVE SUPPLIED HER MAJESTY'S AND NATIVE REGIMENTS FOR THE LAST FORTY YEAR

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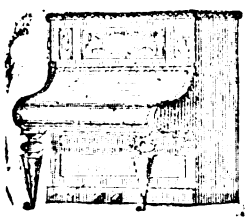
TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND INDIA.



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PIANOFORTES, WITH ALL THE LATEST IMPROVEMENTS EXPRESSLY FOR EXPORTATION.

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FACTORY, LITTLE STORE-STREET.

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PURE GLYCERINE SOAP.

ELDERFLOWER, HONEY, ALMOND, BROWN WINDSOR, &c.; also their celebrated ESS BOUQUET, JOCKEY-CLUB BOUQUET, EXTRACT of VIOLET, and other perfumes for the Handkerchief. Manufacturers of HAIR, TOOTH, and NAIL BRUSHES.

PERFUMERY and POMATUMS of every description made expressly for Foreign Climates.

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NOTHING IS MORE REFRESHING THAN

RIMMEL'S

EXTRACT OF LIME JUICE AND GLYCERINE,
Which cleanses and cools the head, and gives the hair a beautiful gloss, without greasing it.

RIMMEL'S TOILET VINEGAR
Will also be found a perfect luxury as an adjunct to the Toilet and Bath, and a reviving Perfume.

RIMMEL'S PERFUME FOUNTAIN,
An elegant ornament for the Drawing-Room, Ball-Room, Dining Table, &c.
Price from £1. 10s.

EUGENE RIMMEL,
Perfumer by Appointment to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, 96, Strand; 128, Regent street; and 24, Cornhill, London.
Sold by all Perfumery Dealers.

MONUMENTS, TOMBS, CHIMNEY-PIECES,

THE largest STOCK of MANUFACTURED MARBLE, STONE, and GRANITE in Europe on view at the BRITISH AND FOREIGN MARBLE GALLERIES, WARWICK HOUSE, 142 AND 144, REGENT-STREET.

Manufactories—Carrara, Brussels, Peterhead, and 17, Newman-street, London.

W. H. BURKE and CO., Proprietors.

SOLE AGENTS FOR THE INVERNETTIE GRANITE COMPANY.

HUBBUCK'S PATENT WHITE ZINC PAINT.

THE most durable and beautiful paint known, is cheaper than White Lead, and is proved to be superior for all purposes than the pernicious Lead Paint, and equally adapted for all climates.

Its whiteness is unaffected by bilge water, boiling sugar, or noxious gases.

It is free from any poisonous ingredient, and suited in all respects to the use of the painter.

Each Cask of Pure White Zinc is Stamped "HUBBUCK, LONDON PATENT."

Inferior Zinc Paint, so marked, having been sold in Foreign Markets, the Patentees offer a Reward of FIFTY POUNDS for information which will lead to the conviction, in an English or Colonial Court, of those who have pirated their Mark. Both Exporters and Retailers are liable for its sale.

THOMAS HUBBUCK AND SON,

WHITE LEAD, OIL, PAINT, AND VARNISH WORKS,

24, LIME-STREET, LONDON.

HUBBUCK'S ANTI-CORROSIVE PAINTS

Are very durable, and the most valuable protection to Iron Roofs, Bridges, Piers, Ships and Buildings, exposed to stormy weather and scorching sun; they soon become extremely hard, and do not blister.

They are made of Stone, Slate, Copper, White, Blue, Green, or any other Colour that is desired.

HUBBUCK'S ANTI-OXIDATION COMPOSITION,

For Coating Iron and Wood Ships' Bottoms; a preservative against fouling and corrosion. This Composition is ready for immediate use, and obviates the waste of carrying unmixed Paints, Oils, Driers, &c. It is also applicable to all the purposes of other Paints.

HUBBUCK'S PALE BOILED OIL

less colour than Raw Linseed Oil, is a quick, hard and certain drier for White and Light Coloured Paints.

PAINTS AND OILS PROPERLY PACKED FOR EXPORTATION.

BOYVEAU LAFFECTEUR'S ROB.

The only one authorised and adopted in France, Belgium, Austria and Russia.

THIS Vegetable Syrup, prepared and guaranteed genuine by the signature of Dr. GIRAUDEAU DE ST. GERVAIS, is very superior to the purifying syrups. It effects a radical cure, without mercury, in all affections of the skin, scurf, scrofula, &c., and symptoms arising from the acrid state of the humours. The Rob is especially valuable in diseases which have resisted the effect of mercury or iodide of potash. The general entrepot of 12, RUE RICHER, PARIS.

Sold Retail.—London: Jozeau, Hannay. New York: Fougera, Gaudelet, Milhau. Gibraltar: Patron and Danilowich Malta: Dr. Pirotti, Bugeja, Magri, and Rolando, Esperanza. Alexandria: Bellamore, Galette, Perinie, Bombay; Framjee Nesserwanjee and Co. Singapore: Martin and Little Batavia: L. Platon and Co. Macao J. D. Freath.

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MERCHANTS AND AGENTS,

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Bottled Ales and Wines, &c.

"NO BUYERS for the BEST BRANDS, unless RE-PACKED," in consequence of repeated BREAKAGE.—Melbourne Journal of Commerce, Nov. 16. Heating and Breakage entirely prevented, and 15 per cent. saved in Freight of Cases by using SEYMER'S BOTTLE PACKINGS AND COOLERS.

Price 7½d. per doz. Bottlers contracting for large quantities effect so great a saving in labour, &c., that they can supply them at one-fourth less in price to Shippers, who will find it most profitable to order their goods to be so packed in future. In use by all the leading London houses.—T. WHITEHEAD, 37, EASTCHEAP, E.C. Sole Manufacturer.

COWASJEE DINSHAW,

Close to the Landing Place. Depot of

EUROPEAN, CHINA, AND INDIAN WORK.

WINE, BEER, CHAMPAGNE, and SPIRITS of the best quality. Bombay-made Soda Water and Lemonade. Perfumery, Confectionery, Oilman's Stores, and Stationery of every description. Solar Topees and Canvas Shoes, &c., &c.

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Drawing and Reading-room free to Passengers.

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UMBRELLAS and SUNSHADES suitable for all Foreign Markets and the Colonies are supplied to Shippers on the most favourable terms by JOHN MORLAND and SONS, Wholesale Manufacturers 50, Eastcheap, London-bridge, City. Silk, Alpaca, Gingham Steel Frames, Canes, Fittings and all kinds of Materia for the Trade. Oiled and japanned silks and cambrics.

CAUTION.

THE GROSS FRAUDS which continue to be practised by obscure manufacturers, more particularly in Germany, by imitating the Labels attached to JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s PERFUMERY, render it imperative upon the Proprietors to Caution the public against such nefarious proceedings, and to request their friends and patrons to purchase only of respectable dealers, who import direct from JOHN GOSNELL and Co., and invite special attention to the address, 12, THREE KING-COURT, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s SELECT PERFUMES.—Ess Bouquet, Royal Yacht Club Bouquet, Jockey Club Perfume, Essence of Wood Violet, Victoria Bouquet, Garibaldi Bouquet, Frangipanni, Military Bouquet, The Bride's Bouquet, Tea Rose, Russian Leather Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Toilet Vinegar, Inexhaustible Salts, Aromatic Vinegar, Aromatic Eau de Cologne.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Prince of Wales Perfume

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Princess Alexandra Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Pomade.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Soap.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Real Old Brown Windsor Soap.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Golden Oil—Moelline—Macassar Oil, Bear's Grease, &c., for the Hair.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Extra Highly Scented Toilet and Nursery Powder.

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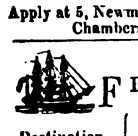

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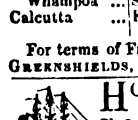

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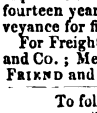

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

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Summary of News from the Far East.

"LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH" OFFICE,
12, George-yard, Lombard-street,
Sept. 30, 1865.

The incoming mails alluded to in our issue of the 27th inst. were delivered this morning.

The dates from Yokohama are down to the 26th July, Shanghai 5th Aug., Hong Kong 12th, Manila 5th, and from Singapore 19th.

The following summary of news is from the *China Mail* of the 12th :—

The English mail of June 26th arrived on the 7th Aug.

There appears to be a lull in political matters at Peking, so far as concerns foreign countries, which may be attributed to the expected arrival of Sir Rutherford Alcock, our new Minister for China. Many questions, commercial and otherwise, are at present pending his arrival ; and some anxiety exists as to the success of his regime. It seems to be a question whether China is to get the better of us, or we the better of China ; the object to be attained will of course be that neither should get the better of each other. The loss of Sir Harry Parkes, by his removal from Shanghai, may eventually have an effect upon the progress of affairs in China. What we want is the most open intercourse—commercial, social, and religious—with this vast Empire. It would almost appear that we are making rapid strides in this direction. The growing prospects of a railway, or of several small lines of railway, lead us to believe that foreign intercourse with the country is likely to improve.

We are glad to notice that Imperial authority is again in the ascendant, the Northern Rebels having been successfully kept back. It was high time that something should have been done in this direction, as constant anxiety and annoyance was caused to the representatives of foreign Powers by the continual internal disturbances which prevailed in the Empire. There cannot be a doubt that, if those were ended, trade would prosper, and that the merchant, missionary, and traveller would have free access to every province of the Empire. This is precisely what we have been working for during the last twenty years, and the prospect of success cannot fail to be gratifying to the people of England. Such a prospect does not certainly seem to be much brightened by the appointment of Teseng Kwo-fan, before noted ; but this act on the part of the Imperial authorities at Peking must be looked upon as in some measure prompted by motives both prudent and politic.

An interesting project—and one not at all opposed to the views here hinted at—has been mooted in Shanghai, having for its object no less than direct telegraphic communication, *via* Tientsin and Peking, through Russia, to London. Mr. Grant, apparently well-informed on such matters, and favourably known as one who has carefully traversed the route proposed to be taken, has laid the subject before the mercantile community of Shanghai, offering to start the scheme for 10,000 taels, and keep it in motion with the expenditure of a like sum. The profits to accrue therefrom are calculated to exceed the outlay by something like 50 per cent. ; and, on the whole, the realisation of the idea bears the stamp of feasibility, and it is likely to be taken up by the enterprising merchants of the North. It would be, to say the least, curious were communication between England and the East opened up by way of Shanghai, Tientsin, Peking, and Russia before the completion of the less probable lines *via* India and the Straits.

From Shanghai we hear of great damage having been caused by late heavy rains, to the growing crops of paddy, cotton and other necessaries of life, in the vicinity, and in fact all over the hitherto rich province of Kiangsu. But the devastation appears to have spread far and wide ; and when we consider the inertion and indifference of the Mandarins and other officials, the prospect is not a very inviting one for the poor native population. As is too often the case, we fear that foreign assistance will have to be called forth, if the emergency prove as great as is now anticipated.

Some items we give below from Soochow and Ningpo, as we find them recorded by our contemporary of the *North China Market Report*. One of these is a characteristic native rumour regarding the fate of the notorious Burgevine ; who, along with other prisoners, is said—clumsily enough, it is true—to have been accidentally drowned in a boat. Though no one can much mourn even were such to prove correct, it is not to be expected that the American representatives will accept such a lame explanation of the fate of their roving countryman. Our contemporary has the following :—

SOOCHOW.—The usual routine of work at the Soochow arsenal is being prosecuted, guns and other munitions of war are being rapidly turned out for the use of the Imperialists, but nothing of any political importance has lately transpired. The Futai continues to hold the appointment of acting Governor-General of the two Kiang, his place being supplied at Soochow by the late Fantai of the province. A report has been brought down, to the effect that Burgevine, and the other prisoners captured at Changchow, were accidentally drowned on their way from Foochow to Soochow for trial by the governor. As a matter of course, while no one doubts the death of Burgevine and the others, no one believes the explanation officially offered.

NINGPO.—Our advices from this port continue satisfactory. The roving bands whose members did so much damage some nine months ago, have decreased in numbers, and are now easily held in check by small bodies of Anglo-Chinese troops sent from time to time to scour the creeks.

From Japan there is positively nothing of political interest to record. Now that the activity of our new Minister there has been thrown into the balance, things may be expected to move on somewhat more satisfactorily ; and, besides, Sir Harry Parkes is certain to be a popular representative, which is of considerable importance in a country such as Japan. Unfortunately, the rains, alluded to as so destructive in Kiangsu and elsewhere in China, have likewise proved disastrous to the crops in Japan. This has caused prices of provisions and vegetables to be doubled, and a famine amongst the poorer classes appears imminent. The Daimios, with the instinct peculiar to Eastern landholders, have determined to make the most of the occasion by withholding their stocks for higher prices.

From Foochow and the coast ports, nothing is reported worth noting. The tea trade in the former settlement continues brisk, while the heat is reported as unusually oppressive.

Macao is as quiet, politically speaking, as it has been for three centuries ; but the place is at present being besieged by pleasure-seekers, who proceed thence to escape the extreme heat and bustle of Hong Kong.

In Hong Kong, the weather has been felt more than for the past ten years, and the mortality in consequence has been unusually large. Twilight trips to the suburbs of the island, up the coast, to Macao, and elsewhere help to relieve the monotony of existence ; and many other species of enlivenment are practised by the residents. A sumptuous tiffin was given on board the steamer *Elgin*, to a large company, by the promoters of the China and Japan Steam Navigation and Labuan Coal Company. Mr. Spencer Price, secretary of the company, performed the duties of the chair, and with the aid of "toast and sentiment" an hour or two were very agreeably disposed of.

The five foreigners, who had been sentenced to death at the Supreme Court of this colony for piracy and murder, underwent the extreme penalty of the law, notwithstanding the influence of the Macao authorities having been exerted to save them. The case was carefully investigated by the Executive, able counsel being retained to urge all extenuating circumstances. Not a weak link could be discovered in the evidence, nor a doubt cast on the justice of the sentence. The men died protesting their innocence, and there is a strong feeling prevailing on the subject, under the idea that Government should have provided means of defence at the trial.

A correspondent has sent us the following brief notice of the state of affairs at Hankow :—The river now stands at a height of forty-four feet above its last winter's level, and much of the country is flooded. It has, in fact, risen to a level with the bund in front of the Custom House, and three feet further rise will completely inundate that venerable institution. The current proves at times dangerously strong. On the 21st ultimo two large rafts, one belonging to Messrs. Dent and Co., and the other to Messrs. Hogg Brothers, accompanied by a number of junks, drifted upon the steamer *Kiukiang*, causing her to break from her hulk and come into collision with the *Sze-Chuen*, which was moored at Messrs. Russell and Co.'s jetty. The *Kiukiang's* starboard paddle-box was broken, and her wheels considerably damaged. The *Sze-Chuen* lost her port cat-head, both accommodation steps, awning, stanchions, bowsprit shrouds, and bobstays, and started her bowsprit. The *Fire Queen*, which lay a little further down, might have fared as badly, but fortunately had steam enough to go ahead and get out of the way. Great risk attends a sailing vessel anchored in front of Hankow unless she has a steam-tug alongside. If she should get adrift, she would certainly fetch up on some covered bank and slide off when the river fell.

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Two large towns in Sze-Chuen, Chichi-Hsien and Chen-Hsien have been swept away by the flood.

We are credibly informed that the fortifications of Macao are being strengthened to an enormous degree—to such a degree, in fact, as to render the place a second Gibraltar. We shall begin by reminding our readers that Governor Guimarens failed to get the Portuguese treaty ratified, when he went to Tientsin for that purpose, owing to the fact that his proposals could not be listened to so long as a certain clause (Art. 9th, we think) appeared in the treaty submitted for ratification. This article contained a very simple truth, which was to the effect that the Portuguese had held Macao for three centuries—a fact which it would not be easy to gainsay or dispute. Possession, as we all know, is nine-tenths of the law, but the Portuguese authorities have evidently determined to make it ten-tenths.

From Singapore the political news is *nil*. The mail of 10th July arrived on 11th August.

In general imports from Europe the market has been very inactive during the past fortnight. The recent heavy supplies of cotton goods caused considerable anxiety on the part of the holders to effect early sales, and on most descriptions lower rates have been accepted. In Grey Shirtings clearances have been made to a large extent, as well as in T-Cloths. Maddapollams and Drills have been in fair demand. For White Shirtings there has been an active inquiry, particularly for the finer qualities, and stocks are now small. Clearances in Spotted Shirtings have been very limited, at a further reduction in price. Cambrics have been in moderate request and prices supported. In dyed goods generally the transactions have been on a very limited scale, at about previous rates. In Grey Twist sales have been made to a moderate extent, without alteration in prices. Coloured Twist has received more attention. For Woollens generally the demand has been very dull, but some articles have moved more freely. Coals continue in request, and high rates still obtained. The demand for metals has been unprecedently dull. The clearance in marine stores have been on a very limited scale.

The present low rates of freight and exchange, as well as the paucity of supplies of exports suitable for Europe, have caused an improved demand and advance in price on most articles. Coffee has realised high rates in sales by auction. Hides and Horns command extreme prices. Gambier has slightly receded in value. Gutta Percha continues in active request. Black Pepper is rather scarce at former prices. Rice: Firm, and since the arrival of the China mail prices are advancing; Rattans are scarce and in great request. Pearl Sago and Flour are without change.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

TEA.—CANTON.—Congou: 13 chops have arrived, 6 of which have been taken at rather irregular prices, those last purchased, however, are fully one tael over opening rates. Canton Congous are unaltered. Scented Teas: Teamen are anxious to clear out their stocks, and lower rates are looked for. The settlements during the fortnight have been at last quotations. Canton green teas much neglected. Country green teas have only been purchased to fill special orders. Settlements of the fortnight: Country Congou, 6 chops Oonams, at Tls. 28 to 32. Canton Congou 300 half-chests, and 1,500 boxes, at Tls. 20 to 28. Scented Orange Pekoe, 10,000 boxes, at Tls. 24 to 41. Scented Caper, 12,000 boxes at Tls. 12 to 35. Canton greens, Imperial, 500 boxes, Tls. 18 to 20; Gunpowder, 500 boxes, at Tls. 23 to 24. Country greens, 1,100 half-chests, Gunpowder at Tls. 36 to 52; Imperial at Tls. 33 to 49; Young Hyson at Tls. 25 to 26, and Skin at Tls. 15 to 20 per picul.

SHANGHAI.—Black: A moderate amount has been done, the demand being mostly for the finest grades, which are scarce; this has somewhat restricted operations. Good to fine, second crop Oopacks, have brought full value, while common to medium grades are slightly easier. The greater part of the first crop is now to hand, and advices from the country state that there will be a deficiency of about 60,000 chests compared with last season. The settlements are 29 chops, 14,060 chests. Oopacks, good to fine at tls. 28 to 33, Ningchows at tls. 28.5 to 35, and Hohows at tls. 21 to 25 per picul. Re-shipments, 6,500 chests; total, 20,560 chests. Stock 32 chops, 16,000 chests. Green Teas: There have been arrivals of 2 chops new Pinsueys, which have been settled at tls. 39 to 40: this is looked upon as extreme rates, which are not likely to be maintained. Heavy receipts were not expected for some time, the few contracts made by foreigners caused difficulty in obtaining advances among the teamen. The supplies are supposed to be far short of last year. The settlements amount to 2,485 half-chests. New Pingsuys at tls. 39 to 40, old Moyune at tls. 34, and Shanghai-packed at tls. 27 per picul. Stock, 5 chops, 2,600 half-chests.

FOOCHOW.—Congous have been very active, a considerable amount having been taken up for Britain and Australia, prices are Tls. 1 to 2 higher. The third crop is beginning to arrive in small lots. Souchongs are rather lower. Oolongs have brought a small advance. Scented Teas show a considerable reduction in prices. Settlements of the fortnight.—Congou 44,229 chests at the following quotations:—Dust and Broken leaf, at Tls. 6½ to 10 short; Ordinary Common, at Tls. 13 to 16 short; Good Common, at Tls. 17 to 20 short; Light Flavory, at Tls. 20 to 24 short; Good Flavory to Medium Kysow, at Tls. 25 to 30. Souchong 6,846 chests; Common to Medium, at Tls. 20 to 23; and Good to Fine, at Tls. 30 to 36½ short. Oolongs 8,081 half-chests; Common to Good cargo, at Tls. 15 to 18; and Fine to Finest, at Tls. 20 to 29 short. Flowery Pekoe 260 chests; Common to Medium, at Tls. 26 to 33 short. Scented Teas, 16,314 boxes; Common to Medium, at Tls. 9½ to 20; and Fine to Finest, at Tls. 24 to 34 short per picul. Stock, Congou 24,600 chests; Souchong 10,300 chests; Oolongs 45,400 half-chests; Flowery Pekoe 900 chests; and Scented Teas 8,500 boxes.

YOKOHAMA.—Teas of good quality fully support their value, there is also a good demand existing. The state of the weather keeps supplies from coming in, and consequently the amount of business done has been rather limited. The settlements for the past week are 760 piculs, mostly new. Stock, new 300 piculs; old 1,500 piculs. Quotations—good common $16 to $19, medium, $21 to $23.50, good medium to fine $25 to $28, finest, nominal per picul.

SILK.—SHANGHAI.—Encouraging reports from the home markets have kept up activity, and large settlements have taken place at Tls. 15 to 20 over those current at the close of last mail. Heavy rains during the interval have lessened receipts, the condition of the silk is also bad from the same causes, while the high prices offering induce silkmen to push their stock forward with all despatch. 4,500 bales, China and Japan, are the fortnight's settlements, making a total for the season of 28,000 bales, viz., 24,600 bales China, and 3,400 bales Japan. Stock, about 5,000 bales, most of which is inferior. Quotations: Tsatlee, No. 1, Tls. 535 to 545 per picul; No. 2, Tls. 515 to 525 per picul; No. 3, Tls. 490 to 510 per picul; No. 4, Tls. 465 to 485 per picul; No. 5, Tls. 440 to 455 per picul. Taysaam, No. 1, Tls. 460 to 470 per picul; No. 2, Tls. 440 to 450 per picul; No. 3, Tls. 410 to 425 per picul; No. 4, Tls. 380 to 395 per picul; No. 5, Tls. 365 to 375 per picul. Yuenfa and Haineen, Tls. 440 to 480 per picul; Hangchow Tsatlee, Tls. 460 to 485 per picul; Shaouhing, long reel, Tls. 380 to 415 per picul; Laeyang, Tls. 380 to 390 per picul.

YOKOHAMA.—After the arrival of the mail of 26th May, the market resumed its former activity. Prices of finer kinds are $40 higher than last quoted. There is but little stock left, bad weather hinders arrivals, but the crop is reported to be abundant and the quality good; the parcels as yet to hand, however, have not had much care in reeling, and are irregular in size and colour. Quotations.—Old Silk: Ida best, none; Ida medium, $650 to 670 per picul; Mybash, none; Oshio best, $650 to 660 per picul; Oshio medium, $600 to 630 per picul; Oshio inferior, $530 to 560 per picul; Mashta best, $580 to $590 per picul; Mashta medium, $550 to 570 per picul; Mashta inferior, 530 to 540 per picul; Etchesan best, $590 to 610 per picul; Etchesan medium, $560 to 680 per picul; Etchesan inferior, $530 to 550 per picul. New Silk: Mybash best, $710 to 720 per picul; Mybash medium, $690 to 700 per picul; Mybash inferior, $670 to 680 per picul; Coshu best, $610 to 630 per picul; Coshu medium, $590 to 600 per picul; Coshu inferior, $570 to 580 per picul.

RAW COTTON.—HONG KONG.—The demand has continued during the fortnight for the Canton market, at the quotations given in last report. About 1,800 bales Bengal have been imported during that period, the quality whereof being inferior to that of previous supplies, it has realised from 50 cents to one dollar less in consequence, having been sold at $25½; a better grade is readily saleable at $26½ to 27. Stocks continue small, and supplies from the North trifling, consequently holders are firm and rates are well maintained. There have been no imports of Bombay cotton as yet, a small quantity of rather middling quality is expected, but the advance of prices in India will tend to check supplies. The growing crops of cotton in the North are very unfavourably reported on, owing to heavy rains and floods. It is premature as yet to say they have failed. The quotations are:—Shanghai staple $29 to 31; Bengal $25 to 27. Shanghai: The late unfavourable weather has caused much damage to the crops, and Natives speak of the yield as likely to be very small. The old crop is all but exhausted, and the few parcels which come down from the interior are eagerly bought up at Tls. 17 to 17.5.0 per picul, for shipment to the South.

IMPORTS.

The demand for Cotton piece goods having increased, a rise in prices has been established. The stocks are very moderate. Cotton Yarn has moved off to a large extent, and at Canton the rate had sprung $5. Woollen Goods, including Long Ells, Spanish Stripes, Camlets, &c., were getting in demand for the approaching cold season. Lead dull, with a large stock. Coals at Hong Hong, best Cardiff, $9. At Shanghai large arrivals and prices taels 7.5.

EXCHANGE.—At Shanghai the rate has dropped to 6s. 2¼d., though the bulk of business was done for the mail at 6s. 3d. At Hong Kong Bank Bills, 4s. 5¼d. to 4s. 5½d. At Yokohama business has been done in Bank paper at 4s. 8¼d., private 4s. 9d. to 4s. 10d. At Manila 4s. 5¾d. The Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank Shares are quoted at $4 premium, the Hong Kong and Whampoa Docks, $2.15 prem., the Union Docks 6 prem., and the Gas Company at 3 prem.

FREIGHTS.—At Hong Kong and Canton, £1 to £1. 10s.; at Yokohama, £3 for cotton and tea, and £4 for silk nominal; at Shanghai £2 for tea; at Foo-Chow, £1. 10s. to £2.; at Manila, hemp, £1. 10s. No sugar freight offering. At Singapore 15s. to 30s. for general goods.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

DE SOUZA—On the 24th July, at Shanghai, the wife of D. A. De Souza, of a daughter.
LOVE—On the 23rd July, at Shanghai, the wife of Joseph Love, jun., of a son, still-born.

MARRIAGES.

RAPP—LEIGH.—On the 2nd July, at the British Consulate, Manila, Louis F. Rapp, of the firm of Tillson, Herrmann, and Co., to Eliza, second daughter of Philip Leigh, of Melbourne.
REMEDIOS—D'AZAVEDO.—On the 31st July, at the Roman Catholic Cathedral, Victoria, Hong Kong, by the Rev. Pe. Favini, vicar, Jose Antonio dos Remedios, of Messrs. Reynolds and Co., the second son of Maximiano Antonio dos Remedios, of Macao, to Miss Vicencia Christina, the second daughter of Felix Hilario d'Azavedo, of Macao.

DEATHS.

BRAND—On the 26th July, at Hong Kong, William Brand, of Messrs. Gilman and Co.
FYFFE—On the 4th Aug., at Hong Kong, R. J. Fyffe, engineer, aged 36 years.
GREEN—On the 4th Aug., at Hong Kong, James Green, farrier, aged 30 years.
KEMP—On the 5th Aug., on board the steamer Kinshan, on the passage from Whampoa to Hong Kong, James Kemp, foreman blacksmith, Aberdeen Docks.
THOMAS—On the 15th July, at Foo-chow, of dysentery, James Thomas, chief engineer of the steamer Maria, aged 36 years.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, from Hong Kong.—For Suez: Messrs. S. Prince and J. A. Hemer. For Marseilles: Messrs. A. Smith, Coutts, J. A. Martland, Helland, E. C. Smith, and C. Smith, and C. Remi. For Southampton: Mrs. Cowan, Captain and Mrs. Townsend, Captain Brown, Messrs. Pilbrow, L. Simmonds, Hill R. N. Lavender, Halahan, 11th Regt., J, Townsend, C. Sutclipde, H. Marsh, and D. Newton.

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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 187.] LONDON, TUESDAY, OCT. 10, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama			
Nagasaki			
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	June 26	Aug. 11	Aug. 16
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	July 10	Aug. 19	„ 23
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila			
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			
SIAM— Bangkok			
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore			„ 31
Penang			

The next inward mail (due on the 13th), it is expected, will be delivered on the 16th, having arrived at Suez on the 6th.

The following telegram was received this morning:—

SHANGHAI, SEPT. 4.

A successful revolt is reported to have taken place in Western Tartary. The province of Ili has been wrested from the Celestial Empire. The Nyenfei (?) have seized three cities. A Mandarin report states that Burgevine has been drowned. Tea tending downwards. Silk active. Export to date, 33,000 bales. Exchange on London, 6s. 2d. Freights, 35s. to 40s. Canton, Sept. 11.—Tea firm. Total export to date, 51,000,000 lbs. Exchange on London, 4s. 5½d.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Delta, from Southampton, Oct. 4.—To Hong Kong: Lieut. G. Leard, R.N., Lieut. Toller, R.N. To Shanghai: Mrs. Bayne, Lady Parkes, two infants, and European servant. To Ceylon: Mr. B. H. Plumptre, Mr. W. L. Kisch, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Clark, and two second-class passengers. To Singapore: Seven second-class passengers and one child. To Calcutta: Mrs. S. Brown, child, and European servant, the Rev. J. and Mrs. Pownie, Mr. G. F. and Mrs. Snead, infant, and European servant, Mrs. Grant, Miss Hay and European servant, Major and Mrs. Holmes, Misses Penny, Matilda Spry, and O'Callaghan, Mrs. W. R. Hooper, infant, and native servant, Mrs. J. Hart, Mrs. Batt, infant, and native servant, Mrs. Duncan and child, Mrs. F. Alexander, Mr. R. J. Harrison, Misses Ball and E. Cranston, Mr. Paul, Mr. C. Farmer, Misses M. Wood and A. Rock, Mrs. Gideon, Miss M. A. Wheeler, Mrs. Gurdon and sister, Miss Jessie Inglis, Col. H. Maxwell, Messrs. R. Heckford, A. B. Struthers W. Thaine, F. Shepherd, A. Robinson, G. E. Low and Hobday, Misses Dow and Eusor, Dr. J. Kelly, Messrs. Tremaine, Jno. Davies and L. D. Spencer, Staff Surgeons Major G. Ferris and W. Ivey, Miss Ferris, and five second-class passengers. To Madras: Captain G. W. Gosling, Mrs. Bivar, Captain Hunter, the Rev. D. G. and Mrs. Clarke, Miss McPherson, Mr. H. Griffith, Lieuts. Huddart and Churchward, Mr. McPherson, one second-class passenger and one gunner. To Suez: Four second-class passengers. To Alexandria: Messrs. Lawrie, Boesch and Yates, and eight second-class passengers.

From Marseilles, Oct. 12.—To Shanghai: F. Myburgh. To Hong Kong: Mr. A. Brent, Mr. A. de Poute and native male servant, Mr. W. H. Mitchell, and four second-class passengers. To Singapore: Two second-class passengers. To Calcutta: Mr. E. P. Griffith, Miss Griffith, Mr. L. Griffith, Mr. and Mrs. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs J. H. Bax and European servant, Mr. Hamilton, Mrs. M. Thomson, two Misses Harris, Major and Mrs. Fitzgerald, Mr. T. D. Forsyth, Major and Mrs. Farrington, Mr. A. Scott, Mrs. A. J. Payne, Miss Lynch, Mr. and Mrs. E. Palmer, Miss Palmer, Mr. C. E. Cresswell and brother, Mr. G. F. Cockburn, Miss Cockburn, Mr. L. P. Thomas, Mr. J. D. Bell and European male servant, Mr. L. A. Goodeve, Miss Goodeve, Mr and Mrs. Probyn, Mrs. E. Macnaghten, three infants and two European servants, Miss Rosa Howe, Mr. and Mrs. J. Sladen, Mrs. Graham, infant, and European servant, Mr. and Mrs. Apear, Mrs. Gaussen and native servant, Mr. and Mrs. Medlicott, Miss Stewart, Capt. and Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Stewart, Mr. J. C. Sarkies, Mr. A. B. Mackay, Mr. Gaussen, Mr. Fuchs, Mr. S. Smith, Miss Baretow, Mr. A. Valetta, Mr. W. F. Cavendish, Mr. Brandreth, and three second-class passengers. To Madras: Miss Godfrey, Dr. and Mrs. Andrews, Miss Cox, Mr. Pearse, Capt. H. L. Prendergast. To Alexandria: Mr. and Mrs. M. Zoghel, four children, and three servants, Mrs. Jos. Zoghel, five children, and four servants, Mr. D. Zoghel, Mr. Selim Zoghel, Mr. Naghir Zoghel and female servant, Mr. Venezlani, infant, and mother, Mrs. Eager. From Suez.—To Calcutta: Mr. W. E. Parry, Mrs. Schiller and friend, Mr. A. G. Walker, Lieut. A. H. Goschen, Mrs. McDonell, Mr. W. Grey.

Per P. and O. steamer Nyanza, from Southampton, Oct. 12.—To Shanghai via Bombay: Mrs. Muirhead and infant. To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. James Pope. From Marseilles, Oct. 20.—To Shanghai via Bombay: Mr. F. King, Mr. and Mrs. De Witt C. Brower. From Suez.—To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. Anderson.

Per P. and O. steamer Syria, from Southampton, Oct. 20.—To Singapore: Mrs. Cavenagh. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Hermann and infant. To Ceylon: Mr. R. Massie, Lady Chichester, Mr. and Mrs. Wright and two children. From Marseilles, Oct. 28.—To Shanghai: Mrs. Herbert Hancock and three children. To Hong Kong: Mr. T. A. Lane and Mr. D Lapraik.

Per P. and O. steamer Mussilia, from Southampton, Oct. 27.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Macdonald, Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Barnes, Mr. Watson. To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. J. B. Leslie, Mr. Sinnett, Mr. Mackintosh.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, 4th Nov.—To Hong Kong; Mr. M. Murray. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Lipscombe. From Marseilles, 12th Nov.—To Singapore: Mr. W. Alten, Mr. W. Paterson. To Hong Kong: Mr. R. C. Lambert and friend, Mr. F. Jerdein. To Shanghai: Mr. W. G. Howell, Mr. A. Campbell.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Nov. 20.—To Penang: Mrs. and Miss Mackay. To Ceylon: Mrs. Brotherton, Miss Staples.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Dec. 4.—To Shanghai: Miss M. A. Russell.

Summary of News from the Far East.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

Dates from this port are to the 16th August. The London mail of the 26th June arrived out on the 11th August. The affairs of the Municipal Council had engaged much attention. We give a report below, and extract the following from the *Friend of China*:—

"We learn from the minutes of our Municipal Council's proceedings of yesterday, that in view of the discouraging answers by residents to the proposition for assessing a lighting rate, the arrangement made by the Public Works Committee with the Gas Company, to give them $61¼ per lamp falls through, and that, for the present, there will be no gas in Shanghai streets. This has to be looked on as a death-blow to the Gas Company, for if people will not take their gas, there is no use in making it; and so the affairs will have to be wound up. Such a sorry conclusion as this could hardly have been anticipated by those who took shares in the expectation of a dividend of at least twenty-five per cent.; and in a spirit of warm sympathy for these victims of a misplaced confidence—confidence that the individuals to whom they confided their money and its management were the right men in the right places—we should suggest a demonstration—an ousting of their present directory and honorary 'inefficients,' (or better word 'obstructives') and the creation of a new board, prompt and determined to make a temporary sacrifice rather than that of a scheme so eminently calculated to benefit the public shall fall to the ground altogether.

"The thing is simple. Such new directory would have only to say to the Municipal Council: We repudiate the grasping acts of our predecessors—we are ready to give you five hundred street lamps for one year certain at the sum originally tacitly stipulated by our Provisional Committee, viz., £5, or say $25 per lamp per annum; and if at the end of the year we find our books balance on the wrong side, we shall trust to the liberality of the community to give us better terms in the year ensuing.'

"We think if the Gas Company would speak out in this way, there would be no necessity for our waiting until the state of

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the public finances enable the Public Works Committee to recommend the lighting of the streets with gas."

On the death of Mr. Reddie, the same paper says :—In the person of Mr. Reddie, of the firm of Holliday, Wise, and Co., the Shanghai community lose a valuable member, and one who, on the Municipal Council, as next year we might have expected, could have given us much valuable assistance. As a Justice of the Peace in Hong Kong, Mr. Reddie was a model non-stipendiary, qualified to this by his once having held the office of Sheriff of Bombay. As stated in the obituary, he dies deeply regretted by all who knew him. The firm of Holliday, Wise, and Co., with which he was connected, is among the oldest and most respected in China, and he ably represented it.

The new local postage stamps are great curios, and should be bought up in quantity to send home for the illumination of postage stamp albums. There are four kinds, viz., two candareens in black—four candareens in yellow—eight in green, and sixteen in red. In size, the superfices, as compared with a Hong Kong stamp, is as 528 to 270—that is to say, they are almost as large again, and exhibit the following expression. In the centre a device intended to represent a dragon, though unmistakable as a caterpillar or glowworm. On the top, in English, Shanghai L.P.O., and the Chinese characters for Shanghai. On the bottom the value, say 16 candareens, and the Chinese characters for *Kungpoo*, and the local designation of the municipal council. On the dexter side the value in Chinese characters, as one mace and six fun, and on the sinister, *Shuisinkwan*, Post-office. In use, both scissors and paste are required, the one to clip, the other to effect adhesion. As we say, the local postage stamps are curious, figuratives of the times,

The steamer *Lalla Rookh*, as she lay aground on one of the Rugged Islands, has been the scene of a melancholy occurrence. Some twenty Chinamen went on board for the purpose of enriching themselves with such portions of the cargo as it was possible to lay hold of. While busily engaged in collecting the booty, the vessel shifted her position and sank with such rapidity as to prevent the escape of the pilferers from the hold. They were of course all drowned. The inhabitants of the surrounding islands celebrated the event by fearful howlings and lamentations.

The regular monthly meeting of the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society was held at the society's rooms. In spite of the extreme heat of the weather, a large assemblage gathered to hear two papers on Mongolia and the Mongolians read. One was from the pen of the Rev. J. Edkins, of the London Missionary Society, a gentleman well versed in all appertaining to the tribes which frequent the vast plains to the northward of the Great Wall ; the other was written by Mr. C. Mitchell Grant, who has enjoyed many opportunities of obtaining information of the most reliable kind. The length of both these communications prevented any discussion.

The steamer *Viola* has been sold, through the Dutch Minister at Shanghai, to the Japanese for $95,000 ; her cargo has been transhipped to the *Glengyle*, which vessel will bring it on here.

MUNICIPAL REPORTS,

Presented and Approved at the Monthly Meeting of the Council held August 7th, 1865.

The Finance, Rate and Appeal Committee report that consequent on the new and revised assessment upon land and houses having to be made, it has been impossible to have the tax papers sent out for these at the usual time. The assessments are, however, now almost completed, and the taxes for the quarter beginning 1st July will be collected on the new assessments. The assessments are almost without exception at a much lower value than formerly, and it is to be presumed that the difficulty of former over-assessments having been thus met, these taxes will now be promptly paid.

Town Dues.—As H.E. the Taoutai refused to sanction this measure, although passed by the Land Renters in public meeting assembled, the matter has been referred to Peking by the representatives of the Treaty Powers. In the meantime the wharfage dues will be collected as before authorised, but the absence of this town due must have a very prejudicial effect upon the Municipal finances, and prevent the carrying out of many very desirable measures of urgent necessity.

Wharfage Dues.—H.E. the Taoutai refuses to make any further contribution than that he has paid for some years past, unless allowed to collect from Chinese resident in the settlement, a collection your Committee deem eminently undesirable.

Chinese Taxes.—To lessen the chances of malpractice in the collection of these, your Committee authorised the collections to be in future made in dollars and cash, instead of as before in taels and candareens, and that the assessment paper shall contain on its face in Chinese and English the sum in dollars and cash to be so collected.

Local Post-office.—Postage stamps have been issued, and can be obtained at the local post-office. They have been availed of to a fair extent, but it remains with the agents of steamers to make this office pay. If, on the arrival of steamers, the agents would as a rule send Chinese letters to the Post-office instead of allowing their compradores to distribute them, it would much assist in making the establishment self-supporting.

Mr. D. Campbell was prosecuted by your Committee for having his house open for the sale of liquors without a licence, and was duly convicted by H.B.M.'s Consul.

Boarding-house Tax.—An objection has been raised to the onerous nature of this tax, and your Committee have not forced the collection, pending further investigation.

Your Committee propose to draw up a complete statement of the financial state of the municipality as soon as the new assessment papers are completed. They will be circulated amongst the members of Council, together with a list of such taxes as have not been paid, with the names of the defaulters, and then your Committee will request your decision on the whole question.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.

Gas.—Your Committee are glad to say that the Gas Company has shown great willingness to alter the draft contract in the points where it was considered one-sided, and an amended draft has been agreed upon.

The Finance Committee, however, have not considered it desirable to ask permission from the Land Renters to sign this contract before ascertaining whether residents generally will consent to meet the greatly increased expense of lighting. A circular, setting forth the expense to be incurred and showing the contributions that would be required to meet it, has me with very unfavourable responses, as shown in the tabular statement hereto appended. It is now for the Municipal Council to decide what further steps, if any, are to be taken in the matter.*

Tabular Statement showing answers returned by residents in the English Settlement to the Municipal Assessment scheme for obtaining funds to light the public streets with Gas.

Assent	51
Simple dissent without remark	50
Think landlord ought to pay	26
Defer assent	7
Will pay if every one else first agrees	7
Withhold decision	5
Call again	3
Object to being classed too high	3
Object to present scheme of assessment	3
Do not wish the gas at all	6
Disapprove of it	3
Think price too dear	2
Cannot consent to pay more taxes	6
Partner absent, cannot decide	11
Left, or about leaving Shanghai	8
No authority to sign	4
No answer returned	4
Too poor to pay	1
Total,	200

Shanghai, 5th August, 1865.

Extension of Peking Road.—Active steps have been taken to carry out this improvement as far as Fokien Road, and the line will be opened up thus far at an early date at very trifling expense.

Extension of the Bund Line.—In front of Messrs. Siemssen and Co.'s new houses, this has been sanctioned to the extent of a few feet, to bring the line even with the wall of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co.'s compound, as also to form a better entrance to Peking Road. The improvement will be carried out at the expense of Messrs. Siemssen and Co., and others benefited.

Dangerous Structures.—Several of these exist in various parts of the settlement, and the late very heavy rains have tended to increase the risk. Your Committee have called the attention of H.B.M. Consul to the most pressing case, that of some houses belonging to Mr. Kennedy in Hankow Road. One had fallen into the road, and an order has been obtained to remove the rest that threaten the lives of the passers-by.

Survey of Hong-que.—The plan of Major Jebb has been handed to your Committee. It is not thoroughly finished off owing to Major Jebb leaving Shanghai. A liberal discount having been made for this, the account is recommended for payment.

WATCH COMMITTEE.

Your Committee report the strength of the police force at 105 men, 71 being Europeans and 34 Chinamen.

Your Committee again recommend a discussion with the Superintendent as to the best means of dealing with the securities of the Chinese police.

Your Committee beg to bring to the Council's notice the question as to private watchmen being brought under the control of the Superintendent of Police, so that a decision may be come to as to the terms on which such arrangements can be made, and also as to policemen doing duty at certain public places, Post-office, &c.

Your Committee have to report a serious attempt on the part of certain public chair-coolies to create a monopoly for carrying chairs in the settlement, which has been carried to such an extent that several cases have already been brought before the Mixed Court. The attempt is not yet put down and your Committee recommend that most vigorous measures be used by the superintendent to bring all cases at once before the proper authorities. It is hoped that with the assistance of the Consulate so serious a disturbance will soon be put down.

You Committee regret to report that a number of foreigners fully armed prowl about the settlements at night, evidently prepared for the most desperate attack or resistance, and it is recommended that special attention be drawn to the names of men thus known on the list of unemployed and vagabond foreigners, which is monthly sent to the Consulates. It will be satisfactory to the Council to learn that a notorious blacksmith's shop in the Maloo, the constant haunt of "rowdies," has been broken up.

* Apropos of this, it was subsequently resolved "That in view of the discouraging answers returned by residents to the proposition for assessing a lighting rate, the Municipal Council do continue the present system of oil lamps until such time as the state of the finances will permit them to recommend the lighting of the public streets by gas."

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Letter relative to the sum of 1,000 *taels, outstanding during the time Mr. Pickwoad filled the post of Secretary.*

Shanghai, August 4th, 1865.

Dear Sir,—I observe in the published minutes of the last meeting of the Municipal Council, a notice that it had determined on retaining 1,000 taels due to Mr. Pickwoad, by way of covering a discrepancy in the Council's accounts during the time of his holding the post of Secretary. As this implies that Mr. Pickwoad has defaulted to that amount, I feel bound, as an intimate personal friend of that gentleman, to write and request that the affair may be put in its proper light before the public, and the slur, which some may consider at present attaching to Mr. Pickwoad's name, removed.

From several conversations with Mr. Pickwoad on the subject, I believe the discrepancy is accounted for as follows:—A Chinaman named Sankee was indebted to the Municipal Council in the sum of 1,000 tls., on behalf of the Chinese Defence Committee, which was subsequently declared by him to have been paid to the then treasurer. This gentleman denied receipt, but Sankee proving that a bank order for the amount had been cashed, declined, as he said, to pay again, and the matter has remained in suspense ever since, the claim being unsettled between Sankee and the then treasurer, whom alone the dispute concerns. Mr. Pichwoad was, I believe, and am fully borne out in saying, never even stated by Sankee to have received the money.

I trust that the Council will give this letter equal publicity with the notice of their determination.—I am, Sir, yours very truly,

Chaloner Alabaster.

A. Johnston, Esq., Clerk to the Municipal Council.

A case of importance, between Messrs. Gilfillan and Messrs. Glover and Co., is reported in the *North China Herald*.

(Before C. A. Winchester, Esq., H.B.M. Consul.) Sir E. Hornby, N. Latimer, Esq., and S. Breuell, Esq., Assessors.

The plaint in this case was to the following effect:—That the plaintiff employed the defendants as his brokers to sell the steamer *Chusan*, for the sum of $80,000 at Nagasaki. And the defendants received the vessel and were offered and could have obtained $80,000 for her. Yet they did not sell the steamer as they had undertaken to do, whereof the plaintiff has suffered great loss, and been put to divers outlays and expenses, for which he claims Tls. 28,000.

The defendants pleaded a general denial of the allegations of the plaint.

Previous to opening the case H.B.M.'s Consul remarked that when it was brought on for trial last year, Mr. E. J. Hogg was one of the Assessors. In consequence of his inability to attend on this occasion it became necessary to appoint a gentleman to act in his stead. Sir Edmund Hornby had consented at his request to act in that capacity, and he had also solicited the attendance of Mr. S. Breuell. It only remained for the parties concerned in the case to decide as to which person they would prefer to act as Assessor in the room of Mr. Hogg.

Mr. Myburgh suggested that both Sir Edmund Hornby and Mr. Breuell should sit as Assessors.

Mr. Eames agreed with Mr. Myburgh.

Mr. Eames said that he had come into the case at a late date, as when it was tried before, Mr. Pollard had appeared on behalf of his client. He could therefore only take the minutes as he found them. From them he discovered that at the former trial of the case the question of damages was reserved. This, he would remark, has been a very common though not universal practice in Shanghai.

Mr. Myburgh said he recollected one case in which he was engaged when the question of damages was considered separately. On that occasion he objected to, thus making two cases out of one.

Mr. Eames said that the question of damages had been left out in this case, and he therefore knew nothing about it. From the minutes it did not appear that any objection had been made to reserve the question of damages, and when the plaintiff's case was concluded, it closed with an exception of that question. He thought it strange how it became understood that the defendants were to adduce additional testimony at this the adjourned meeting.

Mr. Lawrance said that when the case was tried Mr. Pollard was not in a position to state the amount of damages, as he had not all the documents bearing upon the case in his possession. Mr. Pollard was aware that he (Mr. Lawrance) was going to apply for an adjournment.

Mr. Myburgh said that as Mr. Eames was not prepared just then to settle the question of damages, and had laboured under some misapprehension, it would be unreasonable for him to insist upon the case being tried as he had contemplated. He would consent that the liability of the defendants should first be considered and then the question of damages.

Sir Edmund Hornby said that there were two questions to be decided—the question of fact and the question of law. The case for the plaintiff might be considered concluded, but the question of damages still remained.

Mr. Myburgh regretted that the state of his health prevented him from doing his case justice, and hope the court would grant him indulgence on that account. The action now under consideration was commenced nearly a year ago, and did not in reality come under the jurisdiction of the Court at Shanghai, as all the circumstances which led to it occurred in Nagasaki. The plaintiff, who had all his witnesses in Shanghai, finding one of the defendants here, and regardless of the expense to which they would be put and the disadvantage under which they would labour, brought the action here. He thought the action thus taken by the plaintiff was harsh and vexatious, and that the case should by right have been tried in Nagasaki. Mr. Lawrance made an objection at the time to the jurisdiction of the court, which was over-ruled, and which should have been noted, but was not. The contract for the sale of the steamer made between the plaintiff and the defendants were alleged to have been broken. The plaintiff relied upon a private letter written by Mr. Glover to Mr. Maine, stating that their firm had been offered $80,000 for the *Chusan*, but had refused it. This letter, as he (Mr. M.) would show, was written under a mistaken impression as to facts. But he would assume, for the sake of argument that the facts were true, and he would show that the defendants were not liable in law. The plaintiff had not shown that in refusing this offer of $80,000, which was the lowest limit at which the defendants were authorised to sell, they had not acted bona-fide and for the interests of the plaintiff. The presumption in such cases as the present is strongly in favour of the agent, and he would submit as a point of law, that unless bad faith be proved, an agent could not be held liable in damages. Such a contract as that before the Court implied on the part of an agent reasonable skill and ordinary diligence; and while the plaintiff had failed to show that the defendants were wanting in either, the testimony adduced on the part of the defendants showed that they had carried out their duties and instructions with more than ordinary skill and perseverance. There was abundant proof that every exertion had been made, for, failing to sell the steamer to their customers, they had offered to divide commissions with two other merchants should they succeed in selling her. It should be borne in mind that in China and Japan the course of dealing in such matters is very different from that in European countries. From the evidence it appeared that in Japan steamers cannot be sold without considerable difficulty. It was evident that Mr. Gilfillan intended that his agents should endeavour to obtain a higher price than the price specified by him, and he (Mr. Maine) thought therefore that had the defendants sold the *Chusan* for the exact sum mentioned in their instructions, while at the same time there were reasonable grounds for hope that a better price could be obtained elsewhere, they would have displayed negligence, not care. Subsequently Messrs. Glover & Co. were upbraided for not selling the vessel at a lower price. There was another point which seemed very important. The limit made was a limit of $80,000, *hard cash*. Now, there was nothing to prove that the offer made to Messrs. Glover & Co. was for cash payment. In such cases credit was generally required, and frequently payment was made partly in produce. He thought he might fairly call attention to the usual course of dealing pursued by the Japanese. An offer of this kind was not considered by them binding until the contract was entered into and the bargain-money paid over. The natives employed to buy steamers by the Japanese Princes have not the power to ratify an agreement. Satzuma, for instance, did it himself upon all occasions. He would submit that if it were decided that Messrs. Glover and Co. exercised due or ordinary diligence, and had not been guilty of malfeasance, the plaintiff was out of court, and even if they had committed an error in judgment, they could not on that account be considered liable. But there was another important consideration. The letter from Mr. T. B. Glover to Mr. Maine was evidently written through a mistake made by his brother, a junior partner in the firm. In reality no such offer as stated in the letter had been made, and, in the official letter from the house written on the same day and sent by the same opportunity, by the express desire of Mr. Glover, nothing was said about the offer. He thought it right to communicate a fact imparted to him by Mr. Gilfillan's agent. There was nothing inconsistent or dishonourable in this. The mistake arose in this manner. In conversing upon the subject with Mr. Duret, one of Messrs. Glover and Co.'s agents, Mr. Glover used the Japanese language as the medium of communication, and it was thus the mistake arose. Another question was how far the firm were bound by a statement made by one partner in a private letter. He (Mr. Myburgh) submitted, therefore, that upon the evidence there would be no doubt as to the fact that a mistake was made, but assuming the statement made in this letter to be true, there was nothing to show that the defendants acted in any way but bona fide, and did the best they could as agents, and there was no proof in the evidence of any want of reasonable skill and reasonable diligence. (Mr. Myburgh quoted Chitty on Contracts, page 6, to prove that the letter was rendered nugatory by the explanation of the circumstances under which the mistake arose.) There might be cases in which, in consequence of a mistake made by an agent, through culpable negligence and carelessness, his principal suffered damage, but there was not a tittle of evidence to show that the plaintiff in this case had sustained any loss from such causes.

Mr. Lawrance said that after the observations made by his learned friend it would be unnecessary for him to speak. At this season of the year one speech was generally thought better than two.

Mr. Eames said that in this case the claim was based upon the culpable negligence of the defendants. With regard to the letter, if a person makes an admission the burden of proof rests upon him to contradict it. It was for the Court to decide whether the defendants should have made the statement they did without being sure of its accuracy. The plaintiff certainly intended that the defendants should get as much as possible for the vessel. They were, however, authorised to sell it for $80,000. The question of discretion advanced by his friend he considered correct as to general agents, but he held that when a simple agent is offered a sum up to the limit specified, he is bound to sell at that price. If Mr. Field's testimony was to be considered so particularly reliable as the de endants thought it, the code of morality on the coast of Japan must be different from that in vogue at home. Mr. Field was employed by the Japanese to buy the steamer, and by Messrs. Glover and Co. to sell it to the Japanese. The laws of agency are very clearly laid down, but the difficulty lies in their application. In this case, however, it was not difficult to apply them. He thought that the firm should be bound by the letter written by one partner. The defendants were guilty of negligence in sending the vessel away before the 22nd January, as they were distinctly authorised to keep her until that time; in fact, they seemed to act according to their own pleasure throughout. Although it did not appear that the Japanese had refused to buy, but had merely not come forward, the steamer was sent away on the 19th of January, and previous to the 22nd they received a letter from Mr. Gilfillan, authorizing them to sell the vessel for $75 000. If they had kept her until the 22nd, this letter would not have arrived too late. His view of the case was this, that Messrs. Glover and Co. must prove beyond a doubt that a mistake was made. They said that the Japanese agents have no power to settle in such matters, and again, subsequently, that they are not limited to a few thousand dollars. These statements seemed inconsistent. If it was true that the gentleman from Messrs. Glover and Co. did not speak French, and that Mr. Duret did not speak English, and that the conversation about the sale of the steamer was carried on through the means of signs and a few words of Japanese, all he could say was that it was a very unbusiness-like proceeding. It was a great pity that the system of symbols employed on the occasion had not been perpetuated. It is laid down that when an agent has misconducted himself, he must prove affirmatively that the loss entailed

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on his principals has not resulted from such act. The letter, which was the basis of the plaintiff's case, required explanation; there was something mysterious about it. He (Mr. Eames) held that the defendants had been guilty of misconduct in not keeping their principals properly informed. Either Mr. Glover must have stated in his private letter what he knew to be untrue or concealed the truth in the official letter, nothing having been said in the latter about the offer. The question, then, was whether when a positive statement was thus made, the defendants were not liable for it. They seemed to go upon the principle of not letting the right hand know what the left hand doeth.

Judgment was entered for the defendants with costs.

The following is a copy of that part of the letter from Mr. T. B. Glover to Mr. Maine, which bears upon the case :—

"My dear Maine,—I am sorry to say the *Chusan* remains here still unsold. I have been waiting an answer from a prince who offered us 80,000 dols. for her. At this we were authorised to sell her, but I thought it was too little, and would not let her go for less than 85,000 dols.; so the man said he would ask his prince once more.

"We would not have kept her had we not had a positive offer. I have promised to wait for three days, and if a purchaser does not come forward, you shall have her up sharp."

As we go to press (says the *North China Herald*), we have received a few notes which should have been in the body of the report. The evidence on the part of the defendants taken before H.B.M.'s Consul at Nagasaki was put in as read, the Court having previously gone through the whole case. With regard to the private note written by Mr. T. B. Glover, it had been explained in evidence before the Court that the "positive offer" mentioned therein referred to the offer of $75,000, and not to that of $80,000.

It should also have been noted in the report that during Mr. Eames's speech, when he asserted that if the defendants had kept the *Chusan* until Jan. 22nd Mr. Gilfillan's letter would not have arrived too late, H.B.M.'s Consul remarked that it was clear from the evidence that Mr. Gilfillan's letter (L) of January 16th, authorising the detention of the *Chusan*, had not been received by Messrs. Glover and Co. until the steamer had left for Yokohama, Messrs. Glover and Co. in their letter (G) of January 22nd, saying—

We are just in possession of your favour of the 16th inst. reducing your limit for the *Chusan* to $75,000. This, however, we fear has come too late, as the *Chusan* was despatched from this on the 19th inst.

After this explanation on the part of H.B.M.'s Consul, Mr. Eames apologised for the mistake, which had arisen in consequence of the shortness of the time in which he had been obliged to get up the case.

HONG KONG.

Dates are down to the morning of the 23rd August. The London mail of the 10th July arrived out on the 19th August.

We take the following items from the file of the *Evening Mail*:—

We learn, by latest advices from the West Coast, that piracy is vastly on the increase in that quarter; and from the fearful devastation which the scoundrels cause, are the terror of the unfortunate inhabitants. We have reliable information that a certain steamer which took a junk in tow down to a port on the West Coast was offered by the inhabitants of that port no less a sum than $40,000 if she would go out and capture a pirate which was the terror of the neighbourhood; and if they went out at all even, whether they caught her or not, $10,000. Now this offer would no doubt have been readily accepted by the steamer in question, as she was well armed and manned, and could easily have subdued the buccaneer, and $40,000 is not to be sneezed at. But it seems that, had she accepted the offer, and accomplished her purpose, the steamer would be liable to seizure on her return here, her captain to imprisonment, and her owners mulcted in a heavy sum. A considerable number of gunboats are now lying in this harbour; some are ready for sea, and others could be made serviceable in a few days. Why, then, if our merchants themselves are not to permit their vessels to defend life and property, and capture these terrible banes of the China Sea, do not the Government send some of these most serviceable gunboats a little oftener, to cruise in the vicinity of the West Coast, and make the rascals render an account of their misdeeds?

Her Majesty's Ministers are evidently bent on reducing the payments from the Imperial exchequer on account of the military establishments maintained in the colonies to the smallest possible amount. This they have done or are endeavouring to do; first, by extracting from the colonial treasuries the largest possible contributions that can with any show of decency be demanded; and, secondly, by reducing the strength of the respective garrisons, consolidating their administrative staffs, and cutting down the pay, allowances, &c., of officers and soldiers to the lowest figure conceived admissible by the stay-at-home clerks of the Treasury and War-office.

We understand that thieves have been paying uncommon attentions to the district immediately in the vicinity of the Military Stores for some time back. From a police report we are glad to notice that one of the dishonest fraternity in question has received considerably more than he calculated upon. On Sunday evening last a Chinaman was observed, by the European sentry on duty, attempting to break into one of the stores. He immediately fired, and the shot took effect on the thief's side, passing through his body. Having been given over to the civil authorities, he is now lying in a doubtful state in the Civil Hospital.

The steamship *Oriflamme*, Captain Lane, reports having left Shanghai on the 17th August, and passed the Light Ship at 0.30 P.M., at which time it was blowing a strong gale from the south-east. In the river she passed the ships *Indus* and *Electra*, both of London and both bound in. Four miles outside the Light Ship, she saw a P. and O. steamer (paddle) bound in. When passing Napier Island, at four P.M., she saw a steamer at anchor there, with ensign set; proceeded towards her, and met a boat with the chief officer of the steamer *Wokee*, from Shanghai for Hong Kong *via* Amoy, who reported that that steamer had struck upon a rock off Bonham Island, and had got back to the anchorage at Napier (five miles) before the water put their fires out. Captain Lane sent his chief officer on board to see if any assistance could be rendered them; but the captain declined receiving any, saying he had just chartered a junk for $200 to take his chief officer and passengers back to Shanghai for assistance, as they had six feet of water in the hold.

H.M.'s ship *Hercules* was sold by Messrs. Bowra and Co., for the sum of $18,000.

The trials and changes of fortune of Europeans who have joined their lot with that of the Imperialists, or that of the rebels, may possibly supply the sensation element in the new history of China which has yet to be written. The vicissitudes of those Europeans—rowdies, may possibly be the more correct term—are pretty often cropping up now-a-days above the general current of events; and those of them who appear to be indifferent as to which side they serve seem now, according to all advices, to be gaining the smallest minimum of favour possible from either party. We have previously noticed the plausible account given by the Imperialists of the fate of the political will-o'-the-wisp called Burgevine; and only in our last issue we published from a Shanghai contemporary the details of another case of detention of Europeans, who were looked upon as having committed flagrant breaches of treaty regulations. These mysterious cases—around which the party offended appears to throw even more than the required amount of the mysterious—will give sufficient scope for the exercise of what latent skill in diplomacy there may be existing in our present representatives; and they may even add somewhat to the troubles which await the acknowledged ability and acumen of Sir R. Alcock. As the results present themselves at present, they may be simply taken as evidence of the end to which all that indiscriminate rowdy assistance lent to either of the belligerents must inevitably arrive.

We are in possession of private advices, to the effect that a like failure to that above-mentioned has attended others of a similar type, the scene of whose questionable labours have lain in the more southerly districts of disaffection. An American, named Baffey, we understand, who was formerly one of Gordon's force, was recently brought as a prisoner to Canton, by the Chinese authorities. He has, however, been handed over to the only authority legally empowered to judge the case—viz., the United States Consul. His account of himself and comrades is peculiarly suggestive both as to the character of the rowdy element, and as to the Chinese services which that element affects to serve. Baffey, it seems, joined the rebels at Chang-chow; having previously quarrelled with some of the Baron de Meritens' French rowdies at Amoy, at which place he had taken service on being discharged from the Imperial army when Gordon—the life and soul of the service—retired. After participating, with twelve other kindred European spirits, in the retreat from Chang-chow, he accompanied the Kan-Wang into the Canton province, where he took the earliest opportunity of deserting, and managed to give himself up to the civil authorities at Ka-ying-chow. According to his statements, nine out of the thirteen Europeans originally with the rebels have been much less fortunate than himself—having either perished from disease, or died at the hands of their rebel masters while attempting to desert. The three still remaining with the Kan-

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Wang,—viz., Rhode (a German), Williams (an American), and an Irishman, whose name we have not learnt—were in a desperate plight. These simple details all go to prove that rebellion in the southern districts is now decidedly at a discount. Baffey will no doubt be duly dealt with according to law by the United States Consul at Canton—as ought to be every foreigner convicted of the like offence, by the recognised authority of his own nationality.

We were favoured with a minute inspection this morning of the steamer *Ville de Hoe*, constructed by the well-known shipwrights, Messrs. Fergusson, Fisher, and Co., in an inlet near Green Island, for Messrs. Russell and Co. Her dimensions are as follows:—length, 160 feet; beam, 24 feet; depth of hold, 15½ feet; tonnage, 440 tons, builders' measurement. Her engines are on what practical men call the *incline* principle, of 80-horse power, nominal, working up to 150. Her frame is of thick teak and Molavia wood, her inside planking of Oregon pine, and her bends of teak. The cabins are very spacious, and she is admirably fitted for passengers. A light wheelhouse and other airy dwellings are upon the spar deck. She is schooner rigged, and we should imagine, from her general appearance, she will prove a very fast boat. By far the largest steamer ever constructed in Hong Kong, she certainly reflects great credit upon her builders; and we fancy the Peak will raise its head a few feet higher when it sees that the inhabitants of the little town over which it reigns supreme, can construct such a vessel with the limited facilities for building which Hong Kong at present affords.

The *Evening Mail* of the 14th August says:—"In Saturday's *Gazette* we observe, by a proclamation of the Acting Governor, that the ordinance authorising the supplementary estimates has been confirmed and approved by the home authorities. From a notice communicated by H.M.'s Consul at Boston, masters and owners of steamers and passenger vessels trading between this and the United States are notified that 'no vessels will be allowed to discharge hereafter, bringing passengers without passports duly *viséd*;' which restriction, however, does not apply to ordinary emigrants. Intestate estates' returns for the past half year are also published. The Volunteer movement would appear still to be in the possession of some sparks of life. Tenders are asked for the erection of head-quarters for the corps, to be given in on or before the 21st inst. The official recognition of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank also appears in this number of the *Gazette*, by a notification that the notes of said company will be received in payment of Government dues."

Our contemporary explains to his readers the reasons why Portuguese should and may be kept on small allowances in this colony. "Firstly," he says, "because they can stand the climate better." This would imply that standing the climate is a fault rather than a virtue. He then says—"Secondly, because, not requiring those comforts and that accommodation which Englishmen require, they can live much cheaper." This is also fallacious, because we know of English, German, and American Missionaries who get along with fewer comforts and worse accommodation than hundreds of Portuguese. "Thirdly, because they are better adapted for being horses at a mill," which is only another way of stating that the hardest worked should have the smallest pay. "And, fourthly, because they do not drink." This is the first time we ever heard of a premium being set upon drinking, and we presume that our contemporary must be behind with his accounts for "Cutler," when he presses his subscribers so hard for money, and threatens to expose defaulting debtors.

SIAM.

BANGKOK.

Dates are down to the 23rd August, and report that the prohibition against the export of rice has been removed. The import market was in a very losing condition, owing to heavy imports from Singapore.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are down to the 31st August. Our files of papers has again missed. In the *Singapore Free Press* there is a notice of Mr. W. H. Read's manifesto. The British steamer *Jaya* had arrived out from Glasgow on the 25th August.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

HONG KONG.—From London: Aug. 17, Esperanza. From Liverpool 18, Smyrna. From Bordeaux: 17, Bertha and Pauline.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: Aug. 19, Radama.

DEPARTURES.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Aug 9, Star of China.
From HONG KONG.—For London: Aug. 13, Allendale.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

			Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.		6s. 1¾d. to 6s. 2d.	6s. 3d. to 6s. 4d.
At Canton At Hong Kong At Macao	6	ditto	4s. 5¼d.	4s. 5d. to 4s. 5d.
At Singapore	6	ditto		
At Manila	6	ditto		

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 290 to 301 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. — per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 73 per cent. prem. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels — per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 27 to 28 discount.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

AITKEN—At Hankow, on Aug. 2, the wife of James Aitken, Esq., of a daughter.

DUNAWAY—On July 20, on board H.M.S. Adventure, during the passage from Shanghai to Hong Kong, the wife of James J. Dunaway, Esq., Deputy Purveyor to the Forces, of a son.

HARPER—On the 30th August, at 12, Oxford-terrace, Hyde-park, Mrs. George Harper, Fairfield House, Suffolk, of a son.

WILLCOCKS—At Hong Kong, on Aug. 12, the wife of E. J. R. Willcocks, Assistant Master of the Central Schools, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BARNES—BARNES.—On the 5th inst., at St. Mary's Church, Faversham, by the Rev. Chas. Collins, M.A., vicar, assisted by the Rev. R. G. Holland, M.A., Frederick Dallas Barnes, of Singapore, youngest son of W. G. Barnes, Esq., of Shirley, Hants, to Marion, eldest daughter of the late Henry Barnes, Esq., of Faversham, Kent No cards.

BOURNE—BRASS.—On the 25th July, at H.M.'s Consulate, and afterwards at Christ Church, Yokohama, by the Rev. M. B. Bailey, Consular Chaplain, William Bourne, Esq., of Yokohama, Japan, eldest son of the late James Bourne, of Birmingham, to Ellen, daughter of the late William Brass, Esq., of London. No cards.

THOMSON—CONOVER.—At the Church of Our Saviour, Shanghai, on Aug. 8, by th Rev. Samuel I. J. Schereschewsky, the Rev. Elliot H. Thomson, of the American Episcopal Mission, to Jeannette R., daughter of Joseph B. Conover, Esq., of Philadelphia, U.S.A.

DEATHS.

BRONSON—Drowned, at Newchwang, Mr. Bronson, pilot at that port.

BOYLE—On Aug. 5, of *coup de soleil*, very suddenly, Patrick Boyle, proprietor of the Army and Navy Tavern, Hongque Road, Hongque.

COPE—On Aug. 7, of typhoid fever, James de Riemer Cope, Esq., of the firm of Cope and Cheshire, deeply regretted by numerous friends.

CROCKETT—On the 1st June, of dysentery, in the harbour of Bombay, on board of the P. and O. steamer Emeu, Oliver Richard Crockett, Esq., of Shanghai, aged 29.

DADY—At the General Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 18th Aug., George Dady, Private 2nd Batt., 9th Regt., aged 27 years.

FLINTOFF—On the 5th Aug., of a sudden illness, during the passage from Hong Kong to Shanghai, John Flintoff, Third Engineer of the steamer Wokee.

GIBB—On the 26th Sept. at his father's house, Woodlynch, near Ryde, Isle of Wight, of rapid consumptian, Frederick Matthew Gibb, of Hong Kong, in his 27th year.

GLEDSTANES—On the 1st Oct., at his residence, Cheshunt, Herts, John Hampden Gledstanes, Esq., in the 83rd year of his age.

GUY—On the 29th-30th June (supposed to have foundered in the P. and O. Steamship Corea, in a cyclone off the coast of China, of which ship he was chief officer), James Miller Guy, only son of the late James Guy, Esq., of Lymington, Hants, aged 35.

HAYES—At the General Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 18th Aug., Patrick Hayes, Private, 2nd Batt., 9th Regt., aged 28 years.

MCIVOR—At Victoria Gaol, Hong Kong, on the 16th Aug., John McIvor, late turnkey, aged 52 years.

MORTLOCK—At the General Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 16th Aug., James Mortlock, Sergeant Royal Artillery, aged 30 years.

O'NEIL—At the General Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 17th Aug., John O'Neil, Private, 2nd Batt., 11th Regt., aged 23 years.

OLDING—On the 30th Sept., at the residence of Benjamin Cooke, Esq., Adelaide-crescent, Brighton, Joseph Aldersey Olding, Esq., of Lee-road, Blackheath, second son of the late Stephen Olding, Esq., Assistant Managing Director P. and O. Steam Navigation Company, and formerly Superintendent at Hong Kong.

POUNDSBERRY—On the 9th Aug., at the Shanghai Floating Hospital, of dysentery, Edward Poundsberry, Master of the British schooner Water Lily.

REDDIE—On Aug. 12, Robert Muirhead Reddie, Esq., senior partner in China of the firm of Messrs. Holliday Wise and Co., deeply regretted by all who knew him.

ROACH—At the General Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 18th Aug., David Roach, Private, 2nd Batt., 9th Regt., aged 27 years.

WHITE—On board H.M.S. Melville, on the 17th Aug., George White, Military Cook of H.M.S. Adventure, aged 40 years.

WHITE—At Morrison Hill, Hong Kong, on the 19th Aug., William White, Civil Engineer, of the Hong Kong Mint, aged 28 years, of cholera.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

In consequence of the demand for passage to India at present, the Messageries Imperiales are sending an extra steamer on the 29th inst.

TEA.—The new Kaisows just arrived in dock have been placed at 2s. 2d. to 2s. 10d., prices quite equal (for the same quality), per *Fiery Cross* and *Serica*, and in a few lots 1d. higher.

SILK.—Market continues strong both by speculators and consumers. Tsatlee, No. 1, sales this day at 30s. 6d. to 31s. 6d.; Taysaam, No. 1, 26s. 6d. to 27s 6d.; Japan Mibash, 33s. to 34s. 6d.

COTTON.—Market flat, at a reduction of ½d.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Oct. 7, at London, from Shanghai, Eliza Shaw; 8, from Foo-chow-Foo, Belted Will, Flying Spur; 9, Black Prince,; 8, from Macao, Pakwan; 5, at Bremen, from Rangoon, Johanne and Emilie; at Portland, from Maulmain, Arthur Matthews; 9, at London, from Singapore, Elizabeth.

DEPARTURES.—Oct. 6, from Shields, for Batavia, India; from Texel, for Padang, Excelsior; 7, from Sunderland, for Singapore, O'Thyen, for Galle, Star of the North.

SPOKEN.—Europe (Dut. ship), Hamburgh to Batavia, Sept. 17, 43 N., 14 W.; Baroda, Hong Kong to London, Oct. 6, 50 N., 8 W.

CASUALTIES.—The Archibald Delargy, from Cardiff for Shanghai, put into Queenstown Oct. 6, leaky.

MISCELLANEOUS.—The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of about 4 officers (including a medical officer), 1 staff-sergeant,

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1 woman, 3 children, and 103 men, with a proportion of wives and children, from London to Colombo.

Laid on.—At London: For Shanghai, Flying Spur, Min. For Yokohama, Eliza Shaw.

Opium Sales at Calcutta.—It is gratifying to know (says *The Times'* correspondent) that at the last Calcutta opium sale each chest fetched £104, owing to the diminution of supply. The whole month's sale gave the State about £70,000 more than the Budget estimate, and £110,000 more than the same quantity the month before. I trust Mr. Massey will be as fortunate in this respect as Mr. Laing was. He is likely to be so, for the trade returns of the thirteen open ports in China show that the Chinese took only 52,088 piculs in 1864, against 98,916 in the previous year.

The King of Siam.—Sir John Bowring, in the *Fortnightly Review*, writes:—During the reign of the usurping sovereign, the legitimate heir (let him be honoured with all his titles), Phra Bard Somdetch Phra Paramendr Maha Mongkut Phra Chom Klau Chau Tu Hua, provided for the safety of his person, seriously menaced, by withdrawing from the sphere of public observation, giving to himself the sacred character of a Budhist priest, and taking possession of apartments in one of the Wat or temples, which form the most prominent objects in all the towns of Siam, and especially in the city of Bangkok. He there devoted himself to profound study. He not only explored such literature as the ancient Siamese records presented to him, but mastered the Sanskrit and the Pali languages; of Latin he had acquired such a mastery, mainly by the aid of the Catholic bishop, that he was engaged while I was in Siam in writing his autobiography in that language, and paid great attention to the English tongue, in which he was assisted by his intercourse with the American missionaries, who had maintained their ground in Bangkok and its neighbourhood, notwithstanding the persecutions and annoyances of the Court. But his principal source of instruction was found in dictionaries, and his conversation was therefore much combined with words little used in ordinary colloquies. For example, he would use zenith and nadir in preference to north and south; his collocation of words is not always grammatical, but he had always an expression at hand, though not in common use, by which he very distinctly conveyed his meaning. He reminded one of a man talking through the medium of a dead language, translating his thoughts from a language more familiar, but not thinking in the language which he spoke. On one occasion, when I read an English address to him at the time of my formal official reception, he sent for me to the interior of the palace, said he had understood perfectly every word but one, and of that word he asked an explanation. And this reminds me of one of those "touches of nature which make the whole world kin." On my first public audience we passed through the centre of a large hall, in which all the principal nobles of the land, clad in garments of gold, lay on all fours prostrate with their faces nearly touching the ground, when a curtain was drawn, and from a raised tribune at the end of the hall appeared the king seated on his throne, clad in gorgeous apparel, a sceptre in his hand, a richly jewelled crown on his head, surrounded by "all the wealth of Ormus and of Ind." The ceremony over, he desired to see me in the interior of the palace in one of his private apartments. He sat there divested of every ornament, with no other garment than a shirt; he held on his knee a little girl absolutely naked, and with no adorning but a chaplet of fragrant white flowers round her head. He asked me to admire her beauty—she was his youngest born; and here I may add that I received a letter not very long after informing me that since my departure from Siam five children had been added to the royal race. "Plenty of royalty," was one of his Majesty's expressions. In fact, he rejoiced in the possession of three hundred wives and concubines, which he said was a very moderate number; his father had seven hundred for his portion. He laughed loudly on one occasion when I told him that in England one wife was found all-sufficient. He had a drama got up for our amusement, in which no less than a hundred ladies of the Court were engaged as actresses, under the discipline of an ugly old promptress, whose scoldings were sometimes louder than the music of the piece. The women were of every hue, from the snowy to the sable, and of every Oriental race.

French Trade in China.—The *Patrie*, in drawing attention to the foreign trade of China, laments that France should not hold a more forward rank in commercial enterprise in that quarter. "If our last expedition in China," it remarks, "which imposed on us heavy sacrifices in men and money has not proved directly advantageous to our commerce, we may be assured that the presence of our arms in that country can have but one result—that of aiding the preponderance of English commerce, a result to be regretted. We would therefore call the attention of our Chambers of Commerce to this point. It is reserved to them to enlighten our manufacturers, merchants, and others, on those considerations which lead the present limited number of exporters to make their ventures, and so incite to larger enterprise, and as speedily as possible, in order that we may no longer figure for only 50 000 tons in an annual foreign tonnage in the China ports a hundred times more considerable.

Ailanthus Silk-Worm.—The long continuance of warm weather has greatly favoured the experiments made in the rearing of the *Bombyx cynthia*. In the enclosure within the Jardin d'Acclimatation, in the Bois de Boulogne, may be seen at the present moment a large number of these worms of the third generation of this season, feeding in the open air on the ailanthus, or spinning their cocoons. The creatures are of great size, and seem to be in perfectly healthy condition. The cocoons are generally formed at the extreme end of the branches, or rather of the leaves, for the ailanthus has long compound leaves, with many leaflets, like the ash, where no bird, however light, could rest and make a meal of the occupant, and the worms take the curious precaution, before commencing the cocoon, to attach several threads of their web to the leaf stalk as high as the third or fourth leaflet, so that if that on which the cocoon is fixed were to be broken from its stalk, it would still be held pendant by these stay-threads.

The Brindisi Route.—The adoption of this port in lieu of Marseilles has been again noticed in *The Times* in the following letter:—"Being in Turin last May I obtained from official sources the following information relative to the route from London to Alexandria, via Brindisi, viz.:—

	H.	M.
From London to Paris, about	10	30
Paris to San Michele	15	30
San Michele to Susa	7	0
Susa to Ancona, 590 kilometres, at 50 kilometres per hour	11	50
Ancona to Brindisi, 559 kilometres, at 38 kilometres per hour	14	45
Brindisi to Alexandria, 822 knots	82	12
Stoppages at San Michele, Susa and Brindisi	6	43
From London to Alexandria	148	30

Next spring the distance between Ancona and Brindisi will be performed in 11¾ hours instead of 14¾ hours; add to this that the distance from Brindisi to Alexandria can be performed in 74 hours instead of 82 hours 12 minutes, if there are steamers running 11 knots per hour, the time then occupied through from London to Alexandria will be 137½ hours. Therefore the time saved over the route *via* Marseilles could be at present 29½ hours, and next spring 40½ hours. This, I think, will fully reply to Mr. Palmer's recent statement in *The Times*, in which he says that the saving of time would be only 12 hours. Regarding the means of communication existing between Alexandria and Brindisi by their steamers, my task is not to criticise the way in which that service is performed, but I cannot admit that a proper communication between England and Asia exists, through Italy, until a traveller will get there all the facilities he meets through Marseilles, and I think that only the well-organised Peninsular and Oriental Company can perform such an important service with the regularity, speed, and comfort it requires; and for the general benefit it is to be hoped that they will shortly be enabled to complete such arrangements as may be necessary, so as to enable them to take this route in hand.

The Chinese Giant.—His Excellency Chang, with his wife and ugly dwarf, continue to attract crowded audiences at the Egyptian Hall. On the 2nd inst. he made his appearance for a short time at the Crystal Palace. A giant bigger even than Chang, measuring some eight feet, is on his way to England; but we think that the Chinaman will command the preference. His personal appearance is very much liked, and if he wanted a wife in England he would have no difficulty in obtaining one.

The Will of Her Majesty's Consul at Siam.—The will of Sir Robert Hermann Schomburg, Knight, formerly Her Majesty's Consul at the Island of San Domingo, afterwards Consul at Bangkok, in Siam, was proved in the London Court on the 20th Sept. by the sole executor, Mr. Edward Buxton, of Ealing, formerly of Ampthill-square. Sir Robert was an eminent naturalist and geographer, and a member and fellow of many English and foreign societies, and had received several foreige orders. Sir Robert has left the whole of his property in England, San Domingo, and elsewhere, to his sister, Louisa Theresa Schomburg, of Merseberg, Prussian Saxony.

TEA.

(*Travers' Circular*, Oct. 7.)

Shipments from China are now sufficiently advanced to admit of an estimate being formed as to the probable supply of tea, but as the latest intelligence brought by the mail comprises a period of little more than two months after the opening of the season, it is as yet too early to express any decided opinion on the subject. Exports to Great Britain are stated to be, in round numbers, thirty-four million pounds, against forty-four million pounds last year; and to the United States, three million four hundred thousand pounds, against four hundred thousand pounds last year; thus showing a decrease of ten million pounds in the shipments to this country, and an increase of three million pounds in those to America. Assuming, then, that the extra three million pounds shipped to America represent a corresponding reduction in re-shipments from England to that quarter, we have still a deficiency of seven million pounds, or nearly a month's consumption, to deal with. But statistical comparisons, if they are to be of any real value, ought to extend over several years; and if this test be applied in the present instance, it will be found that the exports from China during the months of June and July, 1864, were more than seven million pounds larger than in the same months of 1863, and nearly equal to the first three months' shipments of the previous season, so that the deficiency of the present as compared with last year is, of itself, no proof that the crop is a short one. The season of 1864-5 was remarkable, not only as showing the largest total export of tea, but also for the unusually heavy shipments of its two opening months,—those for July alone having exceeded twenty-one million pounds,— and the nearer assimilation to the practice of former years which is observable this season would appear rather to be a subject for congratulation, if it afforded any guarantee for more careful preparation of the leaf, and consequently ensured a larger proportion of useful, if not finer teas. But advices from the principal ports in China do not bear out this favourable view—on the contrary, they rather lead to the opposite conclusion—being unanimous as to general inferiority in quality, and also, with one exception, as to relative deficiency in supply.

We do not propose at present to consider the opinions as to the quality of the new season's teas, but, with regard to quantity, we learn from Shanghai that, "notwithstanding the fine weather during the picking of the first crop of Black Tea, the yield has proved 30,000 chests short of last year," and the accounts of the crop of Green Tea received from the same quarter, though less circumstantial, are not more encouraging. At Hankow the settlements and contracts are stated to be one-sixth less than at the same time last year, but the stock was 8,000 chests larger, and this would reduce the deficiency to about one-seventh; while at Kinkiang the arrivals were 20 "chops," or 17,000 chests, less than last year. At Foo Chow, on the contrary, the arrivals to date had been about on a par with those of last year, and the sales and contracts larger, but the stocks for the present year showed an appreciable deficiency. These reports do not indicate any expectation that the supply this season will be large, but they certainly do not prove that it will be deficient. It should be remembered that these statements are relative, and that the comparison is made with the season 1864-65, the largest on record; and, further, that they are only reliable so far as concerns the teas actually received at the ports, all estimates as to the

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on the way or yet to be forwarded being necessarily very imperfect. For instance, what under ordinary circumstances would be the practical value of any calculation as to the probable yield of any given crop in England? And yet this could be made with great rapidity by taking advantages of the facilities for locomotion and intercommunication enjoyed in this country, and by a comparison of the opinions of trustworthy and well-informed persons interested in the subject on which information was desired. China does not possess these advantages, and has in addition a much larger area to be traversed before even the roughest estimate could be formed; that is, unless the testimony of native dealers and others interested in misleading the foreign merchants is to be accepted without verification. It may be argued, on the other hand, that the quantity of Tea which it received up to a given date in one season is a fair criterion of the amount that is likely to follow, but calculations made on this principle must be frequently upset in a country so unsettled as China, where the communication between the ports and the interior is liable to be cut off at any moment by the rebels, and where goods are exposed to capture by pirates in the course of transit by water. Very little reliable information is obtainable as to the more remote districts of China, and the fact that smaller supplies have this year reached the ports may perhaps be due to causes of which we are entirely ignorant; for instance, the picking and preparation of the leaf may have been interrupted by the presence of the rebels, and supplies may have been for the same reason retarded at the various stages of their progress from the interior, or the means of obtaining money to discharge ordinary incidental expenses may have been, wanting. That this last cause may have operated to some extent seems probable enough, judging from the reports as to the financial difficulties in China, which were widely circulated in this country some months ago as these, if they did exist to any extent, could hardly fail to restrict somewhat the circulation of foreign capital through the country. Knowing the vast extent to which tea cultivation is carried on in China, and in the absence of unfavourable weather, there is little probability of any scarcity of leaf, and it therefore seems reasonable to conclude either that exceptional causes have delayed its arrival at the coast, or that the prices ruling do not offer sufficient inducement to the holders to undertake the risk and cost of transmission from remote places, coupled as it is with the further risk of having to pay for unlimited and illegal tolls along the route. If the former supposition be correct, the tea will come forward quite as soon as it is wanted, but in the latter case higher prices will be required to tempt supplies down from the outlying districts. It is thought by some that when intelligence is received in China of the high prices paid here for the first two cargoes of the present season, purchases on the reckless scale of former years will be at once resumed. It is to be hoped that this anticipation may not prove correct, but should it do so, there can be little doubt that, the demand once raised, the supply will follow.

Prices have remained firm this week under circumstances sufficiently adverse to produce flatness, if not to cause a reaction. The Tea market, being practically a cash one, is particularly sensitive to any advance in the value of money, and the fact that the Bank rate has been raised 1½ per cent. in four days—the last and largest portion of the advance having taken place while the public sales were actually in progress—might naturally have been expected to influence prices. Then the sales were unusually large, at least for a time when purchases of old Tea were for the most part suspended, and when all were waiting for further arrivals of new season's shipments, several cargoes of which were known to be close at hand; thus neither an advancing money market, nor a large supply offered without reserve, has produced the slightest reaction; on the contrary, Congous from 1s. to 1s. 2d., which were strongly represented at the sale, sold remarkably well; while with regard to other descriptions a decline was observable only in a few isolated instances. It would, therefore, appear that the market is in a more satisfactory position that for some time past—a position equally removed from the extreme depression of the year 1864, and of the first three months of 1865, and from the still more extreme elation which followed the reduction of duty in April last.

At the public sales of China Tea, which commenced on Tuesday, 25,000 packages were offered, and of these about 20,000 were without reserve. Prices generally were very well supported, especially those of good common to fairish Black and Red Leaf Congous, and this was rather surprising, as the bulk of the Congous consisted of these descriptions. This firmness may, however, be due to an impression that the high price of fine Tea would increase the consumption of the medium and lower sorts, and that the latter would in consequence improve in value. Low and dusty Green Teas, as well as medium Scented Capers, sold rather more easily, but in other kinds there is no change to notice; several breaks of coloured Japan Tea were taken for shipment. By private contract there has been very little doing, as the trade are still waiting for further samples of new season's Tea. Four vessels from Fow Chow, one from Hankow, and one from Canton, are in the Channel, and others are reported to be close at hand, so that a large business may be looked for as soon as the samples are placed upon the market.

THE DEATH OF MISS BAXTER.

In our issue of the 28th August the death was recorded of Miss Baxter. Feeling that the death of so good a person should not pass unnoticed in our journal, we have obtained the following notice, which has been published in the *Record* and a local paper:—

Our obituary records the death of a lady who was a native of Doncaster, and who, for the last five years, has been carrying on an important missionary work in the remote colony of Hong Kong, in China. It is now many years since Miss Harriet Baxter left Doncaster, and ceased to take part in the parochial visiting, and the schools of this town. She laboured assidiously both here and in Westminster, and wherever she might happen to be residing, in every good work, and was unwearied in her efforts for the improvement and religious enlightenment of the poor around her. In the year 1859 she received an invitation from the Bishop of Victoria and Mrs. Smith, who are so well known in the neighbourhood of Doncaster, to undertake the care of an important school, which was about to be established in Hong Kong. The post was an arduous one, and no English lady could be found to undertake it. Miss Baxter, after much deliberation, resolved to go out to China as a volunteer, and to become a missionary both to the female Chinese population and also to the wives and children of our soldiers and sailors, who require so much care in distant colonies. She went out and laboured there at her own expense, receiving subscriptions towards the support of her schools, but contributing the greater portion of their maintenance from her own resources.

She sailed in 1860, in the ship which carried out Lord Elgin to his Chinese Embassy, and was shipwrecked with him at the Point de Galle. She bore testimony to his noble calmness and courage, as the ship was going to pieces, and she passed him with other ladies to the boats, while he stood on deck waiting his turn with the gentlemen in the midst of the storm. Arrived in China, with her books and all her baggage lost, or irreparably spoiled, she devoted herself to the study of Chinese; and in a comparatively short time, though possessed of no talent for languages, her indomitable perseverance enabled her to make herself understood by the Chinese women and children. She founded two schools for the better class of children, one for boys, English, Chinese, and half-castes; and another for girls, English, and half-castes; and she afterwards added a third school for poor Chinese girls, and a fourth for poor Chinese boys. Among the more numerous inmates of these schools she had about seventeen orphans, of whom she considered herself the especial protectress. After a time the school for poor Chinese boys was undertaken by the Missionary of the Church Missionary Society, Miss Baxter retaining a supervision as visitor, and aiding with advice. For the upper Boy's School she had obtained the services of a master from the Highbury College, trained by our former pastor, the Rev. C. R. Alford. This master only arrived a short time ago, and was scarcely settled in the school.

Besides these schools, she was indefatigable in visiting the poor, and in recalling the wives of soldiers or sailors to the Protestant faith amidst the temptations of surrounding Paganism and the activity of the Roman Catholics. In that hot climate, where exertion becomes a labour, and exposure to the sun is dangerous, she wended her way with untiring zeal from quarter to quarter of the town, and from school to school, encouraging her teachers, canvassing for contributions to her various charities, relieving distress, and speaking of the Gospel in their own language to the Chinese women. In this way five years were passed, chequered with many trials and at first with much opposition, and attended with constant anxieties for the result of her labours. Once she fell into ill health and feared that she should be taken away before her work was crowned with success. But a voyage to Macao was the means of restoring her to health, and from that time to her last illness she enjoyed almost unusual strength. When the fever seized her, she was on the eve of returning home. At first it attracted little observation, as the fever of the country is no unusual visitor at Hong Kong. But it soon became evident that it was a mortal sickness, and in spite of all that medical skill and the unremitting care of friends could do, she breathed her last on the 30th of June. Her death was felt as a public loss, and her remains were accompanied to the grave by a large number of the inhabitants, and laid, in fulfilment of her wish, in that portion of the cemetery set apart for soldiers and sailors, among whom she had done so much good. Thus has passed away a noble and heroic spirit, after carrying out a work from which brave men might have shrunk; unflinching in her labours, careless of danger and disease, and self-denying and patient, sagacious in discerning the steps to be taken, and managing the resources at her command with a wisdom and economy which doubled their results; supported and animated by a missionary spirit which led her to consider it the duty of her life to devote all her energies to the spread of the Gospel, and counting herself happier in her death when her work on earth was finished, than if she had been spared to return to her dear native land.

More than five years ago (writes Bishop Smith) Miss Baxter dedicated her life and talents to the work of Christian education among Chinese females; and went to Hong Kong unsupported by any missionary society, and dependent for the pecuniary means of working out her beneficent schemes of missionary usefulness on her own private resources and those of her family, with the assistance of the Society for Promoting Female Education in the East, and other friends on the spot. In the multitude and variety of her zealous and energetic labours she prematurely wore out her strength, and has entered early into her rest. How great has been the loss sustained by the missionary cause in the removal of this devoted and efficient labourer is proved by the sorrow prevalent among Europeans and Chinese at Hong Kong, where she has secured a permanent place in the affectionate memory and respect of the native race, for whose benefit she cheerfully sacrificed the endearments of her native land and home. Amid the mournful regrets for her loss, the sympathy of many Christian friends is excited on behalf of her afflicted family, and especially her worthy and respected father, in this season of trying bereavement. Prominent himself in every good work of Christian activity at home, he has made the most valuable of all contributions to the missionary cause abroad. To few parents has fallen the privilege of offering up the costly gift of so precious a daughter on the altar of missionary self-sacrifice. Cheerfully as he has borne, for the sake of the Gospel, many years of reparation from his beloved daughter, we doubt not that he will now be sustained by the comforting assurance that her work is done, and that she is now present with that Saviour whom she so ardently loved and served.

(From the Hong Kong *Evening Mail*.)

We regret to record the decease of Miss Baxter, who died this morning (30th June) at nine o'clock. Of all the honest labourers in the East, she was preeminently the first. She was unwearied—we are sorry we cannot add unwearіable—in well-doing. Selecting, voluntarily, a sphere of usefulness for herself, this resolute and good young lady determined to come to China and educate native children in the sublime doctrines of Christianity. For years she has laboured like a heroine as she was, training her little flock with kindness and assiduity, asking no man's help, but fighting alone under a tropical sun, in the most unselfish manner. Totally unpretending, she bowed only to a sense of duty, and she bore the yoke meekly, as the good can only do.

We were not personally acquainted with the late Miss Baxter, but we have had a hundred opportunities of noticing her pure enthusiasm in the cause of good. At a future time it will be proper to say more on the subject, but grief for her loss is too deep to allow of any further remarks. We can only say that Hong Kong will not soon replace the loss it has sustained in the death of this lady.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A Register is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the Far East and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, TUESDAY, OCT. 10, 1865.

TELEGRAPHS AND RAILWAYS FOR CHINA.

Recent accounts from China furnish us with the latest preliminary action taken by English residents in Hong Kong and Shanghai to introduce telegraph and railway communication into the country. We regret to learn, through a correspondent at the former colony,* that the committee appointed to inquire into the feasibility of carrying out Sir Macdonald Stephenson's projected line, have reported unfavourably of their application to the Chinese for their sanction to such an undertaking. The experimental line was to be from Canton to Fatshan—the Birmingham of the Quang-tung province—some twelve miles long, and the estimated traffic purely Chinese, in goods as well as passengers. Therein, we are of opinion, lay the weakness of the project. Here was a body of foreigners proposing to establish a new system of communication by land so as to supersede the existing traffic by water, without themselves having anything but an infinitesimal interest at Canton in the traffic. Had the scheme projected been laid at first between two points where British interests prevailed, such as the Kowloon shore and Canton, or better still, Shanghai and Woosung, the application would have been made with greater weight, inasmuch as the introduction of a railway was simply for foreign convenience in trade, according to the improved means of communication in their own country. By placing the grounds of application on this basis the Chinese authorities could not easily refuse their sanction in granting a concession to the committee. As it was, they sought for power to lay down a line across a densely populated country, and into a manufacturing town where no foreigner resides. In this light it was, to the suspicious Chinese mind, an innovation of such a character as to bear a political significance, especially if they remembered the attack upon Fatshan, when their fleet of gunboats was burnt in 1858. Under these circumstances we are not surprised at the Provincial Government refusing to give their support or sanction to the proposed line; and, as far as the general question of railways for China is concerned, it is to be regretted that this special application was made, for it may be held as a precedent in future applications. We likewise express our regret that the efforts of Sir Macdonald Stephenson have been for the time frustrated; but he is not the man to give up at the first failure of his plans, and we trust he will meet with success at his next attempt to put them into practice.

While this railway project has so far failed in the South of China, we note the first step taken to establish the sister scheme of electric telegraphs in the North, where a short line has been attempted in the vicinity of Shanghai, by an adventurous British resident named E. A. Reynolds; but not without coming into collision with one of the petty Mandarins, through whose district the line is intended to pass. As far as we can learn from the imperfect report of the affair in the local journals, it would appear that Mr. Reynolds, without saying to the authorities "By your leave, I am going to lay down an "electric telegraph, on the European system, between Shanghai "and the Kin-toan beacon at the entrance of the Yang-tsze," he commenced to lay his posts along the line of route. As he is well acquainted with the prejudices of the Chinese peasantry, from a long residence in the country, he curried favour with the small occupiers of land to respect his posts by distributing *cumshaws* of *cash* among those whose farms he crossed. Moreover, he "refrained from commencing operations until the wheat "had been gathered in, when, apprehensive of disturbing the "possible arrangements of the villagers, he had the holes made "with an augur, which removed no more earth than was absolutely necessary to make room for each post." This showed a judicious care not to interfere unnecessarily with the people's land—for which he deserves credit—and he thought all was right for constructing his telegraph. But he reckoned without his host, for the magistrate of the small town and district of Chin-za, or Chuen-sha, went and deliberately cut down the posts already fixed in the ground. It does not appear that this functionary warned Mr. Reynolds of his intention; but we strongly suspect that some communication must have taken place, in requesting him to pay some subsidy to the Mandarin for permission to lay the line, which probably was refused. Be that as it may, it was a grave oversight on the part of Mr. Reynolds to commence operations without obtaining the sanction of the Chinese authorities. This was especially necessary as the land he passed through was on the Pootung side—literally, the *east*-bank of the Wong-poo River—and beyond the concession or settlement occupied by the British residents on the west bank. However, the British Consul deemed the vandalism of the petty Mandarin a case for complaint to his superior officer the Taoutai, or Chief Magistrate of Shanghai City; who promptly ordered him to replace the posts at his own expense. So far this is satisfactory, and reflects credit on the liberal views of Ting the Taoutai. But it would have been much better if Mr. Reynolds had gone legitimately to work and secured the concession to lay the telegraph from the proper native authorities. It is this apparent contempt for the laws of the country which often causes mischief between foreigners and Chinese; and there is no precedent in any country or people throughout the world pretending to civilisation for committing such acts against authority. Moreover, it would appear, in the absence of anything to the contrary, that this is a private telegraph to be laid down under the control of one person, and we presume to be worked for his exclusive benefit, without the supervision of the British authorities. However much we may compliment the projector on his enterprising spirit in the matter, we do object to his having this exclusive means of communication between Shanghai and the seaboard, as it may tend to subvert the very advantage it professes to give. The Kintoan beacon is seventeen miles in a straight line from Pootung Point, and, from the level nature of the country, the telegraph may not diverge a foot to the right or left. Vessels passing up to Shanghai sight the beacon, where a boat can easily board them in ordinary weather. By this means information of an important nature may be conveyed to Shanghai a day or two in advance of the route by Wooosung, some thirty-six miles, should the tide not serve to proceed beyond the "marks." In that time this telegraph, under the control of a private individual, might convey exclusive intelligence which he may sell at an extraordinary charge to the merchants. We know that exclusive information has been obtained by the dispatch boats of private firms calling at Yang-tsze Cape, and sending couriers overland to Shanghai, at an enormous cost, but that was "all fair" in the prosecution of Chinese commerce. The case is different in this instance, where it comes under a public method of conveying intelligence over public lands, subject to public authority; and the foreign residents of Shanghai are entitled to have some control, if not the Chinese authorities, over the telegraph messages. We are surprised that the British Consul at Shanghai did not see it in this light, and advise Mr. Reynolds to make his telegraph a public undertaking, under the control of the Shanghai British Chamber of Commerce. The days of exclusiveness in the China trade are rapidly passing away, when private monopoly should be discarded. Whatever be done in the future for introducing telegraphs or railways into China should be done legitimately, under the sanction of the constituted authorities, foreign as well as Chinese, and the means for carrying them out should be by associated enterprise under the control of a responsible body of directors. We hope soon to see an influential company formed to carry out telegraphic communication on both banks of the Wongpoo, and the still more important undertaking of constructing a railway from Shanghai to Woosung, with docks and warehouses commensurate with the trade of the great emporium of North China.

* Vide *London and China Telegraph* 16th Sept.

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CHINA GRASS.

The active spirits of Rouen seem determined to establish China grass amongst the materials of their manufacture, and a company has been formed with a capital of three millions of francs, divided into shares of five hundred francs each, to carry the matter into practical operation; and, amongst other things, to erect works in the neighbourhood of Rouen for the disintegration, combing, and cottonisation of the fibre. The composition of the company promises well for the undertaking, the directors consisting of the President of the Tribunal of Commerce of Rouen; the Maire of Rouen, one of the Deputies for the Department of the Seine Inferieure, and another gentleman—all three of whom are likewise members of the Administration of the Bank of France, as well as of the Council General of the Department, or of the Chamber of Commerce of Rouen, or of both; two other members of these latter bodies, one of the directors of the Comptoir d'Escompte of Paris, a merchant of Rouen, and M. Canoby, formerly merchant, and prime mover in the undertaking.

The subscription was kept open in Paris from the tenth to the twenty-third of September, and a certain number of shares were taken up, and it is expected that the rest will be placed in Rouen and its neighbourhood. As regards the economical portion of the question, we have already given in our columns all the information existing. With respect to the capabilities of the fibre for cottonisation, for spinning and working either as cotton or as silk, separately or mixed in various proportions either with cotton or wool, and for bleaching and dyeing there, can be no question; those who have not seen the yarns and tissues exhibited at the Chamber of Commerce of Rouen, and at the Society of Arts in London, may do so at the present moment, if not at the house of the society, at the offices of the company in Paris, No. 41, Rue Taitbout, where we examined them a few days since. In the present condition of the silk and cotton trade, the practical introduction of a new fibre, always an important event, is of special interest; and considering that China grass may be obtained not only from China, but from many other parts of the world, and also that it can be grown without difficulty and, it is stated, economically in Western Europe; the attempt of M. Canoby and his friends deserves to find favour in the eyes of the commercial and manufacturing world, and we heartily wish that it may be successful. China grass and its products have lain far too long in the museums and amongst curious miscellanies, it is quite time to set it to work and try its value.

THE NEW GOVERNOR FOR HONG KONG.

Sir Richard Macdonnell has not yet arrived from Nova Scotia, and it appears by the last advices to be doubtful when he will quit that post. The following is an outline of Sir Richard's career. In 1838 he was called to the bar in Ireland, was Chief Justice and subsequently Governor of the Gambia from 1843 to 1851. In 1852 he was appointed Governor of St. Lucia. In 1855 Governor-in-Chief of South Australia. In 1864 appointed Governor of Nova Scotia. Although our Government will not confer the appointment on Mr. Mercer, it appears they are willing to allow him to hold the reins as long as possible.

THE TELEGRAPH *VIA* ST. PETERSBURG AND KIACHTA.

Last mail brought intelligence from Shanghai that Mr. C. Mitchell Grant was endeavouring to obtain subscriptions—from the merchants of that place, to the extent of 5,000 taels, in 50 shares of 100 taels—for the purpose of establishing a line of couriers from Tientsin across Mongolia to Kiachta. Mr. Grant estimates the distance *via* Kalgan at 1,098 miles, and that a pony courier service can accomplish that distance in 6½ days—being about 168 miles per day, or 7 miles per hour. From Shanghai to Tientsin the steamers are generally under four days, and allowing the transmission by telegraph from Kiachta to St. Petersburgh and London to be one day, the total time would be about 11 to 12 days. Mr. Grant estimates that if 20 messages can be obtained per week for nine months it will yield 24,000 taels, while the outlay would be 17,000. The line from Kiachta (or rather from Troitskosavsk, about four versts distant) is open, and in daily communication with St. Petersburg when the lines are in order, but this is just the trouble; the wires and posts are constantly being blown or washed down, and for some time past we have been receiving telegrams from Kiachta varying from one to fifteen days. Mr. Reuter's agent (Mr. Bishop) has been stationed at Kiachta for a long time, but their united efforts, with all their advantages, have not yet resulted in organising a service of telegrams from China. From the following paragraph in the *Morning Post* it would appear that other persons also contemplate making a trial of the matter. We believe that one of the telegraph companies in London have a hand in this latter project. Should any progress be made in it we shall inform our readers.

The construction of a line of telegraphic communication is proposed between Europe and China *via* Russia, by way of her frontier trading town of Kiachta, by which our Government and merchants will be able to have news from China in from 10 to 12 days. There is already one line in existence, but it is exclusively the property of the Russian Government, and strictly used for political purposes only, whilst the new line will be free to every one. The Russian Government has been applied to by the London interest of the projected line, and has ex-officially expressed its approbation and intention of supporting the undertaking.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, Oct. 8.

The Minister of the Financial Department presented the Budget for 1866 in the sitting of the 23rd of last month, and delivered his annual speech, in which he was fully justified to congratulate the members of Parliament and the whole country with the state of the Treasury. The ordinary expenditure for 1866 is estimated at 74,000,000f., while the ordinary income will make up a total of 64,000,000f. To provide the deficit of the 10 millions, and likewise for the 31¾ millions, which will be spent for extraordinary expenses, the favourable balances of the years 1863 and 1864 are assigned, which amount together to 12 1-5th millions, besides the balance of the East Indies (*batig slot*) to 25 millions, and the last term of the sold Scheld duties to 3 1-5th millions. Under the extra ordinary expenses appear 14¼ millions for the sinking fund of the National debt, 13¼ millions for the construction of State Railways, 1¼ million for the waterways to the sea from Rotterdam, Amsterdam, &c. Twenty-five millions from our East Indian possessions is very much; it is true that Mr. Betz told us that the public service in India will not want such large sums as in former years, and that the prices at which the produce are estimated are very low; but I think it was preferable that a part of that large amount remained in the East to extend there the European element, which should be the best lever for the social development.

Perhaps our own expenditure could be diminished also enormously. The Finance Office requires 11,600,000f., the Marine Office, 9,043,000f.; Home Department, 23,295,000f.; and the Colonial Office only 3,760,000f.; while 12,766,000f. are assigned for the War Department, which amount is very much too excessive for a country like Holland. In general, however, this budget made a very good impression, and doubtless it will tend to strengthen the position of the Cabinet. The Opposition and its organ the *Dagblad* does its best to impugn the accuracy of the statements; but these prophecies of evil have been uttered many times already that the public does not believe one word of the Tory assertions.

The address, in reply to the Speech from the Throne, caused only a very unimportant discussion of one half-hour. The Colonial question was not touched at all, while the Bill about the cultures, which was laid some days ago before the members by Mr. Fransen van de Putte, will, offer perhaps, oppportunity enough for an animated debate. This very important but voluminous Bill, which ought to be translated in full for your English readers, while it gives a sketch of the cultures since 1830 to the present year, contains the following principal points:—The Inland proprietors will come into possession of those grounds which they use now individually or by inheritance. The coffee-gardens belong to the State. It is forbidden that Europeans and foreign Orientals shall be in possession of grounds which belonged to the natives. After a lapse of five years this stipulation will be revised. The obliged delivery of coffee to the Government by natives is maintained. The Government is able to interfere to continue the existing sugar-contracts when these are expired, and to establish new ones. Without this intervention no sugar manufactures can be established. Without doubt this Bill will make a very favourable impression in Java, because it proves that our Government inclines more and more to introduce in our colonial possessions a liberal policy.

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The first Sittings of the Second Chamber were dedicated to a debate on the *rinderpest*, which prevails still in our country, and extends itself from one province to another. The Government asked a credit of 100,000f., to take some extraordinary measures. This trifling sum, of course, was allowed, but the Opposition made a severe attack upon the Cabinet, while our premier was absent when this plague made its appearance here. Ridiculous as this attack was, it did not give any result; Belgium, as well as our provinces, which were not infected, are now infected, notwithstanding every measure was taken to prevent the plague spreading. Our Minister at the Court of St. James's, as well as the Consul-General in London, were blamed because they did not inform the Government betimes that this epidemic plague prevailed in your country.

In the Bois le Duc a Catholic Church Congress was held during the last days. Notwithstanding this has not been celebrated in our country within 400 years, it did not make much sensation.

J. F. de Casembroot has published a relation about the battle of Simonoseki. You will remember that this officer was Capt. of the *Medusa*, which took part in this battle.

COMMERCIAL.

The floating trade is less active since the enhancement in the rate of discount, and the market was rather dull. Some large affairs in sugar and tin excepted, there only took place a few private auctions of coffee and tobacco.

Coffee.—The Dutch Trading Company announced its monthly auction, which will be held on the 18th, and consist of 125,903 b. The greatest quantity being good to good ordinary, the prices were estimated ½ c. in average higher than in the former month's sale. The market remains very firm, but there took place no transactions of any importance; for foreign sorts, as Santos and Ceylon, there was a lively demand.

Sugar.—Firm. Here and at Amsterdam about 5,000 kr. Java were sold at unaltered prices. The stock of the Trading Company consisted on the 1st Oct. of 30,151 kr., against 18,870 kr. in 1864, while the private stock amounted to 56,723 kr.

Rice.—Without business doing. The 2,700 b. Java arrived per Nagasaki are not yet sold.

Spices.—Good qualities remain in a firm condition. Nutmegs: No. 1 were paid with 75 c.; No. 2, with 67 c.; but nothing can be bought now without an advance of 2 c. Mace is offered at 70 for D, and 66 c. for E. Cloves: With a moderate demand; there is only inquiry for No. 2 at 25 c. The unsold stock of the Trading Company consists of 165 casks nutmegs, 95 casks mace, cloves.

Tea.—On the 25th of October the Trading Company will offer at auction 7,062 ¼ and 529½ -chests Java Tea.

Tobacco.—Java—Several private auctions took place since the departure of the former mail. The following parcels were sold:—

Bales.		Trade-mark.	Sold from		In average.
1,550	Java Tobacco	MGB,	„ 35½—126½ c.,	„	83¾ c.
1,326	„	Soekowono	„ 21½—108 c.,	„	65½ c.
557	„	S	„ 16½— 33 c.,	„	25¼ c.
2,782	„	Tanl	„ 23½—101 c.,	„	46⅛ c.
756	„	FvdP	„ 25 — 96 c.,	„	54½ c.
293	„	P	„ 19½— 38 c.,	„	26½ c.
245	„	BCVO-Kenalan	„ 14½— 23½ c.,	„	18¾ c.
132	„	MK	„ 20½— 55 c.,	„	38½ c.
21	„	TTWW	„ at 74 c.		
82	„	GB	„ 74½—113 c.,	„	92¾ c.
76	„	Kemoening	„ 45 — 83 c.,	„	66⅞ c.
10	„	Titan	„ at 66 c.		
277	„	JGB	„ 25 — 85 c.,	„	57½ c.
389	„	V	„ 22¼— 49½ c.,	„	37 c.
120	„	Singahan	„ 18 — 62½ c.,	„	38⅛ c.

In general very high prices were paid, not only for the brown leaves, but also for the middling qualities, because there is no stock of importance. The greatest quantity was sold by foreign houses, and much is to be shipped for England. For Manila there is some more inquiry at better prices, in consequence of the high quotations of the Java tobacco. The stock consists now of 3,170 barrels Java and 2,863 barrels Manila.

Manila Segars.—On the 18th inst. 200 pn. 2a. Cortados Cavita, 1865, and 100 pn. 2a. Cortados, 1864, will be offered in auction.

Indigo.—The indigo auctions of the Trading Company gave very satisfying results. For bad 10 to 30 cents was paid more than in May; for middling, 20 to 40 cents; good middling, 50 to 60 cents; and fine, 70 to 90 cents. The Bengal sorts were paid according to the London prices. Since the auctions some private business was done; the quantities offered in private auctions were sold, the 123 ch. Bengal at 415 to 575 cents, and the 112 ch. Java at 365 to 670 cents.

Cotton.—In consequence of the animated Liverpool market there was a lively demand.

Banca Tin.—For the last week there was a lively demand, and very considerable transactions took place, while the prices increased. 2,000 slabs were sold at 54½f.; 1,600 do. at 54¾f.; 1,500 do. at 55f.; 1,000 do. at 55¼f.; 1,200 do. at 55½f.; 500 do. at 56f.; 1,000 do. at 56¼f., 4,300 do. at 57f. The large purchases for shipment to America, estimated at 600 tons, being done, the market became somewhat weaker, and 700 slabs were sold at 56¾f., and 800 do. at 56½f. The stock amounts to 180,957 slabs, against 123,946 slabs in 1864, when the price in average was 61f.

Hides with a moderate demand; only 648 p. Passaroean ex Boui, and 2,176 p. Batavia Buffalo were sold at prices that did not transpire.

Arrack.—100 casks Soerabaya ex Cherokee, and 100 casks do. ex Nordstern, 25 casks Batavia ex L. A. Bang; 90 do. ex Antelope, and 50 do. ex Maria Elizabeth, were sold at secret but very firm prices, because the stock is unimportant.

Rattans.—The very unimportant imports caused a firm demand, and several private parcels were sold at somewhat firmer prices. On the 19th inst., 59,151 bundles will be offered in public sale by the Trading Company, which are estimated at 12f. to 16f.

Cochineal.—99ch. sold by auction were paid with—No. 1, 200c. to 230c.; No. 2, 185c. to 205c.; No. 4, 155c. to 195c. Zaccatelle—No. 8, 185c. to 240c.; No. 9, 195c. On average the prices were 10c. to 20c. higher than those paid in May.

Cocoa Nut Oil.—Cochin is quoted at 30½f.; 2a, at 29½f.

Camphor.—The market is in a firmer condition, and higher prices are willingly paid.

Cubeben are paid with 45c. to 46c. At these prices 800 bags were sold.

Pepper.—Some parcels were sold at 20c. to 21c.

Cassia Lignea with much demand; under 56c. there is nothing to have. Cassia Vera with much demand in the different sorts. Tigablas is willingly paid with 32c.

Japan Wax.—There is much inquiry at firm prices. A, 40f.; B, 38f. to 38½f.

Gummi Elasticum.—Holders decline to operate without an advance.

Gutta Percha.—16,000 kilos. of the cargo imported per *Joan*, and 800 kilos. ex *Helen Baird* were sold at secret prices.

Gum—Damar.—With much inquiry at 26½c.; prime quality cannot be bought now under 27c.

Cotton Manufactures.—A considerable business was done last week as well for account of the Amsterdam as Rotterdam exporters; they amounted to about one million of guilders. The greatest quantity is to be shipped to our East Indian possessions, but a part of them will be sent to Calcutta. The prices are 20 to 25 per cent. higher; our manufacturers cannot sell anything more before the second quarter of 1866.

Money.—In consequence of the measures taken by the directors of the English Bank, the rate of discount of the Netherlands Bank was advanced 1 per cent., so that the minimum now is fixed at 4 per cent. for bills, and 4½ per cent. for acceptances. Stock: Two and a-Half per Cents. Dutch, 60 3-16ths; Three per Cents., 72; 4 per Cents., 96; Trading Company, 146; Dutch Rhenish Railway, 112; Dutch Railway, 128½; Rotterdam Bank, 97½; International Bank, 97. 'Change on London, 3 mo., f.11.73; 2 mo., f.11.79; short, f.11.81; Paris, 3 mo., f.46.70; 2 mo., f.46.85; short, f.47.25; Antwerp, 3 mo., f.46.65; short, f.47.15; Hamburg, 3 mo., f 35; 2 mo., f.35.11; short, f.35.45.

Shipping.—Arrivals.—Sept. 27, at Texel from Padang, Alcyone; Oct. 2, at Brouwershaven from Batavia, Nagasaki; at ditto from Panaroekan, Pieter.

Departures.—Sept. 25, from Hellevoet for Batavia, Maarten van Rossem; 26, from Zierikzee for Batavia, Nederland and Oranje; 27, from Helvoet for Batavia, Medea; 28, from Helvoet to Java, H.M.'s war steamers den Briel, Commander A. J. van Mansvelt; Aert van Nes, Commander J. J. Wichers; Bali, Commander J. A. R. A. M. Clifford van Brengel; 30, from Texel for Batavia, H. M. war steamers Cycloop, Commander C. A. L. H. Baron van Hekeren; and Maas and Waal, Commander C. A. B. D. Ryk; Oct. 1, from Texel for Batavia, Oceaan; from Brouwershaven for ditto, Jupiter, Diana; 3, from Texel to Padang, Excelsior; from Brouwershaven for Batavia, Eva Johanna.

Loading.—At Amsterdam, for Kanagawa and Decima, Gloria, China; for Padang, Henrietta; for Batavia, Jacoba and Christina; for Batavia and Samarang, Goede Verwachting, Java Packet, Aria and Betsy; for Batavia and Sourabaya, Quartet, Vertrouwen; for Samarang, Ortelius; for Sourabaya, Presto, Sourabaya Packet. At Rotterdam: for Kanagawa and Decima, Duodecima; for Batavia, Dordrecht; for Batavia and Samarang, Johannes Anthonius; for Batavia and Sourabaya, v. d. Palm, Otto; for Sourabaya, Jeannette and Cornelia; for Singapore and Hong Kong, Katharina Maria.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

For Java, per Jupiter, Mr. J. J. F. Pacqué and family, Mr. H. W. C. Bredezode and family, Mrs. G. Staverinus Rys and family, Miss Pacqué, Mr. J. F. Dinger and family, Mr. A. N. Dinger, J. W. B. Borgerhoff van den Bergh, J. M. van Berckel, L. van Hengel, C. L. A. Gaillard, and B. W. Hertzveld. Per Medea, Mr. J. Blaaupos, Miss Blaaupos, Messrs. Boudewyns, Jugenluyff, van Hengel, de Sturler, A. Straeter, B. Straeter, Th. v. d. Ben. Per Nederland and Oranje, Mr. A. S. Fransen van de Putte and family, Miss van Weelderen and Kraal, Messrs. van Weelderen, Schiff, and Gransberg.

Monetary and Commercial.

Advices from Vienna allude to arrangements which are reported to have been entered into with Messrs. Rothschild, Barings, and Hope, for an Austrian Five per Cent. Loan of £5,000,000 or £6,000,000, at 74, with a sinking fund that will cause it to yield a rate of interest equal to about 8 per cent.

The biddings for bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were—to Calcutta, £102,700; to Madras, £24,000; and to Bombay, £80,000. The *minimum* prices were fixed at the advanced rates of 1s. 11½d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11¾d. on Bombay. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 1s. 11⅞d. will receive in full, and on Bombay at 2s. about 29 per cent.; above those prices in full. These terms show a considerable increase in the demand for means of remittance, consequent on the recent rise in the cotton-market.

An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the London and Bombay Bank and General Financial and Insurance Agency Corporation (Limited) will be held at the London Tavern on the 20th December next, for the purpose of amending

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the title, changing it to that of "The London, Bombay, and Mediterranean Bank (Limited)," and repealing or altering various regulations contained in clauses of the articles of association. It is rumoured that several other banks lately formed in India, and having London branches, will amalgamate. The Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi Bank, formed in London about two years since, is also mentioned for amalgamation.

Mr. William Dent, senr., chairman of the Thames and Mersey Marine Company, and Mr. James White, M.P., have joined the board of the Credit Foncier and Mobilier.

At a meeting of creditors of Messrs. Lindsay and Co., of China, it was resolved to accept of a guarantee fund of £90,000, which the partners, H. H. Lindsay and R. C. Antrobus, had obtained from their friends. This sum would yield about 7s. 6d. on the amount of their estimated liabilities. It was expected, however, that some other assets would yield 2s. 6d., making 10s. in all. Great complaints have been uttered by creditors that the firm did not stop long ago. It appears that the losses incurred by the banks by this firm have arisen on local bills and loans, and that the bills on England, with some exceptions, have been all duly honoured. Local loans for houses of any standing is a new and dangerous institution in China, and pretty certain to indicate a result similar to that of Messrs. Lindsay and Co. Among the exceptions we understand there are two bills in the hands of the Bank of Hindustan, one for £4,000 on Messrs. J. W. Cater, Sons, and Co., of Mincing-lane, and one for £6,000 on Messrs. Springfield, Son and Nephew, of Coleman-street. It appears that both these houses had granted their credits in favour of Messrs. Lindsay and Co., but that having gained some information as to the state of the firm previous to the presentation of the bills, they declined to accept them. While we do not presume to enter into the legal grounds for such refusal, we think it only right that the fact should be known to the mercantile communities in the Far East. The case appears as flagrant as the one noticed in our last issue, where the banks refused to deliver up shipping documents on receipt of the amount of the bills drawn against them. Any mercantile firm in this city which is not prepared to give honour to its own act, deliberately granted in the shape of a "Letter of Credit," should certainly be ostracised. It is not of importance, nor do we know on what particular grounds these bills were refused, but assuming that Messrs. Lindsay and Co. drew them in anticipation of the shipment of the goods against which they were intended, and that previous to the shipment they stopped: this is a matter to adjust with them, and measures should not be adopted to visit the sins of the drawers upon the holders of the bills. By granting a credit, without a clause stipulating that shipping documents were to be attached, or what is termed "a clean credit," the grantors took upon themselves all the responsibility. We understand that the Bank of Hindustan has entered suits against these firms, and we presume that they withhold their consent to the arrangement for liquidating Messrs. Lindsay and Co.'s estate above-noticed, pending the result. It is to be hoped that Messrs. Cater, and Messrs. Springfield, will both agree to accept these bills, and thus preserve the integrity of a "Letter of Credit."

The Ceylon Government Loan of £100,000 in 6 per cent. debentures, offered to public competition on the 14th September, by the Crown agent for the colonies, but of which only £10,300 was taken, has, it is understood, now all been disposed of at the minimum originally declared, viz., 104.

On the first arrival of the new teas considerable excitement existed in Mincing-lane, and in some cases parcels which had been offered at 2s. 6d. in the hands of one broker, were sold through another at 2s. 9d. This sort of wild dealing gave rise to much dissatisfaction, and some dealers refused to operate at all. One of the large dealers issued the following circular to their constituents, in order to mark their view of the case. Considering the heavy losses incurred by the importers during the past two years, we cannot blame them for squeezing the utmost fraction :—

About this time last year we deemed it necessary to bring to your special notice the extreme prices paid in China for teas, the novel system adopted of hurrying them to this market by the expensive overland route, and pointing out its disastrous tendencies. It was satisfactory to us that our views coincided with those of most of the importers, and it was equally so to find by your firm determination not to encourage such an unwise course, the losses fell upon those who committed the error. This season, in China, there was a return to the sound principle of purchasing teas with a steady thoughtful care as to their value, thus enabling importers to sell their fine teas at exactly the prices we indicated, viz., 2s. to 2s. 6d.; but we regret to find that an opposite course has been pursued here the early part of this week. Buyers rushing one against another in wild haste to get the teas with but little regard to quality and price (the same tea in different brokers' hands having been sold at a difference of 3d. per lb.), and without the slightest ground for it, not even the competition for Russia which we had last year. Now unless this undue eagerness and want of prudence are met by you with the same calm decided opposition evinced last season, all the benefits conferred upon the community by the reduction of duty will be frustrated, or you must sacrifice your profits as vendors to the consumer. The two cargoes already at hand, averaging from 4d. to 9d. per lb. profit to the importers, will, we fear, produce a corresponding excitement in China, and thus react upon all engaged in the trade with similar disastrous results as were witnessed during the earlier part of this year. But be this as it may, our present purpose is to urge you to keep steadily in your minds that there are now on the water about thirty millions pounds of good and fine teas, costing on an average 6d. per lb. less than last season, all of which are due here during the next three months, and are equal to nearly twelve months' consumption of these qualities.—JAMES STEAINS & Co.

The following circular was issued, showing that the prices paid for the teas were not excessive :—

We have just been shown a weak circular, dated 16th, impugning in a loose way the value of the finest New Season Kaisow. Allusion is first made to a similar address last year, a reference to which will show that the finest Kaisows began and continued to rise in value from the date of that print, shortly after its issue, its own author coming into the market and giving the highest price, viz., 2s. 10d. for overland Kaisows.

We have, as a rule, found the highest class in the first vessels; last year the total quantity proved inadequate to the requirements of the trade, while this season the demand, in consequence of the low duty, falls still heavier upon this quality of tea.

Two of the largest cargoes arriving together upon the market, prices for the highest grades have not proved so high as might have been anticipated; in the *Childers* we lost the largest shipment of early New Seasons Kaisows. These and other salient features have induced the trade here to take the *Fiery Cross* and *Serica* with readiness, and some confidence that they will prove of advantage to the ultimate buyers.—R. M. HOLBORN AND SONS.

The Board of Trade Returns for the month and eight months ended the 31st August again present a falling off in the value of exports, which is more marked than for some time past, and must in a great measure be attributed to the general dulness of trade. The total declared value of exports for the month of August was £14,158,648, against £16,274,269 in the same month of 1864, and £14,088,814 in that of 1863, which is a decline compared with the former period of £2,115,621, but an increase over the latter of £69,834. For the eight months of the present year the total was £102,400,696, against £108,716,219 in 1864, and £89,751,851 in 1863, which is a decrease as contrasted with 1864 of £6,315,523, but an increase over 1863 of £12,648,845. We thus find that up to the end of August the export trade had not regained the volume acquired by it last year; yet, comparing the first eight months of the present year with the same period of 1864, the falling off is of little practical importance, while by comparison with 1863 the increase is considerable. Amongst the features of interest it may be noticed that the value of the exports of cotton "piece goods" amounted to only £3,247,981 in August, 1865, against £4,775,185 in 1864, and £3,745,332 in 1863. On a comparison of the eight months' figures the falling off is not so large in proportion, the shipments of piece goods having amounted to £27,685,461 this year, against £30,051,112 in 1864, and £21,819,908 in 1863. These returns are perhaps too early to show the effect of that revival of trade with America which was generally looked for now that the civil war is over, but probably those published at the end of October will tell a more encouraging tale. The trade with the Far East, as far as distinctively classed, is represented in these returns by the following figures :—

EXPORTS TO CHINA AND HONG KONG.

	For the Month ended 31st August. 1863.	1864.	1865.
Cotton yarn	178,898 lbs.	155,911 lbs.	— lbs.
Cotton manufactures	3,589,936 yds.	8,110,857 yds.	6,620,512 yds.
Worsted stuffs	991,356 ,,	2,140,598 ,,	1,127,272 ,,
Woollen and worsted cloths	162,556 ,,	140,927 ,,	114,417 ,,
Lead	875 tons	821 tons	151 tons
	Value for the Eight Months ended 31st August.		
Cotton yarn	£90,555	£172,021	£82,925
Cotton manufactures	689,886	1,409,104	1,646,436
Worsted stuffs	400,951	644,165	829,871
Woollen and worsted cloths	226,571	199,322	194,329
Lead	229,287	111,770	25,660

The Cotton Manufactures exported to other ports and countries of the Far East were, in quantity for the month, and in value for the eight months, as under :—

	Quantity for the Month ended 31st August. 1863.	1864.	1865.
Ceylon	1,106,281 yds.	107,600 yds.	1,110,865 yds.
Singapore	5,134,637 ,,	619,534 ,,	2,927,722 ,,
Java	1,805,223 ,,	512,815 ,,	2,168,522 ,,
Philippine Islands	3,851,507 ,,	4,323,889 ,,	206,477 ,,
	Value for the Eight Months ended 31st August.		
Ceylon	£226,827	£271,888	£176,478
Singapore	383,596	522,914	655,004
Java	218,711	433,941	443,412
Philippine Islands	252,515	457,517	439,825

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Of Cotton Yarn, the quantity forwarded to Singapore was, for the month, 39,400 lbs., against 87,810 lbs. last year, and 290,660 lbs. in 1863. The value of the export for the eight months was, in the present year, £89,570, against £82,157 last year, and £119,338 in 1863. To Ceylon 5,000 lbs. of Raw Cotton was forwarded in August, against 5,500 lbs. in the same month of 1864, and 48,500 lbs. in 1863. The value for the eight months is £10,318, against £20,910 in 1864, and £32,941 in 1863.

IMPORTS.

British India and China resumed their importance in August as providers of Raw Cotton, supplying not far from two-thirds of the whole quantity obtained:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity for the month ended 31st August.			
British India..	251,173	323,273	530,105 cwts.
China	49,183	54,637	44,581 "
All parts	470,807	545,376	866,978 "
Quantity for the Eight Months ended 31st August.			
British India..	1,805,518	2,213,270	1,941,401 cwts.
China	187,376	537,965	301,509 "
All parts	3,174,282	4,670,000	4,561,040 "
Value for the Seven Months ended 31st July.			
British India..	£11,950,999	£17,816,147	£7,460,795
China	994,425	4,216,584	1,210,335
All parts	22,601,368	44,392,716	24,534,839

Of Unrefined Sugar, the quantity imported from Java and the Philippine Islands during the month of August was 32,925 cwt., of the 3rd quality (not equal to Brown Clayed), and 25,968 cwt. of the 4th quality. The quantity for the eight months, and value for the seven months, is returned thus:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity for the Eight Months ended 31st August.			
Of all qualities (cwts.)	621,786	140,777	512,418
Value for the Seven Months ended 31st July.			
Of all qualities	£559,039	£133,281	£446,657

Of Hemp the import from the Philippine Islands for the month of August was 16,563 cwt., and the trade for the year is shown by the following figures:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity to 31st Aug. (cwts.)	217,522	110,196	162,125
Value to 31st July	£249,293	£176,932	£214,116

Ceylon delivered to us 9,968,924 lbs. of Coffee in the month of August, and the quantities and values for the three years are returned thus:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity to 31st Aug. (lbs.)	47,137,593	47,234,274	48,228,050
Value to 31st July	£1,389,478	£1,282,216	£1,314,330

The Declared Value of the British and Irish Produce and Manufactures exported to the various ports and countries of the Far East during the seven months of this and the two preceding years is given thus:—

To	1863.	1864.	1865.
	Exports for the Seven Months ended 31st July.		
China(exclusive of HongKong).	£1,357,953	£1,693,039	£2,140,234
Hong Kong	689,326	1,021,284	878,307
Singapore and Eastern Straits	650,202	840,926	924,211
Ceylon	469,412	509,523	329,538
Netherlands India (Java, &c.)	302,777	567,248	517,916
Philippine Islands	233,116	441,854	612,474
Siam	10,586	11,513	22,365
Japan	49,320	214,316	775,609

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Delta*, from Southampton on the 4th inst., was:—In gold, to Alexandria. £29,000; to Madras, £1,170. In silver, to Madras, £39,500; to Hong Kong, £20,000; to Penang, £440; to Singapore, £1,310. Total in gold, £30,170; in silver, £61,250.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—During the past fortnight our market has been steady, although the amount of business has been limited, owing to the absence of further arrivals with new teas (with the exception of Canton kinds), the trade only buying old season's teas for immediate wants. We fear that the rapid rise in the value of money will tend to keep the prices of old teas low for some time longer, as speculators will not be tempted into the market, notwithstanding that our deliveries for the past month again show the very satisfactory amount of 12,000,000 lbs. Further arrivals of new teas, principally from Foo-chow, are announced, and will be dealt in this week. In broken leaf and dusty kinds of Congou the few sales made have been at previous prices; the fair to good common show no material alteration. In the grades next above these some sales have been made at rather easier prices. In good flavoury kinds, of old import, a few parcels have changed hands at about former rates. In good to fine Kaisows there have been no transactions, in the absence of further supplies of new season. In common to fair blackish-leaf kinds there has been but little inquiry, and prices are rather easier. In medium kinds there is no change to notice. In fine to finest but little has been done, but the quantity left in first hands is moderate. The new-make Canton kinds, ex "Burdwan," did not meet with a very ready sale, and prices for these must be quoted rather lower. In Colongs there have been large transactions, chiefly in the common to good qualities, for export to America, and prices are fully 1d. per lb. higher. In Souchongs there is no alteration to notice. Flowery Pekoes are only saleable at low prices. The first arrivals of Scented tea, of new season, did not meet with so much attention as usual, but sales to a fair extent have been made from 1s. 8d. to 2s. 6d. per lb. for Capers, and 2s. to 2s. 8d. per lb. for Orange Pekoes. In old season's common to fair have sold at full prices, but the good to fine show a further reduction of 1d. per lb. There have been further purchases of uncoloured Japans, which are now very scarce even at 1d. to 2d. per lb. advance. The Public Sales of Indian Tea passed off with fair spirit, the finer kinds realising full prices, but the commoner kinds selling rather lower. In Green Teas the deliveries for export continue very large, and further orders from America having come to hand, prices for suitable kinds have advanced 1d. to 2d. per lb., and Young Hysons and Imperials are now difficult to be met with at prices which exporters can pay. Hysons show no change. Good to fine Gunpowders have sold 1d. to 2d. per lb. higher. The commoner kinds are still comparatively difficult of sale. Canton-make remain neglected, and are only saleable at very low prices for all common to fair qualities. The public sales of the 28th ult. comprised 1,494 packages of Indian tea, of which 923 packages were sold, those of the 3rd inst. comprised 24,879 packages of China tea, of which 19,940 packages were sold, nearly the whole being without reserve. The letters were delivered on the 30th ult., latest dates being Hong Kong, August 12; Shanghai, August 4; Foochow, August 5; and Hankow, July 29. The stock in the United Kingdom on the 30th ult. was estimated at 76,400,000 lbs., against 84,500,000 lbs. last year, and the quantity afloat at 38,160,770 lbs., against 41,335,000 lbs. Arrivals announced are the Burdwan, Broadwater, Flying Spur, Young Lochinvar, Belted Will, Eliza Shaw, Pakwan, Black Prince, Ziba, Min, and Yangtze.

SILK.—We have had extensive business in China silk during the past month, mostly, no doubt, of a speculative nature, but on the whole fairly backed up by purchases for actual consumption. The demand has been principally for the better descriptions of Tsatlee, which are becoming comparatively scarce. The home trade are still the largest buyers, though business has been done for export, and latterly Chop Silk has been sold for speculation at some advance on previous rates. In Japan silk but little business has been done owing to the scarcity of available sorts; unfortunately, the first arrivals of new Mibash do not present us with the size and quality required, though they have realised very high rates; but by the last advices from Japan we are led to expect a better assortment in future unloadings. The deliveries for the month, 3,174 bales of China, and 1,082 bales of Japan, show a considerable improvement on those of previous months. The reports from Lyons agree in stating that, in spite of the tolerably large arrivals of Asiatic silk to make up for the scarcity in Europe, the best report that can be made is that there is just sufficient animation exhibited to hold out a slight hope for the future. For some time, however, the transactions in tissues of fine quality cannot be very large seeing that the stocks are very low and are daily becoming smaller, and that it is difficult to obtain first-class raw silk except in very small quantities.

CHINA.	Usual Imports.
CHINA:—Tsatlee, No. 1 & 2	s. 29 d. 6 to s. 31 d. 0
" No. 3 & 4	26 6 to 28 6
" Hangchow	26 0 to 26 6
Yuenfa	17 0 to 26 0
Taysaam	19 0 to 25 0
" Skeins	None.
Long Reel	21 0 to 23 6
Canton	20 6 to 24 6
Thrown	None.
JAPAN:—Mibash, Dyepot	28 6 to 31 0
Idah Bricks	24 0 to 27 6
Sodai	24 6 to 27 6
Oshu, re-reeled	25 6 to 26 6
Koshu, Seié	26 0 to 27 0
Acchezan slips	24 0 to 25 6
Mashtah do.	24 0 to 25 6

STATE OF THE WAREHOUSES.

	Sold Stock. Oct. 1, 1865.	Sold Stock. Oct. 1, 1864.	Unsold Stock. Oct. 1, 1865.	Unsold Stock. Oct. 1, 1864.	Delivered. Jan. 1 to Oct. 7, 1865.	Delivered. Jan. 1 to Oct. 7, 1864.
Bengal	2,560	3,033	2,252	2,752	8,002	6,175
China	4,786	7,086	8,896	2,648	21,875	23,128
Japan	1,793	3,160	1,603	673	9,637	14,591
Canton	368	138	676	27	545	2,033
Chinese Thrown	12	365	16	28	107	838

SUGAR.—The advance in the Bank rate of discount has checked the rising tendency of the article observable for several weeks past, and, although prices have been well maintained, transactions of late have been on a rather more moderate scale, causing the market to present a calm and comparatively inactive appearance towards the close. 3,371 bags Penang taken freely at fully previous rates, low and low middling yellow 34s. 6d. to 36s.; 579 bags Natal, ordinary to fine brown, 29s. to 33s. 6d., low to good yellow and grey, 34s. to 36s. 6d.; 24,000 bags clayed Manila at 33s. 6d. to 34s.; 10,200 bags Unclayed at 30s. 6d. to 31s. The stock of sugar in the leading ports of Europe, on the 1st inst., was 256,000 tons, against 295,300 tons last year, and 270,600 tons at the same period of 1863; that in the United Kingdom being 222,800 tons, against 255,500 tons, and 235,000 tons.

COFFEE.—Some abatement of demand has been experienced for Colonial sorts, and notwithstanding that the bulk of the supply on offer has found buyers, the value has been barely supported. Ceylon: 1,210 casks, 810 barrels and bags plantation, at public sale, were chiefly disposed of, in some instances at a decline of 6d. per cwt., fine fine ordinary to low middling 77s. 6d. to 80s. 6d., middling to good middling 81s. 6d. to 85s. 254 casks, 1,280 bags native were great part realised, without particular change in quotations; good ordinary 65s. 6d. to 66s. 6d., fine ordinary 67s. 6d. to 68s. The stock of coffee in the chief ports of Europe, on the 1st October, was 73,000 tons, against 56,800 tons at the same time in 1864, and 64,800 tons in the preceding year; the proportion held in the United Kingdom being 17,900 tons, against 16,300 tons last year, and 14,850 tons in 1863.

COTTON.—This market has been more excited than for a long time past, prices advancing 3d. to 4d. per lb., and although subject subsequently to some fluctuation, owing to the rise in the value of money, this great advance has been ultimately quite maintained. Quotations—Broach, ordinary, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d.; Dhollera, ordinary, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d.; China and Japan, mid. fair, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. The extraordinary rise is owing en-

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irely to speculation, and no reliance can be placed on the rates holding. The quantity of China and Japan afloat is 6,300 bales, and of Indian, 287,000.

RICE.—A rather dull tone has prevailed in the market, and, though prices remain firm, only small parcels have been sold, including middling Nakrenzie at 10s. 6d. 1,928 bags, damaged (of the new crop) at public sale, brought 10s. 3d. to 10s. 9d. For floating cargoes full prices are obtainable.

CINNAMON.—Ceylon, 1st sort, 1s. 7d. to 2s. 9d. per lb.; 2nd, 1s. 5d. to 2s. 4d.; 3rd, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 10d.; 4th and Jungle, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 5d. Remains steady, with moderate business. Cloves: Penang, unchanged in the absence of business; Zanzibar, steady, and of 745 bags at auction half sold at 3¼d. to 3½d. per lb. for fair.

TOBACCO.—Japan, supplies limited; sales at 4d. to 9d. Java, 6d. to 1s. Manila cigars, 6s. 9d. to 7s. 6d.

PEPPER.—Singapore has been in demand, but with little offering, only 1,200 bags have been sold at 3¼d., which is again dearer; 1,500 bags Trang are also reported at or about 3⅛d., and a few West Coast at the same price. 844 bags West Coast Penang, at auction, were held above the value and withdrawn. White has been more readily taken, and besides half of 504 bags Singapore at public sale, 500 bags have been sold privately, the bulk fair at 5⅛d. to 5½d., a few good 5⅝d., and bold 5¾d.

CASSIA LIGNEA has continued in demand, and sales of 350 cases are reported at a further advance, middling and good middling, 95s. to 97s. 154 boxes slightly mouldy, at auction, fetched 90s to 92s.

MACE.—62 packages Dutch at public sale met scarcely any bids, and were bought in at 1s. 3d. to 1s. 4d. A few lots Penang went at 2s. to 2s. 6d. for pale. Nutmegs: In auction, 39 cases were chiefly taken, small to middling 1s. 1d. to 1s. 7d.; 13 casks Dutch were mostly withdrawn, limed 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d., fair brown (sold) at 1d. 7d. to 1s. 8d.

SAGO.—1,755 boxes brought forward found buyers at full prices, grey to good small pearl 20s. to 21s. 6d., fair medium 19s. 6d. to 20s., large grain bought in at 23s. to 23s. 6d. Sago Flour: Of 961 bags in auction only a small part repacked was realised at 14s., but 200 bags sound have since been sold at 14s. 3d., and 800 bags by private contract at the same price.

TIN.—Market very active. Sales of Banca at £95, and Straits £92.

JAPAN WAX.—Sales of saucers at 75s.

GAMBIER.—Good private business at 20s. 6d. to 22s. 6d. per cwt. for ordinary to very good, and 28s. 6d. cubes: of 146 bales at auction, one-third sold at 21s.

HEMP.—Market strong, and Manila good; current roping quoted at £36 to £39; Sarsagon, £40. Stocks 2,800 tons, against 5,000 in 1864.

SUNDRIES.—Gum, Benjamin, &c.: Sales Sumatra at £12 per cwt; Gamboge, picked, £10 to £12. Gutta Percha: A sale is announced of 200 tons, at 2s. for very fair genuine. India Rubber: 1s. 3d. to 1s. 5d. Good qualities scarce, and in demand. Camphor: Firm and sales of China, at 92s. 6d. to 97s. 6d.; and Japau, £5. Sapan-wood in demand. Sales of Siam at £21 to £22; Ceylon, £14.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7 to £7. 5s.; nail rod, £8. 10s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10; sheets, single, £10. 10s. to £10. 15s.; Staffordshire bars, £8. 10s. to £9. 10s. rails, £7 to £7. 5s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £15.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £91 to £93 per ton; yellow metal, 7½d. per lb.

TIN.—94s. for block; 95s. for common bars. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 30s. to 31s. 6d.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, W.B., £21; shot, patent, £22. 10s.; sheet, £20. 10s.; spelter, £21 to £21. 10s.; zinc, English sheet £27. 10s.; quicksilver, £7. 18s. 6d. to £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—In the Metal Market the past month, especially the latter part, there has been a decided increase in activity, and prices generally tend upwards. Iron: Scotch pig advanced to 59s. per ton, but has now gone back a little, and to-day's quotation is 58s. for mixed numbers. For rails and bars there is a good demand, with fair prices. Copper: Is looking firmer, and for raw descriptions there is no disposition to sell, except in small quantities. Foreign is also well held. Tin: English is in good demand, and official quotations are now for the most part adhered to. Foreign advanced considerably, as high as £93 having in a few cases been paid for fine quality, both on the spot and to arrive. This advance in price is owing in a great measure to the large demand for America, there is also a considerable consumption for tin plate purposes. It is probable the advance in the Bank rate will check any further upward tendency for the present. The quantity of Straits tin afloat for Europe is about 1,680 tons, against 1,127 tons in 1864, and 769 tons in 1863. Tin Plates: Continue in great demand, most of the manufacturers are full of orders for months to come, and are now declining to give quotations. The quantity shipped last month was 112,000 boxes, against 55,000 boxes in September, 1864. Lead: Improved in demand, and soft common pig advanced about 12s. 6d. per ton in price, and is very firm at quotations. Spelter: Is quoted £21 to £21. 10s. per ton, without much business. The stock on the 30th ult. was 6,807 tons, against 11,592 tons at the same period last year. In Quicksilver nothing new.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Sep. 20	Off Dungeness	Padang	Alcyone	Kruisinga.
— 25	Off Falmouth	Rangoon	Peder Aneus	Buckhoit.
— 24	Liverpool	Singapore	William Dixon	Smith.
— 25	Deal	Macao	Burdwan	Douglas.
— 26	Off Falmouth	Singapore	Singapore	Holjes.
— 26	Portsmouth	China	H.M.S Orontes	

ARRIVALS—*continued.*

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Sep. 25	Off Dungeness	Java	Pieter	Hoogerwerf.
— 25	Off Dover	Akyab	Senator I. Ken	Dannemann.
— 26	Off Plymouth	China	Broadwater	Young.
— 27	Falmouth	Bassein	Victoria	Maertens.
Aug. 28	Demerara	Canton	Buxton Castle	Ridley.
— 28	Surinam	Hong Kong	Tricolor	Price.
Sep. 29	Falmouth	Sarawak	Malabar	Godje.
— 29	Plymouth	Colombo	Aca	Young.
— 14	Holmes Hole	Penang	Ironsides	
— 17	New York	Bassein	Centurian	Crowell.
— 30	Queenstown	Akyab	Rubens	Johnson.
— 8	Pernambuco	Sumatra	Julia	Genouliat.
—	Off Scilly	China	Flying Spur	
—	Queenstown	Rangoon	Jas. Ferguson	
Oct. 4	Off Plymouth	China	Eliza Shaw	Steele.
— 7	London	Foo-chow-foo	Young Lochinvar	Glass.
— 4	Off Plymouth	Do.	Belted Will	Locke.
— 3	Queenstown	Rangoon	General Shipley	Stetson.
— 5	Deal	Singapore	Melbourne	
Sept 20	Boston	Padang	Humbolt	Proctor.
Oct. 5	Off Falmouth	China	Black Prince	Inglis.
— 4	Off the Lizard	Macao	Pakwan	Wawr.
— 5	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Vanda	Carne.
—	Queenstown	Akyab	F. H. Hockum	
— 7	London	Foo-chow-foo	Ziba	Jones.
— 6	Plymouth	Colombo	Queen of the North	Tidmarsh.
— 5	Off Do.	China	Yangtaze	Kemball.
— 8	London	Do.	Min	Smith.
— 8	Deal	Japan	Woodville	Lawrence.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Sep. 18	Brouwershaven	Japan	Pantalon	Geyt.
—	Rotterdam	Sourabaya	Jannetje	Meyer.
— 23	Cardiff	Shanghai	Betty Perlbach	Blohm.
— 23	Swansea	Do.	Fort Regent	Le Geyt.
— 20	Lisbon	Batavia	Konig Willem III(s.s.)	Oort.
—	Hamburg	Singapore	Fromm	
— 27	London	Colombo	Granville	Gallichan.
— 26	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Europa	Hansen.
Aug. 13	Callao	China	Napoleon Canevaro	Demoro.
Sep. —	London	Colombo	Jane Symons	
— 28	Do.	H. Kong and Canton	Sovereign of India	Scott.
— 28	Do.	Cardiff & Shanghai	Vanguard	Scott.
— 28	Do.	Cardiff and Manila	Lady Bessington	Burnham.
— 29	Do.	Colombo and Cochin	Blanch	Case.
— 29	Do.	Shanghai	Antipodes	Woodruff.
— 29	Do.	Yokohama & Nagasaki	Grenadier	Miller.
—	Grimsby Road	Hong Kong	*Lennox Castle	Dobbie.
—	Shields	Galle	British Constitution	Shaw.
Aug. 14	Buenos Ayres	Batavia	Minister Thorbecke	Kannegieter.
— 19	Do.	Galle	Olivier	Rochet.
Sep. 30	Cardiff	Shanghai	Archibald	Delargy.
Oct. 1	Do.	Hong Kong	Aline	Kier.
— 1	Sunderland	Shanghai	Ellen Brown	McDonald.
— 2	Cardiff	Do	Ironsides	Clare.
Sep. 30	Texel	Batavia	Aldebaran	Meyboom.
Oct. 3	Liverpool	Singapore	Cambrian	Quillam.
— 5	Do.	Do.	Charmer	Thomas.
— 4	Cardiff	Shanghai	Minister Pahud	Zipkes.
— 7	London	Do.	Serica	Innes.

* After repairing.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Tiptree. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Conference. For Nagasaki: Broadwater. For Shanghai: Burdwan. For Hong Kong and Canton: Taitsing, Fiery Cross. For Penang: Devonvale. For Singapore: Belle of Southesk. For Bankok and Siam: Fairy. For Manila: Loyola. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Kaap Hoorn. For Colombo: Frances, Crouch Brothers, East Lothian.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Eclipse, Castlehow. For Shanghai; Illimani. For Hong Kong and Canton: Sir Lancelot. For Singapore: Albert Victor, Queensberry, Charmer. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Harkaway. For Manila: San Luis, Alavesa, Eulalia, Sailor Prince. For Colombo: Meg Merrilies.

At GLASGOW.—For Manila: Bella Gallega. For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: County of Renfrew. For Singapore: Grenada.

SPOKEN.

BROADWATER, Canton to London, Sept. 17, 46 N. 23 W.
MELBOURNE, Singapore to Hamburg, August 9, 15 S. 7 W.
NEDERLAND (Dutch ship), Bat. to Amstm., July 4, 30 S. 36 E.
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL (Fr. barq), Man. to Nantes, 108 days out, 15 S. 6 W.
CONSTANTINE ELIZABETH (Dut. b.) Rottm. to Bat. Aug. 18. 9 N. 26 W.
WOODVILLE (barque), Nagasaki to London, Sept. 4, 29 N. 38 W.
HERO (barque), Cardiff to Ceylon, Sept. 18, 47 N. 15 W.
HOTSPUR, Newcastle to Shanghai, June 15, 38 S. 1 E.
GLEAM, London to Yokohama, July 31, 6 N, 108 E.
LORD CLYDE, London to Shanghai, Aug. 6, 14 N. 113 E.
OTTO SAMA, for Yokohama, in the Straits of Sunda.
JACOBA HELENA (Dutch), Shields to Bat., August 17, 2 S. 31 W.
OLIVE BRANCH, Colombo to London, 96 days out, Aug. 27, 14 N. 26 W.
CHARLOTTE HAGE, Colombo to Lon., 71 days out, Sept. 18, 11 N. 17 W.
WOOSUNG, Shanghai to Liverpool, Sept. 18, 11 N. 17 W.
JASON (ship), Java to England, Sept. 8.
CONSTANTIA, Rotterdam to Batavia, Aug. 18, 9 N., 26 W.
PALMERSTON, Colombo to London, Sept. 25, 43 N., 27 W.
HERBERT, Cardiff to Phillippine Isle. Aug. 24, 21 S., 25 W.
MIN, Foo-chow-Foo to London, Sept. 25, 44 N., 32 W.
YANGTSZE, Foo-chow to London, Sept. 29, 45 N., 30 W.
WEST, Singapore to London, Aug. 30, 3 S., 21 W.
FANNY (Sweed. brig), Batavia to Amsterdam, Sept. 1, 1 N., 24 W.
VERITAS, Shanghai to New York, Aug. 23, 19 S., 20 W.
JAS. SHEPHERD, London to Shanghai, Sept. 11, 15 N., 16 W.
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, Manila to Nantes, Sept. 24, 42 N., 29 W.
ALERT (of Hamb.), Sourabaya to Amsterdam, Aug. 31 18 N., 32 W.

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PALESTINE (barque), Colombo to London, August 23, 18 S., 3 W.
ANNIE ARMSTRONG (ship), from Colombo, Aug. 28.
SWANLEY (barque), Japan to London, May 25, 18 N., 122 E.
ZEEPARD, Middleburgh to Batavia, Aug. 15, 13 N., 25 W.
MAARTEN V. ROSSEM, Rotterdam to Batavia, Sept. 29, 49 N., 7 W.
CRIXEA, London to Ceylon, Aug. 26, 3 N., 23 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Outward freights to the China ports are somewhat brisker, so that early arrivals of vessels will be easily placed at good rates. The Peninsular and Oriental Company having invited tenders for the supply of 9,000 tons of coal at Galle, a greater activity is evinced in coal freights.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 35s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £40 to £42 and £1. 19s. to £2. For Shanghai: £50 and £2. 6s. For Manila: £1. 15s. to £1. 17s. 6d. For Batavia: £26. 10s. and 24s. to 26s. For Singapore: £31 and 29s. to 30s. For Galle: £27 and £1. 6s. to £1. 7s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 14 tons clothing from the river Thames to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Singapore, Holjes, which arrived at Liverpool Oct. 1, from Singapore, had her bows stove, was making water, and had thrown part of her cargo overboard, having been in collision on the 20th September.

The Lennox Castle, Dobbie, from Sunderland for Hong Kong, was in contact off Flamboro' Head on the night of Sept. 20, with the Marquis of Bute (brig), and sustained damage to spars, rigging, bulwarks, coveringboard, &c.

The Ellen Brown, McDonald, from Sunderland for China, got on shore in Tees Bay last night, but was towed off and proceeded.

The Eliza Shaw, Steele, which arrived off Plymouth from Hankow and Shanghai, Oct. 4, lost her sails and bulwarks, and had her decks swept in a typhoon, 21 June, in 16 N. 125 E.

The Beatrice, Martin, from Shanghai for London, which put into St. Helena May 28, leaky, will be ready for sea in three or four days. About 900 boxes of tea were sold yesterday, to defray expenses. This intelligence bears date St. Helena, Sept. 9.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At ST. HELENA.—Aug. 24, from Batavia, Wellington, Mahy, and sailed 25 for Amsterdam; Fop Smit, Leverstein, and sailed 25 for Rotterdam; from Shanghai, Eva, Kidd, and sailed 25 for Halifax, N. S.; Cissy, Spencer, and sailed for London; 25, Veritas, Carey, and sailed for New York; from Batavia, Oeolus, De Vries, and sailed 26 for Middleburg; Lammina Elizabeth, Pot, and sailed 26 for Rotterdam; from Samarang, Bengal, Petterson, and sailed 26 for Rotterdam; 26, from Batavia, St. Jan, Lommerse, and sailed 28 for Rotterdam; from Singapore, T. J. Southard, Starrett, and sailed for New York; from Padang, Caroline Agnes, Croft, and sailed for Rotterdam; from Singapore, Molly, Hugen, and sailed 27 for Hamburg; 27, from Hong Kong, Banda, Morris; from Yokohama, Dora, Millbank, and both sailed 28 for London; from Shanghai, Guiding Star, Muhlenroth, and sailed 28 for Montreal; from Batavia, Christina Maria, Veer, and sailed 28 for Rotterdam; 29, from Shanghai, Heversham, Pearce, and sailed 30 for New York; 30, Woosung, Colebank, and sailed for Liverpool; from Sourabaya, Anglia, Wilson, and sailed 31 for Amsterdam; from Singapore, Zephyrus, Meier, and sailed for London; from Hong Kong, Recife, Douglas, and sailed 31 for New York; 31, from Batavia, Nieuwe Waterweg, v. Lindern, and sailed Sept. 1 for Rotterdam; from Shanghai, &c., Lalla Rookh, Campbell, and sailed Sept. 2 for Liverpool; Sept. 1, from Batavia, Nederland, v. d. Eb, and sailed 2 for Rotterdam; Sindbad, Kooy, and sailed 2 for Amsterdam; 3, from Singapore, &c., Energie, Baasel, and sailed 5 for New York; 4, from Hankow, Silver Eagle, Longman, and sailed for London; 6, from Manila, Raby Castle, Sharp, and sailed 7 for Liverpool; 6, from Shanghai, Fire Queen, Duggan, and sailed for London.

At TABLE BAY.—Aug. 25, from Singapore, Fortitude, Booth, and sailed 27 for London.

At SIMON'S BAY.—Aug. 25, from Shanghai, Mirage, Campbell, and sailed 27 for London; 23, Benbang (s.s.), Webber, sailed for Singapore; 29, from Hamburg for Singapore, Tekla, Kilr.

At ALGOA BAY.—Aug. 12, Mountain Ash, McCredie, sailed for Hong Kong (after repairing).

Another new iron steamer, built and engined by Messrs. W. Simons and Co., has been launched from the London Works, Renfrew, for the Netherlands India Steam Navigation Company. This vessel is named the *Sundy*.

THE NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY.

(ESTABLISHED 1st JANUARY, 1863.)

CAPITAL, TAELS 1,250,000, IN 250 SHARES OF TAELS 5,000 EACH.

Paid up Capital, Taels 1,000 per Share.

DIRECTORS.

L. G. DUNLOP, Esq. (Messrs. Birley, Worthington, and Co.), Chairman.

E. H. Lavers, Esq. (Messrs. Gilman and Co.).

Sol. D. Sassoon, Esq. (Messrs. David Sassoon, Sons, and Co.).

H. Howe Wiggins, Esq. (Manager Commercial Bank Corporation of India and the East).

David Reid, Esq. (Messrs. Reid and Co)

The Company being about to be reorganised for a further term of three years, from 1st January, 1866, application for Shares will be received by the undersigned until 31st October current.

A certain number of Shares have been allotted to London, but further applications from there will be received until 30th November.

Application for Shares, from persons not resident in Shanghai, must be accompanied by Power of Attorney to their Agents, to sign the Deed of Settlement on their behalf, and generally to represent them in all matters connected with the Company.

By order of the Directors,

J. S. MACKINTOSH, Secretary.

Shanghai, July 12, 1865.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

No.

TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY.

Gentlemen,— hereby request you will allot to Shares in the above Company, and agree to accept such Shares, or any less number you may allot to ; and agree to pay the first call of Tls. 1,000 per Share, and all subsequent calls, and to subscribe the Deed of Settlement whenever required to do so.

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant.

Application for the Shares allotted to London must be made to—

ASHTON AND CO.,

AGENTS,

ATTON-COURT, THREADNEEDLE-STREET.

SCINDE RAILWAY (INDUS STEAM FLOTILLA, PUNJAUB, and DELHI RAILWAYS) COMPANY.

At the NINETEENTH HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the above Company, held at the LONDON TAVERN, Bishopsgate-street, in the City of London, on Friday, the 29th September, 1865; W. P. ANDREW, Esq., Chairman of the Company, presiding,

The following RESOLUTIONS were carried unanimously:—

1. That this Meeting receive and adopt the Report of the Directors.

2. That the Directors be, and are hereby, authorised to raise £500,000 additional capital by the issue of 25,000 Shares of £20 each, on account of the Punjaub Railway, upon which capital the Secretary of State for India in Council has guaranteed interest at the rate of £5 per cent. per annum.

3. That all the Punjaub Railway Shares in respect of which the whole sum of £20 shall hereafter be paid up, shall from time to time be converted or consolidated into Punjaub Railway capital stock.

4. That the cordial thanks of this Meeting are tendered to W. P. Andrew, Esq., for his courteous conduct in the chair this day. W. P. ANDREW, Chairman.

S. H. R. PARRY, Acting Secretary.

Gresham House, Old Broad-street,
London, Sept. 29, 1865.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

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The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)

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Deposits received at ten days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed period, at rates subject to special agreement.

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Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government loan notes effected so that the interest may be paid in England. Every other description of Banking and Agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

PORT OF AMOY.

SHIPOWNERS, AGENTS and COMMANDERS are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING and SPARRING VESSELS, and for CLEANING and PAINTING Iron and Steam Ships.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, is in complete working order, and at average spring tides can take vessels drawing 16 to 17 feet water. The Dock is fitted with a Caisson Gate and with a Centrifugal Steam Pump of great power ensuring despatch in all states of the tide. An ample stock is kept on hand of Timber, Oregon Spars, Sheathing Copper and Yellow Metal, and of every description of material for Dockyard use.

The premises comprise an Engineer's Workshop, Brass Foundry, a large Smithy and Carpenter's Workshops, and the works are superintended by Resident Europeans, viz., a Shipwright, an Engineer, and a Blacksmith. Dry Godowns for the reception of vessel's stores, &c., when requiring to discharge them.

Amoy, March, 1865.

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Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Melbourne.

The Corporation grant drafts and negotiate bills of exchange payable at the above places, issue letters of credit, and conduct every description of banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian securities, the receipt of dividends, &c. and undertake the sole custody of securities. They also receive deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of interest and exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

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CONTAINING Treaties, Tariffs Regulations, Tables, &c., useful in the trade of China and Eastern Asia, with an Appendix of Sailing Directions for those Seas and Coasts, by S. WELLS WILLIAMS, LL.D. Fifth Edition.

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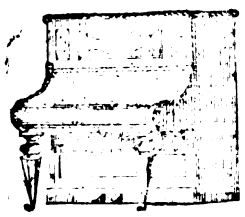

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Calcutta ...	Kenyon ...	—	A 1 12 yrs.	,,

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By order of the Board,
R. SWIRE TOMLIN, Secretary.

No. 1, Bank-buildings, Sept. 18, 1865.

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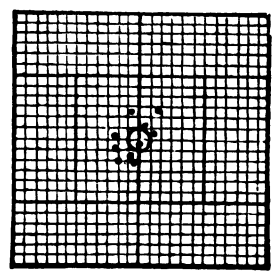

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THE SEVENTH Volume of this JOURNAL commenced on the 3rd of January, 1865. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 188.] LONDON, MONDAY, OCT. 16, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama			
Nagasaki	May 26		Aug. 11
Hakodadi			„ 12
CHINA—Peking			„ 14
Tien-tsin			
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			
Kin-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	June 26	Aug. 11	„ 21
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 22
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	July 10	Aug. 19	„ 28
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	June 26	Aug. 12	„ 20
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			
SIAM— Bangkok			„ 15
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 31
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	July 26	Sept. 4	Sept. 7
Penang		Aug. 29	„ 9

The incoming mail, due on 27th inst., arrived at Suez on the 14th, and may be expected in London on the 25th or 26th.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, per P. and O. Company's steamer Mongolia, arrived at Marseilles Oct. 14.—From Shanghai: Lieut. Russell, Mr. Walter. From Hong Kong: Messrs. Coyder and A. Smith. From Singapore: Messrs. R. Paddy and J. P. Charlton.

To Southampton, per Poonah, expected to arrive 21st inst.—From Shanghai: Captain and Mrs. Beale and three second-class passengers. From Hong Kong: Lieut. Fraser, four second-class passengers and four privates (11th Regt.). From Singapore: Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. H. Sewell, and one second-class passenger. From Penang: Two second-class passengers. To Gibraltar.—From Hong Kong: Two second-class passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Syria, from Southampton, Oct. 20.—To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Hermann and infant, Dr. Knife. To Ceylon: Mr. R. Mossie, Lady Chichester, Mr. and Mrs. Wright and two children. From Marseilles, Oct. 28.—To Shanghai: Mrs. Herbert Hancock and three children. To Hong Kong: Mr. T. A. Lane and Mr. D. Lapraik.

Per P. and O. steamer Massilia, from Southampton, Oct. 27.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Macdonald, Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Barnes, Mr. Watson. To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. J. B. Leslie, Mr. Sinnett, Mr. Mackintosh.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, 4th Nov.—To Hong Kong; Mr. M. Murray, Lieut. Luard, R.N. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Lipscombe. To Ceylon: Mrs. Brotherton. From Marseilles, 12th Nov.—To Singapore: Mr. W. Alten, Mr. W. Paterson. To Hong Kong: Mr. F. Jerdein. To Shanghai: Mr. N. G. Howell, Mr. A. Campbell.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Suez, Nov. 26.—To Penang via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. Hasche.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Nov. 20.—To Penang: Mrs. and Miss Mackay. To Ceylon: Miss Staples, Mr. Cone.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Dec. 4.—To Shanghai: Miss M. A. Russell. From Marseiles, Dec. 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. R. C. Lambert and friend.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

The dates from this port are to the 11th August. The following is the mail report of the Japan Herald:—

The principal item of interest politically is the fact that his Excellency, Sir Harry Parkes, has notified to the Gorogio his intention of residing in Yedo, a determination that will be very generally approved, and which he has made known in a plain and unequivocal manner, that will show the Japanese at once the character of the man they have to deal with. Sir Harry has been at the capital during a great part of the interval between the present and the preceding mails, but nothing is absolutely known as to anything special having been arranged.

[A later telegram announces that official quarters had been granted to Sir Harry.]

H.M.'s ship *Princess Royal*, with Admiral King on board, has arrived, and gives quite a grand appearance to the fleet, as she floats side by side with H.M.'s ship *Conqueror*. It is supposed she will remain here for some time. The *Conqueror* has received orders for England, and will sail on the 25th with the marines.

Preparations are being made by the French authorities for the Fete Napoleon, on the 15th. The English military and naval authorities have decided upon having a grand review on that day, in honour of our Imperial ally.

Yokohama was visited by a severe gale on the morning of the 7th, during which much damage was done to the weaker tenements in Yokohama, and to the Bund, and two hatobas. Several vessels dragged their anchors, and a great number of boats, both Japanese and European, were driven over to the opposite side of the bay.

The weather is still somewhat overcast and unsettled—very unusual for this season of the year.

In municipal matters there is nothing whatever to report.

Tuesday, the 1st August—the anniversary of the battle of Minden—was a grand field day for H.M.'s 20th, who were reviewed by Major-General Guy, and went through the ceremony of trooping the colours.

The following article is from the same journal:—

A few days ago a rumour was spread through the settlement that in an encounter between the Tycoon and Nagato, the former had been defeated. Though we cannot positively contradict this statement, we doubt its veracity; for, as far as we know, the Tycoon's army had not even entered Nagato's dominions when the rumour reached us. Whatever the truth may be, it is of some interest to state that the announcement of the victory of the rebellious Prince did not meet with the reception with which the news of the defeat of an ally ordinarily does. There were some who were quite satisfied to hear that the Tycoon had been humiliated, and declared openly that Nagato's cause was identical with that of foreigners.

CHINA.

PEKING.

We take the following items from the *North China Herald*:—

"A native interpreter, arrived from Cheffoo, informs us that the Nienfei have completely evacuated the province of Shantung and marched westward into Honan. They betray no wish to occupy the places they subdue, but merely plunder the neighbourhood and then migrate. They are for the most part mounted, so that they are able to overrun the country with great celerity and comparative impunity, while organized bodies of troops cannot cope with them in the rapidity of their movements.

It is reported that San-ko-lin-sin was killed, not by the Nienfei, but by the country people. On the twenty-second day

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of the fourth moon (May 16th) he had an engagement with the enemy which resulted in his defeat. On the evening of the following day (May 17th) he, with about ten followers, sought the protection of some villagers, who received him with every demonstration of hospitality, but beheaded him and his guard during the night. This occurred outside the city of Tsu-chow-fu.

The instability of official favour in China has already afforded a theme to the essayist, the novelist, the dramatist, and even the poet. We have on various occasions been led to adduce instances of this failing in the Government, but we have recently obtained an example which casts most other instances into the shade. Every foreigner in China is familiar with the name of Kwan Wen—one of the few purely Tartar viceroys who have succeeded in gaining the affections of their temporary subjects. Some time since he was recalled to Peking for the purpose of receiving honours and dignities, such as had seldom before been lavished on a vassal of the Celestial Emperor. He was created a Senior Guardian of the Heir Apparent, received the highest title of nobility, and was presented with the double-eyed peacock's feather. Such was his high degree during a few brief months. The throne now accuses him of remissness in crushing the Nienfei rebellion, while yet it was rampant in the Two Hu, and degrades him from his post in the Imperial family, while it snatches from him the highly-prized decoration which some forty years of faithful service had entitled him to wear.

SHANGHAI.

Dates are down to the 21st, or five days later than those per French mail. The Inspector of Customs has issued a report on the trade for 1864, and we hope he has sent us a copy, in which case we shall in our next give a full epitome.

Some months ago Mr. Hanbury announced through the local papers, that he had obtained some American cotton seed, and that he would distribute specimens of it to those who might wish to experiment on its growth. A portion of this seed was planted by Mr. Vaucher in his garden on the Sikawai-road. The result is a patch of cotton far superior to any China cotton. The climate has agreed with it, and the plants are in as flourishing a condition as though they had never been removed from their native soil.

Much sensation has been caused here by the discovery that 2,000 barrels of gunpowder, belonging to H. M.'s Government, was stored at the Ningpo Joss House (some three quarters of a mile from the settlement). Eventually a proper guard was provided.

Four English rowdies, who were recently captured while in the act of breaking into a house at Hongque, were sentenced to one year's imprisonment each. Stokes, the ringleader, kept a house in the Maloo, ostensibly a blacksmith's shop, but in reality a rendezvous of desperate characters.

The rate of interest has shown a downward tendency since the departure of last mail, and though the nominal rate for money upon good security is 10 per cent., we hear of an advance having been made by one foreign bank at as low a rate as 6½ per cent.

The third ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the China Fire Insurance Company took place on the 8th of August. The business transacted consisted chiefly of laying the statement of the accounts and current affairs before the shareholders. A special meeting of the shareholders of the Shanghai Brick and Sawmill Company took place on the 12th.

During the absence of Mr. F. B. Fairley, Mr. H. Thorburn will act as manager of the Bank of India.

A fraud is now being put in practice by the Chinese, and to which many foreign houses have already fallen victims. The article of silk waste has advanced very considerably in price, being now about double the value it was last year. The result is that the Chinese, who, as usual, cannot bring themselves to be contented with a reasonable profit, have set about an ingenious plan of mixing salt and chalk in a moist state with the staple, thereby at once increasing its weight and apparent quality.

The following notification has been issued by the Taoutai:—

"The number of native and foreign merchants now residing in Shanghai has so largely increased, that in the business relations of one with the other integrity is above all things necessary, and any attempt at overreaching must be carefully abstained from. I have lately heard of certain fellows who, when selling silk and cotton, put stones into the bales, or pour water over them, thus endeavouring to increase the weight and gain a dishonest profit. Such conduct is truly disgraceful, and, moreover, comes under the penalties exacted by law. Officers have already been appointed to inquire into these malpractices, and I now issue this notification, that all may know that for the future those who bring silk and cotton from the interior must have their produce in good order, and must also be careful not to cheat in money matters. Stones and such things must not be put in the bales. But if any are foolhardy and unprincipled enough to continue such practices, I will, without mercy, inflict the severest punishment upon them so soon as I find out about them or have a formal complaint laid before me."

A melancholy accident occurred upon the river on the night of the 10th August. Captain Hanssen, of the barque *Eidsvold*, had returned with his wife after spending the evening on board another vessel. Before Mrs. Hanssen had stepped out of the sampan it was caught by the tide and upset. Her husband sprang into the water to rescue her, but they were both sucked under the ship's bottom and drowned.

In extracting the correspondence of the Municipal Council and the charge against Mr. Pickwoad we overlooked the following letter, which quite exonerates Mr. Pickwoad:—

(To the Editor of the *North China Herald.*)

Sir,—In your daily issue of the 8th inst. you published a copy of a letter addressed by Mr. Alabaster to the Clerk of the Municipal Council, in which he defends Mr. Pickwoad from any suspicion which may attach to him, in respect of a discrepancy in the accounts of the Council, amounting to 1,000 tls.

As the Treasurer of the Council for the year in question, I am glad to be able to support Mr. Alabaster's statement. So far as I can recollect, it was never supposed that Mr. Pickwoad had received the 1,000 tls. The tale of Sankee was, I believe, to the effect that he paid this sum to me direct or through my compradore; this, however, he failed to prove at the time. I do not think that Sankee ever hinted that the money had passed through Mr. Pickwoad's hands, and I certainly do not see how that gentleman can be held accountable.

I think this brief statement is due to Mr. Pickwoad. I trust it will be thought a sufficient apology for trespassing upon your space.—Your obedient servant, J. Priestley Tate.

HONG KONG.

Dates are down to the 28th Aug.

The English mail of the 17th July by the French line of steamers was hourly expected, her arrival at Singapore having been reported, and her news laid down by the private steamer *Suwonada*, from New York, a new vessel belonging to Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co., which arrived in Hong Kong on the 26th August. The London telegrams are up to August 4th, and convey the result of the general elections. Most of the items of news conveyed by this mail have been anticipated by the French mail, and given in our issue of the 10th inst.

Another attempt is now being made to introduce guano into China. The present attempt appears to be well organised, and is committed to strong hands. The principals are people of large means who have a lien on the Chincha Islands. The sole management of the affair is entrusted to the powerful agency of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., and as a permanent supply for some time is positively secured, a steady demand will assuredly appear.

It was reported that the Royal Marines about to leave for England would proceed to Japan, but we can inform our readers that the rumour was incorrect.

At Manila a daily journal has just been started. It is entitled the *Porvenir Filipino*, and appears to promise well.

We (*China Mail*) hear of changes about to take place in the Consular service, by which the Amoy Consulate will be placed in charge of one of the best junior-linguists in the service.

From Canton we learn that an old member of Gordon's force, named Baffey, an American, had been brought a prisoner to that port by the Chinese authorities, and given up to the U. S. Consul there.

With the advent of Captain Kinder and the other Mint official, says the *China Mail*, we observe a new issue of mils and cents, bearing the date 1865; and also what seems a fresh supply of ten-cent silver pieces, bearing, however, the old date of 1863. The fresh issue will be gladly received by all parties, as these small coins have been found so convenient and useful. We hope that the quantity to hand will be sufficient to meet all requirements until the Mint here commences to coin them, along with the dollar and the other sub-multiples. Discretion, however, might be recommended to the Treasury as to the paying out of these coins at present—caution being necessary, on the one hand, to avoid glutting the market; and, on the other, to prevent them, through the chicanery of the Chinese money-changers, reaching an almost fabulous premium.

COCHIN CHINA.

Our advices from Saigon give full accounts of the holding of a magnificent *fete Dieu* in that city. The different roads con-

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verging towards it were from an early hour on the day of the celebration crowded with villagers from Goviap, Choquan, and Arrayo, anxious to witness the solemnities. Mgr. Miche, Bishop of Dansara, and Apostolic Vicar of French Cochin-China, bearing the Host, and preceded by the clergy of his diocese, closed the procession, the most magnificent yet witnessed in that quarter of the world. The Governor's musical band executed a superb triumphal march for the occasion. The procession having paraded the chief streets drew up on the quay, where it was joined by the Governor and the chief military and civil authorities. The Host was here elevated, amidst the thundering of cannon, the whole population bowing to receive the benediction. The Annamite barques were ornamented with flowers, which, agitated by the breeze, presented a most picturesque spectacle. A solemn mass, celebrated by the Bishop, assisted by the Governor and various high functionaries, terminated a ceremony the impression from which is likely to be lasting on the population.

The *Moniteur de la Flotte* publishes a letter from Cochin-China of the 5th August, which gives a very favourable account of the new French colony. It states that six lots of waste ground in the suburbs of Saigon, covering a superficies of 47,457 square yards, were set up by auction on the 1st August, and sold for 74,070f. The purchasers are preparing to build on the ground. The new settlement of Cholen is said to be progressing rapidly. Stone houses are erected on ground which was not long since waste marsh. The central canal of Hoi-Hiep is about to be excavated, by which the town will be completely drained. The contractor for the canal has, moreover, undertaken to build a market and two new villages, which will be a great advantage to the Annamites. The French transport *Sarthe* had returned to Saigon from Yokohama, bringing a number of Japanese horses for the French artillery and cavalry in Cochin-China. Notwithstanding the fatigue inevitable during such a long voyage, it is said the horses arrived in excellent condition. It appears, moreover, that horses are cheap in Japan.

SIAM.

Dates from Bangkok are to the 15th August. A correspondent writes :—

His Majesty the Second King has been quite ill, but is improving. For two years past his Majesty has been withdrawing more and more from public business. Much of his time has been spent at his country palace at Sitha, a romantic place east of Ayuthia. The withdrawal of his Majesty from public duties is a source of much regret, but his position is such that it requires so much prudence and discretion to keep clear of blame and jealousies, that it is not very surprising he avoids it as much as possible. The best of feeling exists between the First and Second Kings, and if correctly informed, his Majesty the First King would be greatly pleased to see his royal brother taking a greater interest in the affairs of the kingdom.

There was a report in circulation last week of an attempt to poison the First King, which made some stir, but it is now generally believed to be a false rumour.

A combination of Chinamen has been discovered which had formed some design against the Government. A number of muskets, pikes, badges, &c., were also discovered. Rumour says the combination amounted in number to about three thousand. The leader was a petty officer under the Government, and a Hokien Chinaman. He, it appears, acknowledged his designs, and has been banished the country. Some reports say he was disposd of by dumping him into the gulf, but it appears, upon reliable authority, that he was placed on board of the Siamese barque *Castle*, bound for Hong Kong, with the injunction that if he returned his head would pay the penalty.

PHILIPPINEES.

MANILA.

Dates are to the 20th August. The London mail of June 26 arrived out on the 12th August.

On the 10th inst. the *Tigris*, from Liverpool, arrived, bringing moderate supplies of plain staples. White and grey staples are fully worth our last quotations; grey long cloths, however, have been placed at somewhat lower rates than last quoted. Exports: Little has been doing during the past fortnight; a small lot of current sugar has been taken at $5.37½ per picul, but to-day clayers would willingly accept $5.25 per picul. We quote Zebu and Yloylo sugars at $4 per picul, and sales of Taal have been made at $3.68¾ per picul. Current hemp has sold at $7 per picul. Tonnage is plentiful. Exchange on London, 4.2 for first class six months' sight bills.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are down to the 7th Sept. The London mail of 26th July arrived out on the 4th Sept. by H.M.S. *Coquette*, as the P. and O. Company's steamer met with an accident off Penang.

In general business the market has been moderately active during the past fortnight. For cotton goods the demand has improved. Grey shirtings have moved freely at gradually advanced prices. The stocks of T cloth have been nearly cleared, and considerable sales made for arrival. Long cloths have also been sold for present delivery and for arrival. Twist has been in good demand for No. 40's., and rather better rates obtained. In coloured, transactions in imperial red, green, and orange have been small; but stocks of Turkey-red have been nearly cleared at improved prices. White shirtings of the finer qualities have been taken freely at fair rates for immediate delivery and for arrival. For low and medium qualities clearances have been limited. Spotted have been quitted to a small extent at former rates. White cambrics of the finer descriptions have been in good inquiry and high rates obtained for arrival. In Turkey-red cambrics transactions have been small at former prices. Dyed goods generally have been very languid, Sarongs remain in heavy stock, and in very limited inquiry. The demand for woollens has been almost confined to Spanish stripes, in which moderate clearances have been made for China. In iron very little has been done. Spelter and tin plates continue to be neglected. Sheathing copper and yellow metal have been taken to a small extent. For coal the demand is still unabated and high rates obtained. Marine stores generally have been exceedingly dull. Australian flour has been imported largely and lower rates accepted. Clearances in bottled beer have been extensive at fair prices.

In exports the transactions during the fortnight have been moderate. The supplies of betelnut have been parted with at lower rates. China camphor continues in some demand. Gambier is offered at slightly reduced rates. Coffee is still in demand and very scarce. Gutta percha has been imported to a very limited extent and high rates realised. Buffalo hides and horns still command extreme rates. Pepper is very scarce, and in great demand. The small imports of india rubber have been taken at a slight advance on previous prices. Rattans are still scarce and high prices maintained. Pearl sago has slightly advanced. Sugar has been in demand and higher rates given. Benares opium has fluctuated considerably, but transactions have been almost restricted to Bazaar speculators. Nothing doing in Turkey opium. The market is well supplied with wheat.

The *Straits Times* of September 7 contains a long correspondence on the Screw Pile Company and the Tanjong Pagar Dock Company. The same paper also has the following in connection with Java :—

"Our readers will remember that in our paper of 24th July we mentioned the cool reception the Resident of Rhio met with from the Sultan of Assahan, and concluded by remarking, 'It remains to be seen what steps our neighbours will take to enforce a proper respect being shown them,'—and we are now in a position to state what these steps are to be.

"We are informed that an expedition, consisting of the *Djambi*, screw steam corvette, *Amsterdam*, paddle steam corvette, and *Sindoro*, screw corvette, *Montrado*, screw corvette, carrying about 1,000 troops fully equipped for field service, will leave Batavia on the 5th Sept., and proceed to Assahan, first calling at Rhio for the *Delfyzl*, screw corvette, and *Dassoon*, N. I. Government paddle steamer. This is a powerful force, and will be able, if properly managed, to bring the Sultan to terms."

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

AMES—On the 5th July, at Bangkok, Siam, the wife of S. J. B. Ames, Esq., Commissioner of Police, of a daughter.

GARDNER—On the 2nd Sept., at the Patent Slip and Dock Company's Bungalow, Singapore, the wife of Capt. F. E. Gardner, of a son.

HELMS—On the 7th Aug., at Sarawak, the wife of L. V. Helms, Esq., of a daughter.

ULLETT—On the 11th Oct., at Blythe House, the wife of R. B. Ullett, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

LLOYD—SAUNDERS.—On the 3rd Oct., at St. Saviour's, Southwark, by the Right Rev. Bishop Smith, D.D., late of Victoria, Hong Kong, assisted by the Rev. Samuel Benson, M.A., chaplain of St. Saviour's, Percy Lloyd, Esq., late of Canton, China, to Ellen Sarah, only daughter of His Excellency the late William Henry Saunders of The Island, St. Petersburg. No cards.

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DEATHS.

Briggs—At Hong Kong, August 26, S. S. Briggs, Captain of the barque Caroline Chisholm, aged 29.

Blaydes—On the 20th July, at sea, between Taku and Foochow, on his voyage home, aged 21. Edward Henry, eldest son of the Rev. F. H. M. Blaydes, vicar of Harringworth, Northamptonshire.

Hoeven—At Macao, August 25, Mrs. Des Amoric van derHoeven, aged 29.

Gonzaga-Mantua—On the 10th Oct., after a short but severe illness, H.S.H. the Princess Maria Eliza de Gonzaga-Mantua, daughter of the late distinguished Col. Coke, of the Indian Army, and beloved wife of H.S.H. the Prince Alexander First of Gonzaga, Duke of Mantua, &c., aged 62.

Heelis—On the 10th Oct., at the residence of his father, at Limehouse, Edward Heelis, M.R.C.S., late Surgeon to the Government Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, and formerly of the P. and O. S. N. Company's service, third son of Robert Heelis, M.R.C.S. and L.S.A.

Henderson—On the 30th July, at Nagasaki, Dr. James Henderson, of Shanghai.

Highat—On the 2nd Aug., at Nagasaki, by drowning, Mr. Robert Highat, of Liverpool, passenger per Lammermuir, from London.

Horton—On the 2nd Aug., at the American Consulate, Yokohama, of consumption, after a very long illness, George E. Horton, aged 86 years.

Ingram—On board H.M.S. Melville, August 25, Albert Ingram, private marine, H.M.S. Cormorant, aged 24.

Tomlin—At Stone Cutter's Island, August 25, on board the Convict Hulk, Ernest Harry, son of Captain Tomlin, aged one year.

Whiley—At St. Francis Hospital, Hong Kong, August 25, Louisa Agnes Whiley, aged 2 years and one month.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

Tea.—Canton.—The market has been quiet during the fortnight, and transactions have been limited. Buyers require more concessions than the teamen are disposed to submit to. There have been no settlements of Country Congous nor Taysaams for the fortnight. In Scented Teas a little business has been transacted at reduced rates, but prices must decline still further ere purchasers enter the market freely. Country greens have been purchased for shipment to New York, but Canton Greens have been quite neglected The following are the settlements reported for the fortnight:—Pouchong, 2,500 hf-ch. at 21 taels; Scented Orange Pekoe, 3,500 boxes at 22 to 39 taels; Scented Caper, 5,000 at 13½ to 34 taels; Country Greens, 3,350 hf-ch. at 38 to 49 taels for Gunpowder, 35 to 56 for Imperial, 20 to 56 for Young Hyson, 29 to 54 for Hyson, 15 to 17 for Skin. The stock is reported as under. Country Congous 6 chops, Country Greens 9,000 hf-ch. Other descriptions uncertain.

Foochow.—An active market resulting in an advance for all descriptions. Third crop Congous had arrived in quantity and had been purchased freely. Some Souchongs had been taken at full rates. Little was doing in Oolongs, the buyers for New York not having entered the market. For Flowery Pekoes, extreme rates have been paid. Scented Teas have advanced nearly two taels. The following are the sales since the report issued for last mail. Congou: 19,000 chests at 6.3 to 10 taels for dust and broken leaf; 13 to 20 for ordinary to good common; 20 to 25 for flavory; 26 to 31 for good flavory to medium Kaisow; and 39 for fine Kaisow in boxes. Souchong: 1,500 chests at 20 to 23 taels for common to medium; 20 to 29½ for good to fine. Oolongs: 2,850 half-chests at 16 to 18 taels for common to good, and 20 to 29 for fine to finest. Flowery Pekoe: 450 chests at 24 taels for common, and 45 for fine. Scented Teas: 18,000 boxes at 8 to 20 taels for common to middling, and 22 to 32 for fine to finest.

Shanghai.—Black: There has been a considerable business, all parcels possessing quality having found buyers at previous rates. Second crop Oopack and Oonahms are, however, lower, and a fall is quoted on these kinds. Settlements during the fortnight consist of 61 chops. Quotations are—Second crop Oopacks, tls. 27 to 32; First crop Ningchow, tls. 27½ to 36; First and Second crop Oonahms tls. 20 to 32; First and Second crop Hohows, tls. 17 to 23.—Green: Only two chops Ping Suey settled during the fortnight as a slight decline on opening rates. A few small parcels of Fychows have arrived at Ningpo and were offered on this market, but at present nothing has been done. With exception of the Moyunes, the whole of the crop will this year come *via* Ningpo.

Hankow.—There has continued a steady inquiry, and rates have rather tended upwards. The demand has run chiefly on middling kinds at from 23 to 25 taels—common are in less request. The settlements of the fortnight exceed 30,000 chests and 4,000 half-chests. Stocks are reduced to 15,000 packages, and supplies are falling off. The total arrivals this season to date are 206,000 chests and 45,000 half-chests against 240,000 chests and 46,660 half-chests the same period last season.

Kiukiang.—Green: The new crop is expected down in about two weeks. Black: The settlements of the fortnight amount to 21 chops or 7,300 chests at 22½ to 28¾ taels, which rates display an advance over last quotations. The total settlements of the season to date amount to 20,032 chests, against 18,723 chests corresponding period last season. The stock on offer is 1,400 chests.

Yokohama.—Since the departure of last mail the continued demand for America and the encouraging news received of the state of the home markets, have had a considerable effect on the tea market, and a good business has been transacted. Supplies, which were at one time restricted by the bad weather, are now coming forward freely, though the bulk of the teas are of a very mixed character. Finest description have not yet come to hand. Prices have advanced fully $1 on the last quotations. Good Common, $16.00 to 18.50; Medium, $21.00 to 23.50; Good Medium to Fine, $24.50 to 28.00; Finest, nominal.

Raw Silk.—The French mail steamer Donnai took 277 bales for Marseilles and Southampton. This mail, the Behar takes 3,022 bales, of which about 1,348 bales are Japan (2,376 bales being for Southampton and 646 do. for Marseilles). She has also 600 cases silks, &c., for Bombay.

Shanghai.—Of the Silks now offering the quality is generally much inferior to the earlier shipments of the season. A large proportion are in a moist and unmarketable condition and, though it was at first thought that the damage by wet was not serious, it now appears that some parcels are in part actually mildewed. No. 3, Tsatlee tls. 490 to 515. Settlements: China, 3,700 bales. Japan, 1,300 bales. Total settlements from 1st June, 33,000 bales. Total settlements from 1st June to 19th August, 1864, 9,000 bales. Export for the season to date, 29,775 bales. Export from 1st June to 19th August 1865, 8,041 bales. Unsold stock about 3,000 to 4,000 bales. Unsold last year, 3,000 to 4,000 bales. The following are the latest quotations:—Tsatlee, No. 1, tls. 550 to 560 per picul; No. 2, Tls. 525 to 540 per picul. Taysaam, short reel, No. 1, tls. 465 to 475 per picul; No. 2, tls. 445 to 460 per picul.

Yokohama.—This market has been extremely active and excited throughout the fortnight. Owing to the favourable nature of the advices from Europe by the last mail or two, the demand kept on steadily increasing in the face of a continuous rise in prices. 1,450 bales have been settled at an advance of $25 to 35 on our previous quotations, and the market closes with a very firm appearance. Fine Mybashes have been particularly inquired for, a few parcels having fetched the highest figure yet known in Japan—viz, $770. The total settlements this season amount to 2,850 bales, against 274 at the same time last year. The supply from the country keeps pace with the demand, notwithstanding the unsettled state of the weather; the effect of the latter on this year's produce can be seen in an excess of moisture in most of the parcels of silk which have lately come down.

Drugs.—Canton.—Cassia Lignea: This market remained very much in the same position as last reported and nothing doing, but at the very last moment there is a sale reported of 1,000 piculs on terms kept secret The quotation stands at 16.90 to 17 per picul—stock 2,000 piculs. Cassia Buds $49 per picul, nominal. Rumour has it that the new crop is anything but promising, and supplies will most probably run short for the whole of the season. China Galls: The native demand continues, and the article must be quoted higher again, say $13 to $13.25. Vermilion, $37½ per box of 50 catties, very little doing. Musk: No supplies, no settlements. Rhubarb: No fresh supplies reported as yet. Galangal, $1.80 to $2. Holders are becoming more and more anxious to be clear of their stock. Essential Oils scarce, no settlement.

Camphor.—Hong Kong.—Only 100 piculs Formosa have been sold at $19.50, packed, and 100 piculs has been transhipped to Singapore, a vessel has just arrived from Formosa with 2,000 piculs for which $19 packed is asked, but there is not much demand at present. Our stock now consists of 2,000 piculs Formosa, and 300 piculs Japan.

CHINA IMPORTS.

Hong Kong.—There has been a steady demand both for local consumption and for shipment North, and a good business has resulted. Yarn: Large sales have been made principally of low numbers, the stock of the higher running low. Rates tend up and have advanced $50 per bale, which perceptibly checks the demand. Grey Shirtings continue in good demand, and an advance has been obtained for the best makes. White Shirtings are about 10 cents higher, but there is very little inquiry. T-Cloths: The stock is very low, and a good inquiry exists for 6 to 7lb. goods, but the dealers have not confidence in the article as they will not buy to arrive, and the advance is not more than 10 cents. In Fancy Goods—Dyed Brocades, T. R. Shirtings, Chintz and Black Velvets are in moderate demandt; oher sorts are not inquired for. Woollens: Long Ells are in small stock, good demand and improved value. Spanish Stripes: The local demand is slack; the news from the North has driven rates up 10 cents per yard. Camlets continue in steady but not extensive demand. Lastings have fallen short in stock, and are readily saleable even to arrive. Good assortments command $20 to 20.25. Metals: Lead is very dull with a large stock. Iron has tended down, both nail rod and bar. Tin Plates are lower but are saleable. Quicksilver is in extensive enquiry.

Canton.—Yarn is quoted $5 to 7 higher, but the Import market generally continues very flat. The following are the sales of the fortnight.—Lead: Common, 1,600 pls. at $6.15; WB 900 pls. at $6.55. Quicksilver: 300 flasks at $66½ to 67. The stocks embrace 9,500 pls. Lead and 400 flasks Quicksilver.

Foochow.—The sales of the week following the date of last advices are thus reported:—T. Cloths: 1,000 pieces 7 lbs. at $3. Lead: 500 pls. at $6.75.

Shanghai.—During the past fortnight there has been much activity in the market for Grey goods. Grey Shirtings have steadily advanced in price in consequence of absence of arrivals; 6½ catty being now at tls. 3.8.0 for Eagle Chop in Market, tls. 3.5.0 to arrive, 7 lb. Grey Shirtings being extremely scarce have advanced to tls. 2.8.0 on Market and Tls. 2.3.0 to 2.4.5 to arrive (Eagle Chop). Scarlet Long Ells still continue in demand, H.H. being quoted at tls. 8.5.0 per piece. Assorted colours are less inquired for and H.H. are quoted at only tls. 7.3.0., C. P. H. tls. 7.20. In Fancy Goods there has been little doing. There have been some transactions in Nail Rod Iron. Good assortment is quoted at tls. 2.5.0 tls. to 2.5.5.

Chefoo.—Grey shirtings had advanced about 10 cents., and 8 lbs. 6 oz. were going off readily at tls. 3.6.0. There had been large transactions in sugar at tls. 7.5.0 to 8.8.0 for Canton White, and tls. 5.1.5 for brown; lead, tls. 5.6.5 in small stock. Cotton, tls. 16.2.0 per picul. Beancake, tls. 1.0.8 per 90 catties; small green peas, tls. 6.5.0; large, tls. 5.1.0; yellow, tls. 5.5.0 per ton. Tonnage not wanted.

Tientsin.—Advices are to Augustt 11. Stocks of goods in foreign hands were still inconsiderable, and prices were nominally higher than before advised. Shanghai rates for Grey goods are, however, still about 3 mace per piece higher than those ruling in Tientsin. Lead was worth taels 4.7 per picul; and steel, taels 5.3 per picul.

Hankow.—Advices from that port come down to August 12. A good business had been done in imports during the fortnight, Grey Shirtings having been in active demand at 2 mace per piece advance for 8.4 to 6.6 lbs. cloth. Fancy goods had changed hands only to a small extent, but prices were firm. Woollens were selling freely at about former rates. Metals: W. B. lead was worth taels 4.5 per picul.

Yokohama.—There are dates to 11th August. During the latter part of the fortnight there had been an active demand for Grey Shirtings, and considerable sales of 8.4 to 8.6 lb. goods had been effected at $5.10 to $5.25 per piece. Camlets were not in such good inquiry, and S S were only worth $23.50 per piece. Fancy goods remained dull of sale. Cotton yarn: 300 bales had found buyers at $75 per picul for 16 to 24, $90 per picul for 28 to 32, and $100 per picul for 38 to 42. Metals: All kinds continued without inquiry, and prices were nominal.

Coals.—Hong Kong: The arrivals of the fortnight have been 2,888

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tons English and Welsh, and 1,050 tons Australian, of which 1,200 tons of the former realised $9.75, while 200 tons of the latter changed hands at $6.75. At Shanghai but a limited amount of business has been done, owing to the non arrival of any cargoes from England during the past fortnight. Most of the stocks last reported afloat from Great Britain have been sold and reshipped to Japan for French steamer's account, leaving the market bare of stocks afloat, and inducing holders to advance their rates. American coals are being held for better rates. Stocks afloat and on the market, 700 tons. Sydney coals, of the best quality, have been sold to arrive, and the demand is a little more active, although no advance has been established upon last quotations. None in stock. Sales since the 3rd instant.—Cardiff Coals, by the cargo, at Tls. 8.7.5 to 9.0.0 per ton from ship and for reshipment to Japan; Bulli Coals, by the cargo, to arrive, at tls. 6.7.0 to 6.7.5 per ton from ship. Quotations, almost nominal for all descriptions. English Steam Coals, tls. 8.0.0 per ton from ship; Cardiff at tls. 9 per ton from ship; American at ls. 9 to 10 per ton from ship; Sydney at tls. 6.7.5 to 7 per ton from ship; Japan Coals at tls. 6.5.0 per ton from ship. Arrivals since the 3rd instant: 1,450 tons from Sydney; against, for same period last year, 9,040 tons English, 1,410 tons American, and 1,600 tons Sydney.

COTTON.

Hong Kong.—An excellent demand continues, and as supplies have been small, the market tends up and bears a firm appearance. On the departure of last mail, some Bengal cotton was sold as low as $24.50, but subsequently the price gradually rose to $28 to $29, which is the present quotation. At present there is no Bengal left in stock. Small supplies of the native occasionally arrive from the North, which are readily placed at $31.50 to $32.50. The prospects for the Native crop, which is due in about one month, are unfavourably reported on, by reason of heavy floods and the present standard of rates seems likely to be maintained. The market for cotton in Bombay having advanced materially, no shipments from that port to China have yet been reported. The advance in the China market may induce shipments from India, but supplies from Bombay cannot be expected here in quantity so long as the English market is maintained. Some Bengal cotton is expected by the Calcutta steamers during the first week of next month.

Canton.—The transactions have been light, but rates tend up. The following are the settlements of the fortnight. Shanghai, 260 bags, at 22¼ to 22½ taels; Ningpo, 90 bags, at 22⅜ to 23¼ taels; Shangtung, 160 bales, at 22½ to 13 taels; and 750 bales Bengal, at 19¼ to 19¾ taels. The stock is only 200 bags China and 200 bales Bengal,

Shanghai.—There has been a greater demand for this staple for shipment to the Southern ports since the departure of the last English mail, and nearly all the old cotton on the market has been shipped. The new season's crop is expected in about three weeks, but it is anticipated the market will open at high rates, owing to the probable scarcity in consequence of the late rains. Sales have been effected within the last day or two at tls. 17 to tls 17.50, at which rate the Chinese have been the chief purchasers for shipment to Swatow. Among European houses only tls. 16.50 to tls. 17 is offered.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 months sight.	6s. 2d.	6s. 2d. to 6s. 3d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 5¾d.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.
At Singapore	6 ditto	4s. 5¾d. to 4s. 6d.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.
At Manila	6 ditto	4s. 2d.	4s. 2¼d. to 4s. 3d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 297 to 298 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 216 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 73 per cent. prem. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 72 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 27 to 28 discount.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At Shanghai.—None.

At Hong Kong.—From London: Aug. 17, Esperanza. From Liverpool: 18, Smyrna. From Bordeaux: 17, Bertha and Pauline.

At Manila.—From Liverpool: Aug. 11, Tigris. From Cardiff: 16, Nordesp.

At Singapore.—From Sunderland: Aug. 25, Teutonia. From Glasgow: Japan (s.). From Shields: Ocean Home. From Cardiff: Sept. 1, G. van der Beck.

At Penang.—From Glasgow: Aug. 25, Priam.

DEPARTURES.

From Shanghai.—For London: Aug. 9, Star of China, Ellen Rodger; 18, Norwood; 19, John Lidgett.

From Foochow.—For London: Aug., Areta, Whinfell, Queen Bee, W. Mitchell Thurso.

From Hong Kong and Canton.—For London: Aug. 13, Allendale; 24, Constance; 13, Scawfel; 21, Herald. For Channel: 10, Alida.

From Macao.—For London: Aug. 16, Mary Nicholson.

From Manila.—For Queenstown: Aug. 11, Edward. For New York: 4, Shirley. For Boston: 16, Ocean Rover.

From Singapore.—For London: Aug. 4, Hastings; 24, Caldew; Sept. 6, Pearl. For Liverpool: 23, Vigil. For Falmouth: 28, Ernte. For New York: 2, Earl Shaftesbury.

From Penang.—For London: Aug. 20, Peter Rohland.

FREIGHTS.

Yokohama.—To London: Cotton and Tea, £3 per ton; Silk, £4. 10s.

Shanghai.—There is no improvement to notice, and rates remain about the same as last quoted, though tonnage can be obtained as low as £1. 17s. 6d. per ton of 50 cubic feet; to New York, $9.

Foochow.—To London: £1. 10s. to £2 per ton.

Hong Kong.—The vessels on the berth for home are loading at 30s. per ton; to New York, $10.

Manila.—To England nothing doing. To New York: £1. 10s. Sugar, £2 Hemp.

Singapore.—Tonnage is in better demand, and rates are gradually improving; for dead weight 20s., and 30s. measurement.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From England and Continent to China, &c.—August 12, Adriana Petronella, Cardiff to Manila; 14, Robin Hood, Sunderland to Shanghai, Moulin, Cardiff to Manila; 15, Jupiter, Hamburg to Hong Kong; 17, Gaurije and Maria, Cardiff to Manila; Assyrian, London to Shanghai, Gebrs. Vander Beck, Cardiff to Singapore; 23, Langdale, Cardiff to Manila; 25, Encarnacion, Cardiff to Manila; 26, Ravensburne, Hartlepool to Bankok; 27, Johannes Lodewyk, Cardiff to Manila; 13, Sea Snake, Liverpool to Shanghai.

From China &c., to England and Continent.—Aug. 9, Ocean Pearl, Batavia to Rotterdam; 18, Early Dawn, Singapore to Liverpool; 21, Monitor, Singapore to Bristol; 27, Concepcion, Manila to Cadiz; 28, Johanne Marie, Hong Kong for London.

From United States to China, &c.—Aug. 16, Magenta, New York to Manila.

From China &c., to United States.—Aug. 10, Batavia to New York; 17, Fearless, Manila to Boston; 27, Benefactor, Hong Kong to New York.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. W. C. Sillar, and Co., of 85, Cheapside:—Silver: This has been in fair request for shipment to the East, both from here and by way of Marseilles, but the rise in the Bank rate of discount has somewhat checked business, and caused a decline in price of about ¼d., the present quotation being 5s. 0⅛d. per oz. standard. Mexican dollars are still neglected, and nominally quoted at 4s. 11½d.

Arrival not Included in the Table.—Oct. 15, off Falmouth, from Shanghai, Fire Queen.

THE NEW TEA SEASON CLIPPERS.

It will be observed that of the various clippers the Taeping, Captain McKinnon (late of the Ellen Rodger), maintains her reputation for speed, in making the shortest passage home, viz., 102 days, having left Foo-chow on 29th June, and arrived at the Downs 9th October. In January last she arrived in London from Amoy, after the unprecedented passage of 88 days. The following will show the various passages:—

Ship.	From.	Date of Departure.	Date of Arrival at.	No. of days.
Yang-tzse	Foo-chow	May 26	Off Plymouth Oct. 5	132
Ziba	Do.	„ 27	London „ 7	133
Flying Spur ..	Do.	„ 30	Off Scilly „ 4	127
Serica	Do.	May 28	London Sep. 11	105
Fiery Cross ..	Do.	„ 28	Do. „ 11	105
Annette (str.) ..	Macao	„ 31	Downs Oct. 13	135
Belted Will ..	Do.	June 5	Off Plymouth „ 4	121
Black Prince ..	Do.	„ 5	Off Falmouth „ 5	122
Min	Do.	„ 8	London „ 8	122
Eliza Shaw ..	Shanghai	„ 11	Off Plymouth „ 4	115
Young Lochinvar..	Foo-chow	„ 9	London „ 7	120
Pakwan	Macao	„ 14	Off Lizard „ 4	112
Taeping	Foo-chow	„ 29	Downs „ 9	102

CHINA GRASS.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

Sir,—Having noticed in your late issues sundry articles about China grass, and apparently congratulating Frenchmen upon their great mercantile acumen, perhaps you will allow me to inform the public what is already known to many China merchants. This fibre has been manipulated upon by a certain individual in England as far back as twelve years ago. The patents of the machinery then got into the possession of another person, who organised a company (kept private) for working it, and although several hitches occurred in perfecting it I believe it is still in working in Yorkshire, though whether remunerative or not I cannot say. As far as the raw material is concerned, I can only tell you that three years ago upwards of 1,000 tons lay in London (to the great grief of the importers), laying down at a cost of from £70 to £80 per ton, and valued nominally at only £40. Although I was never an importer of the commodity, still I have from the first been much interested in its being manufactured in England, and have at times, in my correspondence with the late Sir W. Hooker, Dr. Maximovitch (the well-known Russian Government botanist in Japan) and a friend of mine in China, received all the information about this willow or withy (for such it is) that any one can desire. Should your readers require further information I have no doubt that by referring to old letters and pamphlets I can supply it. The great difficulty, as far as I can see, arises from the fact that it cannot be imported into Europe at a low enough cost. To obviate this, the only way is to send preparing machinery to China, and then to spin and manufacture in Europe.—I am, Sir, &c., An Englishman.

London, October 12, 1865.

HOLLAND.

(from our own correspondent.)

Rotterdam, Oct. 15.

The tug-steamer *Kapoeas*, built at the iron-works at Feyenoord, for the service in India, is now ready. The ship will be taken to pieces and shipped in the forthcoming month.

Several Japanese have arrived in our country, to be instructed

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in several branches of industry. This seems very favourable, not only for them, but also for our several manufactories, which are favoured with considerable orders for the Japanese Government.

COMMERCIAL.

Coffee.—With a few transactions in Company's coffee in waiting for the auction of this month. The private transactions consisted in 1,728 bags Padang ex Alcyone, 2,500 bags do. ex Solide, and 3,000 bags Java ex Gebroeders.

Sugar.—The market remains in a firm condition. In the 1st hand about 3,000 kr. were sold at former prices.

Rice.—2,000 b. 2nd quality Java ex India, and 2,270 b. do. ex Nagasaki, were sold at 11f. to 11¼f.

Spices.—Nutmegs unaltered. For Mace there is some inquiry, and one parcel was sold at 75c. for D., and 70 for E.

Tea.—The market remains in a very firm condition for China qualities.

Java Tobacco.—The market is very calm; the stock here consists of 13,114 b.

Manila Cigars.—On the 18th instant the following lots will be offered: 200 mille 2a Cortados Cavite 1865, 100 mille 2a Cortados 1864, 10 mille 1a Cortados 1863, 100 mille 2a Cortados Cavite 1864, 150 mille 2a Cortados 1864.

Drugs.—Camphor unaltered, the holders decline to operate without an advance; on the 26th 10,100lbs. will be offered at auction; the quality is fine, and estimated at 61 to 65 cents per ¼ks.

Cubebs.—45 cents; Cassia Lignea again higher, 1a quality 60 to 62 cents. 2,000 b. ex Nagasaki were sold at firm prices; Cassia Vera has much attention, fine quality is paid with 33 cents. Oleum Cassiae, nominal 5¾: Japan Wax with much inquiry, but without stock. Ginger: The stock is much diminished; for fine quality 80 and 82 cents is willingly paid. Gum Elasticum: A few lots were sold; Gum Damar with much inquiry at former prices.

Rattans.—At the last quotations all can find place. Banjermassing is now worth 14f. to 16f.; Padang, 12f. to 14f. 50 pic. ex Helen Baird, 143 pic. ex County of Renfrew, 209 pic. per Juno, and 100 pic. per Miranda, were sold.

Java Indigo.—The market remains very firm, but the want of fine qualities hinders transactions.

Java Curcuma.—200 bales, floating, were sold at 12f.

Cotton.—The Trading Company will offer, on the 26th, at public auction, 2,275 b., which are estimated as follows:—611 bales Comptah, middling fair, 87½c.; 50/2 bales ditto, 87½c.; 35 ditto, good middling, 85c.; 5 ditto, middling, 80c.; 397 Dhollerah, fair, 97½c.; 224 Broach, fair, 95c.; 197 Indes Neerl, sawginned fair, 70-75c.; 5 Indes Neerl, (graine de Java, Nouv. Orleans et Sea Island), good fair to fine, 90-140c.; 322 Tinnevelly, fair, 90c.; 322 du Japon, good fair, 92½c.; 84 ditto, fair, 20c.; 23 ditto, middling fair, 85c. The transactions of this week were not important. Only 350 b., E. I. were sold.

Cocoa-Nut Oil.—1,500 ks. prime Cochin were sold at 32f. 3,000 ks. good white at 31¼f.

Banca Tin.—500 slabs were sold at 56f., 1,500 ditto at 55½f. Under 56f. nothing can be bought now.

Hides.—The transactions of the week consisted in 2,010 Sourabya ex Helen Baird.

Arrack.—50 cases, ex Maria Dorothea, 35 ditto, ex Codan, 50 casks, ex Marinus Willem, 50 casks, ex Margarethe, were sold at secret but firm prices. The stock now consists of 669 casks and 7 half casks.

Money.—The market is unaltered. Two-and-a-Half per Cents. Dutch, 60⅞; Three per Cents., 71⅝; Four per Cents., 95⅝; Trading Company, 145⅝.

'Change.—London, 2 mo., f.11.81½; short, f.11.96¼; Paris, 2 mo., 56 5-16; short, 56 13-16; Hambro', 2 mo., f.35¼; short, f.35½.

Shipping—Arrivals.—October 11, from Batavia, at Brouwershaven, Holland; from Samarang, at Hellevoet, Bengal; 12, from Sourabaya, at Brouwershaven, Prince Carl; from Batavia, Pop Smit, Christina Maria; at Texel, from Batavia, Ymuiden, Wellington; at Flushing, from Batavia, Æolus; 13, from Batavia, at Brouwershaven, Lammina Elizabeth, St. Jan; 12, at Texel, from Sourabaya, Albert, Glencaple; 13, at Flushing, from Java, H.M.'s frigate Prins Mauritz der Nederlanden; 14, at Texel, from Batavia, Nicot, Fanny.

Departures.—October 9, from Texel, for Batavia, Electra; 10, from Hellevoet, for Batavia, the steamer W. Cores de Vries, for Batavia via Cape Vincent and the Cape of Good Hope.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

For Java.—Per Ouderkerk a.d. Amstel: Mrs. Sythoff and four daughters, Mrs. Steffens, Mr. Blasius and family, Hardes, and family, Cochius and family, Dingerinck, Van der Mandele, Reeze, H. Bezoet de Bie, Haase, J. and A. Arnold. Per Mary and Hillegonda: Major J. H. E. Wiegand, Lieutenant L. J. A. J. Broman, Riesz, De Stoppelaar Blydestein, and R. E. Beck, and 125 soldiers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From Java.—Per Holland: Mr. F. Vreede and family, Mrs. Joostens and family. Per Prinz Carl: Mr. Warmolts and family. Per Ymuiden: Mr. Beling. Per Æolus: Mr. Van Ooyen and family, Mr. Van Munnich, Van Zadelhof and family.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

October 14.

I begin this letter by refuting the statement contained in the postscript of my last, that "it is not Admiral Wullerstorff but his brother" who has accepted the post of Austrian Minister for Commerce and National Economy (*Volkswerthschaft*). It is, after all, the gallant and enlightened commander of the Novara Expedition. He is now in his fiftieth year, having been born at Trieste, in January, 1816, and he entered the Austrian Navy at the age of eighteen. In 1839 he was appointed Director of the Naval Observatory, and Professor of Navigation and Astronomy at the Naval College. In 1854 he obtained the rank of full captain, and shortly afterwards (1857) took the command of the Novara Expedition, of which he has written such an interesting and graphic description, which became so popular that of the German edition 40,000 copies were immediately sold on publication, since which several new editions have been required. When he entered on the duties of his new office last week he appeared in full parade uniform as an admiral of the Austrian Navy. Whoever has been so fortunate as to have had an opportunity of reading the above-mentioned work, cannot fail to have been struck with the humane and liberal sentiments with regard to religion, the management of colonies, but above all free trade, with which the book abounds. In his inaugural address to the officials of his department the new Minister laid great stress on following and extending in every direction the principles of free trade, and the abolition of all monopolies and protective duties as the foundation-stone of commercial prosperity and national wealth, which he hoped to increase and develop by his administration of the commercial department, and to see the trade of Austria assume that extent to which it was entitled from the advanced state of their manufactures and industry.

The new Minister's first act was to dismiss all the officials, and he is now engaged in replacing them by men of liberal sentiments, in whom he can confide the duty of carrying out the details of the reforms he is about to introduce.

A Hamburg paper called the *Reform*, perhaps but little known abroad, but with a very extensive local circulation—printing 25,000 copies—says that the administrators of the estate of Mr. Carl Broderson, of Altona, a China merchant who failed last autumn for a very considerable amount, have sent a circular to the creditors of that gentleman, informing them that the principal creditor—the house of Messrs. Joseph Oxford and Co. of London—has offered to pay the others 25 per cent. of their claims in two instalments, on their granting him permission to realize the assets for his own account. These assets consist principally in shares or parts of sixteen vessels accounted in the schedule worth 386,777 marks banco. The Court of Magistracy or Municipal tribunal at Altona found it needful to issue a public proclamation inviting the creditors to register their claims before a certain day, in order to ascertain the exact amount of the liabilities. At first the claims sent in amounted to more than two millions of marks banco, but after a strict investigation on the part of the assignees, that sum has been greatly reduced, and the amount proved and admitted as lawful claims is now ascertained to be 1,161,000 marks banco. Experts have been employed to value the shares in the vessels, which are booked at having cost him 420,000 marks banco; but their report shows that they are only worth 264,000 marks banco, to any one that can make use of them, and that in the event of a forced sale they would fetch considerably less. The assignees officially appointed by the authorities at Altona are Messrs. H. W. Hinrichsen, C. A. Hubener, and C. Jacob. In their circular they recommend the creditors to accept the terms offered for a composition.

I observe in your last number a statement that the Leipzig Michaelmas Fair went off well, and gave general satisfaction. I know not where you obtained the information, but it is diametrically at variance with the accounts printed in the Leipzig newspapers, which one and all are unanimous in complaining woefully that the result was a most unfortunate one, and not to be compared with the Easter Fair. Leather and cloth were the only articles that experienced anything like a fair demand, whilst, on the other hand, cotton and silk manufacturers, gold and silver articles, and furs of all description, found no sale to any extent, and were all decidedly dull.

A letter just received from Corfu announces the arrival in that port of the Austrian frigate *Schwartzenberg*, where she dropped her anchor not far from the Danish frigate *Niels Juel*, which was lying in the harbour. These two vessels did the leading part of the work on different sides in the naval engagement off Heligoland in May last year, and are both still commanded by the same officers. It would have afforded them an interesting conversation to have compared notes and talked over the particulars of the action, with an exchange of their respective ideas of the manœuvres of the opposite and then hostile squadron; but no such opportunity offered, as the Austrian having arrived from the Levant, was under quarantine, and the Dane sailed two or three days later to Malta.

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Mr. Woldemar Nissen has been appointed Consul for Bremen at Hong Kong, and Mr. G. H. Miesegaes, Vice-Consul for Prussia at Samarang, vice Mr. Jacobson, deceased.

Mr. Alexis de Lentz, Bachelor of the Imperial University of St. Petersburg, and Expeditor in the Asiatic Department, is appointed to the Translating Department of the Imperial Legation at Peking, vice Michel Henning, Collegial Secretary.

The *Melissa*, Capt. Wiese, mentioned in my last as having sailed from this port to Singapore, on the 1st of October, was detained in the Elbe, and only got out to sea on the 11th inst.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Owing to the scarcity of money and the high rate of discount the market is less firm, and several parcels have been sold under last week's currency. Yesterday, however, an improvement took place, and the market closes firm at about last week's rates. Sales of the week, 11,500 bags.

SUGAR.—A further advance of 4 to 6 Sch. Bco. has taken place in Raw, the business done was not however large, and chiefly confined to West India sorts. Refined: Firm, sales 10,000 loaves.

RICE.—No alteration to report. The opinion for the article remains favourable, but the transactions were neither numerous nor extensive.

SPICES.—Business limited to the execution of small orders for consumption; and full prices paid. No sales by importers recorded.

TEA.—471 chests of Congou, ex Persia, sold at firm rates. The deliveries are satisfactory. Some considerable orders from the United States have been executed for fine mid. Green and Oolong.

SPELTER continues to droop. The only sale reported was 2,500 centners for delivery in November and December at 13.12, at which price there are now sellers.

MONEY rather easier, discount, 6½ to 6¾ per cent.

CIVIL WAR IN JAPAN.

OWING to the manner in which the news recently received from Japan has been treated by most of the daily papers, and also to the tenor of certain telegrams, the British public generally are impressed with the conviction not only that a civil war of portentous magnitude in that country i inevitable, but that it has actually commenced; while, notwithstanding the threatening measures adopted by the TYCOON, and the defiant attitude of the rebel Daimio CHOSIU, those better acquainted with the politics of that country, and the peculiarities of its people and form of government, will not be surprised if the commencement of actual hostilities should be delayed for a considerable period, and perhaps averted altogether. That a large army, headed by the TYCOON in person, had left Yedo *en route* for CHOSIU's dominions, is beyond doubt; but since its departure the programme has been changed, and we now hear that Kioto, not Nagato, is the present destination of the Imperial forces; and that, according to present arrangements, they will remain there for an indefinite period, while consultations are pending between the TYCOON, the MIKADO, and their respective Ministers, as to the course finally to be adopted. It is also rumoured, and probably not without foundation, that negotiations of a pacific nature are not unlikely to be initiated by CHOSIU himself, and that the MIKADO is disposed to view with favour some peaceful solution of the difficulty, such as the surrender of a portion only of the Prince's territory, as a punishment for his insubordination, and a ransom for the remainder.

In our endeavours to understand the motives which actuated this rebellious Daimio, in his apparently indiscriminate aggressions both on his own and foreign Governments, we have been constantly puzzled by conflicting statements which seemed to neutralise each other, and by the difficulty of discriminating between conjectures and facts; the former being always so plentiful, and the latter, with our present imperfect knowledge of the country, so difficult to arrive at. Many doubtful points are, however, cleared up by a proclamation issued by the TYCOON shortly before his departure from Yedo with the army, a translation of which document appears in the *Japan Herald* of the 1st of July. In this we see for the first time an official account of the charges brought against CHOSIU by the MIKADO and the TYCOON, and we are also informed that it is at the instance of the MIKADO that he is about to be brought to punishment. His various offences are recited at considerable length. He is accused of conspiring with intent to overthrow the Government; of misrepresenting the TYCOON's acts, and otherwise endeavouring to sow dissension between the TYCOON and the MIKADO; of intriguing to produce discontent with the foreign treaties among the members of the Kooghay, or Council of the MIKADO; of attacking, without provocation, inoffensive vessels belonging to countries having such treaties with Japan; of falsely representing that he had the authority of the MIKADO for these aggressions; of causing certain officials, sent to him by the TYCOON, to be murdered in a most treacherous manner; and finally, when his plots had failed, and his real character been unveiled, of having made a desperate attempt to seize the person of the MIKADO, and destroy Kioto. For these offences, the proclamation goes on to say, it was resolved by the TYCOON to call upon all faithful Daimios for aid in punishing him; but he at first feigned submission, and voluntarily promised to destroy his fortified castles and surrender his territory. This, however, having proved to be only a subterfuge, probably practised to gain time for more effectual resistance, the MIKADO had urged the necessity of no longer delaying that chastisement so richly deserved. Such is the official narrative of the circumstances which have induced the TYCOON to march at the head of an army numbering no less than one hundred and twenty thousand men, destined, no doubt, to ravage with fire and sword the territory of the luckless MORI DAIDJEN. Of the crimes imputed to him we know some to be justly laid to his charge; for instance, the attempt to destroy inoffensive vessels belonging to foreign merchants and the attack on Kioto; but whether he be guilty of *all* the offences enumerated in the TYCOON's proclamation, and what extenuating circumstances there may be in his favour, we have no evidence to show. What if there be, after all, some germs of truth in his defence? Our treaties have never been ratified by the MIKADO, and that potentate has never looked with a favouring eye on the presence of foreigners in his dominions. What if it be really true that, jealous of our intrusion into the hitherto secluded waters of the Suwo-nada, the MIKADO authorised CHOSIU to close the Straits of Simonoseki; and what if, finding himself in a false position, and his hastily-adopted policy untenable, he ruthlessly sacrificed its exponent, and made a scapegoat of the luckless Prince? The avowed efforts of the TYCOON to prevent the attack of the allied fleets on Simonoseki, and the rumoured disposition of the MIKADO to treat him leniently, are both calculated to throw, at all events, a shade of probability on this surmise, and to favour the idea that this much-abused Daimio may after all be more sinned against than sinning.

The effect of such treatment as we have here hinted at, upon a man of haughty, resentful and fiery disposition, would doubtless be to incite him to the most desperate acts of rebellion, such as would afford still further pretexts, if any were needed, for inflicting chastisement upon him. The army against which he will have to contend, should he persist in defying the authority of the Government, is a formidable one. A letter from an officer holding the rank of a colonel of artillery, recently published in the *Japan Herald*, gives some interesting particulars regarding its composition. The TYCOON's own army, properly so-called, consists of 70,000 men, 10,000 of whom are said to be equipped and drilled in European style. The remaining 60,000 men have been raised and equipped by ten powerful daimios, and a portion of these forces are also more or less perfect in European tactics. The troops are said to be in fine condition, and the march is conducted in the most orderly manner, the use of all intoxicating liquors being absolutely interdicted. Notwithstanding the strict discipline enforced, entire harmony prevails among the officers and men, and all seem eager for the fray and averse to pacific measures. On the other hand CHOSIU, is by no means without the weapons for a powerful resistance. His *samourai* are renowned as being among the most warlike in the empire; and with a considerable army, strong fortifications, and good store of European arms and ammunition (with which he has doubtless managed to supply himself), he will surely make a resolute defence. We are not among those who believe that SATSUMA will array himself on the side of the rebel. Among other reasons for this opinion, we may mention, firstly, the fact that several of SATSUMA's steamers have been chartered to the Japanese Government for the purpose of conveying troops and stores to Simonoseki in connection with the TYCOON's expedition; and, in the second place, it seems very unlikely that, after the result of his former collision with a foreign Power, he would again place himself in direct opposition to foreigners, which would assuredly be his position did he support CHOSIU, one of the principal features of whose late career has been his determined series of aggressions against the several treaty Powers. The generally pacific attitude of SATSUMA, of which the mission to this country lately noticed in our columns is a substantial proof, also favours the idea that if not active in support of the Government, he will at all events remain neutral in the impending struggle.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A Register is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the Far East and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in China, Japan, Singapore, *and other parts of the* Far East, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the Far East.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, OCT. 16, 1865.

FRANCE AND THE CHINA TRADE.

Much dissatisfaction begins to be expressed in France at that country being so far behind Great Britain in the aggragate amount of its annual trade with China. Is it to this the valour of her arms has come? Can her diplomacy accomplish nothing more? To be in the third or fourth rank of foreign dealers offends the national *amour propre*, which would fain find France first in commerce as well as "first in war." The *Patrie*, in casting about for the means of enlarging French transactions with China, appeals to the Chambers of Commerce throughout the country to take measures to make more widely known those advantages that incite the enterprise of the French merchants already engaged in the China trade, and so increase the number of exporters. The *Patrie* never asks how new customers in China are to be immediately secured, or consumption at home suddenly stimulated; nor does it deny that demand is already equal to supply in either country; still less does it consider that increased exports to China under existing circumstances would be to reduce existing profits, which for the past year have been inconsiderable, and, as regards home importations, problematical. The *Patrie*, we presume, would have inaugurated a sort of Franco-Chinese crusade, French goods routing English goods in the China markets, or making both a drug. The spirit of competition itself can only lead to loss when unsupported by other considerations; it may stimulate to increased ventures, but affords in itself no guiding direction. A most material point to be kept in view in the endeavour to enlarge the trade of a country with foreign and distant ports is the character of the return cargo. The commerce of a nation cannot suddenly be raised from moderate to gigantic proportions; and the same causes would be likely to give a proportionate increase to other countries. It would be as well for the *Patrie* and its enthusiasm for the glory of France to remember that an extensive trade, when not existing by virtue of a monopoly, is the product of agencies matured by time, and triumphing over successive obstacles. The vast capital we have embarked in trade with the Far East, the long credits we are ready to furnish, the character and prices of our manufactures, our exhaustless wants and world-wide relations—all favour the maintenance of our pre-eminence. At the same time we are satisfied that French enterprise is too much on the alert not to take advantage of any legitimate openings that may present themselves in the China trade; but they must be patient if they wish to rival the "nation of shopkeepers."

THE MENDICANTS OF PEKING.

The *Cour de Miracles* of Paris was in old times the rendezvous of all the vagabonds of Paris, and M. de Mont Louis, who has visited China, Persia, and other parts of the East, gives us an account of what he calls the *Cour de Miracles* of Peking, in other words, of vagabondage in the capital of China. He says that the largest collection of the most miserable and most hideous mendicants in the world is to be found on the great bridge which crossed the canal and forms a portion of the route which the Emperor takes when passing from the gate of Tchang-Yung-Min, in the wall on the south side of Peking, to his palace. Here, says M. de Mont Louis, may be seen beggars seated in the dust, often with a dead or dying relative or comrade by their side, gambling with the *sapeques* which have been thrown to them, while others importune the passers by, or seek in the mud of the place for rind of vegetables, bits of rag or other refuse. He describes the frequenters of the place as entirely naked, or covered with such rags that it is a miracle how they are kept together, covered with sores which they vaunt with awful imprecations, their faces shaded by a mass of filthy hair that never knew comb, brush or water, and covering their heads at times with the only utensil or piece of property which they possess in the world, the black earthen pot which is given to them by the authorities. M. de Mont Louis gives a graphic account of the flattery, tricks and insolence of these vagabonds, and mentions a curious privilege which they possess of taking from the shops on New Year's Day any article of food which they can hold within their hand. Amongst many extraordinary things, we are told that the death of one of these miserable creatures near any house renders the owner of it responsible, and that, consequently, if threats, entreaties and bribes are ineffectual to remove a dying beggar the good man of the house lifts the unsavoury burden and removes it to some other spot. If they buy their necessaries, these miserable beings steal their luxuries, and they are said to have a novel method of preparing themselves for a midnight job; they smear their bodies all over with any greasy matter they can get, no matter how filthy, and stick needles or bits of broken glass in their hair, so that it is next to impossible to catch and hold them. The mendicants in Peking, according to M. de Mont Louis, amount to four per cent. of the population, and all belong to secret societies or bands, confined to certain localities and lorded over by a chief who holds the reins because he has the power to seize them, and punishes any infraction of his orders with great severity. Not long ago one of these functionaries, who had acquired extraordinary influence, is said to have been made a Mandarin, and to have died five years since in all the odour of respectability if not of sanctity. Marriage holds a curious position in the code of the vagabonds. If one of these gentlemen desires to become domestic he chooses a lady, and is obliged to inform his chief of the fact; but the marriage is neither a civil nor a religious ceremony, the husband quitting his wife when he may think fit, and not acknowledging his paternal obligations in any way whatever. By this arrangement the Chinese beggars escape all the scandal of divorce and police courts! M. de Saint Louis admits that there are many Yang-Tsi-Yuanns, or houses of charity; that a tax is levied on all housekeepers in aid of the poor, and that the Emperor and the Princes give large sums for the same object. Last year, he adds, the Emperor gave at the commencement of the winter six thousand taels, and on the very night preceding the distribution, thirty mendicants died of starvation on the marble bridge of the palace. M. de Mont Louis hints that the fear of rebellion has more to do with these arrangements than any actual feeling of charity, and adds that the functionaries who preside over the houses of charity have generally no remuneration, and therefore take care of themselves out of the money and millet entrusted to them for distribution, this custom being quite regular in China. The number of mendicants who receive rations of millet twice a day during three winter months is supposed to be somewhere about three thousand. There exists also in Peking a public dormitary for these miserable creatures, a large building consisting of four sides, with a large court-yard in the centre. One of the wings is devoted to men, a second to women, and a third to children, while the fourth is occupied by the officers and servants of the establishment. No beds or furniture of any kind is provided, but sometimes the ground is strewed with feathers *given* by mandarins and other grandees, who simply order their poulterers to carry so many feathers to the dormitary. When the weather is very severe the poor mendicants have a thick blanket-like covering, with a hole in the middle, through which the head appears. The sleeping space is so restricted that the mendicants are unable to lie down, but are packed together like negroes in a slave ship. In case of death the bodies are placed in rough coffins, which remain for months piled one on each other in the place where the beggars come daily for their dole, for the law only allows the interment to take place during the first week of spring! M. de Saint Louis admits that private charity exists to a considerable extent in Peking, but he is rather hard upon poor human nature when he attributes nearly the whole of the almsgiving to policy, self-interest, and vanity. We none of us do so at home!

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CHINESE COMPETITION IN TRADE.

We would be glad to learn more particularly the grounds on which the French Consul-General at Shanghai affirms that his visit to the chief silk districts has resulted in improving the facilities for foreign, or at least for French trade. There can be no question that the occasional visits to the interior of China of the official representatives of foreign Powers, bent on discovering the local causes that enhance prices or render them so fluctuating, apart from the conditions of supply and demand and cost of transit, and making complaints *in propria persona* to the Mandarins controlling the routes of trade, would prove favourable to foreign interests. The central power has always been too inefficient or careless to check the exactions of the Mandarins; and it may be made a question whether these extortioners might not thus be made more amenable for infractions of the treaty. Such official visits by our own Consuls, accompanied by gunboats, would not only give a wholesome sense of our readiness to defend mercantile interests, but would prepare the way for further enterprise by private traders. In so far as concerns our purchases, we are yet too dependent on the middleman. A vast change will be brought about when we are enabled to hold more direct dealings with the producers. Adding to this a clearer understanding of the conditions of transit to be come to with the local authorities, we would be able to enter into a more effective competition with native exporters.

THE NEW GOVERNOR FOR HONG KONG.

Sir Richard Graves Macdonnell has arrived from Halifax, and it is reported will take his departure for Hong Kong next month. The correspondent of the *Canadian News*, writing from Halifax on the 28th Sept., says:—

Sir Richard Graves Macdonnell leaves here to-night by the steamer for England. Yesterday a warm and flattering address was presented to his Excellency by the corporation of this city of Halifax. As this address and the reply to it seem to me worthy of reproduction, I append them to this letter. The reply especially strikes me as one which is conceived and expressed in very good taste. Sir Richard and his graceful and accomplished lady have endeared themselves to the numerous circle who, since their arrival here, have enjoyed the unwonted and genial hospitalities of Government House; and the great body of our citizens and the people of this province generally will warmly sympathise with the kindly sentiments contained in the address to which I have just alluded. There is not, of course, much scope under our present form of Government for the active exercise, on the part of one in his Excellency's position, of statesmanship in the local government of the colony; but the energy and ability of Sir Richard as Commander-in-Chief have been most successfully exerted in advancing the local defence of this province. No previous Governor has bestowed a tithe of the personal attention which Sir Richard has given to this important branch of the public service, and which he has the satisfaction of now leaving in a high state of efficiency. It may be safely stated that in no part of Her Majesty's dominions can there be found a more zealous and devoted representative of the Crown than Sir Richard Graves Macdonnell.

The following is the address alluded to:—

To his Excellency,—

We, the Mayor and Aldermen of the city of Halifax, for ourselves and on behalf of our fellow-citizens, assure your Excellency that on departing from this province to assume a post of greater responsibility and more important trust, to which our Most Gracious Queen has been pleased to transfer you, you will carry the sincere regrets of our citizens generally that your sojourn in Nova Scotia has been so brief, and that you will not be afforded the opportunity of carrying out the improvements of our country which, we are confident, you were anxious to suggest and promote.

During your short administration of the Government, you have been distinguished by a marked desire to perform the duties appertaining to your exalted position faithfully and zealously, to uphold the good government of our illustrious Sovereign, and to advance the prosperity of the people.

Impressed as your Excellency evidently has been with the vital importance of having a self-protecting force to guard our homes, we have viewed with much satisfaction the deep interest you have evinced in our militia forces and the internal defences of our country. The improvements made and the active measures promoted by you, the Commander-in-Chief, must have occasioned much thought, anxiety, and trouble, and are likely in our future to prove largely beneficial.

The gentle and urbane bearing of your amiable lady has commanded the deep respect of the community, and we beg to assure your Excellency that the citizens of Halifax will long cherish pleasing recollections of the residence in our midst of your Excellency and her Ladyship.

Though we much regret your early departure from our shores, we must be permitted to congratulate your Excellency on the high estimate Her Majesty places upon your administrative talents by entrusting you with so dignified and important an appointment as the one to which you have been promoted; and now, when thus according to us the privilege of a parting farewell, we respectfully wish your Excellency and Lady Macdonnell a safe, speedy, and pleasant passage to your new sphere of usefulness.

His Excellency replied as follows:—

Mr. Mayor and Aldermen,—

Your address embodies so much genuine and kindly feeling to myself personally that I should find it difficult at any time to express adequately the sentiments which its language awakens. How much more so, then, at a moment when, amidst an unusual pressure of business, the recollections connected with my sojourn here and the regrets so natural at leaving are crowding on me.

It may be true that the only durable reward of exertions for the public good lies not in mere human approbation, but in the inward conscious sense of efforts honestly and fearlessly made to act up to a high standard of duty. Nevertheless, I hope I can adequately appreciate the friendly approval of those who reside near and personally know me, and who are at this moment, during the Parliamentary recess, the most important representatives of public feeling in the province. I also appreciate fully the value of the opinion of a representative body such as yours, to whose intelligence and enterprise the increasing improvements of this city of late years bear such ample testimony.

Although I did not feel warranted to decline that personal promotion to which you allude in a career so long followed, I frankly own that it is rendered less acceptable by the severance which it entails of much pleasant intercourse with valued friends and the interruption of many labours, whose fruits, nevertheless, will not, I trust, be wholly lost.

Amongst those labours I shall always look back with special pride to the improvements which the liberal spirit of your Legislature has enabled me to effect in the organisation and equipment of your local forces. Their increasing efficiency will soon render them formidable opponents of any regular invading army, whilst the loyal and cheerful spirit in which they contribute time and labour to render themselves efficient defenders of their native land justly merit the grateful recognition of the country.

I scarcely know how to allude suitably to your just appreciation of one whose companionship has constituted the chief happiness of myself. I will only say that I am well aware that to her presence here will be almost entirely due those pleasing recollections which you say will abide with you of our sojourn here.

I am not at this moment, as you may suppose, inclined to touch on any subject connected merely with the arduous duties of my public life. I only feel that I am bidding farewell, through you, to a community for whose prosperity I have endeavoured conscientiously to labour, and whose continued progress and happiness shall never cease to interest me.

RICHARD GRAVES MACDONNELL.

Government House, Sept. 27, 1865.

IMPORTS FROM JANUARY 1, TO JUNE 30, 1865.

Annexed is a statement of the computed value of our importations for the above period. Each country is placed in the order in which it ranks, according to the magnitude of the supplies it has sent to us. The total shows a falling off of about 19 per cent., but this is almost entirely consequent on the reduction in the price of cotton, which has caused India to figure for only £9,489,188, against £20,503,510 in the first half of last year, and Egypt for only £8,964,947, against £11,040,841; while China and Brazil, also from that cause, exhibit a proportionate diminution. The most remarkable feature in the list consists in the place occupied by the United States, which now, instead of standing at the head of the foreign contributors to our wants, show a total only a little more than a third of that of France, about half that of Egypt, and less than those respectively of Germany, China, and Holland:—

IMPORTS FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS DURING THE SIX MONTHS ENDED THE 30TH JUNE, 1865.

	1864.	1865.	1864.	1865.
1. British Possessions:—	£.	£.	£.	£.
India	20.503,510	9.489,188	—	—
Australia ..	3,748,777	4,818,715	—	—
West Indies ..	3.360.605	2,549,314	—	—
Ceylon ..	1,420,099	1,255,170	—	—
British Guiana	1,203,964	950,727	—	—
Cape	741,098	908,429	—	—
British North America ..	1,250,936	868.868	—	—
Singapore ..	913,506	863,088	—	—
Mauritius ..	960,722	630,118	—	—
Hong Kong ..	1,800.091	499,608	—	—
Bermudas ..	556,257	244,606	—	—
Channel Islands	388,430	194,772	—	—
Western Africa	115.845	187,462	—	—
Belize ..	185.084	141,868	—	—
Gibraltar ..	41.345	95,878	—	—
Natal	78,246	66,067	—	—
St. Helena ..	182	39,559	—	—
Malta.. ..	49,956	31,394	—	—
Falkland Islands	4,699	4,462	—	—
Ascension ..	—	8	—	—
Ionian Islands.	24,012	—	—	—
Kaffraria ..	4,546	—	—	—
Heligoland ..	802	—	—	—
Aden	75	—	—	—
			37,352,787	23,839,301
2. France			12,906,734	12,817,179
3. Egypt			11,040,841	8.964,947
4. Germany			6,151,448	6,251,426
5. China			6,916,934	5,108,789
6. Holland			4.492,186	4,627.264
7. United States			8.509,547	4,338,917
8. Belgium			2,787,477	3,292.370
9. Russia			3.374,857	3,018,441
10. Brazil			3,697,381	2,710,885
11. Turkey			2,582 265	2,504,981
12. Mexico			1,935,518	1,953,236
13. Cuba			2,408,238	1,858,131

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14.	Spain	2,919,798	1,850.021
15.	Sweden and Norway	1,720.048	1,687.714
16.	Peru	1,187.490	1,746.075
17.	Chili	1,362.515	1,482.935
18.	Portugal	1,223.035	1,273.838
19.	Italy	1,018.284	1,076.869
20.	Denmark	829.972	870,423
21.	Philippine Islands	269.987	790,730
22.	New Granada	775,756	702,724
23.	Austrian Territories	458,060	527.972
24.	Western Africa	372,340	427,305
25.	Japan	791,389	415,510
26.	Central America	196,102	328,182
27.	Uruguay	395,084	327,345
28.	Greece	161,897	308,453
29.	Argentine Republic	347,151	308,140
30.	Hayti, San Domingo, &c.	173,463	163,739
31.	Morocco	97,964	103,430
32.	Bolivia	53,033	82,950
33.	Venezuela	76.616	64,163
34.	Eastern Africa	28.501	61,636
35.	Algeria	60.828	42.322
36.	Equador	19.996	28,435
37.	Borneo, &c.	6,634	19,842
38.	French Possessions in India	58,064	15,992
39.	Siam	14,522	9,372
40.	Papal Ports on the Mediterranean	2.418	5,207
41.	Northern Whale Fishery	20,624	2,430
42.	Islands in the Pacific	—	7,939
43.	Java, &c.	8,378	—
44.	Tunis	875	—
45.	Cochin China	4	—
		£118,807,041	£96,017,560

Literature.

—o—

The great publishing houses are beginning to be sensible of the approach of winter and its long evenings. Their dormant season is during the bright summer days when every healthy mind that is fortunately incorporated in a healthy body is away to fragant meads or the breezy shore. History has taken the lead in the recent additions to the library catalogues ; for Lady Theresa Lewis's *Extracts from the Journals and Correspondence of Miss Berry* consist so entirely of anecdotes and reminiscences of personages who have already been placed by posterity in the niches awarded to them in the Temple of Fame that the three volumes they fill must not be classed as mere ordinary autobiography. The sisters Berry, long ago introduced to the public by Horace Walpole, flourished during the long period extending from 1783 to 1852. The elder of the two was the delight of the old age of that prince of anecdote-writers just mentioned, who was born under the reign of George the First, and her days were lengthened out till, little more than a dozen years ago, she was presented to Queen Victoria, who did her subject the unusual honour of expressing a desire to make her acquaintance. Nor do the "Extracts" refer to English life and English celebrities alone. The ladies were travellers in their younger days, before the French Revolution broke out to change the entire aspect of manners and society ; the short respite from war of 1802 took them again over to Paris ; and another visit after the restoration of the Bourbons enables them to note how completely the events of the earlier part of the nineteenth century had disunited the then generation from the past. The volumes may be considered an indispensable supplement to Horace Walpole's collection of *memorabilia*, and will, no doubt, be as extensively read and treasured up.—*The Story of the Great March* is the narrative of Sherman's wonderful movement from Atlanta to Savannah, and thence northwards, told by one of his aide-de-camps, Brevet Major George Ward Nichols. Sherman's exploit is now thoroughly appreciated by the professional military critics, who admit that it displays the very highest quality of generalship—that of winning bloodless victories by dint of consummate manœuvring. Grant will soon receive his turn of hero-worship, for it certainly must be confessed that the two make a pair of whom America ought to be proud. Indeed, it is clear that the perfect confidence felt by each in the other enabled Sherman to decide on his brilliant flanking campaign, and brought Grant to remain immovable and apparently inert before Richmond, where the event proved he did the Union better service by retaining Lee also motionless, than if he had hazarded a hundred conflicts. Besides possessing the highest interest as regards the topic it embraces, the book is very ably written, and may be set down as a really spirit-stirring performance.

Of lighter publications, we must recommend *A Summer in Skye*, by Alexander Smith, the poet and essayist. In Skye, says the author, one is freed of one's century, wafted far beyond the atmosphere of Edinburgh reviewers or sensation novels, and everything is seen "in the light of Ossian, as in the light of a mournful sunset." During a residence of several successive summers in Skye, he grows deeply interested in the Ossianic controversy, and becomes thoroughly convinced that Macpherson was no literary forger, but simply an inefficient and untrustworthy translator. A short extract will sum up his decision :—

That a large body of poetical MSS. existed in the Highlands we know ; we know also that when challenged to do so, Macpherson produced his originals ; and the question arises, Was Macpherson a competent and faithful translator of these MSS. ? Did he reproduce the original in all its strength and sharpness? On the whole, perhaps, Macpherson translated the ancient Highland poems as faithfully as Pope translated Homer, but his version is in many respects defective and untrue. The English Ossian is Macpherson's just as the most popular English Iliad is Pope's. Macpherson was not a thoroughly equipped Gaelic scholar ; his version is full of blunders and misapprehensions of meaning, and he expressed himself in the fashionable poetic verbiage of his day. You find echoes of Milton, Shakespeare, Pope, and Dryden, and these echoes give his whole performance a hybrid aspect. It has a parti-coloured look ; is a thing of odds and ends, of shreds and patches ; in it antiquity and his own day are incongruously mixed—like Macbeth in a periwig, or a ruin decked out with new and garish banners.

Mr. Smiths' acute perception of external beauties renders his account of his residence in Skye a charming piece of word-painting. All kinds of matter appear in his volumes, from poems composed in a bothy to a description of a row at Keady Fair ; and the people among whom he mixed, whether gentle or simple, stand out well from the canvas as character-studies.

Some reprints of American *facetiæ* are just now having a rapid sale. In addition to *Major Jack Downing* and the *Biglow Papers*, there are four or five others not so well known to the English public. The success of these republications may have the excellent effect of inducing a desire in American authors and their publishers to accede to that international respect for copyright which has been formally sanctioned by treaty and legislation among many European nations. *Artemus Ward, his Book*, and *Artemus Ward, his Travels*, are perhaps destined to achieve the honour of this beneficial result. One publisher advertises a shilling edition of all these books with the following—

Notice.—Beeton's edition of "Artemus Ward" is not issued under the authority of Mr. Brown, the author. It is printed without his leave or sanction, precisely as Mr. Beeton's books, and Englishmen's works generally, are reprinted in America without their leave or sanction.

A rival publisher has filed a bill in Chancery against this bold retaliator in literary appropriation, founding his claim to copyright on certain petty rectifications of the American original, alleging that he, the plaintiff, "made such additions, suppressions, and alterations to and in the edition of the author's work so prepared by the plaintiff for the English reader and published by the plaintiff in England." The plaintiff's grievance is, as he puts it, that Mr. Beeton's edition is printed without authority, not from the American, but from his English edition. The question, therefore, is whether these variations are sufficiently important to constitute an infraction of copyright. In principle there can be no doubt that anything added by an English editor to a work, whether copyright or not, is copyright if published for the first time in this country. It is customary with some English writers publishing in America to get some small portion added to their work by an American writer, which is generally considered to secure copyright in the entire volume, if the exact extent of the work of the American collaborateur is not divulged. All these devices, however, only serve to illustrate more strongly the unsatisfactory state of international copyright law—or rather no law—as between England and the United States.

Among the matters that point to the winter's merry fireside are some of the Games for Round Parties, issued by Dean and Munday. Mrs. Blackwell's *Game of Quotations from the Poets* deserves special mention for the clever notion of fixing in the memory the words and sources of the phrases and lines that continually spring to the lips even in ordinary conversation, so completely have they become "household words." The game may be played, it seems to us, in two ways, either by the exact reminiscent being rewarded by a counter, or by the faulty one being mulcted in a forfeit. It possesses the merit of being so framed that, whilst young people beyond the age of childhood will findin it amusement and instruction, their seniors will be able to join in it without forfeiting one atom of their dignity beyond occasionally affording a proof of having lived long enough to find they have forgotten much that they knew.

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Gustave Dore's great masterpiece—viz., the *Illustrated Bible*—upon which he has been engaged for the last four years, is now on the eve of completion. Messrs. Cassell, Petter and Galpin have purchased the engravings for their sole and exclusive use in the English language, and their edition of this great work, for England and America, will be shortly announced. The illustrations will consist of 230 large page drawings, the cost of their production being upwards of £15,000.

Mr. Murray has published a new *Handbook for Russia, Poland, and Finland*, which has been compiled by Mr. Michell, an *attaché* to the Embassy at St. Petersburg. Having lately had experience of the incorrectness of Bradshaw, we welcome this book most heartily as much needed.

Naval and Military.

The Orontes, iron screw troop-ship, Captain H. W. Hire, left Plymouth on the 30th Sept. for Madeira, *en route* to China. Her supernumeraries consist of about 170 officers and 870 seamen, &c., there being, when all told, about 1,250 souls on board.

It has been officially announced at the head-quarters of the Royal Engineer establishment, Chatham, that the appointment of principal instructor in field fortifications to the Royal Engineer corps, vacant by the death of Major F. H. de Vere, has been conferred by Field-Marshal the Duke of Cambridge on Lieut.-Col. W. O. Lennox, V.C., now attached to the Quartermaster-General's Department at Aldershott camp, who will forthwith enter on the duties of his post. Colonel Lennox has seen service eminently fitting him for the appointment. He was present during the whole of the campaign in the Crimea, the gallantry he then displayed entitling him to the Victoria Cross. He also served throughout the Indian mutiny, and commanded the Royal Engineer brigade at the relief of Lucknow, for which he was honourably mentioned by Lord Clyde, and publicly thanked by the Governor-General of India in Council. He served throughout the whole campaign in India.

The screw frigate Racoon, 22, Captain Count Gleichen, has arrived from the Mediterranean, and will steam into Portsmouth harbour to be docked. Lieut. Prince Alfred was to have joined the Racoon at Malta, and served on board her in the Mediterranean until his promotion to Commander's rank in the spring. The outbreak of cholera, however, in various ports of the Mediterranean has been the cause of the Racoon's recall to England.

A new rudder on Lumley's patent is being constructed for the screw troopship Orontes, Captain H. W. Hire, at Portsmouth dockyard, and will be fitted to that vessel on her return to England from her present China voyage. The Lumley rudder, which is fitted to Her Majesty's ships Columbine, Scotia, and six other vessels in the navy, is one of the most simple, yet efficient, forms of steering that can be applied to single screw ships, yet, strange to say, none of our large ironclads have yet been fitted with it.

Her Majesty's screw gun-vessel Sylvia, partially completed at Woolwich, to carry four guns, and to be of the burthen of 695 tons, the building of which has been suspended since 1860, is now ordered to be completed. She is to be fitted with a chart-house on deck, similar to that of the paddle sloop Hydra, and it is reported the command will be given to Staff-Commander Reed, who performed efficient service during his command of the surveying vessel Rifleman, in the China waters.

The late Dr. Barry, inspector-general of military hospitals, was found after death to be a woman. The *Carlisle Examiner* says that the fact was suspected during life by reason of voice, stature, and beardless face, but that Dr. Barry was very haughty and bold, having given more than one challenge to a duel.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

OCTOBER 7.

The Austrian Commodore (now Rear-Admiral) Baron von Wullerstorff-Urbair has just been appointed Minister for Commerce. This gallant officer will no doubt be known to many of your readers in the Far East when he commanded the "Novara expedition," of which he has written such a highly interesting description. This is the first time that he has ever accepted a civil appointment, and from the zeal and energy with which he in that work has advocated the desirability of opening the Austrian trade to China and Japan, there is every reason to expect that one of his first official acts will be to take earnest steps to conclude commercial treaties with those empires.

A correspondent of the Russian *Northern Post*, admitting that the fair at Nijni Novgorod has been a bad one this year, proceeds to investigate the question whether the fair is in a chronic state of annual degeneracy, or whether the calmness which prevails is only attributable to local and transitory causes. He arrives at the conclusion that it is owing to the latter, and states that people most intimately acquainted with the condition of the fair for many years all agree with him in ascribing the present dulness to the numerous changes and reorganisations going on in the interior of the empire, and cannot be placed to the account of the extension of the railway system, as by far the greater part of the bulky goods are brought by water.

The new Siberian journal called the *East Coast*, published at Nicolayefsk, at the mouth of the Amoor, complains bitterly of the dearness of provisions and other necessaries of life in that town, giving the following quotations:—Butcher's meat, 8 to 9 Roubles per pood of 40 lbs.; butter, 13 Rs.; wheat flour, 5 Rs. 50 cop.; rye flour, 2 Rs. 10 cop.; buckwheat groats, 3 Rs.; pearl barley, 2 Rs. 40 cop.; wax candles, 22 Rs.; stearine do., 11 Rs.; fresh sturgeon, 12 Rs.; a bottle of milk costs 20 copecks, and ten eggs 30 copecks.

The Prussian steam-corvette *Vineta*, of 20 guns, is ordered to proceed forthwith to the China and Japan waters, where she will remain for some time on the station. She is now fitting out for that purpose at Kiel, and will probably sail in the course of this month, proceeding, however, not direct, as she is under orders to go, in the first place, to the Brazils, where her presence may be required for some little time for the protection of the Germans there.

Mr. Ludwig Wiese, having resigned his appointment as Vice-Consul for the King of Sweden and Norway at Victoria, Hong Kong, his resignation has been accepted by rescript dated Stockholm, the 19th of September last.

Another flagrant case of piracy in the Far East, by which the Hamburg underwriters are again partial losers, has come to light since last mail, and made a painful sensation here. Captain Fuchs, of the Prussian ship *Fuchs*, of Stettin, in a letter dated Amoy, July 27, reports as follows:—

"On the 24th of May last I left Ningpo, and, to cut off a long distance, went through the Kin-tang Channel, which leads into the Foto Channel, but with an 8-knot breeze it was not possible to make head against the current, which was so strong as sometimes to turn the ship round and round, as in an eddy. However, I got through between the islands of Dumb and Deadman. On the 29th I anchored off the island of Tagasan. For fear of the pirates which swarm on this coast I had loaded my two guns, and my ten muskets, though a common trading junk carries six, and pirates twenty and more, chiefly 18-pounders; I therefore run out four wooden dummies. In the morning a fisherman came on board to offer me fish for sale, and he appeared to look attentively at the dummies. I sent him away, and heard him laugh derisively. I then got under weight and, as the wind was light, the ship was carried away by the strong ebb and flood tide alternately. When between the Elephant Island and Ketow North Point, fourteen junks hove in sight, bore down on the ship and fired, dividing their forces so as to surround me. Fortunately their balls took no effect, as these pirates are bad gunners. I reserved my fire till three of the junks had approached pretty near, and their guns had demolished my bulwarks. Both of my balls took effect, the first junk losing her mainmast, which, in falling, crushed some of her crew; the second made a hole in another of the junks just above the water line: my muskets also caused some confuson and loss. Notwithstanding this they tried to board me; but we managed with our muskets to pick off the men at the guns, and thus prevent their firing, while the more distant junks were unable to fire without hitting their consorts. We now fired with canister, and my men cheered loudly as their shots told. One of the pirates managed to get under our stern, where only one man was stationed, armed with a revolver. He let go the wheel and ran down into the powder-room, returning immediately with a tin case, half full of musket cartridges. Having put in some lighted tinder, he tossed the case on to the deck of the pirate, where it exploded immediately, and set fire to the tinder of their own guns, which were loaded with canister. These went off, demolishing the masts of several other junks. The Chinese, probably thinking that this fire proceeded from my ship, were greatly disconcerted, and made off, we continuing to send canister after them on their retreat. The mate, Peters, was wounded in the leg by a ball. The *Fuchs* then continued to drift with the tide for two days, when a breeze sprung up which enabled us to reach an anchorage."

A correspondent of the *Daily News* writes:—

The Senate of Hamburg has just laid before the Burgerschaft, for their consent and ratification, a contract lately concluded with the Submarine Telegraph Company in London for a new submarine line from the east coast of England to Cuxhaven, at the mouth of the Elbe, for which a concession has been granted for ten years. The company is bound to put up two wires between London and the coast of Norfolk, and thence by submarine cable to Heligoland, with a branch line to Cuxhaven, passing through the little outlying island of Neuwerk, at the mouth of the Elbe, and belonging to Hamburg; whilst Hamburg engages on her part to put up two wires along the banks of the Elbe, to form a junction at Cuxhaven. Both contracting parties bind themselves to accomplish their several engagements within twelve months from the date of the exchange of the ratifications, and to keep the lines in good working order during the whole period of the concession. For the present there will be no alteration in the charge for telegrams, which remain as those forwarded between Hamburg and London by the other existing routes; but should any of the competing companies at a subsequent period reduce their tariff, the charge for telegrams by the direct route will also be moderated to the same scale. On all telegrams forwarded by this new line Hamburg is to receive eight silver groschens, or tenpence for each, and if the number of telegrams amount to more than 40,000 in any one year, the company are to be reimbursed two silver groschens, or threepence for each. Hamburg further promises to prolong the concession for another term of ten years at the expiration of the present agreement, provided the existing convention with Hanover be renewed. The contract was signed in London on the 2nd of July last, by Mr. Syndicus Merck, on the part of Hamburg; and Mr. George von Bunsen, on the part of the Submarine Telegraph Company, but as the Burgerschaft has only now met after the summer recess, it could not be brought forward for ratification at an earlier period.

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P.S.—I have just ascertained that it is not Admiral Wullerstorff, but his brother.

COMMERCIAL.

Coffee.—There is a continued good demand both for consumption and shipment to the United States, to which large quantities are still sent by almost every vessel. About 5,000 bags have also been taken on speculation, and the market closes very firm, to which the destruction of 15,000 bags by fire in a large stack of warehouses at Altona may have somewhat tended, it being the practice of the Hamburg merchants to store a great part of their coffee and some other articles in the adjoining town, where certain municipal charges are lower than here. Since the departure of last mail the sales of the fortnight amounted to 43,000 bags. The imports of this year to the end of September were 84,700,000 lbs., against 52,500,000 in the same period of last year, and 71,400,000 in 1863. The present stock is 24,000,000 lbs., against 7,500,000 last year, and 18,500,000 lbs. in 1863.

Sugar.—Raw firm and 4 Sch. Bco. higher, which advance is well supported. The small stock precludes any extensive operations. Among the sales were 1,000 bags yellow E. I. and 700 Kranjangs of Batavia. Refined firm, sales of the fortnight 30,000 loaves.

Rice.—Market steady with limited demand; 2,700 bags of mid. to fine Java were sold at a high figure.

Spices.—Very extensive purchases have been made of Cassia lignea for shipment and the demand still continues, in consequence of which the price has risen very considerably, and nothing is now to be had under 11 Sch. Bco., whilst the stock is nearly cleared off. Ginger is again in favour, and 389 chests of Cochin just arrived found a ready sale. More demand for Mace and Cloves. Pepper steady.

Tea.—About 500 chests of Congou, Souchong and Pecco sold at full prices. A demand for Oolong has sprung up for the United States, but the orders cannot be executed for want of stock. Ord. and good Ord. Congou continue in favour, and not be had under 11 Sch. Bco. A large parcel of good mid. Kaisow Congou has been taken for shipment. Some small lots of Kaisow and Pak Ling Congou sold at 40 to 48 Sch. Bco.; they are of the new crop, and have a strong aromatic smell. There is still a good demand for Pecco and Souchong for the North of Europe.

Spelter.—Better accounts from America were neutralised in their effect on this market by dull advices from other European places, and the article is calm, with a downward tendency. After a few sales had been made at 14.5, the next day 1,000 centners in loco were taken at 14.2. and 2,000 centners for delivery in December at the same figure. The imports of this metal in September were 45,000 centners. The total imports of this year to this date were 232,000 centners, against 417,000 last year. The present stock is 15,000 centners, against 24,000 in 1864.

Money scarce and discount risen to 6¾ per cent.

Shipping.—Sailed.—Oct. 1, Melissa to Singapore.

Loading.—Mauritius, for Singapore; Fidelio, for Hong Kong; Garland ditto; Colima, Macassar and Hong Kong; Catharina, Shanghae.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Oct. 7	London	Shanghai	Eliza Shaw	Steel.
— 8	Do.	Foo-chow-Foo	Belted Will	Locke.
— 8	Do.	Do.	Flying Spur	Ryrie.
— 8	Do.	Macao	Pakwan	Wawn.
— 5	Bremen	Rangoon	Johanne and Emilie	Seubert.
— 9	London	Foo-chow-Foo	Black Prince	Inglis.
—	Portland	Maulmain	Arthur	Matthews.
— 9	London	Singapore	Elizabeth	Amerstadt.
— 6	Off Plymouth	Batavia	Holland	
— 10	Falmouth	Singapore	Ida	Weyland.
— 10	Do.	Maulmain	Pollux	Nordmann.
— 10	Off do.	Rangoon	Schlosser	Thole.
Sep. 25	New York	Sumatra	Tarquin	Kimball.
Oct. 11	London	Foo-chow-Foo	Taeping	Mackinnon.
— 9	Queenstown	Maulmain	Assam Valley	Oakden.
— 1	Gibraltar	Singapore	Orion	Knudsen.
Sep. 25	Philadelphia	Penang	Ironsides	Tadley.
Oct 11	Deal	Colombo	Palestine	Park.
— 10	Falmouth	Akyab	John Bryant	Gardner.
— 11	Do.	Bassein	Crescent City	Elwell.
— 11	Do.	Do.	Fortschritt	Rohbock.
— 11	Do.	Akyab	Kensington	Miller.
— 9	St. Nazaire	Batavia	Confiance	Cadion.
— 11	London	Yokohama	Dora	Millbank.
— 11	Do.	Shanghai	Cissy	Spencer.
— 11	Do.	Hong Kong	Banda	Morris.
— 11	Do.	Maulmain	Queen of Australia	Rudolph.
— 11	Deal	China	City of Aberdeen	Taylor.
— 11	Do.	Do.	Silver Eagle	Longman.
— 11	Do.	Singapore	Martin Luther	Hohorst.
— 12	Do.	Colombo	Palmyra	Richards.
— 12	Do.	Singapore	Silver Cloud	
— 12	Do.	Colombo	Palmerston	
—	Falmouth	Bassein	Hudson	
— 13	London	Colombo	Queen of the North	Tidmarsh.
— 12	Deal	Batavia	Lammina Elizabeth	
— 12	Do.	Singapore	West	Hawkins.
— 12	Off Falmouth	Bassein	Congress	Drinkwater.
— 11	Queenstown	Do.	City of Bangor	Aylman.
— 11	Helvoet	Samarang	Bengal	Petterson.
— 11	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Holland	Aufnorth.
— 11	Havre	Hong Kong	Immaculee Conceptn	Richer.
— 13	Deal	Canton	Annette (s.)	
— 13	Do.	Penang	Caroline Agnes	
— 13	Poole	Maulmain	Lloyd's	Harris.
— 13	Falmouth	Sarawak	Bella Donna	Hamon.
— 13	Do.	Akyab	Artemisia	Husband.
— 14	Liverpool	Singapore	Sharpshooter	
— 14	Deal	Colombo	Alice Ritson	
— 14	Do.	Penang	Caroline	
— 14	Falmouth	Maulmain	Canada Belle	Henderson.
— 14	Do.	Batavia	Charlotte	Lawge.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Oct. 6	Shields	Batavia	India	
—	Texel	Padang	Excelsior	
— 7	Sunderland	Singapore	D'Thyen	Addeck.
— 7	Do.	Galle	Star of the North	Nolle.
— 9	Swansea	Shanghai	John Milton	
— 8	Liverpool	Singapore	Queensberry	Lowe.
—	Rotterdam	Do.	Luconia	Admiraal.
— 7	Newport	Galle	Charles	Lechere.
— 10	Liverpool	Manila	Sailor Prince	Glavin.
— 6	Cronstadt	Amoor	Lochalva	Sydney.
— 11	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Fiery Cross	Robinson.
— 11	Liverpool	Yokohama	Castlehow	Shackham.
— 12	Grimsby	Batavia	A. E. Vidal	Rohs

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At London.—For Yokohama: Tiptree, Eliza Shaw. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Conference. For Nagasaki: Broadwater. For Shanghai: Burdwan, Flying Spur, Min Taeping. For Hong Kong and Canton: Taitsing, Belted Will, Black Prince. For Penang: Devonvale. For Singapore: Belle of Southesk. For Bankok and Siam: Fairy. For Manila: Loyola. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Frances Milly, Aoa, Palestine and Kaap Hoorn. For Colombo and Cochin: Abdul Medjid. For Colombo: Frances, Crouch Brothers, East Lothian.

At Liverpool.—For Yokohama: Eclipse. For Shanghai: Illimani. For Hong Kong and Canton: Sir Lancelot. For Singapore: Albert Victor. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Harkaway. For Manila: San Luis, Alavesa, Eulalia. For Colombo: Meg Merrilies.

At Glasgow.—For Manila: Bella Gallega. For Batavia, Samarang, and Sourabaya: County of Renfrew. For Batavia and Singapore: Helen Baird. For Singapore: Grenada.

SPOKEN.

Anthony v. Brooklyn (Dut. ship), Amsterdam to Batavia.
Dutch Barque, 3rd d.p., Rottm. to Bat., both June 28, 11 N., 26 W.
St. Bede (barq.), Shields to Galle, June 22, 16 N., 26 W.
Antony (Dut. ship), Amstm. to Bat., July 24, 31 S., 21 W.
Queen of the Ocean, Lon. to Shanghai, Aug. 8, 5 N., 107 E.
Prince Alfred, Lon. to Shanghai, Aug. 12, 14 N., 113 E.
Bernard and Agnes, Amstm. to Singapore, Sept. 11, 13 N., 26 W.
James Shepperd, Lon. to Shanghai, Sept. 11, 15 N., 27 W.
Doelman (Dut. ship), for Batavia, Sept. 26, 42 N., 16 W.
China, Hamburg to H. Kong, Aug. 20, 1 S., 21 W.
Bella Donna, Sarawak to Falmouth, Sept. 9, 4 N., 23 W.
Maria Christine, Bat. to Rottm., Aug. 16, 19 N., 26 W.
John Watt (?), Cardiff to Sgpre., 30 days out, Sept. 13, 13 N., 26 W.
Fatel Rozeck (Fr. ship), Sumatra to Marseilles, July 27, 34 S., 27 E.
Lammina Elizabeth, Batavia to Rotterdam, Sept. 18, 27 N., 32 W.
Molly (Hamb. schr.), Singapore to Hamburg, Sept. 6, 1 N., 22 W.
Eglantine, from Colombo, Aug. 18, 35 S., 20 E.
Veritas, Shanghai to New York, 91 days out.
Alert (Hamb. barq.), Soura. to Amstdm., Sept. 2, lat. 22, long. 34 W.
Lord Raglan, London to Japan, July 31, 23 S, 31 W.
Oblate (?), Newcastle to Hong Kong, Sept. 8, 10 N., 25 W.
Æolus, Batavia to Middelburg, Oct. 6, 50 N., 8 W.
Europa, Cardiff to Batavia, Sept. 17, 43 N., 14 W.
Flua de Bouga (?), (Dut. ship), Bat. to the Helder, July 16, 23 S., 65 E.
Lories (Dut. ship), Amstdm. to Bat., 42 days out, Sept. 9, 13 N., 27 W,

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Notwithstanding the recent numerous arrivals from the East, the export market continues firm, and but little difficulty has been experienced in placing ships for the outward voyage. Coal freights, however, are somewhat easier, and show a downward tendency.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 35s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £40 to £42 and £1. 19s. to £2. For Shanghai: £50 and £2. 5s. For Manila: 33s. to 35s. For Batavia: £26. 10s. and 27s. For Singapore: £31 and 29s. For Galle: £27 and 25s. to 26s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

CASUALTIES.

The W. Cores de Vries (s.s.), from Rotterdam for Batavia, put into Ramsgate Oct. 11 with slight defect in machinery.

The Silver Cloud, from Singapore, arrived at Deal Oct. 12 with master dead.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Admiralty have accepted the Isabella for the conveyance of troops to Colombo.

At Mauritius.—Aug. 29, from Hong Kong, H.M.S. Tamar, and sailed Sept. 2 for East London and England; 31, from Singapore, Jeanne Meyer, Loesewitz; Sept. 4, from Saigon, &c., Pionnier, Ducasse.

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THE NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY.

(Established 1st January, 1863.)

CAPITAL, Taels 1,250,000, IN 250 SHARES OF Taels 5,000 EACH.

Paid up Capital, Taels 1,000 per Share.

Directors.

L. G. DUNLOP, Esq. (Messrs. Birley, Worthington, and Co.), Chairman.

E. H. Lavers, Esq. (Messrs. Gilman and Co.).

Sol. D. Sassoon, Esq. (Messrs. David Sassoon, Sons, and Co.).

H. Howe Wiggins, Esq. (Manager Commercial Bank Corporation of India and the East).

David Reid, Esq. (Messrs. Reid and Co.)

The Company being about to be reorganised for a further term of three years, from 1st January, 1866, application for Shares will be received by the undersigned until 31st October current.

A certain number of Shares have been allotted to London, but further applications from there will be received until 30th November.

Application for Shares, from persons not resident in Shanghai, must be accompanied by Power of Attorney to their Agents, to sign the Deed of Settlement on their behalf, and generally to represent them in all matters connected with the Company.

By order of the Directors,

J. S. MACKINTOSH, Secretary.

Shanghai, July 12, 1865.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

No.

To the Directors of the North-China Insurance Company.

Gentlemen,— hereby request you will allot to Shares in the above Company, and agree to accept such Shares, or any less number you may allot to ; and agree to pay the first call of Tls. 1,000 per Share, and all subsequent calls, and to subscribe the Deed of Settlement whenever required to do so.

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant.

Application for the Shares allotted to London must be made to—

ASHTON AND CO.,
AGENTS,
HATTON-COURT, THREADNEEDLE-STREET.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

Bankers.

The Bank of England.

The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)

Branches and Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo Kandy, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Point de Galle, Manila, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow, Nagasaki, and Kiu-kiang.

Deposits received at ten days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed period, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued and Bills negotiated payable in India China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government loan notes effected so that the interest may be paid in England. Every other description of Banking and Agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

"CHINA MAIL" OFFICE.

PUBLISHED at this Office, No. 2, WYNDHAM-STREET (back of the Club):—

1.—THE EVENING MAIL,

Every Day.

Price,—2 dols. per month.

Terms of Advertising.—First insertion, Ten lines and under, 1 dol.; each additional line, 10 cents. Subsequent insertions, per week, 50 cents and 5 cents—("Auction" Notices excepted, for which only One Charge per week is made).

2.—THE CHINA MAIL,

Once a Week.

(On Thursday Night.)

Price—15 dols. per annum; Single Copies, 44 cents.

Advertising.—First insertion, Five lines, 1 dol.; each additional line, 20 cents. Subsequent insertions, 50 cent. and 10 cents.

3.—THE OVERLAND MAIL.

Once a Fortnight.

(The Morning of the Mail's despatch.)

Price—To Subscribers to the Weekly issue, 8 dols. to Non-subscribers, 12 dols. Single copies, 50 cents.

Advertising.—The same as in the Weekly. All "Notices of Firms" appearing in the Weekly will be inserted in the *Overland*, and charged for, unless otherwise ordered. A. SHORTREDE & CO.

Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

PORT OF AMOY.

SHIPOWNERS, AGENTS and COMMANDERS are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING and SPARRING VESSELS, and for CLEANING and PAINTING Iron and Steam Ships.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, is in complete working order, and at average spring tides can take vessels drawing 16 to 17 feet water. The Dock is fitted with a Caisson Gate and with a Centrifugal Steam Pump of great power ensuring despatch in all states of the tide. An ample stock is kept on hand of Timber, Oregon Spars, Sheathing Copper and Yellow Metal, and of every description of material for Dockyard use.

The premises comprise an Engineer's Workshop, Brass Foundry, a large Smithy and Carpenter's Workshops, and the works are superintended by Resident Europeans, viz., a Shipwright, an Engineer, and a Blacksmith. Dry Godowns for the reception of vessel's stores, &c., when requiring to discharge them.

Amoy, March, 1865.

ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.—

Incorporated by Royal Charter. Authorised Capital, £2,000,000. Paid-up Capital, £500,000.

Head Office—No. 4, Lombard-street.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Melbourne.

The Corporation grant drafts and negotiate bills of exchange payable at the above places, issue letters of credit, and conduct every description of banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian securities, the receipt of dividends, &c. and undertake the safe custody of securities. They also receive deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of interest and exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

THE CHINESE COMMERCIAL GUIDE.

CONTAINING Treaties, Tariffs Regulations, Tables, &c., useful in the trade of China and Eastern Asia, with an Appendix of Sailing Directions for those Seas and Coasts, by S. WELLS WILLIAMS, LL.D. Fifth Edition.

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DYSENTERY, CHOLERA, FEVER, AGUE, ETC.

CHLORODYNE.

CAUTION.—*Vice-Chancellor Wood affirmed in Court that Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE was undoubtedly the Discoverer of Chlorodyne; that the statements of the Defendant Freeman were deliberately untrue, and he regretted to say they had been sworn to (see "The Times" of July 13, 1864); all others must be spurious.*

Earl Russell has graciously favoured J. T. Davenport with the following extract of a despatch from Mr. Webb, H.B.M.'s Consul at Manila, dated Sept. 17, 1864:—"The remedy most efficacious in its effects (in Epidemic Cholera) has been found to be CHLORODYNE, and with a small quantity given to me by Dr. Burke I have saved several lives." Earl Russell communicated to the College of Physicians that he had received a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Manila, to the effect that Cholera had been raging fearfully, and that the ONLY remedy of any service was CHLORODYNE.—See *Lancet*, December 31, 1864. No home should be without it.

Eminent Hospital Physicians of London stated on oath that they prescribe CHLORODYNE largely, and mean no other than Dr. Browne's.

The General Board of Health, London, state as to its efficacy in Cholera and Dysentery:—"So strongly are we convinced of the efficacy of this remedy, that we cannot too forcibly urge the necessity of adopting it in all cases."

From A. Montgomery, Esq., late Inspector of Hospitals, Bombay:—"Chlorodyne is a most valuable remedy in Neuralgia, Asthma, and Dysentery. To it I fairly owe my restoration to health, after eighteen months' severe suffering, and when all other medicine had failed."

From W. Vesalius Pettigrew, M.D.:—"I have no hesitation in stating that I have never met with any medicine so efficacious as an antispasmodic and sedative. I have used it in Consumption, Asthma, Diarrhœa, and other diseases, and am most perfectly satisfied with the results."

Dr. M'Grigor Croft, late Army Staff, says:—"It is a most valuable medicine."

Dr. Gibson, Army Medical Staff, Calcutta:—"Two doses completely cured me of Diarrhœa"

Government supply both the Army and Navy with it. A Sheet of Medical Testimonials accompanies each Bottle.

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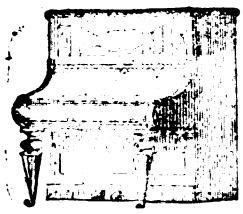

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Inferior Zinc Paint, so marked, having been sold in Foreign Markets, the Patentees offer a Reward of FIFTY POUNDS for information which will lead to the conviction, in an English or Colonial Court, of those who have pirated their Mark. Both Exporters and Retailers are liable for its sale.

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They are made of Stone, Slate, Copper, White, Blue, Green, or any other Colour that is desired.

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For Coating Iron and Wood Ships' Bottoms; a preservative against fouling and corrosion. This Composition is ready for immediate use, and obviates the waste of carrying unmixed Paints, Oils, Driers, &c. It is also applicable to all the purposes of other Paints.

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less colour than Raw Linseed Oil, is a quick, hard and certain drier for White and Light Coloured Paints.

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JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Instantaneous Hair Dye.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Cherry Tooth Paste is greatly superior to any tooth powder, gives the teeth a pearl-like whiteness, protects the enamel from decay, and imparts a pleasing fragrance to the breath.

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JOHN GOSNELL and Co., Perfumers to Her Majesty and by Special Appointment to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, London.

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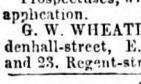

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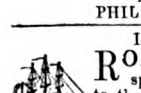

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Yokohama ...	An A 1 ...	—	—	,,
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Hong Kong & Whampoa ...	Sir Lancelot..	850	A 1 14 yrs.	,,
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Ditto ...	Taeping ...	A1 14 yr.	E.I.D.	Nov. 15.
Ditto ...	Guinevere ...	A1 10 yr.	E.I.D.	To follow.
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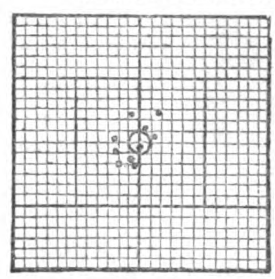

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE SEVENTH Volume of this JOURNAL commenced on the 3rd of January, 1865. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

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The London and China Telegraph.
新聞紙

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 189.] LONDON, SATURDAY, OCT. 28, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama			
Nagasaki	June 26	Aug. 17	Aug. 27
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			„ 24
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			„ 27
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	July 17	Sept. 2	Sept. 4
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			Aug. 31
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			Sept. 3
Swatow			
Hong Kong	July 17	Aug. 28	„ 11
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	July 10	Aug. 26	„ 2
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			
SIAM— Bangkok			„ 15
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			„ 13
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 15
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Aug. 10	Sept. 12	„ 20
Penang	„ „	„ 9	„ 22

The French mail, with ten days later news, is due on the 5th November.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, per P. and O. Company's steamer, Delta, arrived at Marseilles Oct. 26.—From Yokohama: Col. Suther. From Shanghai: Messrs. Webster and Beveridge. From Hong Kong: Messrs. Jenny and Woodward.

To Southampton, per Tanjore, expected to arrive Nov. 2.—From Yokohama: Mrs. Winchester, Mrs. Jacquerent, Mrs. Alliwand. From Singapore: Capt. Cox. To Malta.—From Hong Kong: One 2nd class passenger. To Gibraltar: One 2nd class passenger.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Syria, from Southampton, Oct. 20.—To Shanghai: Miss Reynell and one second-class passenger. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Hermann, infant, and European servant, Dr. Knife, Lieut. Luard, R.N., Captain E. B. Chase, and one second-class passenger. To Ceylon: Mr. R. Massie, Lady Chichester, and European servant, Mr. and Mrs. Wright and two children. To Calcutta: Messrs. G. O. Beeby, and A. Gordon, Mrs. Waddington, Miss McKenzie and native servant, Mrs. Tierney and infant, Mrs. Harrington, Surgeon and Mrs. Barnard, two children, and European servant, Mrs. Colonel Nicolls, two children, and European servant, Messrs. J. C. and W. Martin, Low and Odling, Mrs. Mallock, infant, and European servant, Miss Brook, Mr. A. Tween, Mrs. Spilbury, Miss Whishaw, Messrs. A. Broadfoot and H. St. G. Tucker, Miss Davis, Mr. H. B. Finlay, Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. Beadon, two children, and European servant, Major Peste, Mr. E. Taylor, Dr. Gardiner Miss G. Elliott, Mrs. and Miss Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, and eleven second-class passengers. To Madras: Miss Bliss, Mr. and Mrs. Sim, three children, and two servants, Miss Jacob, Colonel Shakespear, Major Stevenson, Mr. C. Jones, Staff Assistant-Surgeon Dunn, Colonel Goodes, European servant and child, two second-class passengers and one child. To Suez: Four second-class passengers. To Alexandria: Mr. F. Brown, Mrs. Hassanaine, three children, and female servant, Mr. Ameen, Mr. A. Carey, eleven second-class passengers, and one child.

From Marseilles, Oct. 28.—To Shanghai: Mrs. Herbert Hancock, two children, and European servant. To Hong Kong: Mr. T. A. Lane and Mr. D. Lapraik. To Singapore: Mr. Ginberg. To Calcutta: Messrs. C. P. Carmichael and Danby, Mrs. F. H. Smith and daughter, Mr. Apear, Miss Agabeg, Messrs. D. Cunliffe and L. S. Jackson, Major General and Mrs. Flemyng, Miss Flemyng, Mrs. C. Johnson, Mr. J. B. Street, Mr. and Mrs. Blackett, Lieut. Holdsworth, Mr. H. Dear, the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Stone, Major and Mrs. Thelwall, Messrs. Sconce and Grant, Mrs. General Mactier and European servant, Mr. and Mrs. Griffiths, Mr. and Mrs. Shakespear and child, Miss Mackintosh, Messrs. Peacock, T. H. Drake, Wilkinson, H. Dean, W. Terrancan, W. Newton, Dampier, W. Bradbury, and six second-class passengers. To Madras: Miss Lawrenson. To Alexandria: Miss Marten, the Rev. H. Marten, Messrs. Wightman and P. Francis, Mrs. Hasclden and two infants, Miss Yearsley, and two female servants. From Suez.—To Shanghai: Mr. Halls. To Calcutta: Messrs. U. Gray and G. Steinthal.

Per P. and O. steamer Massilia, from Southampton, Oct. 27.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Macdonald, Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Barnes, Mr. Watson. To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. J. B. Leslie, Mr. Sinnett, Mr. Mackintosh.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, 4th Nov.—To Hong Kong; Mr. M. Murray, Assistant Surgeon J. Fraser, R.N. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Lipscombe. To Ceylon: Mrs. Brotherton. From Marseilles, 12th Nov.—To Singapore: Mr. W. Alten, Mr. W. Paterson. To Hong Kong: Mr. F. Jerdein. To Shanghai: Mr. W. G. Howell, Mr. A. Campbell.

Per P. O and steamer, from Southampton, Nov. 12.—To Shanghai via Bombay: Mrs. Bennett and child. From Suez.—To Penang via Bombay: Mr. and Hasche.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Nov. 20.—To Penang: Mrs. and Miss Mackay. To Ceylon: Miss Staples, Mr. Cone.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Dec. 4.—To Shanghai: Miss M. A. Russell. To Hong Kong: Mr. R. C. Lambert and friend.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

The London mail of June 26 arrived out on the 17th August. The dates are now down to the 27th. Nothing definite is reported as to Sir Harry Parkes taking up his quarters at Yedo. We observed the following in a Hong Kong paper:—

"We learn from private letters that Sir Harry Parkes has notified the Gorogio (who, by the way, are already desperately tired of him) that he will, as soon as arrangements for his reception are completed, take up his residence at Yedo. The following characteristic anecdote is now going the round of the community at Yokohama:—'At an interview with some of the chief Ministers Sir Harry Parkes mentioned as a fact which might possibly interest the Gorogio, that he was about immediately to repair to Yedo. 'Oh,' said they, 'the thing is out of the question, it mustn't be thought of.' Sir Harry Parkes replied, with significant urbanity, 'I did not wish to trouble you for an expression of your opinion on this matter, I merely desired to intimate the fact.' The Gorogio have heard of the Canton war, and it probably does not tend to reassure them under the decisive tone adopted by the new Minister.

We observe that Sir Edmund Hornby had paid a visit to Japan, returning to Shanghai by the mail steamer *Cadiz*.

The following notifications have been issued:—

The undersigned having this day received instructions from Sir Harry S. Parkes, K.C.B., Her Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary, Minister Plenipotentiary and Consul General for Japan, to affix and exhibit in the public office of this Consulate the Order of Her Majesty in Council, dated the 9th day of March, 1865, for the establishment of a Supreme Court for China and Japan, and also to make known by public notification throughout this Consular District of Kanagawa that the said Order in Council is affixed and exhibited, as aforesaid; and the undersigned having also received notice from C. A. Winchester, Esq., Her Majesty's Consul at Shanghai, that the said Order in Council was duly published in Shanghai on the fourth day of the present month of August, in the manner provided by the said Order.

The undersigned has accordingly to notify to all subjects of Her Britannic Majesty within this Consular district that the said Order in Council, and also the rules of procedure framed thereunder, are now conspicuously affixed and exhibited as above directed, and as provided by the 3rd clause of the 164th section of the said order, will come into effect in this Consular district on the fourth day of September next.—MARCUS FLOWERS, H.B.M.'s Acting Consul. British Consulate, 18th August, 1865.

With reference to the Notifications issued by her Majesty's Charge d'Affaires, and Acting Consul General, on the 22nd day of June last, making known the risks and penalties which would be incurred by British subjects in resorting to the neighbourhood of Simonoseki, for purposes of illicit trade, the undersigned has now to give notice to all subjects of her Britannic Majesty that he has been officially informed by the Government of the Tycoon that two Japanese ships of war have received orders to cruise in the neighbourhood of the Straits of Simonoseki, and to seize all foreign vessels which they may find engaged in unlawful trade, either in that neighbouhood, or in the Inland Sea.

(Signed) HARRY S. PARKES.

Her Britannic Majesty's Legation, Aug. 8th, 1865.

The regatta is pronounced a failure. The following is a list of the winning boats of the second day:—

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1st Race—For all Boom boats. 1st Dupleix, 2nd Scylla.
2nd Race—For Men-of-War Cutters. 1st Prince Royal, 2nd Leopard.
3rd Race—For Men-of-War Gigs. 1st Kienshun, 2nd Dupleix.
4th Race—For all open boats. O'Hanna.
5th Race—For all boats belonging to Merchant vessels. No race.
6th Race—Any boat not exceeding six oars. 1st 20th, 2nd R. M. L. I.
7th Race—Copper Punt race. Dupleix.
8th Race—For covered House Boats. 1st E. Harrison, 2nd Smith, Archer and Co.
9th Race—For all Rowing Boats. 1st Dupleix, 2nd A. O. Gay.
10th Race—Entries returned.
11th Race—For Cook's Tubs. 1st Conqueror, 2nd Princess Royal.

The following account of a fire is from the *Japan Herald*:—A fire broke out in the kitchen of Messrs. Glover and Co.'s, Hong, situate immediately at the back and within 10 feet of the dwelling-house, which is built entirely of wood. The kitchen, with the suite of servants' rooms, &c., were fortunately built strongly of stone with a good tile roof, consequently, the fire being quickly discovered, and several engines on the spot within a few minutes, the supply of water from the sea being also at hand and of course unlimited, and plenty of willing hands to work the engines, the fire was extinguished in the course of half-an-hour, without even so much as scorching the dwelling-house. The smoke being perceptible to the ships, almost every man-of war, English and French, sent a boat's crew ashore to assist—and very valuable aid they rendered. Mr. Freeman, the captain of the fire brigade, was there early, and most energetic in the disposition of his force. A great many of the leading members of our community were quickly on the spot, and many worked with a vigour and skill unsurpassable; happily their efforts were thoroughly and very speedily crowned with success. Towards the close, and when all the engines had ceased working, a few Japanese officials made their appearance, but there was nothing further to do, only, had they been early they might have seen the advantage of good stone walls and powerful fire engines.

After the work was done Mr. Kingdon kindly directed a cask of bottled beer to be placed on the bund, that all who had laboured so well might refresh themselves, a boon that was taken advantage of by many. It is a subject for congratulation to Messrs. Harrison and Kingdon, who occupy the house together, that the damage was entirely confined to the building it broke out in. The origin of the fire is supposed to have been the overheating of the iron chimney flue, and the rafters of the roof igniting therefrom. We believe that the building was insured, so that inconvenience alone will be experienced.

The same journal also notices the sudden death of Mr. Schroyer as follows:—

The hand of death has once more snatched with its inexorable grasp a member from our midst. Suddenly, and almost in a moment, in a full meeting of landrenters, and after having made a very effective speech on the business of the meeting, he was taken with a fit, and although all flew to obtain water or other restoratives, and Dr. Hepburn immediately waited upon him, the spirit fled, and the chairman of the Municipal Council lay a corpse in the midst of that assembly. Raphael Schoyer was a man who, like all men of marked individuality, had both friends and foes, stronger in either case than other men; but in death all animosities cease, and we have only to look upon him as one of ourselves, who, whether for his own or public ends, acted with zeal in whatever he undertook. In the Municipal Council he took a most prominent part, and was the right spirit to assist in carrying it through its present crisis in a firm and unwavering course; and so far as this body was concerned, the community has lost one of its most useful members. The terrible news of his sudden decease rapidly spread through the settlement, and a general feeling of awe, and expressions of deep sorrow were everywhere prevalent. We can assure his widow and family that in their loss they meet with the most profound and universal sympathy, and that the many acts of generosity so often performed by him, and so little known at the time, his constant interest in all public matters, and his great usefulness in the settlement, will be remembered and spoken of long after generous minds have forgotten the differences of opinion that have existed between him and them.

A fire took place on board the P. and O. steamer *Cadiz*, damaging some 150 bales of silk

H.M.S. *Princess Royal* has arrived at Yokohama from Hong Kong. The other men-of-war in harbour are the *Rattler*, *Scylla*, *Argus*, *Leopard*, *Bouncer*, and *Kestrel*. H.M.S. *Conqueror* left for Hong Kong on the 24th August with the Royal Marines.

The Messageries Imperiales service to Yokohama commences on the 13th Sept., so that we shall in future have advices by the French mails arriving in London about the 5th of each month.

Yokohama was visited on the 9th August by one of the severest gales that it has experienced within the ken of foreign residents. The weather had been unsettled, with squalls of wind and rain during the preceding twenty-four hours, and at half-past 12 A.M. the gusts became more frequent and more heavy, the showers of rain poured down in a perfect deluge, and at length, about 3 A.M., the full strength of the storm displayed itself, continuing at its height until about 5. It then began to moderate, and by 9 o'clock had left the atmosphere pure and limpid, the sun shining brightly, and all nature looking as if such a terrible contention of its elements were impossible. But it left a trace behind in the evidences of its power in every portion of the town. Hardly a wooden tenement, or any building, shed, or fence that could feel its influence is left scatheless, whilst the bund which the day before was so largely used by promenaders, is now almost a wreck. From the French Hospital to the Old Hatoba, the whole of the coping stones are displaced, some thrown more than half way across the road. The sea at high water was actually over the bund, and washed the roadway in such a manner that scarcely any of it remains fit for its ordinary uses. At low water, the tide was as high as an ordinary full tide—the waves still breaking over the sea wall. Both Hatobos are much injured. The boats that broke adrift and came to grief are numberless, most of them being cast on the Kanagawa coast. Several ships dragged their anchors—the *Norfolk* and steamer *Jinkee* amongst the rest. The Swamp is as extraordinary a sight as any. The embankment, raised, as a preliminary, round the portion to be filled in, and which is three feet higher than the old Swamp concession, kept in the water, and it looked like a little sea. Some alarm was momentarily felt, through a portion of the new embankment giving way just at the back of Ottamatchi; but a number of coolies were speedily on the spot with bags of earth, and under the superintendence of several men in authority quickly removed any cause of anxiety. In the canal the boats on the davits and hauled taut to the blocks were actually floating in their slings, so high was the water. The damage done in the native town was very considerable, some houses being upset. The worst injury, however, is that done to the bund; and, unfortunately, the expense of its repair falls upon the municipality. Here is one of those exceptional events that are so likely to occur in this land of earthquakes and typhoons, and that demonstrate how ridiculously small is the 20 per cent. that the Japanese have given up to the municipality.

The following is a report of the meeting of landrenters at Yokohama, held at the British Consulate:—Mr. F. Hall was requested to take the chair, and Mr. Wilkin to act as Secretary. The Chairman called on Mr. Schoyer, as the chairman of the Municipal Council, to state the object for which they had met. Mr. Schoyer accordingly read the following written statement:—

The Municipal Council have thought it necessary to call a meeting of their constituents to lay before them the position they hold towards the Board of Consuls.

On the 9th of June the Municipal Council was organised by the adoption of a constitution and election of officers. On the 23rd of June the Municipal Council among other business passed what is known as the "Dog ordinance." This ordinance was in every particular the same that was circulated by Consuls, or, at any rate, some of the Consuls, the year previous; we all remember the lamentable results of neglecting to circulate in time an order to protect the citizens from rabid dogs. Having adopted the orders circulated by the Consuls without any material alteration, we conceived that the Consular Board would not hesitate to give it full effect; we were doomed to disappointment, for it met with the most determined opposition, not by the public (for they commenced by obeying the ordinance), but by some of the Consuls; this was soon known by the public, and it became a dead letter—in fact, it was suggested that any one killing a dog under the ordinance would be liable for damages. Rather than have our ordinance disregarded, we made a new ordinance which, as we supposed, would meet the views of the Consuls; to our surprise the next we see or hear of the "Dog ordinance" is in the *Japan Herald*, differing altogether from the ordinance passed by the Municipal Council, by a large majority of the members present, without first referring it back to us again. Subsequently, we submitted two ordinances to the Board of Consuls, one of these forbidding bettoes from riding horses through the settlement, and from exercising horses by leading them on the bund or on public thoroughfares not indicated for that purpose by the Police Committee. The ordinances were returned with marginal notes in pencil mark, striking out most of the important features of the ordinances.

I considered it my duty to lay these alterations before the Municipal Council, who thereupon passed the resolution to call this meeting of land-renters with a view to consult with them as to the course that it is ne-

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cessary to pursue under the existing circumstances. Much will depend upon a moderate but firm action in this meeting; whilst we are willing to accord to Consuls all due respect, we cannot consent to be made mere instruments to carry out their peculiar views at the expense of self-respect and all independence.

The Municipal Council has done much for the improvement and the government of the settlement, and would have accomplished much more if they had met with some encouragement from the Consuls. I have reason to know that their excellencies the English and French Ministers are desirous that the municipality shall be a success. It requires but a moderate concession on the part of the Consuls to make it such.

Mr. Macpherson moved that the charter signed by the Consuls be read to the meeting.

The Secretary read the charter.

Mr. Schoyer then rose and said:—"The Municipality had full knowledge that their powers must be limited, and with what difficulties they had to contend, but could they be assured of the co-operation of the Consuls, what might not be realised? Instead of being met in an open and friendly manner, and argued with, they were treated without any respect, like so many children. He was well aware there were certain difficulties which the Consuls could not get over, neither were they asked to grant full powers to the Council, because they could not, and the only way to achieve a successful Municipality was that suggested by Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul, viz, for each Consul to obtain a charter from his Government. But mutual concessions might be made—a respectful recognition of their authority, and a due return of courtesy, and something better than a total disregard of their ordinances. For instance 'the Dog ordinance' was simply a renewal of one issued' by nearly all of the Consuls last year (after a very distressing case had occurred), which had been acted upon; but now, when passed by a large majority in the Council, it was mutilated and published without any notice to them whatever. He particularly wished it to be understood that he did not refer to all the Consuls, for he knew that some were anxious to see the Council succeed. The 'Dog ordinance' was the turning point; it had been passed and published, obeyed and disobeyed, through Consular action. The Municipality cannot force Consuls, but the latter might at least have accorded to it the trifling concession required for that ordinance. The Council has not passed one ordinance stating any fines without leaving them to the Consuls to be fixed and imposed according to the laws of their respective countries. He (Mr. Schoyer) had consulted Consuls before submitting them to the Council, and altered them to suit their views. He would propose 'that a committee be appointed to wait upon the Consuls, and report the result to the land-renters.' By such a line of action, supported by the body of land-renters, the Council would have more force."

Mr. Macpherson thought that if the land-renters wished the Council to consider they should pass a vote of confidence. They had already placed every confidence in them, and there could be no use in the land-renters meeting again.

The Chairman inquired if the "Dog ordinance" was the only one then under discussion?

Mr. Schoyer replied it was not. Several ordinances had been passed; in one, a portion had been struck out, and another had been returned by the Consuls.

Mr. Kingdon said that, with reference to the ordinance returned, a memorandum had been written stating that Consuls had no power over Japanese, but that they would use their best influence with the Japanese local authorities.

Mr. Schoyer would inquire—if they have no power to conduct the affairs of the Settlement, what is their position? He denied *in toto* that they have no power. They had full powers over every indecent act, although no power to punish. "But," he added, warmly, "we will remove them, Sir, and take the responsibility. If Japanese are found obscene, or endangering the lives of others, the municipal police shall arrest and take them to the Consuls, or, if they prefer it, to the Japanese authorities themselves. Why should Consuls tell us that which a child might say? It is mere schoolboy talk. Our very nature gives us the right, or our position as land-renters gives the right, and it is sheer folly to talk in such a manner. Ladies within the last ten days have been insulted and their lives endangered by bettors' furiously riding, and I say it shall be put down. Obscenity to be tolerated, and in public places, too, where ladies are promenading with young children—the very bare idea is absurd; and for any Consul to say that we cannot prevent it, is a gross insult to our common sense."

Mr. Schoyer resumed his seat, and Mr. Kingdon rose to reply, when the meeting was startled by Mr. Schoyer apparently fainting. Great excitement naturally arose, Dr. Hepburn immediately presenting himself to give the benefit of his medical skill, and all very eager to do what they could—but it was of no avail. In a few minutes it was too apparent that Mr. Schoyer was dead.

NAGASAKI.

The Nagasaki correspondent of the *North China Herald*, writing under date of the 10th August, informs us that rice is daily becoming dearer at that port in consequence of the failure of the crops. The price has, in fact, doubled during the past six weeks. The bay is full of vessels, but trade is at a perfect standstill. One Robert Highat, who was a well known Confederate agent during the continuance of the war, and who lost his whole fortune in fitting up Confederate cruisers, lately visited Nagasagi, and while there committed suicide by drowning himself. An inquest has been held on his body, but we have not yet received the minutes.

The foreign residents, who seem to be the most good-humoured and fun-loving people in the Far East, gaily and gladly seized on the Fete Napoleon as a capital excuse for a day's jollification, and an equally capital opportunity of showing the cordiality which exists between the French and the other members of the community. We dare say the Emperor would scarcely believe that in a small, out of the way spot like Nagasaki, placed on the very confines of civilisation, so much could have been done in his honour. At 8 A.M. H.M.S. *Barrosa*, *Osprey*, and *Bustard* dressed ship, and their example was quickly followed by almost every other steamer and sailing vessel in the harbour. At 11 A.M. a *Te Deum* was sung in the Catholic Chapel, which was attended by the Consular body and the officers of the Royal Navy. After the religious ceremony a large number of officials and others were entertained at breakfast by M. Drury, Consul for France, and at noon the *Barrosa* fired a Royal salute, which was taken up by Messrs. Glover and Co.'s battery, and the French and English merchant-ships.

In the afternoon games were got up for the delectation of the natives. A greased pole surmounted by a package of new clothing was provided, and the attempts of the Japanese to seize the coveted prize produced, as was expected, much amusement. They had never before seen anything of the kind, and in consequence many were the falls and downward slides, until one, more fortunate or more active than his fellows, contrived to reach the top and carry off the bundle. M. Drury gave a ball in the evening at which no less than fourteen ladies were present. It passed off with much animation, and dancing was kept up until a late hour. Before the dancing commenced there was a grand disply of Chinese fire works and transparencies, obtained specially from Canton for the occasion. The French Consulate and several private residences in the settlement were brilliantly illuminated, and the streets presented a most festive aspect. M. Drury has on several occasions taken the lead in schemes of public enjoyment, but to this last effort he bent all his energies, and the result was well worthy of his taste and patriotic feeling. We look on the united action of a cosmopolitan community like that at Nagasaki as at all times most gratifying, whether the object of their endeavours be to obtain political advantages or merely to while away *ennui*. But the circumstances attending the celebration of this national *fete* are of especial importance, as they must lead the natives to consider that, so long as English guns are ready to do honour to the French Emperor, neither French nor English can with impunity be outraged while either nation supports a force in the Eastern waters.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

The London mail of 10th July arrived out on the 26th August. The French mail of 17th July arrived on 2nd September. The dates are down to the morning of the 4th.

We regret to observe the following notification, which looks like a severe blow to the employment of foreign tonnage by Chinese; not, however, we believe that it will have the working it is intended, the "tremble and obey" being now quite common to Chinese merchants, as a matter of form only.

Not having received a copy of the report of the Inspector of Customs, we subjoin the account which appeared in the *Recorder*:—

The report upon the trade of Hankow for the year 1864, by Mr. A. Macpherson, which is published, together with

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those upon the trade of Shanghai and the other treaty ports, by order of the Inspector General of Customs, will doubtless be perused with the greatest interest. The future progress and prosperity of Shanghai must be intimately connected with the development of the trade at Hankow. In addition to this, the business conducted at Hankow is of a nature which peculiarly calls for attention. It is here that, even more than at the coast ports, the effects of competition between foreigners and natives can be observed, and where practical experience has put to flight many high-sounding theories respecting the advantages of the opening of new ports and the extension of trade. As is well observed by Mr. Macpherson, "the beneficial effects of opening fresh ports will always be more apparent in increasing the demand for imports than in reducing the price of exports." But in the trade with the smaller ports to which few shipments of imports come direct from home, the natives can always compete upon the most favourable terms with the foreigner, as they have not the same expensive establishments to maintain. A recognition of this fact has made foreigners of late more inclined to sell their goods upon the market in Shanghai than transship them to the out-ports; and many houses have found it impossible to maintain their establishments at those places. It thus appears that the advantages of being able to trade in the interior, upon which so much stress has been laid, would be very questionable. The goods sent by smaller craft, or steamers, from the large emporiums to which they are imported direct from home, would not be likely to be more profitable to foreign merchants in the interior than at the places of importation; and, as regards exports, the fact is incontrovertible that the farther foreigners have gone up the country to purchase the higher have been the prices they have had to pay. Upon the question of opening new ports we think that great misconception has generally existed. The removal of restrictions upon foreign trade at new ports has naturally increased the consumption of imports, but competition has, after a short time, invariably brought profits down to their ordinary level; and although merchants may at the onset have made large gains, it has soon become apparent that the rates were only temporarily enhanced. It is to be regretted that the outbreak of the American war makes it a matter of difficulty to ascertain with accuracy what is the probable quantity of cotton goods which could be taken by the new treaty ports at average rates; but that Tientsin and Hankow were altogether overstocked shortly after they were opened, there can be little doubt.

The truth seems to be that the extension of trading facilities results rather to the benefit of the producers and consumers on either side than to the middlemen, namely, the merchants. In England, the cotton manufacturers and tea-drinkers; in China, the wearers of cotton goods and growers of tea; but not necesarily the merchants who import and export those articles, are the people mainly benefited. The haste and competition on the part of foreigners in buying produce is noticed by Mr. Macpherson, who sums up his review of the trade of Hankow in the following words:—

> The two past years will hardly be regarded as bright ones in the commercial annals of the port. Miscellaneous articles of produce are principally Chinese owned, and tea has resulted in enormous losses, whilst the high prices, existing stocks, and disturbed state of the neighbouring districts, prevented any compensatory development of the import trade. Moreover, formidable opponents have arisen in the persons of Chinese, who forward foreign imports from Shanghai to Hankow, where, owing to their having no expensive establishments to maintain, they can undersell the foreign merchant. The facilities also offered by banks and certain commission houses, enable the Cantonese to compete with the foreigners in the tea market. Still, the extent to which the Chinese can carry their competition, either in imports or exports, is but limited. In the absence of unforeseen disasters, 1865 will doubtless be distinguished by an increased demand for piece goods and opium, and by a proportionate gain to the importers; and, if merchants will but display sufficient resolution in refusing to pay unreasonable prices for tea, the export trade will possibly be relatively profitable. The high prices offered so willingly by exporters have resulted in teamen paying proportionately high prices to the growers, and neither teamen nor growers will submit patiently to a reduction; but submit they must, as the retaining the tea in their hands will be productive of more loss and inconvenience to them, than the not purchasing it will be to the foreigner.

The Report by Mr. Macpherson is admirably made up, gives evidence of great accuracy and reflection, and is worthy of the careful perusal of all interested in the China trade.

NOTIFICATION.

Liu, Imperial Commissioner and Acting Governor of the province of Kiangsu, issues a proclamation:—

The employment by Fukien and Canton, merchants, of (foreign) sailing vessels to carry cargoes of oil and bean-cake, has thrown the (native) sea-going craft out of employment, and caused daily increasing misery and distress (amongst the junk owners). In consequenceof this the number of junks available will not be sufficient to convey next year's tribute (to Peking), and difficulties will inevitably arise. I am for this reason compelled to take the matter up. I have been informed that amongst those Fukien and Canton merchants, who employ (foreign) sailing vessels, the following houses are the most notorious, Te-sheng, Kuote-ve, Feng-hsing and Li-shui-chi. I now, by this proclamation, inform the heads of the Kuo-te-ye, and Li-shui-chi hongs, as well as all others whom it may concern, that they must for the future recollect that nothing is saved pecuniarily by the employment of foreign vessels, and that, therefore, they are to charter Chinese junks to the exclusion of all foreign ships. This course will be of great advantage (to the nation), by enabling the tribute to be carried next year. Moreover, a mere life adherence to this order will avail nothing towards aiding the important measure of founding the tribute. Should any disregard this regulation the full penalties will be enforced. Let all obey.

An official confirmation of the death of Burgevine has now been received by the Chinese authorities at this port. It appears that the Magistrate of Lan-ke-heen has reported through the Foutae of Chekiang to H. E. the Imperial Commissioner *Le* that a boat from Fuhkien, having on board Burgevine and Green (?), with an officer in charge, by name Ho-kwang-ae and ten soldiers, passed through his district; he increased the escort by the addition of some soldiers and official servants. On the 26th June, the boat arrived at a place called Hway tin tan, where the mountain torrents suddenly overflowed, and the winds and waters raged violently. The men were unable to bear up against them, and in a moment the boat was overturned, and the officer, the ten men, Burgevine and Green, thirteen in all, were drowned. Measures were taken to recover the bodies; an inquest was held, and they were placed in coffins and deposited in a T'ing fang [a temporary burial place above ground].

The British boat *Despatch* was lost in the Yang-tse, the wreck was sold for 27 taels, by Mr. P. Maclean. The steamer *Woosung*, sold by Mr. T. R. Wheelock, realised 10,050 tails.

With reference to the inquiry into the loss of the steamer *Wokee*, held at Her Britannic Majesty's Consulate at Shanghai, Sept. 1, the finding of the court was that the steamer struck on a ledge of rocks not marked in the latest charts; but in running through a narrow channel without having the lead going, nor a special look-out kept, showed want of precaution on the part of Captain Orkney. At the same time, in justice to the captain, the court expressed its sense of the ability displayed by him and the chief engineer after the vessel struck. The court had much pleasure in returning Captain Orkney's certificate.

The Nien-fei, who have been, as we stated a few mails ago, driven out of the Shantung province, are now in possession of Hu-seang, Che-ch'eng and Mamuche, three cities in the prefecture of Kuei-te, province of Honan. A Shantung man who arrived on the 24th ult. in Shanghai brought the important intelligence that the kingdom of I-li has been wrested from the hands of the Emperor of China by a son of the once celebrated Chang Kai-ur. Chang Kai-ur was a notorious Mahomedan leader, and was beheaded in the second year of Tao Kuang. I-li lies to the north and north-west of Thibet, from which it is separated by the Koulkun mountains. Its southern half is more familiarly known as Eastern Turkestan and Yarkand, and it contains the important district of Khoten. It has long been employed by the Tartar sovereigns as a place of banishment for political offenders. Its area is estimated at 265,000 square miles, or about four and a half times that of England and Wales.

The well-known steamer *Fire Dart*, which has for so long traded on the Shanghai and Ningpo line, has been sold for the sum of $65,000. She will for the future run between Hong Kong and Macao.

The following is from the *Recorder*:—

The question whether, according to the Treaty of Tientsin, British subjects are entitled to build and open houses in the interior has been brought before the notice of the public at the recent meeting of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Dent, the Chairman, while admitting that the despatch received from the Home Government formed a reply to the arguments adduced by the Chamber, considers that an error was

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committed by that body in omitting to call attention to Art. IX. which he thought conclusively established their view of the subject.

Much as we are desirous to see the rights of British merchants strenuously upheld by their representatives in the Chamber of Commerce, and while admitting that great credit is due to Mr. Dent for the energetic manner in which he had brought this matter forward, we cannot, upon due consideration of the circumstances of the case, conclude that the correct reading of the Treaty will admit of the constructions which he has put upon it. Mr. Dent states that, "unless it were permitted to open hongs this Article (IX) would become a dead letter, for traders or rather pedlars in the interior would be reduced to hawking about their goods, or allowing them to remain in boats exposed to the elements. This argument certainly appears to have some weight, but we think that the expression "purposes of trade," assumed to have a meaning which does not necessarily belong to it.

Whether such a privilege would be to the advantage of merchants themselves, we are much disposed to think that the benefits to be derived from this species of trade would be found to be very doubtful. The competition with the native, who without expensive establishments to maintain could conduct his trade upon much more favourable terms than the foreigner, would tend to bring profits on imports down to a minimum; while we would have to pay, as has always proved to be the case, more highly for exports, as we proceeded further into the interior.

FOO-CHOW.

Considerable dissatisfaction has been expressed at the British Consul for committing a pilot, named Robinson, to prison for one month under the following circumstances:—In consequence of the number of losses it was proposed to form a Board of Superintendence for Pilots. Mr. Robinson, an old hand of some twelve years' was notified by Mr. Wild to appear in Foochow, with a view to join the Board, which, it appears, he refused to do. Mr. Robinson tore the notification into two or three pieces, and his next notice was a warrant, issued by the British Consul for his arrest; but he, in a manly manner, appeared at the Consulate, where he was arrested by a constable, lodged in a small, ill-ventilated prison, bail refused for him, pens, ink, and paper denied him for communications with his friends but through iron gratings. He was tried and sentenced to one calendar month in Victoria gaol, his certificate taken from him for twelve months for contempt of court, or for tearing the said letter which was without Consul's signature or seal.

HONG KONG.

The following notice has been published by the *China Mail*:—It having recently transpired at a Magistrate's Court in Hong Kong that Chinese coolies, entrusted by their employers with the conveyance of correspondence to the Post-office, have been guilty of cutting off the postage stamps, and suppressing the letters, it is necessary that people at home should be advised of the fact, as they might otherwise be surprised at the non-receipt of their regular correspondence. The most stringent measures are being adopted to check the evil, and it is likely that delinquents hereafter detected in such a very grave misdemeanor will be most severely dealt with.

We observe that the six French ships have been chartered to convey coolies to Havanna, at £12 to £14 per man. We also see the *Spray of the Ocean* (British) is chartered to convey coolies at £7 to Tahiti to work at coffee and cotton plantations.

An elegant notice of the Chinese dinner of 15th July appears in the *Daily Press*, which we should only spoil if we attempted to summarise. It must be taken as a whole.

The French mail of 17th July arrived out on the 28th August. The following mail of the 26th was looked for, but our readers will see in our Singapore news that it did not go on until the mail of the 10th August arrived out per steamer *Barvoda*.

The following summary of items is from the *China Mail*:—

That the past week formed seven days of September, is saying quite enough, to those who know China, as to its healthiness or otherwise. Heat, sickness, and death have been the order of the days and nights, while people are comforting themselves solely on the fact that a change for better must soon take place. A sharp thunder-storm enlivened us on the evening of the 5th sharper than has been experienced for four years.

The Victoria Library and Reading Room, however, may be said to have been restored to life since our last issue, and, presupposing some activity and tact in its management, fairly "set on its feet" once again, we sincerely trust for a long race of prosperity. Its proprietary fixed, its attractions increased, and its management well seen to, nothing will be wanting to complete success.

Our own authorities here have earned considerable credit by a spirited notification anent the blame cast upon them in the loss of the steamer *Fohkien*, and effectually rebutted the charge against them upon the Naval Court of Shanghai who made it. A new steamer, the *Japan*, consigned to Messrs. Lapraik and Co., came in this morning, and is, we believe, to take the place of the lost *Chanticleer* on the coast line.

The value of the exports and imports during the month of July last, carried in and out of Macao in sea-going ships, amounted to $656,106; the exports being valued at $356,943, the imports at $299,166. The principal articles of import were—rice, $10,050; cotton, $3,640; cash, $20,229; opium, $206,560; silk, $34,300. The principal articles of exports were—rice, $17,247; tea, $49,165; cash, $36,400; canella, $33,540; anniseed, $28,430; anniseed oil, $25,000.

We are sorry to have to record the death of Madame van der Hoeven, the wife of the Consul-General of Holland in China, who for many years lived happily in Macao. Born in Batavia in the year 1836, she had just completed her 28th year. Married to Mr. van der Hoeven in 1857, she gave birth to six children, whom she has left at such a tender age that the eldest is not yet seven years old, the youngest only two months.

A melancholy and fatal accident occurred on Saturday last on the arrival of the *Plymouth Rock* at Canton, with a large number of native passengers, who were returning from a visit to Hong Kong during the late holidays. A boat, containing some five-and-twenty Chinese, was putting on shore, in the midst of the fierce confusion and jostling of the numberless sampans and cargo boats, which always crowd round the river steamer, long before they have arrived at their mooring-places and through some misadventure, got capsized, when seventeen of her passengers were drowned. It will be well if this catastrophe leads to the maintenance of a little more order among the crowding, struggling, shrieking boat people, who contrive to render hideous a stranger's first impressions of the Canton River.

The advertisement of the China Traders Marine Insurance Company will be found in our advertising columns.

The high provincial authorities have lately issued a proclamation to the people of Canton, prohibiting the sale of indecent books and pictures, and notably the exhibition of stereoscopic views of a similar character, with which for some time past the streets of the city have abounded.

COCHIN-CHINA.

A visit has been made by a party of Frenchmen to the magnificent ruins of Angcor, Trôm, in the province of Angcor, situate thirty miles from the lake Polysap, which feeds a branch of the Meicon, the great river of Cambodge. It is surmised that the lake formerly extended far inland, for no great centre of population would be established so far from its waters as are the existing ruins. Spacious gateways, vestibules, courts and magnificent galleries, presenting a combination of Saracenic and Arabic architecture were discovered, shadowed by the gloomy foliage of magnificent trees that had forced their way into the interstices of the massive masonry, and thus contributed to its preservation.

SIAM.

BANGKOK.

The following account of the unwarrantable conduct of the French Consul, or Envoy, is from the *Straits Times*. The remarks in another column on Siamese affairs were, of course, penned before the delivery of the mail this morning:—

"We have just heard of another escapade of the French Consul at Bangkok, Siam. It appears that a Catholic priest was pleading in one of the local courts of Siam, presided over by a Siamese judge, and had some words with a Siamese Catholic nobleman present, ending in mutual recrimination, when a scene ensued which ended in both being peremptorily ordered out of court. Deeming himself gravely insulted by the Siamese nobleman, the priest repaired to the French Consul, who so warmly espoused his cause that he despatched an agent to the Court of the First King, demanding an ample apology for the asserted insult, and requiring the instant dismissal of

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the Siamese nobleman who had given it from the position which he held over the native Christians. So importunate was this agent to deliver his despatch that he forced himself into the Royal presence at 2 A.M. The King, deservedly annoyed at so untimely an interruption upon so trivial an occasion, reprimanded the messenger, and told him that the subject could not be considered till the following day. The messenger, however, who apparently shared the impetuosity of his master, demanded an instant reply, and had ultimately to be forced out of the palace. From the palace the messenger returned to his Consul and told the story of his expulsion, when that functionary wrote direct to the King that the friendship between France and Siam had been violated—that he should leave, be in Paris in six weeks, and there lay the matter before the Emperor. The good old King, thinking that there must surely be some misunderstanding in all this, despatched his own cousin, the Chief Judge of the Royal Court, to the French Consulate to receive and give an explanation. The Consul, it seems, however, had worked himself beyond all explanation; and when the Royal Judge arrived the Consul refused to listen to him, and seized him by the hair of his head, ejected him from the Consulate, and threw his betel box after him. M. Aubaret, the Consul referred to, has since left Siam, and we trust sincerely that on his arrival at Paris the Emperor will take another way of vindicating the dignity of his foreign embassies than that which M. Aubaret from his letter to the King of Siam appears to expect.

Our readers will be rather surprised at the following array of churches for the requirements of the community of Bangkok, native and foreign:—

Protestant Church; the services being conducted in turn by the different missionaries.

Chinese Church; Rev. W. Dean, D.D.; services held in the Chinese language only.

Congregational Church; Rev. D. B. Bradley; services held in Siamese only.

Presbyterian Church; Rev. S. Mattoon; services held in Siamese only. A large school is connected with the mission.

Union Church; Rev. C. J. Smith; services in Siamese and English.

Her Royal Highness Princess Phraong Chau Ambhon, the second daughter of the late Second King, on the third reign, being the elder sister of the late Prince Kumbhor, whose death was noticed not long since, died on the 2nd inst. at 6 A.M. at the Palace of her younger brother Phraong Chau Noadge. Her Highness was born in 1815, and has been ill of consumption about seven months.

James M. Hood, Esq., U.S. Consul, with Mrs. Hood, arrived in the steamer *Chow Phya* on the 9th Sept. The customary calls on the Siamese officials and the Consuls of the Treaty Powers were made on Monday, and he assumed the duties of his position on the 13th. Mr. Hood has received a most cordial welcome from all sources, and especially so from American citizens.

The iron steamer *Maggie Lauder* was successfully docked in the new dry dock belonging to the Bangkok Dock Company last week.

The subject of abolishing the soft worthless lead coin, and substituting a hard and valuable metal as copper, bronze or nikol, has engaged the attention of the Royal Mint authorities for some time. We hear that the Mint is to be enlarged. One part is to be devoted to coining gold and silver, and the other to copper, bronze or nikol coin, as may finally be decided. The general feeling appears to be in favour of bronze, rather than anything else. How soon the people will be furnished with the proposed new coin it is difficult to say. It is proposed to issue several varieties, representing one-sixteenth, ⅛, ¼ and ½ of a fuang, and will be called solots, ats, pi, and song pi.

JAVA.

The *Java Bode* of the 26th August has the following article on the expedition alluded to in our last:—"Contrary to what we informed our readers of (under reserve) in our last number, the troops destined for the expedition to Assahan are not yet gone. The unwilling population can now, before the expedition is there, be informed of our design by their friends at Singapore (for which the French mail, which left for Singapore this morning, offered an excellent opportunity), and, moreover, can prepare themselves to give us a good reception. It appears that we Dutchmen cannot make up our mind to expedite expeditions."

The same paper, on the 20th, gives us some further particulars:—'The troops for the expedition to Assahan, under command of Major Van Heems Kerr, were embarked this morning in twelve tongkangs, which were at once towed to the roads by the tug steamer *Tjitarum*, from whence the troops will be transferred to the war steamers *Amsterdam*, *Djambi*, and *Sindoro*, designed for this purpose. The troops are accompanied by their own band, and the colours of the 12th battalion."

From some articles in the *Oost Post* of 22nd and 26th August, it appears "that the unwillingness of the Sultan of Assahan is not the only reason of complaint the Dutch Government has; but that Assahan people have hoisted the English flag, and attacked a Kruis boat, which, however, by the intrepidity of the controleur, has held its ground."

The *Straits Times* says:—"The expedition has passed through the Straits on the way to the scene of action. No less than six steamers were signalled at the flagstaff, as coming in from the eastward, there were not apparently symbols enough to indicate the full number, but a telegraph signal to that effect was flown; these steamers constituted the expedition. We shall await with no small interest the result of this demonstration."

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

The London mail of 10th August arrived out on the 12th September by the Peninsular and Oriental steamer *Baroda*, which vessel towed up from Penang the Company's steamer *Ottawa* in a disabled state, as reported in our last issue. The mails, passengers, &c., of 20th-26th July, per *Ottawa*, for China, &c., were conveyed on by the *Baroda*. The French mail of 17th August was hourly expected. The dates are down to the 20th Sept. The *Straits Times* says:—

"In local matters we have not much to report. The appearance of the town is rapidly improving from the addition of new and handsome buildings, and the municipal commissioners have resolved to widen some of our narrowest thoroughfares. A steamer was launched from the building yard of Messrs. Buyers and Riach during the fortnight, adding one to the already pretty extensive list of steamers that have been built at Singapore. The Court, and establishment, returned a few days ago from Malacca, where it had been on circuit. The Governor still continues at Penang. By the present mail, the settlement loses an able and devoted servant, Captain McNair, R.A., Executive Engineer, who has worked himself ill in the public service, and of whose services we have more to say when he is gone."

(To the Editor of the *Singapore Daily Times.*)

DEAR SIR,—"Redde Cæsari quæ sunt Cæsaris." During the past months, some improvementi n the administration of the French in Cochin-China seems to have taken place; a civil tribunal has been established, the regulations of justice have been published, some reduction in the taxes have been made. The last numbers of the *Courrier de Saigon* instead of being a bitter polemic against civilians, contains interesting notices about the country and its productions; an exhibition will take place in a few months. There is no question any more of the ex-official principles exposed in the pamphlet of 1864: "Voies et moyens de la politique Française."

There are still in the commercial news some very amusing mistakes, and the sale of the last opium farm is not easily to be forgotten; but they may be considered as the last reflects of an old system which is to be carried away.

Unhappily, the name of the new Governer in the official acts is always followed by two italic letters, *p. i.*

P. I. is the abbreviation of *per interim*, and till this day the accomplishment of its signification is expected with some terror.

P. I. is the thin thread to which is suspended the sword of Damocles.

But now, a new perspective is opened, if, as we may believe, the following report has some consistence. A rumour was circulated in Paris at the departure of the last mail that the Vice-Admiral Bouet Vailaumez being elevated to the rank of Senator, Rear-Admiral de la Grandiere will have the command in the Mediterranean sea of the same fleet, and therefore will be promoted to the grade of Vice-Admiral.

Then there is some ground to believe that Rear-Admiral Roze will for two years assume the heavy charge of managing a French colony. The game is interesting; for the beginning seems to give some inducement that he will be more successful than his predecessors.—Yours, &c.

Singapore, 16th September, 1865. FIGARO.

A meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was called together shortly after the departure of the last mail, with a view to raise some fresh agitation on the subject of the transfer of the settlement to the Crown. Nothing, however was done, as it was conceded that the question was a public one—not a mercantile one—affecting the entire mercantile community equally with the merchants. Nor was it afterwards thought expedient to have any general meeting of the residents on the subject; and as the measure is believed to be in point *of* fact accomplished—awaiting only the formal sanction of Parliament—any fresh agitation now would probably be useless. As we have repeatedly brought before the notice of our readers at home, the early accomplishment of the transfer of the settlement to the Crown has become more than expedient merely

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we are now, and have been for the last three years, entirely excluded from Indian legislation, in anticipation of the coming change, and, consequently, suffer all the evil consequences of neglect. The sooner in the next session, therefore, the Bill to effect this end is introduced the better.

The Dutch continue to push their way on the West Coast of Sumatra with their characteristic persistency. It will be remembered that in one of our recent numbers we reported that at Assahan the native Rajah had declined to have any intercourse with an expedition which was despatched from Rhio to amend political relations between the Dutch and himself, and that he indicated his disinclination in a somewhat vigorous manner, firing upon the expedition whenever they attempted a landing; so successful was he, too, that he carried his point, and drove the Dutch for the time out of his waters. Though we cannot but admire such a gallant resistance as this by a native Prince in what he believes to be the legitimate defence of his native country against invidious attack, we must at the same time pity it, as against a European opponent it must in all cases be unavailing, and only hasten the brave man's ruin. The Dutch were not likely to rest quietly, or to rest long under such a repulse. Immediate measures were taken at Batavia to equip a fleet and a force to chastise the Rajah's contumacy; and this passed Singapore on its way to Assahan on the 9th inst. It consisted of six war steamers and about 600 European soldiers, besides the ships' crews and marines. We have not yet had any reports as to the operations of this formidable expedition; but we can have very little doubt of the ultimate result of this difference, namely, a large accession to Dutch territory on the West Coast of Sumatra.

Notice has been given that a further hearing in the matter of the insolvency of Messrs. D'Almeida and Sons would be heard on the 28th February, when a dividend would be declared.

It is reported that gold has been discovered in the hill from which the Tanjong Paggar Dock Company are making their excavations.

It is reported that a company of the 14th brigade, Royal Artillery (Bombay), are ordered for duty at Singapore.

We (*Free Press*) understand that an arrangement has been come to between the firm of Messrs. B. H. Cama and Co. and their creditors here which will temporarily, at all events, relieve the estate from the expenses of litigation which it has lately incurred to some extent. The claims of Messrs. Oxford and Co., of the Bank of India, of the Oriental Bank, and of the Bank of Hindustan, amounting in all to about $150,000, became preferential because the proceedings for their recovery, having been early initiated, had reached a point which placed them beyond the reach of the assignment made in Bombay for the general benefit of the creditors. These are to be paid in full out of the money paid into the Supreme Court of this colony, as proceeds of the estate. All other claims have to await the settlement of the legal question as to the validity in this colony of the deed of assignment made in Bombay. Meanwhile none of the household property nor other effects are to be sold at auction; firstly, because in these hard times a sacrifice would be involved in such a mode of realisation; and secondly, because there are tangible hopes entertained of the estate clearing itself by the liquidation in full of all claims upon it. The state of the law here is most impracticable; the litigation in Hong Kong in relation to this estate is a positive disgrace to British jurisprudence. Our ordinances may be good in theory, but they will not stand the strain of practice.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

HEINSEN—At Shanghai, Mrs. R. Heinsen of a son, prematurely.

TYERS—On the 18th Aug., at Shanghai, China, the wife of William T. Tyers, Esq., of a son.

WOOLLETT—On the 14th Oct., the wife of William Woollett, Esq., of 2, Grove-place, Brixton, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

GASKELL—SADGROVE.—On the 25th Oct., at Holy Trinity Church, Lee, Kent, by the Rev. T. D. Halsted, incumbent of St. Paul's, Greenwich, assisted by the Rev. S. W. Burke, incumbent of Holy Trinity, Richard Allanson Gaskell, Esq., of St. Helen's, Lancashire, to Julia Alice, only daughter of W. H. Sadgrove, Esq., of 64, Mark-lane, London, and Greenwich. No cards.

LEDGER—TAYLER.—On the 23rd Oct., at St. Mary's, Islington, Edward, only son of Mr. Frederic Ledger, proprietor of the Era newspaper, to Marion Aldis, younger daughter of Mr. William Henry Tayler, of St. Paul's-road, Camden-town. No cards.

THOMSON—PAGE.—On the 6th Sept., at St. Andrew's, Singapore, by the Rev. Edward S. Venn, M.A., William Thompson, Esq., of Singapore, to Fanny, second daughter of Henry T. Page, Esq., of Stainsby House, Stainsby-road, London. No cards.

DEATHS.

ALBERT—On the 4th Sept., on board the Behar, on her passage from China, Christopher Albert, Master R.N., of the Pelorus.

ALLAN—On the 4th Sept., at Penang, Harriet Scott, aged 16 months, the infant daughter of John Allan, Esq.

ALLEN—At Shanghai, on the 29th Aug., Herbert Maury, infant son of Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Allen.

AYRES—At Shanghai, on the 30th Aug., on board the steamer Mercury, Mr. Ayres chief mate.

BEATTIE—At Hong Kong, on 29th Aug., Margaret Beattie, aged 23 years

BROWN—At St. Francis Hospital, Hong Kong, on 26th Aug., Annie Louisa Brown, aged 11 months

BRONSON.—Drowned at Newchwang, Mr. Bronson, pilot at that port.

COGHILL—At Shanghai on the 31st Aug., Donald Mackay, aged four months, only son of J. G. Sinclair Coghill, M.D.

CONNOR—On the 19th Oct., at 7, Alexandra Villas, Angell-park, Brixton, in his 15th year, of typhoid fever, W. W. C. Connor, son of the late W. Connor, Esq., one of H.B.M.'s Vice-Consuls in China.

CUTHBERTSON.—At Shanghai, on the 21st August, James Cuthbertson, Manager of the Asiatic Banking Corporation, aged 38.

GEM.—At Shanghai, on the 22nd August, Kate, wife of Robert Gem, aged 32 years.

HACKETT—On the 19th Aug. last, on board H.M.'s ship Tamar, on her homeward passage from Singapore, the Rev. William Hackett, late Military Chaplain at Malacca, leaving a widow and four young children to deplore his loss.

HALE—On the 5th Sept., on board the P. and O. S. N. Co.'s ship, Behar, on his way home invalided, Lieut. Henry George Hale R.N., late in command of H.M.'s gunboat Wensel, in China.

HALL—At Shanghai, on the 26th Aug., Joseph Hall, of the P. and O. S. N. Co.'s service, aged 32 years.

HODGSON—On the 11th Oct., at Lescar, near Pau, France, Christopher Pemberton Hodgson, Esq., formerly H.B.M.'s Consul at Hakodadi, Japan, aged 46

HUMPHREYS—At Shanghai, on the 2nd Sept., at the residence of J. Andrews, Wheelock, Jane Humphries, aged 38 years, late of New York.

JACKSON—At the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 28th Aug., W. Jackson, unemployed seaman.

KAHLER.—At Hong Kong, on the 28th Aug., Robert Kahler, clerk, Wm. Pustau and Co.'s, aged 24 years.

KINGSMILL—At Kingsclere, Hong Kong, on the 1st Sept., Fanny, the wife of Henry Kingsmill, barrister; deeply regretted.

LYONS—At St. Francis Hospital, Hong Kong, on 27th Aug., Amelia Lyons, aged 1 year and 9 months.

LYSTER—On the 17th Aug., on board H.M.'s troop steamer Tamar, Lieut. Lyster, Royal Engineers (three years in China).

McKINNON—At Shanghai, on the 3rd Sept., John McKinnon, a native of Ayrshire Scotland, aged 36 years.

MORTON—At St. Francis Hospital, Hong Kong, on 27th Aug., William Morton, aged 1 year and 3 months.

MORTON—At St. Francis Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 5th Sept., Sarah Morton, aged 4 years and 11 months.

MURPHY—At Shanghai, on the 23rd Aug., Ellen, wife of M. W. Murphy.

MUNRO.—At Shanghai, on the 24th August, Capt. D. G. Munro, late of the P. and O. S. N. Co.'s service, aged 51 years.

NEALE.—On the 30th August, at Hong Kong, Thomas D. Neale, of Bradford, Wilts, of fever.

PARTRIDGE.—At Shanghai, on the 25th August, on board Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.'s receiving ship Lady Hayes, of cholera, after a few hours' illness only, Walter, youngest son of Captain and Mrs. Partridge, aged two years and two months.

PAULY—At Saigon, on the 3rd Aug., Wm. Otto Pauly.

PICOT—Drowned, on the night of 12th Aug., at 1.45 A.M., in lat. 14.34 N., lon. 112 54 E., on board the British ship Prince Alfred, bound from London to Shanghai, Mr. Picot, cabin passenger.

POYER—At Hong Kong, on the 3rd Sept., John Poyer, late chief officer, ship Zephyr, aged 26 years.

PROCTOR—At Hong Kong, on the 1st Sept., Arthur George Proctor, of London, aged 26 years.

RALPHS—At the General Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 5th Sept., W. Ralphs, Private, 2nd Batt., 11th Regiment, aged 28 years.

SCHOYER—On the 21st Aug., at the British Consulate, Yokohama, Japan, suddenly, of apoplexy, Raphael Schoyer, Esq., a native of Baltimore, Maryland, U.S., and late of Francisco, California, aged 55 years.

STEWART—On the 24th Oct., at Somerset Villa, Granville-road, Southfields, Wandsworth Francis Stewart, formerly of 6, Old Bond-street.

SULLIVAN—At the General Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 30th Aug., John Sullivan, Serjeant 2nd Batt., 9th Regiment, aged 36 years.

SWEENEY—At Shanghai, on 28th Aug., from the effects of an injury received on board the steamer Hercules, Capt. John Sweeney, a native of Westchester, New York, aged 40 years.

WAINWRIGHT—At Shanghai, on the 30th Aug., Mary D. Wainwright, wife of James E. Wainwright, of San Francisco, California.

WATSON—At Yokohama, on the 24th Aug., suddenly, David O. Watson, son of the late David Watson, surgeon, Royal Navy.

WRIGHT.—On the 21st August, of typhoid fever, Stephen Wright, Chief Officer of the British barque "Ethel."

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Yokohama	6 months sight.	4s. 7¼d.	4s. 8d. to 4s. 8¼d.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 ditto	6s. 1¼d.	6s. 2d. to 6s. 3d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 5¾d.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.
At Singapore	6 ditto	4s. 5¾d. to 4s. 6d.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.
At Manila	6 ditto	4s. 1d. to 4s. 2d.	4s. 2d. to 4s. 3d

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 297 to 298 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 216 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 10 per cent. prem. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 73 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 26 to 27 discount. Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, 6 prem.; Gas Company, 30 prem.; Hong Kong and Whampoa Docks, 40 prem.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—The amount of the season's export will entirely depend on the extent of the supply, unless the banks should see occasion to curtail the facilities they now afford. The Black Teas, both this season and last, have been shipped off as speedily as they could be secured, and as this season's export displays a deficiency when compared with last, it may be inferred, as comparative stocks are also smaller, that this year's yield will run short of that of last year. At Foochow the rates for Black Teas have sensibly advanced, whilst at the other ports they have not yielded even to the deterioration of assortment consequent on the season advancing. The usual supply of Green Teas will not be sent to Kiukiang this year—about half will go there; the remainder are being sent to Ningpo and Shanghai. Some settlements of new Greens have taken place at the latter port at high rates.

CANTON.—During the fortnight a steady business has been transacted, and the most noticeable feature has been the anxiety evinced by teamen to place their Scented Teas, especially Capers; their stock being large

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and demand becoming very limited. Country Congous: Three chops have been taken at slightly stronger rates than former settlements, say at 26 to 29 taels; for the remaining 9 chops, now on our market, teamen are firm. Country Greens: 2,750 half chests have found buyers during the fortnight for the American market, proportion price ranging from 32 to to 36 taels; these rates are also rather higher than previous settlements. Present stock is 6,250 half-chests, and the new crop may be expected in about two months. Canton Made Teas: A few Fayshans have been bought at about former rates, say 400 half-chests and 800 boxes at 22 to 31½ taels. Scented Teas: For medium and commoner classes of both Scented Orange Pekoes and Capers prices are quoted down about three taels, but for the choice parcels Scented Orange Pekoe teamen continue firm; there are, however, very few in the market. The sales of Scented have been 9,000 boxes Orange Pekoe at 20 to 38 taels, and 12,000 boxes Caper at 12 to 31 taels.

Shanghai.—Black: Business has been more restricted, but we cannot quote any material decline, though prices for all teas are weaker, with the exception of parcels possessing decided quality, which are in short supply. Musters of third crop tea have arrived; the quality is wretched. Settlements during the fortnight consist of 30 chops as follows:—15 chops second crops Oopack at tls. 26 to 32; 9 chops first and second crop Ningchow, at tls. 28.5 to 33.5; 4 chops first and second crop Oonahms, at tls. 16 to 20 50; 2 chops first and second crop Hohows, at 19 2.5 to 22.5. Green: Continues to come forward very slowly; stocks are inconsiderable, but gradually increasing. Teamen are notwithstanding asking high rates. Two chops of good Teenkei tea and one Fychow have been settled at from tls. 32 to 38, which show a considerable advance on prices ruling at the close of last season.

Foochow.—No mail in, and the latest date is 31st Aug. Supplies have been larger than expected, but the demand has more than kept pace with them. In Congous large settlements have been made for shipment to London, the Continent of Europe, and for the Australian colonies; the better kinds have advanced fully two taels, and the commoner grades about one tael. In Souchongs a good business has been transacted, both for London and New York, at an advance of 2 to 2½ tls. Flowery Pekoes have been taken at the last high quotations. Oolongs have only been moderately dealt in, and have not partaken in the advance. Scented Teas have been taken to a fair extent, and tend up somewhat.

Kiukiang.—Black Teas: About 4,000 chests had been settled during the fortnight at previous rates, but arrivals had been in excess of the shipments, and teamen were more ready to sell, so that a decline in rates appeared imminent. There was a stock of nearly 6,000 chests left on the market. Quotations were—Ningchows, medium to fine, tls. 24½ to 28½. Hohows: medium to fair, tls. 22½ to 26. Green Teas: Overland musters of one chop Fychow had been received and forwarded to Shanghai direct, and one small lot of Kiukiang-packed tea shipped to Shanghai. The first chop of Fychow was expected in about a week's time.

Hankow.—Settlements reached 42 chops, mostly speculative purchases for re-sale in Shanghai, and at first buyers had paid again a slight advance for medium to fine teas. Latterly, however, the receipt of home advices of 26th June had checked the ardour of purchasers; lower rates had been paid for common teas, and the news of the weakness of this market would probably, when known, cause a farther decline. The falling off in supplies this year is still observable, but it is doubtful whether the high prices already paid may not lead the teamen to make up this deficiency in the third crop. Arrivals had been delayed by unfavourable weather, but the stock on the market had risen to 38 chops. Quotations were—Oopacks, medium to good (third crop), 23 to 26 taels; Oonams, common to fair, 15 to 22 taels.

Nagasaki.—Prices again advanced considerably, and the rates are now almost as high as those ruling last year, and a reduction in prices cannot be looked for unless buyers remain firm.

Yokohama.—Arrivals from the country come forward freely, and a few parcels fine to finest have been placed on the market, but the prices asked by the teamen preclude the possibility of purchases being made beyond a very limited extent. In prices we have no change to report. Settlements amount to about 4,000 pcls.—stock to about 2,100 pcls., comprising the following, viz.:—Good Common, 500 piculs; Medium, 1,100 piculs; Good Medium to Fine, 400 piculs; Finest, 100 piculs. Quotations are as follows:—Good Common, $16 to 19; Medium, $21 to 23.50; Good Medium to Fine, $24 to 28; Finest, $30 to 35.

Raw Silk.—This steamer, the Orissa, will carry away about 2,700 bales, say 2,300 bales for Southampton and 400 bales for Marseilles, also 148 cases of silkworms' eggs.

Shanghai.—We have to report rather less activity in silk during the past month than prevailed throughout June and July. A good general demand has existed during the past week, and quotations, notwithstanding the decline in the home market reported by telegram, show prices to be, if anything, rather higher than those current a month ago. No. 3 Tsatlee tls. 490 to 510. Settlements for the past month are estimated at 8,000 bales, giving a total from the 1st June to date of 36,000 bales (viz, 30,800 bales Chinas, and 5,200 bales Japans), against a total of 12,500 bales for the corresponding week of last season. In the country silk continues to be held for extreme rates, stocks estimated at about 3,000 bales. The Cadiz brings about 550 bales from Yokohama, about 150 having been injured in consequence of the fire. The total export to date is 32,995 bales China and Japan, against 9,956 last season.

Ningpo.—The exports of the month comprise 631 bales, in completion of former contracts, making a total for the season of 2,098 bales. What still remains in the country natives are purchasing at $500 per bale Hainins, $470 per bale Hangchows, $410 per bale Shounings.

Canton.—Since last report the yield of the fourth crop has been placed upon the market, and about 150 piculs have been taken for export at prices slightly below last quotations.

Yokohama.—The settlements for the fortnight may be estimated at 650 bales, making a total for the season of 3,500 bales, against 580 at the same time last year. The arrivals from the country have been somewhat light, but they are still in excess of the demand. The unsold stock on the market is about 800 piculs of all grades and descriptions. It is reported that a few parcels of old silk, of good but full sized qualities, have been sent back into the interior. There is a very active demand for silkworm's eggs, and large settlements have been made at a considerable advance on the prices that were ruling a month or six weeks ago. New Silk: Actual prices paid:—Mybash and Sinchu, best parcel offering, $780 to 807½; ditto medium, $750 to 770; ditto inferior, $720 to 740.

Drugs, &c.—Cassia Lignea: We are still without any advice as regards supplies expected. As there is a good demand for this article, the probability is that prices for the next supplies will open high. Cassia Buds: Holders are not as yet willing to reduce the price, consequently there are no buyers. Cassia Oil: Is scarce, and 10 piculs only are offered at $190. Star Anniseed: We are without any stock, and quote nominally $25. The demand for the northern ports continues, and small parcels have been taken for that quarter at high rates, even if not of a desirable quality. Star Anniseed Oil: Advices from the producing districts state that the stock there is small and for which exorbitant prices are asked. China Galls: 330 piculs have arrived during the past fortnight, of which 230 piculs found buyers at $11.75, leaving 100 piculs of rather an inferior quality on the market, for which holders ask comparatively a very high price. China Root unaltered: Sales, 200 piculs at $3 20; none is offering at present, but supplies are expected. Galangal: Remains as last quoted $1.75, with 1,700 piculs stock. Vermilion: $31 per box of 900 packages, and $34 50 per box of 1,000 packages.

COTTON.

Hong Kong.—In the early part of the fortnight, supplies continuing moderate, a good demand was experienced, and the rate for medium to good Shanghai was maintained at $28 to 32. Since then, dealers have become alarmed by the sudden arrival of three steamers from Calcutta, nearly entirely laden with the article—intelligence being also received of two ships loading in the Hooghly with further supplies. Some of the importers became nervous, and sales of common quality were reported at $22 50 This figure induced some Canton dealers to enter the market, and a good deal of business resulted in Bengal staple at $22.50 to $25.25, according to quality. Of late arrivals from Calcutta more than 3,000 bales have changed hands, and the market disp ays a tendency to rise. The little Shanghai staple which remains in stock has been withdrawn, in expectation of an advance. Present rates are likely to be maintained until the new China crop comes to market—they may advance should it prove as deficient as reported, or decline, should the yield be more plentiful. Quotations are—Bengal staple, $23 to 25 per picul; Shanghai: there has been a continued inquiry for this staple, but, owing to the absence of any quantity on the market, transactions have been limited.

CHINA IMPORTS.

Cotton Yarn.—The demand for Yarn has fallen off, although prices are maintained; sales only amount to about 185 bales. Grey Shirtings: A brisk demand still continues for these goods, and prices are advancing; settlements amount to 48,500 pieces, of which about 2,300 have been sold at auction as damaged goods. White Shirtings: Clearances only amount to 150 pieces; prices are unchanged. T-Cloths: Sales of only 2,500 pieces are reported, but the advance in price shows that this is principally owing to the scarcity of supplies. American Drills: There are no sales to report. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades: The market for these goods remains much as last advised; White Spotted Shirtings are neglected, but Dyed Shirtings and Brocades have been sold to the extent of 250 pieces of each. Damasks and Chintzes: Continue to improve in value; of the former 160 pieces have found buyers, and of the latter 1,500 pieces. Handkerchiefs: Sales amount to 5,000 dozen at rates last quoted.

Woollens.—Spanish Stripes, and Habit Cloths continue in moderate demand, and prices tend upwards. Sales amount to 639 pieces of the former and 212 pieces of the latter. Long Ells: Prices for these goods are still advancing, and a good demand exists for them. Sales are reported of 1,200 pieces. Camlets: No sales to report and prices nominally unchanged. Lastings: 200 pieces have found buyers and higher prices are asked. Blankets: Clearances amount to about the same quantity as last reported, viz., 300 pairs at previous rates.

Metals.—Iron.—Square and flat: Some 840 piculs have been sold, also 120 piculs of wire. Nothing has been done in nail rod iron. Quotations are unchanged. Lead: During the fortnight 1,300 pigs have found buyers, against 100 pigs reported in last circular. Prices have advanced about $10 to $15. In Canton 900 piculs of common quality have been sold at $6 25c. and 400 piculs of W B. at $6 65c. Tin: 1,100 slabs have been sold at previous rates. Tin plates: Sales amount to 1,000 boxes at a slight advance. Steel: 590 tubs have been sold; no change in prices. Quicksilver; Settlements amount to 59 flasks.

Coals.—At Hong Kong, Welsh, $10; English, $9½; Australian, 6 to $7. At Shanghai, American anthracite in demand at 9 to 10 taels; English and Welsh, 8 to 9 taels; Sydney, 7 taels.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1865-66.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1865	317120	22311914	2267510	...	4877838	30179972	27467
Corresponding period last season	320655	3315759	2490470	213087	3606168	31875139	8820
TO UNITED STATES.							Piculs.
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	3387059	1855
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	1963723	63
TO THE CONTINENT.							Bales.
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	88	...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

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TO SAN FRANCISCO.

						Tea pkgs	Boxes.
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	12147	300
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	9252	...

SHIPMENTS SINCE.

	Ship.	From.		
Sept. 2 ...	... Marmion ...	... Hong Kong. ...	... 1,275	94

TO AUSTRALIA.

From June 1st to Aug. 31, 1865 ... ... 3,246,490 lbs.
Corresponding period last year ... ... — „

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	...	...	...	51,022,600	...
„ 1845 to 1846	...	...	...	57,334,700	18,604
„ 1850 to 1851	...	...	...	63,972,000	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854	...	...	...	77,327,800	61,280
„ 1855 to 1856	...	...	...	92,240,300	59,480
„ 1857 to 1858	...	...	...	76,990,255	68,311
„ 1858 to 1859	...	...	...	65,789,792	83,136
„ 1859 to 1860	...	...	...	85,560,452	64,163
„ 1860 to 1861	...	...	...	90,066,160	70,644
„ 1861 to 1862	...	...	...	109,854,040	79,199
„ 1862 to 1863	...	...	...	121,273,580	72,848
„ 1863 to 1864	...	...	...	117,463,586	46,605
„ 1864 to 1865	...	...	...	121,236,870	32317

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1865	... 90425	... ...	... 150	2375 650	133 76	... ...

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1865	5800 ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	... ...	4000 ...

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1865	31425 500	10200 2500	500 ...	1430 ...	... ...	... ...

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1865	... 375	5130 1803	40565 11983	1100 540	210 3050	140300 89080

SHIPMENTS SINCE.

Sept. 2 ...	Marmion ...	Hong Kong ...	27 ...	253 ...	14,487 ...	120 ...	17500
„ ...	Fairlight ...	„ ...	— ...	— ...	7,314 ...	— ...	—
„ 5 ...	Passing Cloud	„ ...	— ...	— ...	4,113 ...	— ...	5	0

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1865	...	645	3888	725	9300	...

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—None.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Aug. 19, Lord Clyde; 23, Queen of the Forth; 24, Prince Alfred. From Liverpool: 21, Patna, Amelia. From Newport: 21, Napoleon III. From Shields: 24, Queen of the Ocean.

At HONG KONG.—From Liverpool: Sept. 7, Corea. From Sunderland: 7, Tynedale. From Hamburg: 2, Jupiter.

At MANILA.—From Cardiff: Aug. 21, Labrador.

At SINGAPORE.—From Liverpool: Sept. 12, Therese. From Sunderland: 14, Zoe; 15, Naples. From Cardiff: 15, Heng Hoi.

At PENANG.—None.

At BATAVIA.—From Glasgow: Three Bells, Buston Vale.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—None.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Aug. 24, Dunkeld; 29, Fychow. For Liverpool: 29, Burnswark.

From FOOCHOW.—For London: Aug. 7, Whinfell, Areta; 10, Queen Bee; 12, William Mitchell; 15, Thurso. For Liverpool: 5, Everest.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Sept. 3, Scawfell; Aug. 29, Kate Carney.

From MANILA.—For New York: Aug. 31, Golden Fleece. For Boston: 20, Ocean Rover.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Sept. 19, War Eagle. For Cork: For orders, 17, Preciosa. For Sunderland: 7, Noorfool.

From PENANG.—For London: Sept. 12, Napier.

From YOKOHAMA.—For London: Aug. 10, Eleanor.

LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Simon Hobley, Rafael, Thomas Blythe, Seringapatam.

At HANKOW.—For London: Iron Crown, Philip Nelson.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Garawalt, Art Union, Helen Nicholson, Statesman, Polmaise, Glencoe, Horsa, Dartmouth, Ensign, Wild Deer. For Liverpool: Patna. For New York: Finzel, Podesta.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Berwickshire (full), Merse, Banian, Agra.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—Annie Archbelle. For Liverpool: Veronica (full). For New York: Panama, Sea Serpent, Powhattan.

At MANILA.—For London: Nelson. For Liverpool: Gloucestershire, Peeress, Tigris. For New York: Cutwater, Melita,

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Rowena, Eliza Thornton, Zanthippe, Caldbeck. For Liverpool: Sparkler, Panic.

At PENANG.—For London: Adelaide, Balnaguith. For New York: Casilda.

At BATAVIA.—For Channel for orders: India, Dorothea, Thusnelda. For Boston: Silvercraig.

PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND to CHINA, &c.—Aug. 13, Sea Snake, Liverpool to Shanghai; 14, Robin Hood, Sunderland to Shanghai; Moulin, Cardiff Manila; 17, Assyrian, London to Shanghai; 23, Langdale, Cardiff to Manila; 21, Ravenbourne, Hartlepool to Bangkok; 29, Patrician, London to Shanghai; Sept. 1, Cambalu, London to Hong Kong; 3, John Stanton, Cardiff to Shanghai; 7, Naples, Sunderland to Singapore.

From UNITED STATES of AMERICA to CHINA, &c.—Aug. 16, Magenta, New York to Manila.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.— Aug. 9, Ocean Pearl, Batavia to Rotterdam; 18, Early Dawn, Singapore to Liverpool; Sept. 3, Zeelandia, Manila to London; 6, Caldew, Singapore to London; 7, Harvest Home, Batavia to Amsterdam; Glencoe, Singapore to London; 10, Huntress, Singapore to England; Chaa Sze, Foochow to London; 11, Forrest, Foochow to Liverpool.

From CHINA, &c. to UNITED STATES.—Aug. 10, Atlas, Batavia to New York; 17, Fearless, Manila to Boston; 27, Benefactor, Hong Kong to New York; 31, Memnon, Manila to New York; Sept. 7, Rainbow, Singapore to Boston.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

YOKOHAMA.—To London: Cotton and Tea, £3; Silk, £4. 10s. per ton of 50 c. ft.

NAGASAKI.—To London: £3.

SHANGHAI.—The market remains extremely dull, and no charters of note have been made. The tonnage on the berth for home is large, and 30s. to £2 is all that can be obtained. To the coast ports equal dulness prevails.

FOOCHOW.—To London: £1. 10s. to £2.

HONG KONG and CANTON.—Vessels on the berth for U. K. loading at £1. 10s.; some little improvement is shortly anticipated. Very little is doing to the North.

MANILA.—Nominal, at £1 for clayed sugar, and £1. 15s. for unclayed.

SINGAPORE.—The advancing rates previously noticed could not be maintained, and lower had to be taken, viz., dead weight, 25s., meast. 35s. to United Kingdom.

PENANG.—The supply of tonnage is in excess of requirements. To Europe the rates are 20s. sugar, 30s. measurement.

BATAVIA.—To Europe, £2. Tonnage abundant.

CASUALTIES.

HONG KONG.

The Bengal, from Foochow, has put into Hong Kong with loss of rudder, having been in a typhoon.

The John Lidgett has also put into Hong Kong with loss of sails, &c., having been in severe weather.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Oct. 25, at Falmouth, from Manila, Vorsetzen; at Gironde, from Singapore, Prophete; 26, at London, from Colombo, Julia Augusta; 27, at Deal, from Macao, Northfleet; 26, at Falmouth, from Bassein, Scandia (late Johnson); 26, at Deal, from Colombo, Geelong, Chaturanga; 12, at Boston, from Manila, Conquest; 26, at Liverpool, from Shanghai, Lalla Rookh; from Singapore, Richard Cobden; from Rangoon, Bosphorus; at Queenstown, from Maulmain, Mary Russell; at Nieuwe Diep, from Sourabaya, Anglia; 27, at Deal, from China, Wm. Melhuish; 27, at Liverpool, from Singapore, Christopher Newton.

DEPARTURES.—Oct. 22, from Liverpool, for Hong Kong, Sir Lancelot; 23, from Shields, for Shanghai, Isabella; 24, from Cardiff, for Shanghai, Vanguard; 26, from London, for Shanghai, Burdwan.

CASUALTIES.—The Lochalva, Sydney from Cronstadt for the Amoor river, arrived off Ramsgate Oct. 25, with loss of mainboom.

The Sunda (s.s.), v. d. Bolek, from the Clyde for Batavia, put into Plymouth Oct. 25, with slight defect in machinery.

The Fairy, from London for Bangkok, put into Exmouth Oct. 24, with loss of fore and maintopmast. She had also sprung her fore and main lower masts, and lost a man overboard during heavy weather on the 20th when off Dungeness.

The Veritas, of Liverpool, Carey, from Shanghai, which arrived at New York Oct. 13, reports having experienced a hurricane Sept. 30, in which she unshipped her steering gear, sprung her rudder, fore and mizen masts, had part of her bulwarks stove and lost an entire suit of sails. On the 1st of Oct. she was hove on her beam ends during heavy weather, but righted with 5 feet water in her hold.

The Webster, reported in our last impression as having arrived at New York from Shanghai, proved to be from Liverpool.

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Naval and Military.

The Basilisk, 6, paddle-sloop, 1,031 tons, 400-horse power, Captain Hewett, V.C., announced in previous issues, sailed from Spithead for China on the 23rd inst.

A correspondent of the *Army and Navy Gazette* writes:—The P. and O. Company's ship Poonah arrived at Southampton on the 22nd inst. with the India and China mails, passengers, &c. We regret to learn that between Hong Kong and Malta five deaths occurred, the first of which, that of Mr. Christopher Albert, master, R.N., took place when within a day of Singapore. Lieutenant H. G. Hale, late in command of Her Majesty's gunboat Weazel, died when within a day of Penang; Major Atkinson, when within a day of Point de Galle; then Mr. Charles Kettyles, quartermaster of 25th Regiment, when within two days of Suez; and, lastly, a private soldier of the 11th Regiment, soon after leaving Alexandria. All these were invalids, and the fact tells very much against the absurb system of delaying sending men home till hardly a hope exists of their recovery, which is invariably the case, more especially in the navy. Whether it is the fear of responsibility on the part of the medical officers, or that they are too much bound down by red-tapeism, it is hard to say; at all events, such cases should be worth the consideration of those in authority. Few things shocked the passengers more than the want of any means of providing for [the invalided soldiers on disembarking at Suez. There was no sick quarters, no one to attend to the men, and had it not been for the kindness shown by some of the passengers, whose indignation was aroused by such neglect, one poor fellow would probably have died ere he reached the train. The men were unprovided with money to pay for meals or any trifling wants while crossing the Desert, and money had to be subscribed for them. Surely it would be an easy matter to establish sick quarters at Suez, with a medical man at hand to receive invalids of both services, and see that they were properly attended to while waiting at Suez, which they sometimes have to do for many hours. A distinguished officer, who arrived at Southampton in the Poonah, was an eye witness to the whole of this management, and we sincerely hope he will bring the matter before the proper authorities.

20th Regiment.—A correspondent in Hong Kong writes:—"About two years ago the second battalion of this regiment embarked at Portsmouth for India. On reaching Calcutta the regiment received orders to proceed to China, the women and children being sent to Dum Dum and there left. After some little time the regiment was ordered to Japan, leaving the women and children about seven miles from Hong Kong, at Stanley, where they have been left open to all temptations that could be possible for poor creatures in such a helpless condition. They have now been there sixteen months without the least effort being made to have them sent to join the regiment. Many of them have gone to a long home. Many orphans and husbands mourn their loss. The soldiers of the regiment have to see so many of their wives and children left to shift for themselves. In Japan there is plenty of room to build a few huts."

Major-General Lord Henry Percy, V.C., has resigned the command of the brigade at Aldershott, to which he was appointed in the spring. Lord Henry has since gone into Parliament as member for North Northumberland, and very properly thinks staff duties incompatible with those involved in a seat in the House of Commons. His successor at Aldershott has not yet been selected, but we hear it is not unlikely that the place will be offered to Sir Alfred Horsford, K.C.B., now Deputy-Adjutant-General. Another brigade command at Aldershott will be vacant shortly, Major-General David Russell's period of service being about to expire. General Russell was appointed in April, 1860, but the time during which he was on duty in Canada was not counted as part of his five years' staff service. Lieut.-General Sir Hope Grant, G.C.B., will enter upon the duties of Quartermaster-General at the Horse Guards on the 1st of November.

Although, as we (*Army and Navy Gazette*) stated last week, we do not expect to see any reduction of the army advocated by the authorities during the next Session of Parliament, we shall be prepared for a proposed decrease in the Navy Estimates, both in reference to the *matériel* and *personnel* of the service. We are not in a position just now to say how far the pruning knife may be applied generally to the former, but, with regard to the latter, we can state that in the Coastguard alone the Commissioners of Customs have pointed out that, as far as the protection of the revenue is concerned, they can dispense with the whole of the mounted guard, besides a considerable number of the other men. They have also pointed out to the Admiralty that there is no necessity for keeping up so large a fleet of cruisers as at present exists; and it is believed that they have recommended a diminution to the extent of one-seventh. It does not, however, follow that the Admiralty will adopt to their full extent the economical measures thus brought under their notice.

War Office, Oct. 20.—Brevet: The undermentioned promotions to take place in succession to Major-General John Macduff, C.B., who died on the 25th September, 1865: Brevet Colonel Francis Plunket Dunne, major, half-pay, unattached, to have the rank of major-general, September 26; Brevet Colonel Rawdon John Popham Vassall, major, half-pay, unattached, to have the rank of major-general, September 26; Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet Colonel James Pattoun Sparks, C.B., from inspecting field officer of a recruiting district to be major-general, September 26; Major Frederick Percy Lea, half-pay, unattached, to be lieutenant-colonel, September 26; Captain Hugh Bent, Royal Artillery, to be major, September 26.

On the 23rd, Paymaster David T. Waugh, late of the Medea, was appointed to the Basilisk, before her departure for China.

Paymaster Bertram Mitford is appointed additional to the Octavia, 39, screw frigate, fitting at Portsmouth for the East Indies.

Letters have been received from Singapore which announce the death of Lieutenant Henry G. Hale, lately lieutenant and commander of Her Majesty's gunboat Weazel. He died on the 8th of September, on his way from Japan to Singapore. The gallant officer was appointed to command the Weazel on the 1st of January, 1863, and was returning home invalided.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Rotterdam, Oct. 24.

There is no news of political interest; the members of the Second Chamber of the States General are busy with the consideration of the Budget, and several reports have already been printed. They contain, however, little more than the usual estimates and remarks. Within a few days the discussion will begin. As to the Budget of the Department of War the *Arnemsche Courant* predicts that this will be rejected, and that Mr. Blanken, the Minister, will be obliged to resign, when his place will be filled upby a *bourgeois*. Mr. Blanken will hereafter replace Jhr. de Casembroot, who has resigned as member of the Council of State.

Our King went to-day to Het Loo, where he will remain some weeks, and will be joined by the Queen on her return within a few days from Germany.

A rumour is again in circulation that Mr. Betz will resign as Minister of the Financial department. I, however, believe it to be unfounded.

The thirty-seventh annual report of the Bank of Java, extending from April 1, 1864, to March 1, 1865, has been issued. This institution, which has had successive privileges accorded it, has flourishing branches at Sourabaya, Padang, and Macassar. Its principal operations consist in discounting bills, exchanging money, and lending on the hypothecation of State bonds and produce. The capital is 6,000,000 florins; the highest circulation of notes attained during the past year represented an amount of 25,278,305 florins; the profits for that period of 450,000 florins being set aside for the reserve fund, and a dividend of 7½ per cent. being distributed among the shareholders.

COMMERCIAL.

Coffee.—The results of the auction of the trading company, on which 125 903 b. were offered, was very favourable. The general opinion was, that by the actual condition of the money market, the prices should decline, but in average the valuation was paid in full; while for Tjilatjap and Padang, in consequence of American orders, ¼ to ½ c. was paid above valuation. Good ordinary Java is now worth 45 to 45½. Since the auction the market is very firm, and there is much demand for green qualities; 1,460 b. ex Maria Diederika were sold at firm but secret prices.

Sugar.—Raw in good condition; about 4 000 per Java, imported some weeks ago, were sold at prices which are thought to be ¼f. above the September quotations. Refined with much demand.

Rice.—1,000 b. Java table (damaged) ex Nagasaki, were sold at auction at 9½f. to 10¼f.

Spices.—There is a good demand for Mace, and 80 c. was willingly paid for D and 75 c. for E. Nutmegs No. 1 unaltered; for No. 2 there is more demand, and nothing can be bought under 69 c.

Tobacco.—Dull, in waiting for the private auction on the 3rd Nov.

Manila Cigars.—The auction which was held on the 18th gave the following results:—200 m. 2a Cordados Cavite, 1865, were partly sold at 40¼f. to 41½f., and the rest bought in; 100 m. 2a Cortados, 1864, were retired; 10 m. 1a. 1863, were partly sold at 63f.; 100 m. 2a Cordados Cavite, 1864, were partly sold at 35½f.; 450 m. 2a, 1864, partly sold at 31¼f. to 33¾f., and the rest retired at 38f. The holders decline to operate at the actual quotations.

Rattans.—On the 19th inst. the Trading Company offered 59,151 bundles in auction. The Banjermassing was sold at f.13.90 to 15f., and the Padang at f.13.90, the Koetie at 13f., and the mixed lots from f.12.10 to f.13.80.

Java Indigo.—Of the new imports 20 chests were sold at firm prices. The opinion is favourable.

Cotton.—The market was animated, but closed somewhat heavier.

Banca Tin.—The prices become daily higher. 300 slabs were sold at 56f., 250 at 56½f., 900 at 56¼f.; 1,000 slabs at 56¾f., 1 000 at 57f., 500 at 57¼f., and 1,500 at 57½f. As there are no more orders for America the market will become flatter, and at 57f. may be bought.

Arrack.—Without transactions, but the market remains in a very firm condition. The reports from Batavia say that the exports will be very trifling, while the stock is unimportant.

Hides.—With a few transactions for the consumption.

Money Market.—The rate of discount is still unaltered, while the Bank returns are more favourable than in the last weeks. Dutch: Two and a-Half per Cents., 61; Three per Cents., 71 9-16th; Four per Cents., 95⅜; Handelmaatschappy, 146¾; Indian Bank, 81¼; Rotterdam Bank, 98¼. Change on London: 3 mo., f.11 77; 2 mo., f.11.84; short, f.11 98; Paris: 3 mo., f.46 65; 2 mo., f.46.85; short, 47.25. Hambro: 3 mo., 35f.; 2 mo., f.35.11; short, f.35.45.

Shipping—Arrivals.—October 16, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Japara; 15, at Texel, from Padang, Stad Assen; 17, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Nieuwe Waterweg; at Zierikzee, from Batavia, Nederland; 17, at Texel, from Padang, Carolina Agnes, Sindbad; 18, at Texel, from Batavia, Laura and Adele.

Departure.—October 23, from Brouwershaven, for Batavia, Dordrecht.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From Java, per Fop Smit, Messrs. Borger and family, de Waal and family, van Bloemenstei, and family, van Dunen and family, Egberts and family, Hacquebord Dikhuis; per Nicos, Messrs. L. L. Gross, De-

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sauvage, Grauss, Bloemen Waanders; per St. Jan, Messrs. Riesz and family, J. de Quay and family, de la Chaux and family; per Stad Assen, Mr. B. H. Boer and family; per Nederland, Messrs. Hagenzieker, van Riemsdyk, Hofman; per Sindbad, Messrs. Textor, Epple and family, van Beveren.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

To Java, per Zeenimph, Mrs. E. van Sheeden Coles and family, Mrs. S. van Rossum, Mrs. J. Lang, Miss H. van Gudnaan, Mr. J. Ellinkhuyzen, H. Jonken, A. Tersenaar.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

OCTOBER 23.

The Russian *Gazette of the Academy* contains the following :—"During the course of the present year, the Minister of Finances laid before the Council of the Empire a project respecting a revision of the statutes of the Russian American Company, and the organisation of colonies in America. The project was approved by the Council, and confirmed by the Emperor, on the 14th of June, 1865. By this document the period of the existence and privilege of the company is fixed for the 1st of January, 1882. The following are the principal provisions of the new charter :—The company remains, as hitherto, an administrative authority in the colonies, with its own functionaries, seal, with the Imperial arms, flag, troops, and coinage. The political part of the Administration to be replaced by a general direction of the colonies, appointed from the present time by the Imperial Government. The Aleutes, and all other natives, to be in future exempt from forced work for the company, and may change their residences and absent themselves as they like. All inhabitants are divided into natives and colonists. All trade and industry declared free except the chase and the fur trade, which remain the exclusive privilege of the company within the limits prescribed by the law. Beyond these limits the chase may be followed by all natives and colonists, and the fur trade by all Russians. The ports of New Archangel on Sitka Island, St. Paul on the Island of Sandjak, and eventually some others, are declared free ports for the importation of all goods and merchandise in Russian or other vessels, with the exception of gunpowder, arms, and spirituous liquors. A special general meeting of the shareholders of the company will be shortly convened, when it will be seen if they agree to these alterations."

In the Folksthing, or Lower Chamber of the Danish Parliament, Mr. Westenholz last week requested Ministers to state what steps they intended to take to facilitate the opening of the Danish trade and navigation with China and Japan, as their ships were now placed in such an unenviable position that several had lately been put under the protection of foreign flags to enable them to trade between China and Japan ; and, if nothing was done to prevent it, all Danish vessels in the East would be compelled to do the same. The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Privy Councillor Bluhme, in reply, stated what had already been done, and what steps were further intended to be taken towards negotiating a treaty of commerce with Japan. Preliminary measures had been taken some time ago, through a friendly government (the Netherlands), to pave the way with the Tycoon, and he (the Minister) had lately put himself in communication with the Minister for the Marine for the purpose of sending out a ship of war to show the Danish flag in the waters of Japan. Mr. A. Hage, one of the Members of the Folksthing, expressed his satisfaction at hearing that Ministers were not forgetful of the interests of the Danish mercantile navy.

The Italian Government is now fitting out the steam frigate *Magenta* for a voyage to China and Japan. A letter just received from Florence states that Professor de Filippi, lately appointed to a seat in the Senate, will go out in her as scientific commissioner, but also furnished with instructions and full powers to negotiate treaties of commerce with those Eastern States. Though it has been known for some time past that such an expedition was projected, it was not believed that it would be so soon undertaken, and the announcement has, therefore, taken the public by surprise. The frigate will be fitted out for an absence of two years, and will circumnavigate the globe before her return to Europe.

At Vienna a joint-stock company has just been formed under the firm of the "First Austrian Export and Import Company," with a capital of five millions of florins. For the present, however, only one-fifth will be raised, by the emission of 5,000 shares of 200 florins each. The object of the undertaking is, as the name implies, the furtherance of Austrian commerce with foreign States, for which purpose agencies are to be established in distant countries, special mention being made of China and Japan. Until the realisation of this latter part of the project the business in those countries is to be confided to the agencies of the Swiss Export Company. The shares have been all taken up, and great hopes are entertained that the patriotic undertaking will receive the special countenance and support of the New Minister for Commerce.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The favourable result of the Dutch sales and better advices from the Brazils have caused greater confidence in this market. To this may be added the continued large deliveries, the reduced stock, and the small supplies known to be at sea, which can hardly suffice for local demands during the winter months, when we may expect to be shut up by the frost. Sales of the week, 20,000 bags, including a cargo of 2,200 bags expected, and ordered to proceed to Sweden on arrival.

SUGAR.—Raw continues in favour, with a further rise of 8 sch. bco., and market closes firm. Among the sales are 600 bags yellow E. I. for delivery, 2,200 bags brown and yellow ditto ex warehouse, and 250 kranjangs of Batavia. Refined firm in value, but with limited demand.

RICE.—Prices without alteration, business moderate. Arrived this week, 8,300 bags Bassein per Helvetia, 6,000 Rangoon per Peder Aneus, and 1,000 per Melbourne.

SPICES.—Cassia Lignea continues in demand at rising prices, 11½ sch. bco. having been paid. Ginger steady. There is more inquiry for Mace and Nutmegs. Pepper firm.

SPELTER.—Market dull, and prices with a downward tendency. The only sales reported are 1,000 centners *in loco* at 13.12, and 500 centners for November delivery at same figure, since which 2,500 centners *in loco* at 13.10.

MONEY rather easier. Discount, 6¼ per cent.

SHIPPING.—ARRIVED.—Oct. 16, Melbourne, from Singapore ; Helvetia, from Bassein ; Peder Aneus, from Rangoon ; 20, Molly, from Singapore.

SAILED.—Oct. 18 (from Cuxhaven), Colima, to Macassar and Hong Kong.

THE RUSSIAN AND AMERICAN TELEGRAPH.—The *New York Herald* reports :—A telegram has been received from Port St. James, on Frazer River, stating that the Russian-American telegraph has been built from New Westminster to that point by Assistant Engineer Conway, who was progressing still further with great success. Captain Conway's party will undoubtedly reach Stuart's Lake before the close of the season, where Captain Carlin is preparing bateaux to cross supplies for the passage to Lake Babine. Messrs. Henly and Co., of London, are manufacturing wire for the main line of the company, and one thousand four hundred miles will soon reach Colonel Bulkley at Sitka. This is in addition to one thousand two hundred miles of wire previously sent from New York. The cable which is to cross the Straits has been ordered in England. Mr. Mumford, vice-president of the Western Union Extension, sailed from this port a few weeks since, with full power from that company to contract for four hundred miles of cable, to be finished in three months and laid next August. M. Abasa left San Francisco the latter part of July in the barque *Olga*, for the Amoor river, from which point he will build northward with an efficient working party, and meet the party sent by Colonel Bulkley from the Gulf of Anadeer. The whole enterprise, according to latest advices from official sources on the Pacific, bids fair to be most successfully and triumphantly carried out to final completion at a much earlier day than has heretofore been anticipated by its most sanguine friends. The Government, from which was expected the assistance of a steamer to enable Colonel Bulkley to complete certain important marine explorations on the coast, has most signally failed to respond to the requirements of the case, and the enterprising and energetic engineer in charge of the expedition has proceeded thus far without the aid sought for and granted by Congress. Now that so many steamers have been put out of commission by the cessation of the war, it is confidently expected that one of our national vessels may be detained to represent our flag among the frigid regions to be traversed by the energetic and hardy expeditionists. It may not be generally known that the expeditionary corps sent from San Fransisco, and which departed from Vancouver's Island the last week in July, is organised on a military basis, similar to a brigade of our army ; but such is the fact. Not only is the expedition so organised, but all the *employes* are uniformed in a blue suit, not varying materially from that of our infantry. Among the officers attached to the expedition is Captain Lawrence Conlin, chief Carpenter, who is also drill officer, being an old soldier, he having served in the Mexican war, subsequently in the regular army in Texas, and latterly a lieutenant in the Third Massachusets cavalry. Colonel Bulkley and many of his assistants also served in the telegraph corps, under General Banks, and nearly all of them have frequently been under fire. Colonel Bulkley, in equipping the expedition, while in New York, provided enough arms and ammunition to fully equip five hundred men for active service against Indian or "any other man" not susceptible to the kindness and suavity which are the known characteristics of the head of the expedition. Captain Conlin has had considerable experience in fighting the Lipau, Camanche, and other Indian tribes in Texas, as well as the guerillas of Louisiana ; and, where the diplomacy of Colonel Bulkley, aided by the most liberal presents (of which a great quantity was shipped from this city), is not effectual in securing an uninterrupted right of way, free from molestation by the wild tribes of those regions, the bayonet and bullet will be fearfully brought into requisition, wielded by boys who have braved death under their old flag, which they now carry with them on their peaceful and civilising errand. No fears are entertained on this point ; and the warlike tribe of the Tchooktchees will receive as much conciliation as may be accorded to the more effeminate and peculative Chenooks ; but any attempt to impede the progress of the grand enterprise will be promptly, fearlessly, and bloodily met and effectually punished. The next advices from the expedition may announce the uniting of the wires of the second section of the line with those being built up to Stuart's Lake.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A Register is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the Far East and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in China, Japan, Singapore, *and other parts of the* Far East, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the Far East.

Subscription 5*l*s. per annum. including Postage. Export Supplement 12s. extra.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, SATURDAY, OCT. 28, 1865.

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THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT.

The elements of a Colonial Government in the Far East are, perhaps, more subject to frequent changes, from the demise or retirement of its officials, than any other; the vacancies so occurring are, however, usually filled up without delay, and the affairs of the colony are carried on with little, if any, interruption. By a singular coincidence, the colony of Hong Kong has been deprived almost simultaneously of *three* of its chief functionaries; and presents to us the unusual combination of a colony without a Governor, an episcopal see without a Bishop, and a Supreme Court without a Chief Justice. Not, of course, that the functions of these several offices are all in abeyance; for, as is usual in such cases, the duties of the Governor and Chief Justice are performed for the time, with more or less ability, by subordinate officials; while the powers of the episcopate, not being of such a nature as to admit of their being delegated for a time to any substitute, must perforce remain dormant until a successor to Bishop Smith be appointed.

Firstly, with regard to the new Governor. We think we may safely congratulate the colonists on the choice that has been made of a successor to Sir Hercules Robinson. In Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell they will have a man of considerable administrative abilities, of great energy (as evinced in the active measures taken by him to improve the internal defences of the colony he has lately governed), and one, moreover, whose personal character and genial disposition have won for him universal respect and esteem. Nor is this all; Sir Richard MacDonnell, coming as he does fresh from the wholesome atmosphere of a quiet, well-conducted colony like Nova Scotia, and free from the taint of those corrupting influences which have in years gone by made a very Augean stable of Hong Kong, will be far better fitted to assume the reins of Government—to administer with a vigorous hand, without fear or favour, such reforms as are necessary—than any official whose long tenure of office in the colony might seem, to a superficial observer, to qualify him for the post. Without wishing to reflect in an unfavourable manner on the way in which the present Acting Governor, Mr. Mercer, discharges the duties of the office, we have already strongly advocated the necessity of placing at the head of the Government a man whose experience has been acquired in a totally different field. It is impossible to touch pitch and not be defiled; neither is it possible for any ordinary man to live for twenty years surrounded by abuses such as those which have in times past rendered the Government of Hong Kong notorious, without becoming so far familiarised with, and influenced by them, as to be less able to improve the *morale* of the Government than one coming fresh from an entirely different sphere of action. This qualification in the new Governor will, we contend, far more than counterbalance any slight shortcomings which may at first arise from his being an entire stranger in the land to which his new appointment calls him.

We do not yet hear of any appointment of a successor to the late Chief Justice Adams; and this calls our attention to another singular feature in the present anomalous condition of the colony, namely, the fact that both Under Judge Ball, who at present acts in the capacity of Chief Justice, and Mr. Whyte, the Chief Magistrate, are members of the Romish Church; while the Acting Governor, although himself a Protestant, would seem, from the extraordinary encouragement he vouchsafes to the Roman Catholic cause, to be, at all events, disposed to favour the spread of catholicism in his jurisdiction; at least we can put no other construction on the "solemn distribution of prizes" (*vide China Mail*) lately performed by his Excellency at the Roman Catholic School of St. Saviour's, in which the Acting Judge and Mr. Whyte also took part. Now, although strongly averse to intolerance of any description, and anxious that free liberty of conscience be allowed everywhere, especially in such a mixed community as that of Hong Kong, still we cannot help thinking that in the Government of a colony belonging to the chief of Protestant nations, such Catholic proclivities as these should be avoided. The most glaring error, however, which Mr. Mercer has committed has been the surrender of Mowang, and on the meeting of next Parliament this matter will be fully inquired into. We trust that a careful selection in the appointment of a new Bishop and a new Chief Justice, will place the Government of the colony on a more satisfactory footing in all respects.

THE CEYLON LEAGUE.

The real or apprehended violation by Ministers of constitutional principles in their home policy, could not fail to excite a storm of public remonstrance. Why should it be otherwise when this happens in our colonial policy? A great part of the immunity which the Colonial-office in its administration has experienced is due rather to a deficiency of knowledge on the part of members entrusted with colonial grievances, rendering them liable to be silenced by a mere feint of defence, notwithstanding the truth and strength of their position. If any action on the part of the late Ministry has been calculated in its extension to injure our stately colonial fabric, it is the refusal of independent and responsible action to the Legislative Council of Ceylon. With the legislative control afforded by charter over the disposal of their revenue placed in abeyance; with an Order in Council enforced, which practically ignores the representative element; with special votes merged in a general fund capriciously expended or withheld from important public works, for the purpose of creating an illusive surplus to be arbitrarily applied to Imperial wants, and when to all this is added the perpetual restraint on the industrial and social development of the colony thus created, we arrive at a state of things meriting for its authors—

"A dismal universal hiss, the sound of public scorn."

The motives and principles by which men are actuated lie deeper than on paper and parchment; and for Ceylon to have tolerated this despotism, to have sanctioned this treason against her constitutional rights, would have been to consent to the positive injury of all her interests. But the enforcement of a military exaction, none the less compulsory because passed by a vote of the official members (for the whole united Council immediately petitioned home that its privileges and the rights of the people might be respected), has sounded the knell for any longer withdrawment of the control of the revenues from the representatives of the people. As the first result, we have the Ceylon League in vigorous action. Protests and memorials having been vain, this body, which represents every leading interest in that colony, has determined to enlarge the basis of operations, to bring the attack home to the Government of the day, and, without lessening active, local effort, creating a London Branch Committee, with power to raise funds, and take such action as shall arouse public sentiment in England. We cannot be indifferent to such a movement, aiming, as it does, to satisfy the just demands of the colonists without prejudice to Imperial interests; for there is no greater libel on Ceylon than that its people are indisposed to pay voluntarily their due proportion of the Imperial revenue. The League is represented in London by Mr. George Wall, the chairman of the League, and who arrived by the last mail. Mr. Wall was the most prominent of the non-official members who resigned, intimately acquainted with Ceylon interests, and possessing high statesman-like abilities. His course has been characterised by great judgment, and the organisation could not have been entrusted to abler hands. A published statement of the political history of Ceylon, for the last sixteen years, will shortly be issued under his auspices, and which will leave no refuge for Ministerial evasions when the subject is brought before Parliament at its next session. The case of Ceylon will secure the more ready acceptance, that the unofficial members who resigned at no time offered a mere factious opposition; neither they nor the League are agitators

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in the accepted sense of that term, but, on the contrary, are really seeking to advance the cause of right government; and the action taken must tell eventually on Hong Kong, and other colonies with which British interests are so closely identified. We trust shortly to record Mr. WALL's movements in reference to the cause of which he is the accredited representative.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THAT Sir Hercules Robinson should fulfil his announced intention of securing for the Legislative Council of Ceylon the complement of unofficial members has created no surprise; but that gentlemen so well acquainted with the views of the Ceylon community should have felt themselves justified in accepting place, has occasioned no little comment. Doubtless Sir Hercules brought to bear on them weighty considerations connected with prospective business; yet, until pending questions between the colonists and the home Government are determined, these gentlemen must consent to be the mere *umbra* of the representative element; seeing that, according to the last Order in Council, their assent is not necessary to any step in legislation. Sir Hercules, when in Hong Kong, contended for the very principles which characterise the present Ceylon agitation, resisting encroachments on colonial rights through official incapacity at home; and we believe is not inclined to look unfavourably on an arrangement which would give to unofficial members their due influence. The following are the names of the gentlemen appointed:—George Dennis, B. Harrison, George Smyttan Duff (Manager Oriental Bank); Christopher Barker Smith, Mutu Coomara Swamy, James Adrian Martensz, Edward James Dehigame.

THE BREAKWATER AT GALLE.

WE are glad to find that this important matter is likely to receive a solution at last. The plans proposed by Mr. GRINLINGTON, at present in Ceylon, have been approved by competent men as the most suitable amongst the many suggested during the last fifteen years. We understand that the matter is now under the consideration of the Ceylon Government as to what support they will give the project. The cost is, we believe, computed at £300,000, and with any sort of guarantee or support from Government, the P. and O. Company, the Messageries Imperiales, and others, there will be no difficulty in forming a company to carry out this long wanted public work, which will render Galle one of the most useful ports instead of the most dangerous one in the East. The *Colombo Observer* is, however, in error in stating that the P. and O. Company and the Messageries are ready "to bear the whole or the larger portion of the expense." They will be glad to give their influence to the project, and pay something handsome as dues, but they cannot furnish the required outlay; nor is it necessary, as the capital can be raised on the merits of the project, provided a good return can be shown.

THE SINGAPORE GAS COMPANY.

WE are happy to hear that this company has now a large share of public patronage, and by late accounts they had made use of about 250 street lamp posts, 21 private ditto, and about 2,300 lights in the houses of Europeans and natives. The charge was $3 per 1,000 feet, yielding a revenue to the company of about £6,000 per annum. Considering that the mains already laid were capable of yielding yet a considerable number of lights, and that the demand was daily increasing amongst the natives, it may be expected that the company's receipts by the end of the year will be so augmented as to yield a handsome dividend on the paid-up capital. The directors here and the local committee appear to have avoided by diligence, that enormous outlay and waste in establishing the works, which is generally inseparable from operations of a similar nature, conducted in the Far East. As they have been so successful the directors should now make overtures for lighting Ceylon, Java, Manila, &c.

THE SIAMESE PROHIBITION AGAINST THE EXPORT OF RICE.

WE regret to learn, by the last mail, that the King of Siam, who has adopted such enlightened views on most subjects, should have ordered the prohibition to the export of rice to continue for a further period of three months. This is a bad step for the prosperity of the country. If a stop is to be put on any article because of its scarcity, there can be no confidence by those engaged in the trade of Siam. It would be wiser to allow things to take their course, depending rather on the high prices bringing in cargoes from other ports, and also on the fact that, while extreme rates ruled there would be no buyers for export. We trust that the King, who has shown so many of the principles of free trade, will be put right on this matter. While on the subject of Siam we are glad to notice that the visit of Admiral King was suggested by the Foreign Office, with a view to strengthen the *entente cordiale*, which had rather slackened of late, owing to the action of the French authorities on one side, and the discourteous attitude assumed by our Consul on the other. It is only just, however, to add that we believe that Mr. KNOX has "turned over a new leaf."

NEW STEAMERS FOR CHINA.

THE screw steamer of about 900 tons, which we noticed some months since as building at Aberdeen for Messrs. Douglas, Lapraik, Lane, and others, will be ready for launching next month. She will be commanded by Capt. Baker, and will be named the *Douglas*.

The steam ferry, which has been constructed for the same owners, is somewhat on the model of that working across the Itchin river, at Southampton, capable of conveying passengers, cattle, carriages, provisions, &c.; and we expect this craft will prove quite a boon to the inhabitants of Hong Kong in connecting it with the Kowloong shore and places adjacent. It is intended to ship out this ferry in a vessel now building for account of Messrs. Robertson and Co. at the same yard.

There are three steamers—of 2,200 tons each—building by Messrs. Scott, of Greenock, originally intended for the Tea trade, but there is now some uncertainty as to their employment.

The screw steamer *Erl King*, Capt. Pinel, whose launch was noticed some time since, had her trial trip on the Clyde on the 19th inst. She will be despatched for Melbourne next month, and thence proceed on to China. The following account of her trial is from the *Glasgow Herald*:—

On the 19th the screw steamer *Erl King*, recently launched from the building-yard of Messrs. A. and J. Inglis, Point-house, was put on her official trial trip, when the distance between the Cloch and Cumbrae Lights was run in 67 minutes, being equal to 12·24 knots or 14·1 miles per hour, on a mean draft of 17ft. 6in., the speed attained being fully one knot per hour over that contracted for. Her dimensions are 250ft.; breadth, 34½ft.; depth, 22ft. 9in. The machinery, made by the same firm, consists of a pair of surface condensing engines of most approved construction, of 200-horse power nominal, and during the run gave an indicated power of 1,200 horses. She is also fitted with hoisting gear for lifting the propeller out of the water when under canvas. The *Erl King* has been built for the China and Australian trade, and is commanded by Capt. Pinel. She has superior accommodation for first, second, and third class passengers, being elegantly fitted up and admirably adapted for the trade. On arriving at the Tail of the Bank, a select company who were on board during the trial were taken ashore by the tug in attendance, and the *Erl King* proceeded to London.

TROOPS FOR CEYLON.

THE *Isabella* has been engaged for the conveyance to Ceylon of the following troops:—

2nd Batalion 25th Foot	..	..	2	officers	102	men.
Royal Artillery	..	..	1	„		
Ceylon Rifles	..	..	2	„	1	„
Army Hospital Corps	..	..			1	„
Staff	..	..	1	„		

With 2 officers' wives, 6 soldiers' wives and 9 soldiers' children.

CHINA GRASS.

WE have referred more than once to the subject of the application of China grass, or rather to the attempts that are being made to introduce that fibre into manufacture, by the men of Rouen, and a correspondent, "An Englishman," in a letter which was published in our issue of the 16th instant, seems a little jealous at, as he says, our "apparently congratulating Frenchmen upon their great mercantile acumen." We should have done so had we seen reason for it, but we did not; we merely recorded the fact that the manufacturers of Rouen were making efforts towards the application of the fibre, that they had succeeded in producing excellent specimens of fabrics composed in part of China grass, that they had managed to work it as cotton and as silk, and had dyed it with brilliant colours; and further, that they had succeeded in obtaining the support of men well known and standing high in the financial world All this is true, and we wish we could add that their object had been fully achieved, as we hope it may be some day sooner or later; for we hold that he who can bring into practical use a new fibre is just as much a benefactor to his species as he who makes two blades of grass grow where one only grew before. We are perfectly well aware that attempts have been made to

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introduce China grass into English manufacture, and we know also that little or no practical result has yet been achieved; and, moreover, we feel sure that nothing is so likely to push our manufacturers forward as the knowledge that others are working in the same direction. As regards the cost of the material, or rather its economic value, we are not so well informed; and when quoting the reports of the Chamber of Commerce of Rouen, whose opinion in such matters is certainly deserving of the fullest attention, we merely said :—"If these reports be not all painted "*couleur de rose*, it appears that the want of a sufficient quantity "of the raw material is the only thing which prevents the im-"mediate development of the China grass trade;" we did not commit ourselves in any way. Our correspondent says that three years ago certain importers made an unfortunate venture in China grass, and he expresses his opinion that the material "cannot be imported into Europe at a low enough cost." But the Chamber of Commerce of Rouen has gone into all the questions apparently with great care, has printed its information and deductions, and tells the world that a tissue of China grass costs about two-fifths less than one of pure cotton; and the spinner and weaver who made the experiments at Rouen have expressed, in print, their readiness to take a ton a day of the material, while the former declares that he is prepared to devote himself entirely to the working of China grass, which, he says, "can be employed by itself or mixed with cotton, to the extent of 60 to 75 per cent. with great economy." We trust that this short statement will prove to our readers that we were not ill-advised, or unjust towards anybody in the world, in drawing attention to the efforts of the manufacturers of Rouen, our object being simply the dissemination of what we conceived to be useful information. In the *London and China Telegraph* of the 8th of August will be found a letter on the same subject from another correspondent, signed "An Exporter," the writer of which, after thanking us for calling attention to the subject, says :—"Evidently large fortunes are to be acquired by those who shall first prove successful in this enterprise, and it is to be hoped that instead of waiting for French experimental results, arrangements will at once be made for turning China grass to full account in our cotton and linen manufactures." If this opinion be correct, we congratulate ourselves upon having *irritated* the subject, for there is nothing like a little friction for putting Englishmen upon their mettle; and, while we trust that the most deserving may win the prize, if prize there be to win, we cannot conceal the fact that we should prefer it to fall into English hands. But there is no question of a special prize at all; if one country can work China grass another can, and if any country can get it cheaply from China it is certainly England. Lastly, if it can be grown at a lower cost in Europe or elsewhere, than it can be imported for, so much the worse for the China merchant. As for us, we are in the position of the visitor to the circumlocution office. "We want to know, you know!" that is all.

THE NEW SEASON TEA CLIPPERS.

Ship.	From.	Date of Departure.	Date of Arrival at.	No. of Days.
Fiery Cross ..	Foo-Chow ..	May 24 ..	London, Sept. 10 ..	108
Serica	Do. ..	— 24 ..	„ — 11 ..	109
Yang-tsze ..	Do. ..	— 26 ..	„ Oct. 8 ..	135
Ziba	Do. ..	— 27 ..	„ — 7 ..	133
Flying Spur ..	Do. ..	— 30 ..	„ — 8 ..	131
Belted Will ..	Do. ..	June 5 ..	„ — 8 ..	125
Black Prince ..	Do. ..	— 5 ..	„ — 9 ..	126
Young Lochinvar	Do. ..	— 10 ..	„ — 7 ..	119
Min	Do. ..	— 10 ..	„ — 8 ..	120
Fire Queen ..	Shanghai ..	— 11 ..	„ — 17 ..	128
Eliza Shaw ..	Do. ..	— 12 ..	„ — 8 ..	118
Silver Eagle ..	Do. ..	— 13 ..	„ — 13 ..	122
Pakwan	Macao ..	— 14 ..	„ — 8 ..	116
City of Aberdeen	Foo-Chow ..	— 22 ..	„ — 13 ..	113
*Challenger ..	Shanghai ..	— 28 ..	„ — 17 ..	111
Taeping ..	Foo-Chow ..	— 29 ..	„ — 11 ..	104

Several of these vessels were detained in the Channel by easterly gales for a week.

The City of Aberdeen experienced heavy gales from S.W. just after leaving Foo-Chow, and lost all her topgallant masts. She came the eastern passage, arriving off Start-point 9th Oct., and London Docks 13th.

LONDON GAZETTE, Oct. 20.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell, Kt., and C.B., to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the colony of Hong Kong and its dependencies; and Lieutenant-General Sir William Fenwick Williams, of Kars, Bart., K.C.B., to be his successor as Lieut.-Governor of Nova Scotia.

* The Challenger left Woosung 25th June, 4 P.M., passed Lombock 3rd Aug., Cape, 1st Sept., crossed the Equator 17th, arrived at the Start 14th Oct., in dock 17th, 11 A.M.

The steamers *Kwangsoo*, *Kwangtung* and *Amoy*, belonging to the Anglo-Chinese fleet, have been advertised for sale in the daily papers as they now lie in Bombay harbour. Why they should have been allowed to lay there for two years is one of those official acts which, as Lord Dundreary says, "no fellow can make out."

THE SILK TRADE—FRANCE v. ENGLAND.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph*.)

Sir,—In number 183 of your issue, dated the 28th of August last appears an article taken from the *Economist*, entitled "The Silk Trade—France *v.* England."

The writer of the article makes a statement to the effect that "the dealers of silk in France have not got large capital at their disposal; they are strongly disinclined to confide the control of what they do possess to men whom they cannot watch constantly, and they have not patience to wait for years for the success of a commercial operation." The foregoing is that portion of the article with which I propose to deal in this letter, and at a subsequent date I shall be disposed to discuss other portions, provided you are willing to give insertion thereto. I will now begin by stating that had the article referred to been written prior to the overthrow of the Orleans dynasty, its statements would have been true in the main; but, unfortunately for the writer, he is nearly twenty years behind the epoch on which he has ventured to treat. In the first place I must give an entire yet courteous denial to the statement that the silk trade of France is poverty-stricken.

Considering all the circumstances, it could not have been matter for wonder had such been the fact, knowing as we do that the silk producers of that country have, for a period of nearly ten years, been contending against a series of ruinously disastrous crops, which began to be seriously felt as far back as 1856, and which as yet no man can foresee the end of.

Now, notwithstanding the fearful losses incurred during this distressingly long period, I must beg to be allowed to maintain that the dealers of silk in France are still possessed of very large money capital. Formerly it was locked up in the production and perfection of the home silk crops, and consequently did not make its appearance in distant markets.

The case is now altered, and a portion—only a moderate portion—of the capital hitherto so employed in France (to which Italy contributes) has at length taken the alarm, and is slowly and gradually betaking itself to the silk markets of China and Japan.

At the time when the French had good crops at home, say for instance from 1840 to 1850, they were naturally disinclined to embark in distant enterprises; but no sooner did the crisis attending the cultivation of silk in Europe come upon them with severity, than they quickly gave signs of proving equal to the emergency, grave though it was. The very high range of prices to which China raw silks were driven up in 1856 and 1857, at the port of Shanghai, &c., was in the first place due to the alarming failure of the crop in Europe, and in the second to French capital chiefly (and in minor part also to German, Swiss, and Italian money) being brought into competition with English monetary enterprise in the race for the purchase of China silk, which was destined to remedy, in so far as it could, the disastrous deficits in the French and Italian crops of those memorable years.—I enclose my card, and beg to remain,

Mr. Editor, your faithful servant, Kioto.

Macclesfield, October 20, 1865.

Literature.

Code Annamite. Par G. Aubaret, Capitaine de Frégate. Paris: Imprimerie Royale.—Two handsomely printed volumes, published by order of M. Chasseloup-Laubat, Minister of Marine and the Colonies, contain the Annamite Code (*Hoang-Viét-Luât-Le*)—the Laws and Regulations of the Kingdom of Annam, translated from the original Chinese text, by G. Aubaret, Capitaine de Frégate in the Imperial Navy. The code in question is, it appears, almost indentical with that of China, with the spirit of which the majority of our readers are so well acquainted that we need not recapitulate the blood-thirsty severity of its punishments, nor the vexatious minute particularity of its provisions. We shall render them a more grateful service by placing entire before them Captain Aubaret's preface, which explains clearly enough what the volumes will furnish to the student curious in national laws and the morals founded thereon, while it supplies, in addition, an indication of the course that will be adopted by France, in her task of accustoming the Cochin-Chinese to the administration of justice on a settled and impartial footing. This preface, dated "Saigon, 1st Aug., 1862," is as follows :—

The Annamite Penal Code, this translation of which is offered particularly to persons interesting themselves in the future of Cochin China, is based entirely on the model of the code now in force in China under the Tartar dynasty of the Tsins. Written in the Chinese tongue—as, indeed, are all official documents, with the largest part of whatever is written in Cochin China—this code is composed of two very distinct parts, of which the one called *Luat* in Annamite and *Lu* in Chinese, is a reproduction of the fundamental law—a law almost unaltered from remote antiquity, which has been adopted nearly in its integrity by the peoples of Chinese descent; the other part, called *Lu* by the Annamites and *Li* by the Chinese, has been translated by the expression "Supplementary Regulations." These last, variable and susceptible of revision, are not, properly speaking, a commentary on the law, but an enlargement and extension of it. The literal language of the Chinese is so concise, that in many cases the judge would

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certainly be much embarrassed if he had nothing but the letter of the law to guide him. Thence it is that the provisions especially belonging to the Annamite nation are found more particularly in these supplementary regulations. The translator has, therefore, broad himself, as regards the criminal and civil law, not to neglect one of them, notwithstanding their length and often tediously formal repetitions; and, on that account, the present translation is more complete than that of Sir George Staunton's "Code of China," which confines itself to the fundamental law.

The *Luat* or Chinese *Lu* may be looked upon as a sort of immovable canvas, on which different dynasties, and even different sovereigns of the same dynasty, worked, as suited their convenience, in delicate or deep colours, their notions of the way to control and judge the people. And thus the Tsin Tartar dynasty now governing in China, being in principle purely military and conquering, was compelled to bend the law as far as possible towards the ideas of domination that were above all else necessary to it.

The Annamite code having been already reduced to form under the reign and by the orders of King Gia-Long, the actual founder of the dynasty now existing in Cochin China, his son and successor, Minh-Mang, had no essential change to make in the revision he undertook of the *Le* or Supplementary Regulations; but he infused into them the extreme severity that was his own characteristic, and which old Annamites speak of even now with terror. These are the regulations, with a few modifications introduced in the last two reigns, that are in force at this day; the reader will easily perceive that they sometimes step beyond the fundamental law. Every tribunal is forbidden, however, to apply any other penalty than that laid down by the last-mentioned, in cases where doubts arise.

Unfortunately, in Cochin China the guilty are ever ignorant of the law or regulation that punishes them, and the people have only a hearsay knowledge of the penalties to which they are liable for the commission of an offence. This unjust barbarism is in nowise Chinese; neither was it in the intention of King Gia-Long, who says expressly the contrary in his preface. It is impossible for the translator to state precisely the exact date to which is to be ascribed this distrustful and jealous weakness, which does with the law in Cochin China just what was done by the priests in Egypt. The axiom that no one is to be deemed ignorant of the law must be announced here in a directly contrary sense; for it is extremely rare to meet with an Annamite who has any precise ideas on the subject. The people of the country appear to have submitted with the utmost philosophy to the entire supremacy of their mandarins; and perhaps it is to this kind of despotism, rare even in Asia, that the Annamite nation owes that inferiority which is so striking when they are compared to the Chinese, from whom they sprang. Everyone interrogated as to the reason that could induce the mandarins to appropriate so exclusively the knowledge of the laws, replies naïvely and without bitterness that it was to prevent disputes. There need be no astonishment then at the extraordinary ascendancy of a class, small in number, who are the judges, and from whom there is no appeal. That, moreover, which proves the great interest attached by the mandarins to this exclusive possession of the code is the extreme rarity of the work. In case of flight they carry it off in preference to the registers of population and taxes; in preference, that is, to documents infinitely compromising to themselves. To know these laws is, therefore, to be placed on a footing of equality with them, and to publish them for the instruction of the people, as is done in China, is to follow the formal prescriptions of the code itself.

That they may respond to what France has a right to expect from them, the Annamite nation must be first freed from those moral fetters which, while certainly rendering them more governable, has also the very great inconvenience of engaging them—precisely from their excess of passiveness—in revolts which it is painful to punish, on account of the great evil done thereby to the country. But they are from the same cause too attached to their customs to be easily pliant to our laws, which are neither suitable to the physical constitution nor the moral condition of the Annamites. On the other hand, their code is so simple, the particular cases that spring out of the character of the nation are so well provided for, that a better will not easily be found.

If there be one question that appears to be settled in regard to colonisation, it is that which consists in ruling conquered peoples, as far as possible, according to their own laws and their ancient customs. Time alone can diminish the extremely marked differences existing between Europeans and Asiatics; but, for a commencement, success being the important point, we must esteem it very fortunate to encounter a people fully organised, and for whom their administration has provided for almost everything that needs a provision.

Thus, therefore, whenever the French agents charged with the administration of the Annamites shall have acquired a knowledge of their laws and regulations, they will be in a position, as far as judicial proceedings go, to supplant the old mandarins, who had a monopoly of them. But when, in addition, the present work shall have been reproduced from the French translation in the vulgar Annamite tongue, by means of the Latin characters so ingeniously adapted and brought into use by the missionaries, then will fall the old and difficult barriers of the Chinese tongue; and those same administrative agents will be able in a short time to discuss the text of the law, while the Annamites will find themselves for the first time in actual possession of a written language, just entirely like those of Europe.

The vulgarising of these characters, as is done by the Catholic missions, will be a great advantage to the future of our establishments. By publications similar to the present, it will raise up young men exceedingly serviceable to the administration, from their complete acquaintance with a legislation the study of which has hitherto been exceedingly laborious.

It would, however, be an error to suppose that the Chinese text can absolutely go out of use, for it will doubtless long remain the only official text. But how much more accessible will it be when it can be compared both with a French version and a version in the vulgar tongue? The latter thus embodied in our Latin characters will open an easy path for the penetration of our civilising ideas; and who knows whether European science, so absolutely unknown to the Far East by reason of the insurmountable difficulty of its terms, may not one day clear its passage by this path? We may be permitted to hope that the section of the Annamite people whose future is now in our hands will by these means acquire an incontestable superiority over the rest of Cochin China; for to fix a language in writing is a revolution to be compared almost with the invention of printing.

The present translation has, therefore, for its main object to be reproduced hereafter in the vulgar tongue, and the author will certainly not regret his labour if it should contribute to draw the Annamites nearer to European and Christian civilisation. But the present and entirely practical purpose is to endeavour to fill up the *hiatus* existing in the administration of native justice. The translator has for the moment no other desire than to assist those of his intelligent comrades who are charged with the difficult and glorious mission of founding a French colony on the confines of China. It is to them principally that he addresses himself; therefore it is that he has sometimes employed terms whose meaning is to them very familiar, which a French paraphrase would have only weakened and rendered obscure. He trusts then that his comrades, in consideration of his good intentions, will be pleased to pardon his numerous imperfections of style, and to accept the work he has the honour to offer them such as it is.

Among the new books to appear within the first fortnight of November, Mr. Murray, of Albemarle-street, announces, in two volumes, with original illustrations, a work which has been looked for anxiously for some months past, viz., *Peking and the Pekingese during the First Year of the British Embassy at Peking*, by Staff-Surgeon D. F. Rennie, M.D. The same publisher has nearly ready another work that will excite an interest in the Far East, *Chinese Miscellanies, a Collection of Essays and Notes*, by Sir John Francis Davis, Bart.

In noticing Mrs. Blackwell's *Game of Quotations from the Poets* in a recent number, reminiscences of our own younger days led us into an error. The series of publications we were adverting to is issued, not by "Dean and Munday," but by "Dean and Son," a firm who are far eclipsing, both in number and importance, any of the publishing feats of their predecessors.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

A half-yearly general meeting of the shareholders of this bank was held on the 19th inst., at the offices, Threadneedle-street, City; H. G. Gordon, Esq., in the chair.

The Chief Manager (C. J. F. Stuart, Esq.,) having read the notice convening the meeting,

The Chairman expressed his regret that the dividend which he was about to declare was less than that declared in the corresponding period of last year. The causes lay in a nut-shell, and he would briefly recount them. They were well aware that the year 1864 and a portion of the present year was a period which would be ever memorable in the annals of East India and China banking, as the most disastrous which had occurred for many years. That period was to the directors one of intense anxiety, care, and trouble, such as he trusted they would never see the like again. In this country, about the end of 1863, and at the commencement of 1864, a tremendous fall took place in the value of almost all Indian and China produce. Credit became much contracted, losses of a character exceedingly severe ensued, and eventually failures unsurpassed in magnitude occurred. Scarcely a mail arrived from India or China which did not bring accounts of disasters that had occurred or were occurring. The bank was as it were between two fires, and all that it had to do was to get out of range as speedily as possible. They restricted their business, and being vigorously supported by their representatives in the East, the result was that, although their profits were necessarily much curtailed, they avoided losses which would no doubt have otherwise occurred. Under the circumstances it was impossible altogether to escape loss, but it was certainly far lighter than he had anticipated would be the case. The board in considering those losses had come to the determination that the wisest and the most honest course, as well as the best, was to meet them at once. They had accordingly written them off, and made the most ample provision for all contingencies, besides carrying forward a considerable sum to the next account. (Hear, hear.) He was aware that it was no consolation to fellow-sufferers to know that others had been in the same predicament, and it was with no feeling of that kind that he alluded to the position of a bank having far greater advantages, more facilities for obtaining information, better situated, and with an immense capital—he meant the Bank of Bombay. That bank, which had the means of obtaining the best information, and was armed with great powers, announced at the recent meeting of the proprietors that its loss during the period to which he had been adverting amounted to no less than £300,000, and that it could declare no dividend. He did not now allude to the circumstance from any feeling of invidiousness, but to show that in such times the best managed institutions could not escape loss. He was happy to say that a change for the better had taken place, confidence had returned, and there was every reason to expect a large increase of business; many offers had been made showing how high a position the Oriental Bank Corporation maintained, and he had every hope that when he next met the proprietors, instead of announcing a smaller dividend than usual, he should have to congratulate them on the receipt of a larger one. He concluded by declaring a dividend of 5 per cent. for the half-year ending 30th June last, or at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum. In reply to a Shareholder,

The Chairman stated that the present meeting was simply for the purpose of declaring the dividend, and therefore all questions would be out of place. After an expression of dissent by the shareholder the proceedings ended.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

An extraordinary meeting was held at the London Tavern on the 19th inst., Mr. Mitchell, M.P., in the chair, for the purpose of declaring an interim dividend for the half-year ending the 30th June last.

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The Chairman said that, in conformity with their usual custom, the directors had abstained from submitting any statement of accounts to the shareholders. On this occasion it would have been very difficult—indeed, it would have been impossible to prepare a perfectly accurate balance-sheet until all the bankrupt estates in which they were interested had been wound up, and all the properties upon which they held hypothecation had been sold. On the last two occasions when he had met the shareholders, India was passing through the crisis which had lately fallen upon it, and he had recommended that a reserve of £22.000 should be made from their ways and means, in order to meet the losses which they estimated had then been incurred. Since the last meeting the crisis had passed away; but it had been very severe. He was not there to invite any invidious comparisons between themselves and their neighbours; but he might at least say that he believed they had not fared worse than any other bank in the East. As nearly as the board could calculate, their losses had not been severe enough to render it necessary to advise the withholding of a dividend. (Cheers.) By the terms of their charter, they were forbidden knowingly to trench upon the amount of their capital (£800,000), and they had not done that; but unquestionably a serious inroad had been made upon the reserved fund of the bank. Their losses had originated entirely with their branches. So far as he knew, no bad debts had been made at home; but the losses at Bombay, Calcutta, and Shanghai had been serious. He made no charge of dishonesty against their agents at those places; but he did charge them with culpable neglect, remissness, and disobedience of orders. Two of them—the agents at Bombay and Calcutta—had already ceased to be in the service of the company; and a successor had been sent out to supersede the one at Shanghai. Such had been the culpable remissness of their agent at Bombay in one instance, that it was possible, nay, probable, that they might come upon his sureties. The losses in that city had been severe, but so also had been the crisis—indeed, no such crisis had perhaps occurred since the famous South Sea Bubble. It had been caused partly by British and partly by native speculators; and it had culminated in all kinds of frantic projects which had led to enormous losses, for many of those speculations (including a number of new banks) had failed. To give some idea of what had taken place he might quote the price of stock in the Bank of Bombay. On the 15th of January last it stood at 275 premium, and on the 2nd of June it was at 2 discount. (Hear, hear.) That, be it remembered, was a State bank, the Government being interested in it to the extent of one-third of its capital.

A Voice: What is the price now?

Mr. Mitchell: Sixty-five premium; but he could assure the meeting that the prices he had read were correct. (Hear, hear.) With respect to Calcutta he had not much to say. At Shanghai their losses had been incurred in some respects fairly enough; but in the case of some houses which had since failed, he had no hesitation in saying that the agents of this company had allowed it to become the victims of a juggle. The houses in question were well known. They were houses of high repute, and the agent of the bank had let them have drafts at 15 days on Hong Kong, and had taken in exchange bills for 60 days. The consequence was that the bank was "in" for £25,000, and he must say that their agent had been guilty of most culpable rashness. (Cheers.) He believed, however, that now the crisis had passed away, the confidence the bank had enjoyed remained unimpaired; and he did not see why it should not renew its operations with results as favourable as before. (Hear, hear.) It was probable that there would be no recurrence of the crisis for many years to come; and he could only hope that when it did come again their agents would meet it with more judgment and discretion. (Cheers.) He begged to move that an interim dividend at the rate of five per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, be declared, payable on and after the 25th inst. (Cheers.) As he had said before, their reserve had been severely trenched upon, and they must take steps to replace it. He could not, therefore, hold out any hope of a larger dividend, at all events, for the next half-year. (Hear.) In conclusion, he begged to state that, although the directors had had a great increase of anxiety and trouble, they would this year divide only £2.500 amongst themselves instead of £4,000. (Loud cheers.) Their number, he should add, had been reduced by the retirement of Mr. Bell, through the unfortunate bankruptcy of his firm, Messrs. Scott, Bell, and Co. Mr. Bell had been with them from the beginning, and a more honest, faithful, or energetic director could not be. The bank would not lose any sum of the slightest magnitude by his failure, and it would very likely not lose anything by it at all. (Hear.) The resolution having been unanimously agreed to, Mr. W. H. Manson moved a vote of thanks and confidence in the board, which was carried with acclamation, and, after a few words in reply from the Chairman, the meeting broke up.

Manchester Chamber of Commerce.—A quarterly meeting of the Chamber was held on the 19th of October, and there was a very large attendance, including Mr. Bazley, M.P., and Mr. Pender, M.P. The President (Mr. M. Ross) spoke of several matters to which the directors had paid attention during the quarter, and mentioned that three gentlemen connected with the Chamber had consented to represent it at the Vienna International Trade Commission, where their services would be required in the course of a month or six weeks. Mr. Michell, Attaché to the British Embassy at St. Petersburg, had sent some samples of Russian fabrics to the Chamber, and would attend next week to offer explanations concerning them. It did not appear that Russian manufacturers had anything to fear from the competition of English ones, Russian prices being much lower than ours. A subject just now much discussed in Indian newspapers and in private letters was the export of mildewed goods from England to the East. It was suggested by the Board of this Chamber that a commission of six should be appointed to inquire into and report upon the subject of mildew. He (the President) had been called in to inspect goods which had been returned as mildewed, and had found that they were not mildewed, and that the certificates stating that they were so had been improperly granted. Another question touched upon was the supply of cotton, which remained extremely problematical. It would be a bold thing to venture upon prophecy, but he would venture so far as to say we were prepared to consume in this country as much cotton as the world would produce during the next three or four years. Mr. Bazley, M.P., said he was glad to hear the President's remarks about mildewed cloths, and hoped his testimony would rescue the trade from charges that had been brought against it. He exceedingly regretted to hear of this recrimination from India.

Singular Accident to Chang Woo Gow.—On the 23rd a singular accident happened to Chang Woo Gow, the Chinese giant. Hitherto the managers have contrived to transport their gigantic charge to and from the Egyptian-hall without permitting him to be seen by the inquisitive eyes of the public. But on Monday morning all the precautions were frustrated by a singular accident. As the vehicle containing the Chinese party neared Westminster Abbey the weight of Chang proved too much for the carriage, the bottom of which suddenly gave way, precipitating the whole Celestial party into the mud. Chang bore the accident with his usual philosophical equanimity, but poor little Chung Mow was sadly disturbed by his sudden plunge into the mud, and the wife's modesty was seriously offended. However, they contrived to scramble upon the seats, and managed to retain their position in the dilapidated vehicle until they were safely deposited at the Egyptian Hall.

New Dangers in the China Seas.—Captain Richer, of the ship *Immaculée Conception*, recently arrived at Havre, reports:—"I think it right, in the interest of navigators, to give information of a danger I discovered in the channel which separates the Pescadores Islands from the Western Coast of Formosa, in the Chinese seas. The danger consists in a very extensive line of breakers, on which the sea beats with great fury. It is situated, according to close observations taken at the moment we perceived it, in 23 deg. 47 min. 50 sec. north latitude, and 117 deg. 42 min. 10 sec. east longitude, from Paris. The English and French charts I possessed make no mention of the danger, with the exception of the English one of Imray and Son, which records danger at a distance of twenty-five miles, and fifteen miles more to the north, but does so doubtfully. The breakers referred to are very dangerous, for they stand almost in the middle of the passage between the Pescadores Islands and the West Coast of Formosa, and this passage is almost unknown."

Railways and Telegraphs in China.—The *France*, Paris journal, says that the "Chief of the Bureau of Sciences and Arts of Peking" has made a favourable report on the question of railways. This curious document, we are told, pronounces steam to be without danger for the population, and says that the establishment of railways may be authorised without inconvenience. It is therefore expected, says the writer in question, that concessions for several lines of railway will shortly be made to European companies. As to the electric telegraph between Peking and St. Petersburg, he adds, it is expected that it will be terminated in four or five years.

Major Bayly, R.A.—We regret to announce the sudden death of Major N. S. Keats Bayly, superintendent of factories of the South-Western district, which took place on the 18th inst., at Priddy's Hard, near Gosport. The deceased was at his duties on Tuesday, the 17th inst., in apparently his usual health. Major Bayly was brother-in-law to Colonel Gordon.

Mr. Henry Sewell, paymaster, Royal Navy, who during the past year has been residing at Sarawak, cultivating the land, &c., of the Dyaks, has been compelled to return to England in consequence of ill health.

Monetary and Commercial.

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There has been considerable activity in the silver-market, owing to the demand for India. During the whole of the present month upwards of £1,200,000 will have been sent to Bombay and Calcutta, chiefly the former, of which about three-fourths will have been shipped *via* Marseilles. The engagements for the next Bombay mail, *via* Marseilles, which is to sail on the 5th of November, are already large, and it may be expected that over half a million sterling will be taken out by that opportunity. The price has advanced to 61¼d., both from here and from Marseilles. There appears to have been a large stock of silver in France, or the rise would have been more decided.

The biddings for £230,000 in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were—to Calcutta, £98,200; to Madras, £41,800; and to Bombay, £90,000. The *minimum* price was, as before, 1s. 11¼d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11⅜d. on Bombay. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 1s. 11⅜d. will receive about 47 per cent., and on Bombay at 2s. about 19 per cent. Above these prices in full. These terms show a further increase in the demand for means of remittance to the East.

According to the Circular of Mr. F. M. Page, bullion broker, the export of September was as follows:—

	Mexican dols.	Bar Silver.	Total.	Total from Jan.
China	£48,240 ..	9,785 ..	58,025 ..	811,112.
Singapore, Penang, &c.,	71,700 ..	— ..	71,700 ..	531,539.
Ceylon	— ..	— ..	— ..	9,086.

The amount to China in the first nine months of 1864 was £1,548,966, and to Singapore, &c., £811,131.

At a meeting of the shareholders of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, an interim dividend for the half year, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, was declared.

A meeting of the Oriental Bank shareholders has also been held, and a dividend declared of 5 per cent. for the half-year. The report of the meetings will be found in another column.

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☞ In reference to the remarks in our issue of the 10th on the affairs of Messrs. Lindsay and Co., we have now to announce that Messrs. Springfield and Messrs. Carter have accepted the bills in question, held by the Bank of Hindustan. We presume that all obstacles to the settlement of their affairs are now removed.

We observe that six ships have left Callao for Macao, we presume with guana, according to the announcement in our last that guana was again to be tried in China.

The report of the Royal Mail Steam Company, presented on the 25th inst., states that, owing to the discontinuance of the temporary arrangement for the Honduras service, and a decrease in the receipts for freight, the available surplus for the half-year ended the 30th of June is £15,439 less than was that of the corresponding half of 1864. All the items of the passenger traffic, however, exhibit an increase, and as the diminution under the head of freight is simply in the shipments of treasure in connection with Brazil and California, which in 1864 were exceptionally large, the present account, looking at the increase of competition by other lines of steamers, is regarded as very satisfactory. The insurance fund has not been reduced by any casualty during the six months, and now amounts to £243,382. For the current half-year it will have to be debited with the damage occasioned by the fire on board the *Seine*, which was prevented from becoming a serious disaster by the high conduct of Captain Revett and those under his command. A dividend is recommended of £4 per share, and a bonus of £2 from the insurance fund.

The half-yearly meeting of the Credit Foncier and Mobilier of England was held on the 24th inst. at the London Tavern, the Right Hon. James Stuart Wortley in the chair. The report of the operations of the company, which was of a very gratifying character, had been previously circulated, and the chairman, in moving its adoption, congratulated the shareholders on the satisfactory results which have been achieved. He then adverted to the different features of the report, and gave explanations of their bearing on the prospects of the company. The result had been that the directors were enabled to declare a dividend of 20 per cent. for the half-year, or at the rate of 40 per cent. per annum. The Chairman also alluded to the rumours that had been circulated to the prejudice of the company, observing that this was only one of the penalties to which all new and successful systems were exposed. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Grant, M.P., the managing director. In conformity with a resolution adopted at the meeting, the directors have announced the issue of 100,000 new shares of £20 each, on which only £5 per share will be called up, by instalments extending to the 1st March next. 50,000 of these shares are to be reserved for the shareholders at a premium of £2. 10s. per share, and to be allotted in the proportion of one new for every two shares held, and the remaining 50,000 to be subscribed for by the public at a premium of £3. 10s. per share. This would throw £300,000 into the reserved fund, raising to £500,000.

The following in relation to the working of the Indo-European Telegraph tends to confirm the suspicions previously excited :—

"71, Old Broad-street, E.C., Oct. 18.

"Sir,—As an illustration of the manner in which the Indo-European Telegraph line is worked, we beg to inform you that we are this day put in possession of a telegram, dated Bombay, October 4, while other messages were in town yesterday dated October 6, and at the same time in Liverpool they had advices to the 9th of October. How did our telegram get behind these on the file?

"We have strong reasons for supposing that messages to certain firms here and abroad are wilfully detained, or altogether suppressed. Owing to the number of telegraph lines used in sending any one message, it is difficult to say where such things are done, or who perpetrate the ingenious mutilations in messages that occur daily; but we think that the English companies who forward them from this should, in their own interest, make some attempt to solve the mystery. If the Indian line were creditably worked, its revenue would certainly be enormously increased.—We are, Sir, your obedient servants. "Crawford, Colvin, and Co."

The new companies formed of late comprise the following :—

The Tyne General Engineering Company (Limited), capital £100.000, in 10,000 shares of £10 each. The object is to supply the demand for marine engines, and hydraulic and other machinery, at Newcastle-on-Tyne; where, it is stated, the existing facilities are very inadequate, owing to the extension of the trade of the port.

The prospectus of the Household Patents Company (Limited) is issued, with a proposed capital of £100.000, in 50,000 shares of £2 each, of which one-half are to be issued in the first instance. It is explained that this company is established "for the manufacture and sale of articles chiefly of domestic use, and mostly protected by patents, and will comprise within its operations improvements in the construction of dwellings, and in their lighting, ventilation, and drainage; the preparation of all descriptions of food; the manufacture and economical use of fuel; and the most recent improvements in kitchen and other household furniture."

The Liverpool Shipbuilding Company (Limited). This company is formed to acquire the Steel and Iron Shipbuilding Works of Messrs. Jones, Quiggin and Co., in Sefton-street, Liverpool, to purchase an adjoining tract of freehold land from Messrs. Freme, of about 14 acres in extent, to construct thereon a large Graving Dock, Building Slips, and Shipbuilding Yard, and by a combination of capitalists interested in the trade who have subscribed largely for the purpose, to extend the existing concern into one of the most lucrative businesses in Liverpool.

The Metropolitan Parcels Delivery Company (Limited) propose to raise a capital of £20,000, in 4,000 shares of £5 each. The object is to take up the business of the Metropolitan Parcels Delivery, and to convert it into a limited liability company. The business has hitherto been carried on by Messrs. Bolton and Ambler, who are to be paid £4,000 in cash by easy instalments, and 400 fully paid up shares.

The Coffee, Cocoa, Cotton, and General Produce Freehold Estate Company of Venezuela, to carry out their arrangements, require a capital of £200,000, in 10,000 shares of £20 each. The properties which it is contemplated shall be developed are stated to be very valuable, and through the facilities which will be afforded by railway and other conveyance, the prices hereafter to be obtained will be considerably enhanced.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Syria*, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was:—In gold, to Madras, £2,216. In silver, to Calcutta, £25; to Hong Kong, £9,700; to Yokohama, £325. Total in gold, £2,216; in silver, £10,050.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices Oct. 17.
£20	Asiatic Bank Company, issued at £15 prem., £7. 10s paid up. .	£5	18 to 20	18 to 20
50	Agra and Masterman's	25	57 to 58	56 to 58
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	24 to 25	25⅛ to 26⅛
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	49 to 51	49 to 51
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	30¼ to 31¼	28 to 30
20	Eastern Exchange	5	1⅛ to ¼ dis	1⅛ to ¼ dis.
50	London Joint Stock	15	5⅛ to 5⅛	50 to 51
100	London and Westminster . . .	20	95 to 97	95 to 97
25	Oriental Bank Corporation . .	All	51 to 53	50 to 52
50	Union of London	15	53 to 54	53 to 54
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan . .	25	20 to 23	5 to 3 dis.
100	Do. Issued at 2 pm.	25	18 to 21	to 3 dis.
100	Do. New	25	19 to 21	6 to 4 dis.
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi . . .	10	¼ to 3½ dis.	3¼ to 2½ dis.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	30 to 32	30 to 31
150	Bank of London	50	139 to 142	189 to 142
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India .	4	¼ to ½ pm.	¼ to ½ pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3⅛ to 4¼	3⅛ to 4¼
50	P. and O. Steam Company . .	All	7¼ to 76	7¼ to 76
50	Do. New	55	17 to 19pm	17 to 19 pm.
20	China Steamship & Labuan Coal Co	5	—	—
5	Bombay Gas	All	5⅜ to 5½	5 to 5½
10	Hong Kong Gas	All	1½ to 2½ pm	1½ to 2½ pm.
20	S. I. Irrigation and Canal . . .	12	4 to 3 dis.	4 to 3 dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company . .	1½	½ dis to par	½ dis to par
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal . .	All	18½ to 19½	18½ to 19½
5	Oriental Gas	All	5⅛ to 5⅜	5⅜ to 5⅝
10	O. Inland Steam	All	1⅛ to 2⅛	1⅛ to 2⅛
100	West India Steam Company . .	60	119 to 122	117 to 119
20	Zevlon Company	7	3¼ to 3½ p.m.	3¼ to 3½ pm.
20	Do. A shares	2	½ to 1¼ pm.	
20	International Finance Society .	5	1 to 1, pm.	1¼ to 1⅜ pm.
20	Imperial Credit & Finance Company	4	¼ to 2 pm	1 to 2 pm.
50	London Financial Association .	15	7 to 7½ pm.	7½ to 8 pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	1⅛ to 1 dis.	1⅛ to 1 dis.
20	Société Financière d'Eg. pte . .	10	4¼ to 3 dis	4¼ to 3¼ dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company . . .	All	15⅛ to 16	15⅛ to 15⅜
10	Upper Assam Tea	4½	2½ to 3½ pm	2½ to 3½ pm.
10	Do.	All	14 to 17	15 to 17

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

Tea.—Sales have been made to a large extent of good and fine Kaisows from 2s. to 2s. 8d. per lb. (a few superior realising 2s. 9d. to 3s. 1d. per lb.), nearly the whole of the quantity arrived having been sold. At first the new Monings and Wopaks met with much less attention, and the opening prices of 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. were relatively cheap, but latterly the demand has extended to these also, and large sales have been made at from 2s. 2d. to 2s. 9d. per lb. for good to finest qualities. The new Scented Teas have met with less attention than usual, but Green Teas have sold readily at very extreme prices. In broken-leaf and dusty kinds of Congou the few sales made have been at former prices, as also the fair to good common qualities. The fair to good kinds of old Import show no material change. Good to fine Kaisows of new season have been sold to a larger extent than for some years past, at prices ranging from 1s. 11d. to 2s. 3d. for good, and 2s. 4d. to 3s. for fine to finest, closing at the highest quotations. In common to fair blackish-leaf kinds but little has been done, and prices remain nominally as before. There has been rather more inquiry for the medium qualities of old import, from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 5d. per lb., but the trade find it difficult to get quality to their mind. The new Monings and Wopaks have sold freely at from 2s. 2d. to 2s. 4d. for good kinds, and from 2s. 5d. to 2s. 9d. for fine to finest. Further sales of new-make Canton kind have been made at from 1s. 8d. to 2s. 4d. per lb. The export demand for Oolongs of common to fair kinds still continues, and prices are fully supported; good to fine of new season have sold from 1s. 10d. to 2s. 6d. per lb., the quality being better than last season. The few

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Souchongs of new season to hand have not sold freely, the prices realised have been up to 2s. 10d. per lb. In old season's there is no change to notice. Flowery Pekoes show no improvement. In Scented Teas there has been a moderate amount of business, they having met with less attention than in former years, and prices have ruled in favour of buyers, both for Capers and Orange Pekoes. The decline being about 2d. per lb. in fair to good Capers, and 1d. to 2d. in Orange Pekoes, and the demand is still languid, even at this reduction. The further arrivals of Uncoloured Japan have sold with great spirit, and prices may be quoted at 1d. to 2d. per lb. higher. The Public Sales of Indian Tea have passed off at very good prices. In Green Teas there has been a large business done, the arrival of the Cissy and Fire Queen having given a better assortment. The prices realised have been very high, but the last day or two there has been less eagerness to buy, and a slight reduction from the extreme rates must now be quoted. Hysons, Young Hysons, Imperials, and Gunpowders were all taken freely, but the highest relative prices were paid for Young Hysons and Imperials. Good Canton Gunpowders have sold 1d. to 2d. per lb. higher, but the common to fair kinds remain as difficult of sale as ever. For uncoloured Japans prices have further advanced, and the Dora's cargo sold quickly, common grades showing 8d. per lb. and medium to fine 4d. to 6d. per lb. advance on prices ruling six months since. There have been two public sales: one, of China growth, on the 17th inst., at which 7,360 packages were offered, and 5,930 found buyers; the other of private India growth, on the 24th inst., 775 packages offered. Messrs. Sillar and Bateman's circular estimates the arrival of tea up to 31st December at 36,000,000 lb., against a demand of 26,000,000 lb.

Silk.—Business in China Silk continues active, and prices have still an upward tendency; chop Tsatlees are much sought after, and 30s. has already been paid for No. 3, while some importers decline to sell even at this rate. Japan Silk is taken readily both for arrival and on the spot, and prices of the better descriptions of Mibash are dearer. Deliveries, from the 1st to 24th inclusive:—China, 2,595 bales, Japan, 845 bales; total, 3,440 bales. Quotations see first page.

Cotton.—Since our last there has been a lull in the demand, and at the end of last week a good portion of the advance of ½d. to 1d. had been lost. During the week we note sales in London of 30 bls. of China, good, at 18¾d.; 30 bls. Japan at 19¼d., good fair; and 1,330 bls. Tinnivelly at 17¾d. to 20d. for middling fair to good. The stock in London on the 20th, was 42,174 bls., against 82,860 bls. last year; of this quantity the China and Japan formed 5,112 bls., against, 3,889 at the same time last year. The Woosung has arrived at Liverpool from Shanghai with 2,409 bls., and the Mirage, in the Thames, from Japan, with 589 bls. During the present week there has been only a limited inquiry, and prices tend in favour of buyers. On the 22rd, 150 bls. Tinnivelly, went at 19d. for fully fair. The following were the official quotations at Liverpool at the close of last week:—Fair Orleans, 25½d.; middling, 24d.; middling uplands 23¾d. China and Japan had been in fair request at rather higher rates. On the 24th there was a very moderate demand, and a very flat market at ¼d. per pound decline. The cargo of the Woosung had not yet been brought on the market, but has been sampled to be worth 17¼d. to 17½d. per lb. The cotton afloat to Europe on the 20th was 206,394 bales, against 448,372 in 1864. The arrival of the two vessels above named brings to port all that was known to be afloat from China or Japan. The total stock in Liverpool on the 20th was 280,370 bales, against 531,500 bales in 1864.

Sugar.—The demand continued steady during the whole of last week, establishing in some cases a slight advance on those of the previous week. By private contract, on the 20th, 10,000 bags unclayed Manila (Taal) went at 30s. to 30s. 6d. During the present week business has been restricted by the small supply offering, and the market continues firm.

Coffee.—At public sale on the 20th, 230 bags good ordinary Mysore brought 70s., and 30 casks 600 bags Native Ceylon were partly sold, ordinary mixed at 61s. to 61s. 6d. During the present week full terms have been paid, and a steady demand prevails for all qualities. At auction on the 24th 254 casks and barrels Ceylon sold at 75s. 6d. to 88s. for fine ordinary to middling plantation.

Rice.—Bengal descriptions are firmly held this week, and for soft grain stiffer rates are paid.

Cardamoms.—Steady; of 7 cases of Malabar at auction 2 of seed alone sold at 3s. 6d. per lb.; 2 bags Madras sold at 3s. 6d. for middling lean; and 18 cases Siam, wild, retired.

Camphor.—Market quiet, with very little trade; China in lead offering at 95s. per cwt.

Cassia Lignea is again considerably dearer, with good business up to 107s. 6d. per cwt. even for mouldy. Buds: Nothing of any consequence doing.

Cinnamon (Ceylon).—We quote 1st sort 1s. 7d. to 2s. 9d. per lb.; 2nd, 1s. 5d. to 2s. 4d.; 3rd, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 10d.; 4th and Jungle, 1s. 1d. to 1s. 5d. Very firm. The Quarterly Sales (small) will take place on Monday, 30th inst.

Cocoa Nut Oil.—This market has been steady, with continued good demand, and large business for arrival as well as on the spot, without material variation in terms: 160 casks Cochin, 170 Ceylon, 169 Sydney, and 18 Madras, at auction. Cochin, £47 to £50. 10s.; Ceylon, £45 to £48.

Drugs.—Cubebs: Quiet; of 66 bags at auction three-fourths sold at 82s. 6d. per cwt. Dragon's Blood: Steady; 3 cases sold at auction at £5. 17s. 6d. per cwt. for fair lump. Galangal Root: Nothing of any consequence doing. Rhubarb: Is very firm at the high rates lately established; only 18 chests at auction; one-fourth sold at 4s. 1d. per lb. for inferior small.

Gums.—Benjamin: Recent arrivals of Siam; 124 cases brought to auction, and all sold; the very fine and the common brought fully former terms, whilst the intermediate qualities declined £3 to £5 per cwt.; first quality ranged from £45 to £51; second, £36. 10s. to £42; third, £27 to £32; seed drop in block, £23 to £23. 10s.; dark gum, rather marbled, £21 to £24. 15s.; dust, &c., in block, £13 to £16. 10s. Sumatra: Quiet; 42 cases all retired. Damer: Firm, and in request, with little offering; no auctions. Gamboge: Is 10s. to 20s. per cwt. dearer; 83 cases sold at auction at £10 to £11. 5s. for middling to fair pipe, and £9. 5s. broken.

Gutta Percha.—Quiet, but firm; six cases at auction retired. Quotations, 1s. to 2s. 3d. per lb.

Hemp (Manila).—Has, owing to strong export demand, experienced further and material advances in value, the total rise being fully £5 per ton, with large business; only 426 bales at auction, and the bulk retired. Quotation, £42 to £45 per ton.

Horns (Deer).—Only 3 tons Bombay at auction sold at 49s. to 51s. per cwt. for 1½ to 1¾lb. average, being firm.

India Rubber.—Participates, though in a very moderate degree, in the advance in Para and West India Rubber, and some little business has been done up to 1s. 6d. per lb. for fine Java.

Japan Wax.—Steady; of 118 boxes at auction two-thirds sold at 62s. per cwt. for middling block.

Oils.—Aniseed: Moderate business at 7s. 9d. per lb. Sales advertised. Cassia: Sales to a tolerable extent effected both on the spot and for arrival at 7s. 9d. per lb. Cinnamon: A single case sold at auction at 3s. 3d. per oz. Mace and Nutmegs: Two cases Oil Nutmegs at auction retired: 7 boxes Expressed sold at 2d. to 2¼d. per oz.

Pepper.—Black: Singapore again a mere turn dearer; 823 bags Singapore sold at auction at 3¼d. to 3⅜d. per lb., and fair business done privately upon corresponding terms. White: Not any business of interest doing.

Spices.—Cloves: Nothing doing in Penang: Amboyna steady; 6 casks sold at auction at 5d. per lb.; Zanzibar rather cheaper, and of 1,120 bags offered three-fourths sold at 3d. to 3¼d. for middling to very fair. Mace: In much demand and dearer; good business done privately, but auctions unimportant. Nutmegs: Firm; only 16 cases Penang at auction, and one-fourth sold at 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per lb. for ordinary small; not much business done privately.

Sago.—Not any transactions of interest to notice. Flour: Limited business upon former term.

Terra Japonica.—Cutch, Pegue: Steady, but quiet; 400 bags and 15 tons damaged at auction, sold at the previous value. Gambier: Rather cheaper; of 3,171 bales at auction, one-third sold at 26s. 6d. to 27s 9d. per cwt. for cubes, and 20s. 6d. to 29s. 9d. block.

Tin.—Subsequently to our last report Straits went back to £90 per per ton cash, but have since steadily advanced, and are now worth £93, very large transactions accompanying the advance; for arrival sales have been effected at £92 to £94. 5s.

Miscellaneous.—Blacklead: Firm, and dust again dearer; of 503 barrels at auction half sold at 19s. 6d. per cwt. for good lump, and 9s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. dust. Arrivals and sales advertised. Galls: Very little doing; 109 bales Turkey, and 48 boxes China at auction, all retired. Ebony Wood: Steady; 19 tons Ceylon at auction sold at £10. 2s. 6d. to £11 per ton. Musk: Without change; 5 caddies Tonquin at auction retired, and 11 caddies Cabardine sold at 10s. 9d. per oz. Rattans: Quiet: and of 5,071 bundles Singapore, 1,278 bundles Calcutta, and 959 bundles Akyab at auction, only one-third sold at 3s. 2d. to 6s. 6d. per 100 canes. Sapan Wood: Continues to command high prices, being very scarce and wanted. 2 tons damaged Siam sold at auction at £18. 12s. 6d. per ton. Soy: Of 20 casks new at auction, a few sold at 3s. 9d. per gallon, and that price obtained privately also. Star Anniseeds: Very scarce; only 5 boxes at auction retired at £10 per cwt. Sticklac (Siam); Steady; of 1,000 boxes at auction, two-thirds sold at 29s. to 37s. 6d. per cwt. for ordinary woody to middling broken and dusty, and 28s. to 30s. 6d. broken block; limited business privately upon similar terms. Vermilion: Scarce and dearer; 3s. 6d. per lb. offered for a few cases.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

Iron.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7 to £7. 5s.; nail rod, £8. 10s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10; sheets, single, £10. 10s. to £10. 15s.; Staffordshire bars, £8. 10s. to £9. 10s.; rails, £7 to £7. 5s.

Steel.—Swedish keg, £15.

Copper.—Sheet and Sheathing, £96 to £98 per ton; yellow metal, 8¼d. per lb.

Tin.—94s. for block; 95s. for common bars. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 30s. to 32s.

Lead, &c.—English pig, W.B., £21. 5s.; shot, patent, £22. 15s.; sheet, £20. 15s.; spelter, £20. 15s. to £21. 5s.; zinc, English sheet, £27. 10s.; quicksilver, £7. 18s. 6d. to £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—We have had considerable activity in nearly all descriptions of metals. Iron is generally firm, and for some descriptions of manufactured, higher rates are asked. Scotch pig iron is a little easier. In copper there is a good deal of improvement, and the smelters have declared an advance this day of £5 per ton. They generally are very full of orders. Tin: English is firm at full quotations. Banca is 95s. to 96s. Straits, 92s. Lead is much improved in value, and stocks are very low. Spelter rather higher in price, but not much doing.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£170,328
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£5,500
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£2,963,951
Singapore	£3,007	£272,360
Penang	—	£20,140
Yokohama	—	£54,330

FROM MARSEILLES.

(By the P. and O. Company's Steamers.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£57,966
Penang	—	£4,558
Hong Kong	—	£47,000
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£10,761
Yokohama	—	£13,173

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PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£56 ...	£52,840
To Saigon	— ...	£112,550
To Batavia	£3,966 ...	£3,360
To Hong Kong	— ...	£104 542
To Shanghai	£60 ...	£121,133
To Yokhama	— ...	£2,184

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4
Silver in Bars	0 5 1¼
Mexican Dollars	0 4 11⅛

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

The last circular of Sam Mendel states:—Business has gradually become much more restricted, while prices do not show much alteration. There is more disposition to make sales at some moderate concession, but not sufficiently so to induce purchases to any noticeable extent. Quotations: Grey Shirtings, 8¼ lbs., 19s.; Cotton Yarn, Nos. 16-24, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 5d.; Maddapollams, 7s.; Long Cloths, 18s.; T-Cloths, 12s.; Spot Shirtings, 20s.; Brocade do., 20s.; Damasks, 35s.

Shipping Intelligence.

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ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Oct. 13	Off Falmouth	Rangoon	China	Schwartz.
— 10	Off Scilly	Batavia	Fanny	Wulff.
— 13	Liverpool	Rangoon	Malta	Corrigill.
—	Off Queenstown	Bassein	Helenslee	Brown.
— 12	Helvoet	Batavia	Christina Maria	Veer.
Sep. 12	Callao	Macao	Camilo Cavour	Landovaro.
Oct. 13	London	Colombo	Olive Branch	Falconer.
— 11	Texel	Batavia	Ymuiden	Melenberg.
— 11	Do.	Do.	Wellington	Mahy.
— 12	Do.	Sourabaya	Alert	Woegens.
— 12	Helvoet	Batavia	Fop Smit	Leversteyn.
— 13	Brouwershaven	Sourabaya	Prins Carl	Hartzell.
— 12	St. Nazaire	Manila	St. Vincent de Paul	Legoustene.
— 14	Off Falmouth	Shanghai	Fire Queen	Duggan.
— 16	Liverpool	Manila	Tewkesbury	
— 12	Broadstairs Road	Batavia	Johanna Elizabeth	
— 6	Gibraltar	Colombo	Guinare	Stephens.
—	Off Queenstown	Maulmain	Zurich	Grange.
— 13	Texel	Batavia	Nicot	Amesz.
— 13	Do.	Sourabaya	Gleneaple	Crowder.
— 14	Do.	Batavia	Zeenimph	Roggen.
—	New York	Manila	Milton	
— 17	London	Hankow & Shanghai	Challenger	Browne.
— 14	Cuxhaven	Bassein	Helvetia	Haeslop.
— 15	Texel	Padang	Stad Assen	Haverbilt.
— 15	Helvoet	Batavia	St. Jan	Lommerse.
— 15	Brouwershaven	Do.	Celebes	Gille.
— 17	London	Rangoon	Corea	Crockett.
— 18	Do.	Bassein	Matilda	Blake.
— 17	Deal	Colombo	Eglantine	Howe.
— 17	Do.	Do.	Cowship	Stephens.
— 17	Liverpool	Shanghai	Woosung	Colebank.
— 17	London	Singapore	Zephyr	
— 18	Do.	Colombo	Royal Bride	Watson.
— 13	Liverpool	Rangoon	Beloochee	Mitchell.
— 16	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Japara	Zwede.
— 17	Flushing	Rangoon	Bourse d'Anvers	Beswelgh.
— 18	London	Singapore	Zephyro	Meier.
— 16	Deal	Do.	Molly	Hagen.
— 17	Off the Wight	Batavia	Nederland	Fb.
Sep. 16	Pernambuco	Nagasaki	Meldrum	Swanley.
Oct. 16	Bremen	Rangoon	Schlosser	Thole.
— 17	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Nieuwe Wat. rweg	Lindern.
Sep. 14	Monte Video	Shanghai	Magdalena	
Oct. 18	Texel	Macassar	Sindbad	Kooy.
— 20	London	Shanghai	Mirage	Campbell.
— 21	Falmouth	Maulmain	Miriam	Rhind.
— 17	Bremen	Singapore	Ida	Meyland.
— 18	Texel	Batavia	Laura and Adele	Lund.
—	New York	Shanghai	Webster	
—	Do.	Do.	Abbotsford	
—	Do.	Singapore	T. J. Southard	
— 22	London	Do.	Benclcuch	Dodd.
— 22	Do.	Do.	Hippolyta	Follett.
— 21	Falmouth	Bassein	Sea Chief	Jones.
—	Clyde	Sarawak	Belladonna	
— 24	Falmouth	Maulmain	Jon	Willett.
— 24	Do.	Bassein	Columbus	Adie.
— 5	New York	Manila	Milton	Smith.
—	Do.	Shanghai	Veritas	
— 24	Falmouth	Rangoon	Pallas	

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Sept. 7	Callao	Macao	Colombo	Chinparra.
— 4	Do.	Do.	Luisa	Cavaza.
— 5	Do.	Do.	Mocq Bailly	
— 6	Do.	Do.	Londesborough	Williams.
— 7	Do.	Do.	Ocean Chief	Keen.
— 9	Do.	Do.	E. A. Bright	Starkey.
Aug. 26	Valparaiso	Batavia	Alfred Ray	Alexander.
Oct. 14	Sunderland	Shanghai	Ellen Prowse	
— 16	Clyde	Batavia	Bar. S'oct. v.d. Beele ss.	Kleim.
— 14	Sunderland	Do.	Admiral ss.	Bok.
— 17	London	Bankok	Fairy	Kobke.
— 17	Liverpool	Colombo	Meg Merrilies	London.
— 16	Bromielaw	Sourabaya	County of Renfrew	M'Nicol.
— 16	Shields	Batavia	India	
— 16	Texel	Do.	Zeenymph	

DEPARTURES—*continued.*

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Sept. 3	Buenos Ayres	Singapore	Uruguay	Pye.
— 23	Rio Janeiro	China	Kew Kee	Fuller.
— 15	Bahia	Macao	Conrad	Jorgensen.
Oct. 19	London	Yokohama	Tiptree	Mason.
— 18	Cardiff	Shanghai	Fair Leaver	Pearce.
— 18	Queenstown	Do.	Archibald	
— 19	Cardiff	Ceylon	Helise	Hansen.
— 21	Sunderland	Shanghai	Abbott Lawrence	Lawrence.
— 21	Do.	Singapore	Jan van Schaffelaar	Small.
— 23	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Taitsing	Knutsford.
— 28	Do.	Batavia & Sourabaya	Knap Hoorn	Dik.
— 23	Clyde	Batavia	Simda s.	Bolch.
— 21	Shields	Galle	Britannia	

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Eliza Shaw. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Conference, Broadwater. For Shanghai: Burdwan, Flying Spur, Min, Taeping. For Hong Kong and Canton: Belted Will, Black Prince. For Penang: Devonvale. For Singapore: Belle of Southesk, Dovercourt, Queen of May. For Manila: Loyola. For Galle: Colombo, Dora. For Colombo and Cochin: Abdul Medjid. For Colombo: Frances, Crouch Brothers, East Lothian, Palestine, Frances Milly, Ava.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Eclipse. For Shanghai: Illimani. For Hong Kong and Canton: Sir Lancelot. For Singapore: Albert Victor. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Harkaway. For Manila: San Luis, Alavesa, Eulalia.

At GLASGOW.—For Manila: Bella Gallega. For Batavia and Singapore: Helen Baird. For Singapore: Grenada.

SPOKEN.

ATMA (?) (barque), Sunderland to Shanghai, Sept. 11, 11 N., 25 W.
LOUISE, Amsterdam to Batavia, Sept. 9, 13 N., 27 W.
JACOB ROGGEVEEN, Amsterdam to Batavia, Aug. 17, 11 N., 26 W.
MINNA, Manila to New York, Sept. 2, 12 S., 28 W.
JAMES KENNEDY, London to Hong Kong, May 21, 10 S., 29 W.
RIO JANEIRO (Spanish), Manila to Cadiz, Sept. 14, 24 S., 57 E.
BRIDE, London to Singapore, Sept. 15, 9 N., 25 W.
CHARLOTTE (Swedish), Bat., to Fal. 84 days out, Sept., 27, 28 N., 34 W.
GENERAL CODRINGTON, Singapore to London, Aug. 20, 35 S., 22 E.
SYDNEY EGGERS, London to Hong Kong, Sept. 1, 30 S., 24 W.
ALBLASSERDAM, Sunderland to Batavia, 50 N., 5 W.
NATALINA (?), Singapore to Liverpool, 45 days out, 29 S., 44 E.
SILURIAN, Singapore to Liverpool, Sept. 3, 8 S., 15 W.
ANNA AUGUSTA (?), Colombo to London, Sept. 16, 15 N., 30 W.
THAMES, Penang to London, Sept. 16, 20 N., 34 W.
CONCEPTION, Hong Kong, to Havre, Sept. 23, 34 N., 38 W.
DANIEL V. HOORAN, Rotterdam, to Batavia, Sept. 15, 9 N., 25 W.
PLACENTIA (?), London to Shanghai, Sept. 15, 9 N., 25 W.
MELLISH, Manila to New York, July 31, 28 S., 45 E.
ANNE MILLICENT, Hull to Galle, Sept. 13, 4 N., 24 W.
CORNELIS WERNARD EDUARD, Rottm. to Bat., Sept. 11, 13 N., 25 W.
INDIA, Shields to Batavia, latitude 51 N.
OCEAN, Amsterdam to Batavia, Oct. 10.
ROYAL ALBERT (?) (barq.), Colombo to London, Aug. 1, 29 S., 55 E.
ANNA MARIA (Dutch barque), Bat. to Amstm. Aug. 19, 26 S., 7 E.
JOHANNA, Rottm. to Bat., Sept. 14, 14 N., 25 W.
TITANIA, Sunderland to Singapore, July 4, 38 S., 23 E.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

Owing to the unsettled state of the money market and the wet weather which has generally prevailed, the shipping business has been much depressed during the last few days. Our quotations below for coal and iron show some slight improvement.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 35s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £41 and £2. For Shanghai: £50 and £2. 10s. For Manila: 35s. For Batavia: £30 and 27s. For Singapore: £31 to £32 and 29s. to 30s. For Galle: £27 and 25s. to 26s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 10 tons naval stores to Trincomalee, and six tons clothing to Hong Kong, both from the River Thames.

CASUALTIES.

The Blanch (brig), from London for Colombo, was spoken with on the 9th October in lat. 47 N., long. 10 W., with loss of jibboom, foretopmast, and mainroyalmast.

The Baron Bentinck (s.), from Clyde for Batavia, put into Queenstown with damage to machinery.

The Zeenimph, Roggen, from Texel for Batavia, while riding at anchor off Deal, Oct. 22, slipped 45 fathoms of chain and one anchor to clear a collision, and was supplied.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At ASCENSION.—Sept. 4, from Colombo, Geelong, and sailed for ——; 8, from Singapore, Hyppolyta, and sailed for London; 14, from Colombo, Jane Pardew, and sailed 16 for London.

Off ASCENSION.—Sept. 4, from Manila, Manila; 6, from Shanghai, Lalla Rookh.

At ST. HELENA.—Sept. 14, from Batavia, Noord Brabant, Loos, and sailed for Rotterdam.

At SIMON'S BAY.—Sept. 6, Tekla, Kier, and sailed for Singapore.

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OVERLAND ROUTE.

COMMUNICATION by STEAM to INDIA, AUSTRALIA, &c., *via* EGYPT.—The PENINSULAR and ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY book Passengers and receive Cargo and Parcels at their London Offices for Gibraltar, Malta, Egypt, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, the Straits, and China, by their steamers leaving Southampton on the 4th and 20th of every month. For Gibraltar Malta, Egypt, Aden, and Bombay by those of the 12th and 27th of each month; and for Mauritius, King George's Sound, Melbourne, and Sydney, by the steamers leaving Southampton on the 10th of every month.

For further particulars apply at the Company's Offices 122, Leadenhall-street, London, E.C., or Oriental-place Southampton.

OVERLAND ROUTE VIA MARSEILLES.

SERVICES MARITIMES DES MESSAGERIES IMPERIALES.

FRENCH MAIL STEAM PACKETS.

The 19th of every Month, at 2 P.M. for—

MESSINA, ALEXANDRIA, ADEN, POINT DE GALLE (Ceylon), PONDICHERRY MADRAS, CALCUTTA, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, SAIGON HONG KONG, SHANGHAI, and JAPAN.

The 9th of every Month for—

MESSINA, ALEXANDRIA, ADEN, SEYCHELLES, REUNION, MAURITIUS.

For passage, freight, and information apply to B. W. and H. HORNE, 4, Moorgate-street, London; G. H. FLETCHER and Co., Liverpool; at the offices of the Services Maritimes des Messageries Imperiales in Paris, Lyons, Bordeaux, and Marseilles; or to SMITH and Co., Rotterdam.

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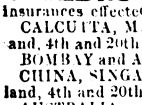

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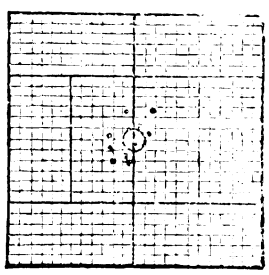

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By order of the Directors,

J. S. MACKINTOSH, Secretary.

Shanghai, July 12, 1865.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

No.

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I am, Gentlemen,

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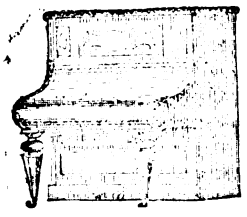

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THOMAS HUBBUCK AND SON,
WHITE LEAD, OIL, PAINT, AND VARNISH WORKS,
24, LIME-STREET, LONDON.

HUBBUCK'S ANTI-CORROSIVE PAINTS

Are very durable, and the most valuable protection to Iron Roofs, Bridges, Piers, Ships and Buildings, exposed to stormy weather and scorching sun; they soon become extremely hard, and do not blister.

They are made of Stone, Slate, Copper, White, Blue, Green, or any other Colour that is desired.

HUBBUCK'S ANTI-OXIDATION COMPOSITION,

For Coating Iron and Wood Ships' Bottoms; a preservative against fouling and corrosion. This Composition is ready for immediate use, and obviates the waste of carrying unmixed Paints, Oils, Driers, &c. It is also applicable to all the purposes of other Paints.

HUBBUCK'S PALE BOILED OIL

less colour than Raw Linseed Oil, is a quick, hard and certain drier for White and Light Coloured Paints.

PAINTS AND OILS PROPERLY PACKED FOR EXPORTATION.

BOYVEAU LAFFECTEUR'S ROB.

The only one authorised and adopted in France, Belgium, Austria and Russia.

THIS Vegetable Syrup, prepared and guaranteed genuine by the signature of Dr. GIRAUDEAU DE ST. GERVAIS, is very superior to the purifying syrups. It effects a radical cure, without mercury, in all affections of the skin, scurf, scrofula, &c., and symptoms arising from the acrid state of the humours. The Rob is especially valuable in diseases which have resisted the effect of mercury or iodide of potash. The general entrepot of 12, RUE RICHER, PARIS.

Sold Retail.—London: Jozeau, Hannay. New York: Fougera, Gaudelet, Milhau. Gibraltar: Patron and Danilowich. Malta: De Piccoli, Bugeja, Magri, and Rolando. Esperanza. Alexandria: Bellamore, Galette, Perinic, Bombay; Franjee Nesserwanjee and Co. Singapore: Martin and Little. Batavia: L. Platon and Co. Macao: J. D. Freath.

R. L. SOUTHERN AND Co.
MERCHANTS AND AGENTS,
6, Mincing-Lane, London, E.C.

Bottled Ales and Wines, &c.

"NO BUYERS for the BEST BRANDS, unless RE-PACKED," in consequence of repeated BREAKAGE.—Melbourne Journal of Commerce, Nov. 16. Heating and Breakage entirely prevented, and 15 per cent. saved in Freight of Cases by using SEYMER'S BOTTLE PACKINGS AND COOLERS.

Price 7½d. per doz. Bottlers contracting for large quantities effect so great a saving in labour, &c., that they can supply them at one-fourth less in price to Shippers, who will find it most profitable to order their goods to be so packed in future. In use by all the leading London houses.—T. WHITEHEAD, 37, Eastcheap, E.C. Sole Manufacturer.

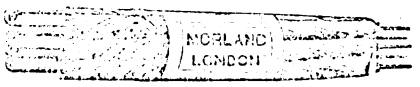
COWASJEE DINSHAW,
Close to the Landing Place Depot of
EUROPEAN, CHINA, AND INDIAN WORK.

WINE, BEER, CHAMPAGNE, and SPIRITS of the best quality. Bombay-made Soda Water and Lemonade. Perfumery, Confectionery, Oilman's Stores, and Stationery of every description. Solar Topees and Canvas Shoes, &c., &c., &c.

STEAMER POINT, ADEN.

Drawing and Reading-room free to Passengers.

THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS" ON SALE



UMBRELLAS and SUNSHADES suitable for all Foreign Markets and the Colonies are supplied to Shippers on the most favourable terms by JOHN MORLAND and SONS, Wholesale Manufacturers 50, Eastcheap, London-bridge, City. Silk, Alpaca, Gingham Steel Frames, Canes, Fittings and all kinds of Materials for the Trade. Oiled and japanned silks and cambrics.

CAUTION.

THE GROSS FRAUDS which continue to be practised by obscure manufacturers, more particularly in Germany, by imitating the Labels attached to JOHN GOSNELL and Co's PERFUMERY, render it imperative upon the Proprietors to Caution the public against such nefarious proceedings, and to request their friends and patrons to purchase only of respectable dealers, who import direct from JOHN GOSNELL and Co., and invite special attention to the address, 12, THREE KING-COURT, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s SELECT PERFUMES.—Ess Bouquet, Royal Yacht Club Bouquet, Jockey Club Perfume, Essence of Wood Violet, Victoria Bouquet, Garibaldi Bouquet, Frangipanni, Military Bouquet, The Bride's Bouquet, Tea Rose, Russian Leather Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co's Toilet Vinegar, Inexhaustible Salts, Aromatic Vinegar, Aromatic Eau de Cologne.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Prince of Wales Perfume

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Princess Alexandra Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Pomade.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co's La Noblesse Soap.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Real Old Brown Windsor Soap.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Golden Oil—Moelline—Macassar Oil, Bear's Grease, &c., for the Hair.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Extra Highly Scented Toilet and Nursery Powder.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Stereodesmic or Dentists' Tooth Brushes and Trichosaron Hair Brushes, warranted to purchasers.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Instantaneous Hair Dye.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co's Cherry Tooth Paste is greatly superior to any tooth powder, gives the teeth a pearl-like whiteness, protects the enamel from decay, and imparts a pleasing fragrance to the breath.

NOTHING IMPOSSIBLE.—The Greatest and most Useful Invention of the day, AGUA AMARELLA.—Messrs. JOHN GOSNELL and CO., 12, Three King-court, Lombard-street, London, Perfumers to Her Majesty, respectfully offer to the public this truly marvellous fluid, which gradually restores the human hair to its pristine hue—no matter at what age. The Agua Amarella has none of the properties of dyes; it, on the contrary, is beneficial to the system, and when the hair is once restored one application per month will keep it in perfect colour. Price One Guinea per bottle; half bottles, 10s. 6d.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co., Perfumers to Her Majesty and by Special Appointment to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, London.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS have over and over again proved the best friend to persons afflicted with ulcerations, bad legs, sores, abscesses, fistulas, and other painful and complicated complaints. Printed and very plain directions for the application of this Ointment are wrapped round each pot. Holloway's alterative Pills should be taken throughout the progress of the cure, to maintain the blood in a state of perfect purity, and to prevent the health of the whole body being jeopardised by the local ailment. Bad legs, old age's great grievance, are thus readily cured, without confining the patient to bed, or withdrawing him from the nutritious diet and generous support so imperatively demanded when weakening diseases attack advanced years or constitutions evincing premature decrepitude.

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THE CREDIT FONCIER AND MOBILIER OF ENGLAND
(LIMITED).

ISSUE of 100,000 NEW SHARES of £20 each, on which £5 per Share will be called up by instalments; no further call being contemplated.
The issue will be made as follows:—50,000 Shares will be allotted to the present Shareholders, and 50,000 Shares will be allotted to the General Public. When the above issue is completed,

The Subscribed Capital will consist of 200,000 Shares of £20 each	**£4,000,000**
The Paid-up Capital	**1,000,000**
The General Reserve Fund	**500,000**
The Dividend Reserve Fund	**100,000**

Directors.

The Right Hon. JAMES STUART WORTLEY, Governor.
JAMES LEVICK, Esq., Merchant, King's Arms-yard, Deputy Governor.
JAMES NUGENT DANIELL, Esq., Deputy-Governor.
JAMES CHILD Esq., London.
WILLIAM DENT, Sen., Esq., Chairman of the Thames and Mersey Marine Insurance Company.
ALEXANDER DUNBAR, Esq., Old Broad-street, London.
CHARLES ELLIS Esq., Lloyd's.
ADOLPHE HAKIM, Esq., Cornhill, London.
WILLIAM HARRISON, Esq. (Messrs. Young, Harrison, and Bevan), Deputy-Chairman of the Thames and Mersey Marine Insurance Company.
CHARLES E. NEWBON, Esq., London.
ALBERT GRANT, Esq., M.P., Managing Director.
RICHARD STUART LANE, Esq., Old Broad-street, London.
HENRY POWNALL, Esq., J.P., Russell-square, London.
JOSEPH MACKRILL SMITH, Esq. (Messrs. Mackrill, Smith, and Co.), Old Broad-street, London.
EDWARD WARNER, Esq., M.P., London.
JAMES WHITE, Esq., M.P., London.

Bankers.

The AGRA AND MASTERMAN'S BANK (Limited).
Messrs. SMITH, PAYNE, and SMITHS.
The NATIONAL BANK, London, Dublin, and its Branches in Ireland.
The NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND, Edinburgh, and its Branches in Scotland.

Solicitors.—Messrs. NEWBON, EVANS, and Co., Nicholas-lane, E.C.

Brokers.

Messrs. LAURENCE, SON, and PEARCE, 7, Angel-court, Throgmorton-street, E.C., London.
Messrs. HORSFALL and PENNY, Liverpool.
Messrs. TOD and ASHTON, Liverpool.
Messrs. SHORE and KIRK, Manchester.

Secretary.—ALFRED LOWE, Esq.

OFFICES—17 and 18 CORNHILL, E.C.

PROSPECTUS.

The marked success which has attended the operations of the Credit Foncier and Mobilier of England (Limited) is almost unexampled in the history of any commercial undertaking.

The results of its operations have been so satisfactory that, as will be seen by the half-yearly report just issued, a dividend and bonus, up to the 30th September, at the rate of 40 per cent. per annum, has been declared, being the same dividend and bonus as was paid for the previous half-year.

Besides these unprecedented results, the Company is in the possession, up to 30th September, of a general reserve fund of £200,000, of a dividend reserve fund of £100,000, and has profits in hand up to the same period, after paying the above-mentioned dividend and bonus, of £50,805. 4s. 9d., the paid-up capital being £500,000, making in all £850,805. 4s. 9d., or above £8. 10s. per share.

The following is the business transacted by this Company:—

This Company negotiates Loans for Colonial and Foreign Governments.
Co-operates in the financial arrangements of British and other Railways.
Makes advances to Corporations, Town Councils, and other public bodies.
Negotiates Loans for Public Works.
Assists in the introduction of Industrial and Commercial Undertakings.
Makes advances upon approved Stocks, Shares, Bonds, &c,
Makes temporary loans upon eligible freehold and leasehold securities, and generally transacts such other financial business as is suitable to the capitalist, whether as principal or agent.

The greatly increased and still increasing amount of business offered to this Company, both by eminent private firms, companies, and corporations, has decided the Court of Directors to make their second issue of shares, by allotting the remaining capital of the Company, consisting of 100,000 new shares, on which £5 per share only is intended to be called up.

These 100,000 new shares the Directors propose to issue as follows, viz.:

50,000 shares will be issued to the shareholders in this Company who stand registered on the books of the Company, to be allotted to them at a premium of £2. 10s. per share, in the proportion of one new share for every two shares now held; and

50,000 shares will be issued to the general public (including such shareholders as may wish to apply for shares in addition to those they are entitled to as shareholders), to be allotted at a premium of £3. 10s. per share.

The premiums to be received upon this issue will amount to £300,000, which will be added to the £200,000 already standing at the credit of the general reserve fund, and will thus increase that fund to £500,000. The dividend reserve fund being £100,000, the paid-up capital will then be £1,600,000.

The new Shares will be paid up as follows:—

On those issued at £3. 10s. per Share premium to the Shareholders:—

£1 0 0 per share on application; being on capital account.
1 10 0 per share on allotment; £1 being on capital account, 10s. on premium account.
2 10 0 per share on 1st January, 1866; £1. 10s. being on capital account, £1 on premium account.
2 10 0 per share on 1st March, 1866; £1. 10s. being on capital account, £1 on premium account.

£7 10 0 being £5 capital, £2. 10s. premium.

On those shares issued at £3. 10s. per share premium to the general public, the following will be the mode of payment:—

£1 0 0 per share on application; being on capital account.
2 10 0 per share on allotment; £1 being on capital account, £1. 10s. on premium account.
2 10 0 per share on 1st January, 1866; £1. 10s. being on capital account, £1 on premium account.
2 10 0 per share on 1st March, 1866; £1. 10s. being on capital account, £1 on premium account.

£8 10 0 being £5 capital, £3. 10s. premium.

These 100,000 new shares will participate in the next distribution of profits, pro rata with the existing shares, according to the amount of capital paid up thereon; the valuable option will be, however, reserved to the holders of these shares of paying upon any of them the whole of the above instalments at any time previous to the date of the last instalment, viz., 1st March, 1866, on paying the Company back interest from the date of such payment to 30th September last, at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum on the £5 on capital account; the shares so paid up to be then entitled to the same amount of profits next half-year as is declared on the existing shares.

Interest at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum will be charged on all instalments not punctually paid; and any instalment not duly paid will render the previous payments liable to forfeiture.

The Directors are aware that in thus admitting the public to subscribe for shares at a price so much below their real value they are departing from the practice generally adopted in an issue of new shares, of offering the whole of them to the shareholders; but the Directors are so impressed with the importance of increasing the area of influence of this Company—influence secoad only in importance to capital to a Company like the Credit Foncierd and Mobilier of England—and have had such proofs in the result of the issue of shares a year ago of the sound policy of admitting the public to a participation in such issue, that they feel confident of obtaining the approval of the shareholders in the course they have adopted.

The following calculation will guide investors in estimating the intrinsic value of the shares, after the dividend and bonus now declared are paid, and when the issue is completed:—

The capital paid up will amount to	£1,000,000 0 0
The General Reserve Fund ...	500 000 0 0
The Dividend Reserve Fund...	100 000 0 0
In hand, profits not divided ...	50,805 4 9
	£1,650,805 4 9

Equal to above £8. 5s. per share on the whole 200,000 shares.

So that the public, on subscribing at £8. 10s. per share (being £5 capital and £3. 10s. premium), are being admitted partners in this Company by only paying 5s. per share premium, as premium; £8. 5s. per share being actually represented in value in the assets of the Company. Over and above these advantages, there is the probable enhanced value which will attach to these shares, in the same way that the shares issued to the public at £2. 13s. 4d. premium in September, 1864, after having received £1 per share in April last as dividend and bonus, are now worth £5. 5s. per share premium, making together £6. 5s. for what they paid £2. 13s. 4d. for, being in one year more than 140 per cent. increase in value on the amount paid for premium.

The Directors feel that with a paid-up capital of £1,000,000, a general reserve fund of £500,000, a dividend reserve fund of £100,000, making a total of £1,600,000, they will be in a position to meet the exigences of any business that may be brought before them; it is, however, the intention of the Directors to increase, out of future profits, the dividend reserve fund to £200,000, being in accordance with the plan announced in the last report, to have always in hand one year's minimum dividend at 20 per cent. per annum, calculated on the amount of the capital paid-up for the time being.

The Directors further wish to place on record their deliberate opinion and conviction that this Company is destined in a very short period to take a foremost place among the leading monetary institutions of the country.

Applications for shares may be made in the form annexed, and must be accompanied by the payment of £1 per share. Should a less number be allotted than is applied for, the sum paid on account of such application will, so far as it will extend, be applied in payment of the sum due on allotment.

Prospectuses, forms of application for shares, and copies of the half-yearly report, just published, may be had on application to the Bankers, Solicitors, Stock Brokers, or of the Secretary at the Offices of the Company, 17 and 18, Cornhill, E.C.

The lists of application for shares will be closed on Thursday, the 2nd November, at 4 o'clock, for London, and on Friday, the 3rd November, at 12 o'clock, for country applications, before the expiration of which time all applications must be made.

London, October 20, 1865.

Form C.—General Public.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To be retained by the Bankers.

No

To the Directors of the Credit Foncier and Mobilier of England (Limited).

Gentlemen,—Having paid to your bankers* the sum of £ being a deposit on £1 per share on New Shares in The Credit Foncier and Mobilier of England (Limited), I hereby request that you will allot me that number, and I agree to accept such shares, or any less number you may allot to me, on the terms of the prospectus, at £3. 10s. premium per share, and I agree to pay the amount due on allotment, and the other instalments as they become due, to sign the Articles of Association if required, and I authorise you to insert my name on the register of members for the number of shares so allotted to me.

Usual signature .....
Name in full .....
Residence .....
Profession .....
Date ..... 1865.

*Insert bankers' names.

THE CREDIT FONCIER and MOBILIER of ENGLAND (Limited).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the LISTS of APPLICATION for the NEW SHARES in this Company will be CLOSED on THURSDAY, the 2nd November, at Four o'clock, for London, and on FRIDAY, the 3rd November, at Twelve o'clock, for Country applications, before the expiration of which time all applications must be made. By order.

ALFRED LOWE, Secretary.

17 and 18, Cornhill, London, Oct. 24, 1865.

THE CREDIT FONCIER and MOBILIER of ENGLAND (Limited).

At a MEETING of the Shareholders of this Company, held THIS DAY (Tuesday), the 24th October, 1865, at 11 o'clock A.M.,

The Right Honourable JAMES STUART WORTLEY, Governor, in the Chair,

It was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously:—

That the Balance-sheet and Report be, and are hereby approved, confirmed, and adopted.

It was also proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously:—

That the best thanks of this Meeting are due, and are hereby given, to the Governor, Deputy-Governors, and Directors, for the great care and attention they have given to the interests of the shareholders, and for the extremely satisfactory results which have arisen therefrom.

It was also proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously:

That the cordial thanks of this meeting are eminently due, and are hereby offered, to Albert Grant, Esq., M.P., the managing director, for the talent displayed by him in the administration of the affairs of the Company.

It was futher proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously:

That the thanks of this meeting be given to Alfred Lowe, Esq., Secretary, for his unswerving attention; and to him and the other officers of the Company for their industry and zeal during the past half-year.—By order of the Court of Directors,

J. STUART WORTLEY, Governor.
ALFRED LOWE, Secretary.

17 and 18, Cornhill, London, Oct. 24, 1865.

THE CREDIT FONCIER AND MOBILIER OF ENGLAND (LIMITED).

The PROSPECTUS and FORMS of APPLICATION for the SHARES of the NEW ISSUE of CAPITAL of this Company are NOW READY, and, as well as copies of the Half-Yearly Report and Balance-sheet, can be obtained at the Company's Offices.

17 and 18, Cornhill, London, Oct. 24, 1865.

ALFRED LOWE, Secretary.

Printed for the Proprietors by WOODFALL and KINDER, Milford-lane, Strand; and published by JOHN ELLISON at the Office of the LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH, No. 13, George-yard, Lombard-street, in the Parish of St. Edmund the King, in the City London.—Saturday, Oct. 28, 1865.

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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th

VOL. VII.—No. 190.] LONDON, SATURDAY, NOV. 4, 1865. [Price ... Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann... postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	June 26	Aug. 17	Sept. 6
Nagasaki			„ 9
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			„ 4
Chefoo			
New-chwang			
Hankow			„ 8
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	July 17	Sept. 2	„ 18
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 13
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 14
Swatow			„ 15
Hong Kong	Aug. 10	Sept. 19	„ 23
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	July 10	Aug. 26	„ 14
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			
SIAM— Bangkok			„ 15
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			„ 13
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 15
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Aug. 17	Sept. 21	„ 30
Penang	„ 10	„ 9	„ 22

The next mail due on the 13th is expected to be delivered on the 11th. She brings dates from Hong Kong to 27th Sept.

JAPAN.

The following telegram was published on the 2nd inst. Private mercantile telegrams were received on the 30th Oct.:—

SHANGHAI, Sept. 21.

The quarrel between the Tycoon and Prince Nagato has been settled.
A plot to murder the former has been discovered.
It is rumoured that Sir Harry Parkes' negotiations with the Japanese Government have been well received.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Syria, from Southampton, Oct. 20.—To Shanghai: Miss Reynell and one second-class passenger. To Hong Kong: Mr. and Mrs. Hermann, infant, and European servant, Dr. Knife, Lieut. Luard, R.N., Captain E. B. Chase, and one second-class passenger. To Ceylon: Mr. R. Massie, Lady Chichester, and European servant, Mr. and Mrs. Wright and two children. To Calcutta: Messrs. G. O. Beeby, and A. Gordon, Mrs. Waddington, Miss McKenzie and native servant, Mrs. Tierney and infant, Mrs. Harrington, Surgeon and Mrs. Barnard, two children, and European servant, Mrs. Colonel Nicolls, two children, and European servant, Messrs. J. C. and W. Martin, Low and Odling, Mrs. Mallock, infant, and European servant, Miss Brook, Mr. A. Tween, Mrs. Spilbury, Miss Whishaw, Messrs. A. Broadfoot and H. St. G. Tucker, Miss Davis, Mr. H. B. Finlay, Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. Beadon, two children, and European servant, Major Peste, Mr. E. Taylor, Dr. Gardiner, Miss G. Elliott, Mrs. and Miss Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson, and eleven second-class passengers. To Madras: Miss Bliss, Mr. and Mrs. Sim, three children, and two servants, Miss Jacob, Colonel Shakespear, Major Stevenson, Mr. C. Jones, Staff Assistant-Surgeon Dunn, Colonel Goodes, European servant and child, two second-class passengers and one child. To Suez: Four second-class passengers. To Alexandria: Mr. F. Brown, Mrs. Hassanaine, three children, and female servant, Mr. Ameen, Mr. A. Carey, eleven second-class passengers, and one child.

From Marseilles, Oct. 28.—To Shanghai: Mrs. Herbert Hancock, two children, and European servant. To Hong Kong: Mr. T. A. Lane and Mr. D. Lapraik. To Singapore: Mr. Gimberg. To Calcutta: Messrs. C. P. Carmichael and Danby, Mrs. F. H. Smith and daughter, Mr. Apcar, Miss Agabeg, Messrs. D. Cunliffe and L. S. Jackson, Major General and Mrs. Flemyng, Miss Flemyng, Mrs. C. Johnson, Mr. J. B. Street, Mr. and Mrs. Blackett, Lieut. Holdsworth, Mr. H. Dear, the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Stone, Major and Mrs. Thelwall, Messrs. Sconce and Grant, Mrs. General Mactier and European servant, Mr. and Mrs. Griffiths, Mr. and Mrs. Shakespear and child, Miss Mackintosh, Messrs. Peacock, T. H. Drake, Wilkinson, H. Dean, W. Terraneau, W. Newton, Dampier, W. Bradbury, and six second-class passengers. To Madras: Miss Lawrenson. To Alexandria: Miss Marten, the Rev. H. Marten, Messrs. Wightman and P. Francis, Mrs. Haselden and two infants, Miss Yearsley, and two female servants. From Suez.—To Shanghai: Mr. Halls. To Calcutta: Messrs. U. Gray and G. Steinthal.

Per P. and O. steamer Massilia, from Southampton, Oct. 27.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Macdonald, Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Barnes, Mr. Watson. To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. J. B. Leslie, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Mackintosh.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, 4th Nov.—To Hong Kong; Mr. M. Murray, Assistant Surgeon J. Fraser, R.N. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Lipscombe. To Ceylon: Mrs. Brotherton. From Marseilles, 13th Nov.—To Singapore: Mr. W. Alten, Mr. W. Paterson. To Hong Kong: Mr. F. Jerdein. To Shanghai: Mr. W. G. Howell, Mr. A. Campbell.

Per P. O and steamer, from Southampton, Nov. 12.—To Shanghai via Bombay: Mrs. Bennett and child. From Suez.—To Penang via Bombay: Mr. and Hasche.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Nov. 20.—To Penang: Mrs. and Miss Mackay. To Ceylon: Miss Staples, Mr. Cone.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Dec. 4.—To Shanghai: Miss M. A. Russell. To Hong Kong: Mr. R. C. Lambert and friend.

CIVIL WAR IN JAPAN.

IN another column will be found a telegram, published on the 2nd instant, announcing that "the quarrel between the "TYCOON and the Prince of NAGATO has been settled." Like many former telegrams, this may perhaps be in anticipation of facts, and as unreliable as that which some time since reported the actual commencement of hostilities; but if true it will confirm the expectations suggested in our late article under this head, in which we pointed out the several causes which tended to render any fighting improbable, at all events for the present. The same telegram conveys a rumour that Sir HARRY PARKES's negotiations with the Japanese Government have been well received, but to this we attach little importance. In the absence of the TYCOON from Yedo, with some of his chief advisers, but little real progress can be made. Until the time of his return to the seat of Government a temporising policy will doubtless be adopted by the Gorogio, who will, as a matter of course endeavour, by procrastinations and apparent concessions, to keep matters virtually *in statu quo*, while the real "tug of war" will commence when the TYCOON himself again resumes the reins of government. Sir HARRY PARKES certainly deserves high praise for the decisive and energetic manner in which he has insisted on his right to reside in Yedo. This is a point which must be kept in view; by conceding it now we should sacrifice our *prestige* to an extent which would be difficult, perhaps impossible to recover. Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, though compelled for a time to relinquish it, kept this object steadily in view, and we rejoice to find Sir HARRY PARKES is following in his footsteps in this and other matters in progress at the time of Sir RUTHERFORD'S departure.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

The French mail of July 17th arrived out on September 2nd. The dates are now down to the 16th, although we believe the steamer did not leave Woosung until the 18th.

We *(Recorder)* have been informed of an amusing instance of Chinese presumption and incompetence, which is too good to be kept to ourselves. Some days ago the Viceroy's uncle, who commands the steamer *Feiloong*, when coming down the Yangtsze, ran foul of an extraordinary craft, which looked like a canoe, but which a closer examination proved to be a steamer; that is to say, a steamer in the Chinese sense of the word—a vessel with a funnel and wheels, but no machinery. When picked up it was drifting at the mercy of the tide, the constructors having very naturally supposed that a steamer was of little use unless it could steer itself. There were some other peculiarities in the vessel's build which would at once strike the eye of a European. For example, her beam was hardly proportioned to her length, the latter being seventy feet, the former

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four. The crew, who were very crestfallen at the result of their expedition, and at the ridiculous appearance their vessel presented when brought alongside the *Feiloong*, were with difficulty persuaded to explain the circumstances. At last it came out that a mandarin in Tseng-Kuo-fan's camp, having conceived the luminous idea of saving the Imperial exchequer from the constant drain produced by the exorbitant demands of foreigners, communicated his sentiments to his chief, by whom they were much applauded. He then invoked the assistance of a Ningpo man, whose claim to be considered an authority on foreign shipbuilding was based on his having twelve months ago been kicked out of one of the docks in Shanghai for some petty peculation, after a brief stay of four weeks. Workmen were employed, and after three months of constant labour the steamer was launched at Anking. The result we have already sketched. The discoverer of this fine mare's nest full of addled eggs will probably lose his button, and will certainly lose all the money he has expended on his project. Thus is talent rewarded in China.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Reports Submitted and Approved at a Monthly Meeting of the Council, held Sept. 5th, 1865.

FINANCE, RATE AND APPEAL COMMITTEE.

Referring to the Minute Paper read at the special meeting of the Council held on the 22nd ult., your committee have to report that, in accordance with the authority then given to prosecute defaulters, they have issued printed notices again requesting payment, and informing those who still refuse that legal action will be taken to enforce the claims made. This step has had a most beneficial effect, so much so that few defaulters of standing remain, and the financial position of the Council is in a better state than for some time past. It will now be your committee's duty, in conformity with the late resolution of the Council, to avail of the Supreme Court and enforce payment of taxes from those now remaining on the list of defaulters.

The revised assessment on land and houses has been completed, and the tax papers based on same have been sent out.

Wharfage Dues.—The collection of this tax has been impeded by the general objection to pay the double rate for the first quarter of the year. Your committee think that as the doubling of this tax acts retrospectively for the said quarter, there is much justice in the complaints of those who object to pay on the score that their accounts for constituents had been previously rendered.

It is therefore recommended that the double rate for the first quarter be abandoned, and the half of what has already been collected be returned to those who have already paid it. This step your committee believe will give general satisfaction, more especially as the double rate of wharfage for the quarter from April to June is being well and promptly paid.

Opium House Tax.—This is now working well on the new plan lately adopted, and no complaints have recently been made.

Pawn-shops.—Your committee have also, in the case of these establishments, drawn out a new scale on the basis of the amount of business done. As was the case with the preceding tax, there is some opposition at first, but good hopes are entertained that the measure will succeed.

Local Post Office.—A branch office has been established in the eastern suburb of the native city for the sale of postage stamps and collection of native correspondence. It is not yet sufficiently known to be much used by Chinese. A contract has been made with Paou Shun, by which, for the sum of $600 per annum, he is allowed to collect and forward a portion of the Chinese postal matter.

Chinese Taxes.—The substitution of dollars and cash for taels and candareens in the collection of these has answered well, and given much satisfaction to native householders.

In conclusion your committee would state that unless defaulters can be compelled so pay outstanding accounts, there is no chance of reducing the debt of 65,000 taels during the present year; in which case it will only be by the practice of rigorous economy that the Council can avoid incurring further debt.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.

Lighting the Settlement.—Your committee have endeavoured to make arrangements to substitute Kerosine lamps for the present oil ones, using the lamp-posts as they are,—but the lowest tender they received would have rendered the substitution nearly three times as expensive as at present, and it had in consequence to be abandoned.

Drainage.—Various repairs to the drains are necessary, but your committee do not feel authorised to sanction an expenditure amounting to over tls. 2,000, without the consent of the Finance Committee. A drain has been constructed at small expense in Foochow-road, where it was urgently needed.

Dangerous Structures.—Dangerous structures in Hankow-road, belonging to Mr. Kennedy, have, with the sanction of H.B.M.'s Consul, been pulled down, the old material having been piled up on the ground, and the rubbish laid down on the public roads. The cost of removing these dangerous structures, which amounts to tls. 70, your committee have requested H.B.M.'s Consul to recover.

Mud-flat in front of H.B.M.'s Consulate.—Your committee have desired the Municipal Engineer to prepare tracings (of the ground proposed to be filled in) for H.B.M.'s Consul, who has most energetically taken the matter in hand, and it is to be hoped that he will arrange it with the Chinese authorities at an early date. This mud-flat spoils the appearance of the Bund, which has now been widened from Peking-road nearly up to Wills' Bridge; a great improvement to that part of it.

Night Soil Contract.—The contract having expired on the 31st August last, has been granted for one year by the committee to Dun Quen-wo, for the sum of $505 per month, payable to the municipal Council monthly. In consideration of this sum your committee have waived their right to the supply of scavenger coolies (who were formerly provided by the contractor), as they think the new arrangement more favourable to the Council, but the boats to carry the garbage at least two miles off from the settlement will still have to be found by the contractor.

Jetties.—The attention of your committee has again been drawn to the very bad state of many of the jetties, which are nearly useless at low tide in consequence of their length being insufficient. It is a question if the principle of mud jetties, which, as tried at the end of Nanking-road, has been found to answer, be not extended.

WATCH COMMITTEE.

Your committee report the strength of the force at 102; Europeans 68, Chinese 34.

Your committee report that the active measures taken on the question of the chair monopoly have resulted in the entire absence of any complaints during the past month.

Private Watchmen.—It having been found that at the present time many private watchmen are in league with bad characters for whom their houses become places of resort, your committee suggest for the public interest that any person requiring private watchmen be supplied from the police force, so that constant control be held over all such men. Several watchmen have already been supplied by the Council to public institutions, but in future your committee suggest that the Council charge for them if still required.

Securities of Chinese Constables.—Your committee suggest, that in cases of the misconduct of Chinese policemen the bondsman be sued before the mixed court on the guarantee given by him, and in cases where the security-money is forfeited, that the assistance of the consul be requested to obtain the sum specified in the guarantee. It is also suggested, that when any punishment is inflicted on the constables, the case should be reported in the Chinese newspaper, with a view, if possible, in the course of time, to secure reliable men in this branch of the force.

Your committee report that police constable Henry Whelan has been prosecuted for squeezing, and sentenced to six months' imprisonment. They beg to suggest that the strictest instructions be given to the superintendent to bring all such cases before the court.

Rowdies.—Your committee have the satisfaction to state that eleven men of this class have been apprehended and convicted during the past month, and amongst these were some of the very worst characters in the settlement.

Your committee have pleasure in reporting that the medical officer of the force has found reason to congratulate the Council on the health of the men during the hot weather. No serious case of sickness has arisen, the sick list frequently being entirely clear. They have also the additional satisfaction of stating that the health of the men probably speaks very highly for their steadiness.

Another meeting of the South China branch of the Royal Asiatic Society was held on Sept. 8. Present—G. F. Seward,

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Esq., vice-president, in the chair ; C. Alabaster, Esq., secretary ; Messrs. Giquel, Kingsmill, Thorne, C. T. Jones, Noetzli, Hanbury, Robinson, Dr. Jones, and a number of others. Mr. Goodwin, recommended by the council as an honorary member, was elected unanimously. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the ballot was proceeded with, and the following gentlemen were elected members of the Society :—Resident—J. S Forsyth, Esq., H. Gribble, Esq., T. Bell, Esq., and Dr. Jones. Non-resident—F. Whitmore, Esq.

The following gentlemen were then proposed for election at the next meeting :—

Residents : A. Mantz, Esq. ; E. A. Reynolds, Esq. ; Captain Round, R.N.

Proposed by Mr. Seward, seconded by Mr. Alabaster :—

Resident : O. Brown, Esq.

Proposed by Mr. Jones, seconded by Mr. Giquel :—

Residents : William Kidner, Esq. ; H. Lang, Esq.

The Secretary then read a paper on the "Nomadic Mongols," by the Rev. Mr. Edkins.

Mr. Edkins' paper commenced with a description of the various Mongol races found at Peking, and the arrangements made for their comfort there. He gave a narrative of a trip taken by him into Mongolia in 1861. At one day's journey from Peking he passed bodies of troops and pilgrims on his way to Jehol, near which he visited the Lama temples of Teshu Shimbo ; thence he proceeded to Pakeu, a great centre of Lama influence, passing through extensive pastures, where he found a flourishing pastoral population ; and, stopping a day or so at a Mongol village in the neighbourhood, returned to Peking. The paper noted the resemblance between Mongolian and Chinese, and contained some interesting information relative to the private habits of the people.

At the conclusion of this paper some notes on the same subject were read by Mr. C. M. Grant, F.R.G.S. The title of the paper read by Mr. Grant was "Mongolia and the Northern Mongols."

In describing the physical geography of Northern Mongolia, or the Khanates of the Khalkas, Mr. Grant brought forward two subjects which have engrossed much of the attention of geographers for upwards of a century, namely, the sources of the Amoor, and the site of Kara Korum. In regard to the former he remarked :—"The Kerlun or Kerulun is generally supposed to be the parent stream of the Amoor ; this notion has probably oringinated in some old Chinese map whose construction has been based upon supposition and not on actual surveys, and it has been retained because until now no one has had just reason for refuting it. I conceive that I have excellent authority for supposing it to be erroneous. Dr. Kashin, the P. M. O. for the city of Irkutsk, a member of several scientific societies, and one of the committee of the Siberian branch of the Imperial Geographical Society, resided for seven years in the vicinity of the Dalai Nor, the lake through which the Kerulun is said to pass, when it assumes the name of the Argoon, which flows into the Amoor. Dr. Kashin has informed me that the formation of the surrounding country is quite opposed to the possibility of streams running northward out of the lake, and furthermore, that several rivulets, having their sources in the neighbouring hills, actually run into the Dalai Nor near the very spot where the Argoon is represented as flowing out, and I have it from the Prince Krapotkin, a gentleman who recently crossed over the northern part of Manjuria (a journey not hitherto travelled by a European), that his friend, Colonel Buxhaven, commander of brigade, made a tour of the Dalai Nor in the summer of 1862, which was a very dry year, and found that the lake only contained a small pool of water in its centre, and that the bed of the Kerulun could not be traced, its mouths having been lost in the sand.

"I think such testimony sufficient to set at rest the question as to whether the Kerulun is or is not the parent stream of the Amoor, and I may further mention that it is now generally admitted by Siberian geographers that the Argoon flows originally from a small river to the north-east of Dalai Nor, called the Khailar.

"I may mention that another geographical question, which has made itself conspicuous from the discussion it has created—viz., the site of Kara Korum, the ancient capital of Ghengis Khan, has occupied much of my attention, and from all that I have been able to glean, I am disposed to place it near the sources of the Onon, and not on the Orkhon, as d'Anville has determined. My information has been gained in the vicinity, and I hope some day to have an opportunity of visiting its ruins, which are still visible. I believe no foreigner has reached this spot since Rubriquis, about 600 years ago. This monk, ambassador of St. Louis, furnishes us with information of Prester John, of whom he speaks as a Nestorian Christian, who resided at Kara Korum, and reigned over the Mongol tribes of Merkit and Kerait."

Mr. Grant represented Northern Mongolian or Khalka as being divided into four Aimaks or Khanates, each Aimak into Hoshoons, that is, families, clans or banners. [There are eighty-six Hoshoons, each of which is governed by its own prince or chief, so far as regards the interior affairs.

The Imperial Government of Peking has divided Northern Mongolian into two Governments, the Eastern and the Western ; at the head of each it has appointed a Viceroy, who is responsible to it. Their chief duties are to maintain peace amongst the princes, to raise troops when called upon for the Imperial service, and to collect tribute.

Mr. Grant described the various ceremonies at births, deaths, and marriages, giving very detailed accounts of each ; he related several traditions which are still current in Mongolia, and went very fully into all that concerns the Kutuktoo and the Buddhist religion, as practised by the Lamas. He spoke of the Chinese postal or courier service, and mentioned that the arrangements, though very incomplete, were such as to enable the Government at Peking to communicate at any time with Kiachta in nine days. He represented the people as very dirty and immoral ; but he lauded very much their hospitality, and concluded by recommending this route as far preferable to the Red Sea one.

After a few remarks by the President and Mr. Goodwin, the thanks of the Society were voted to Messrs. Edkins and Grant for their interesting papers, and the meeting separated.

The following is the summary of the week of the *North China Herald* :—

After a few days of clear summer weather Shanghai is again flooded by rain, the streets are buried in mud, and the roads in the vicinity of the settlement rendered impassable. The temperature has steadily descended, the maximum being 80 deg. Fahrenheit in the shade.

The incidents of the week have been few and uninteresting. A correspondence has taken place in our daily issue with regard to the projected new church, the present unsightly edifice being universally disapproved of. What the result will be remains to be seen, but we trust that some energetic measures will at once be adopted.

On the 4th of September the Supreme Court of China and Japan was formally opened by Sir Edmund Hornby. The Royal warrants appointing the judge, assistant-judge, and law secretary were read, and Sir Edmund Hornby then proceeded to swear himself into office, after which the oath was administered to Messrs. Goodwin (assistant-judge) and Fraser (law secretary). Messrs. Myburgh, Eames, and Robinson signed the roll of practitioners in the Court, and the ceremony was at an end. From Peking we have advices to the 2nd Sept., but nothing of importance had transpired. The *Gazettes* are utterly destitute of anything of interest.

From Chinkeang we hear of a dastardly outrage committed by a party of native soldiers on three unarmed and perfectly unoffending foreigners. One of the victims died of the horrible wounds he received, and another lies in a very precarious state.

Up to the date of our latest advices the attempts made to identify the murderers had been unsuccessful.

The *Friend of China*, of the 15th Sept., on this subject says :—

We copy from the *North China Daily News* a statement regarding the motives influencing the desperadoes at Chinkeang who killed Mr. Pickernell, and have placed in such jeopardy the lives of Messrs. Lewis and Filleul. This statement reads to us very much like a made up thing, and it will not surprise us to learn, on inquiry of Mr. Lewis, whose state from dysentery, we regret to say, is very precarious, that it is all imaginary, the real story being as before given by us, and affixing the guilt of the crime on General Kuo. That General Kuo's friends would do all they could to pull him through his difficulty is no more than might be expected ; and while the tale of a man having been beaten by a foreigner bears an air of probability, it is singular that two such difficulties as that with the sun-struck man, and that with the dog-bitten, should have occurred the same afternoon, and that one should threaten to take life, while the other took it.

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But there are even other hypotheses on the subject of cause for the horrid deeds. One runs that poor Filleul was the man whose life was really sought, and this, because he is in the way of the holders of some land to which he is entitled as representative of his deceased brother who bought it; said land being now worth nine or ten thousand taels. When Captain Filleul of the *Hellespont* died, a singular circumstance happened. Some foreigners (Americans?) here went on board the vessel, opened, under an allegation of authority, his iron chest and drawers, and took from them, it is surmised, everything of value, including, among other things, the title deeds of the land at Chinkeang spoken of; the result of the surreptitious business being that, whereas deceased Captain Filleul was supposed to be a man of half a lakh, his estate did not realise a couple of thousand dollars—a pretty good shearing of the dead man, all must admit. The shearers may be identified yet, however, and made to feel that it is a cold morning without ice.

[After the above was in type we received a note from a gentleman who was impressed, on reading this morning's papers, just as we are; and who, living near the hospital, had an opportunity of calling and inquiring. The gentleman in question says:—"Poor Lewis had no dog, nor had he been out of his bed for twenty-one days when he was cut in this way."]

A Chinkeang correspondent sends us further particulars with regard to the recent murder committed at this port. It appears that Mr. Consul Harvey, who had been unremitting in his endeavours to discover the offenders, has met with great success in his investigations, in which he was readily assisted by the native officials, both civil and military; the latter having evinced a laudable desire that the guilty parties should be arrested and punished.

The facts of the case are as follows:—On Friday, the st instant, a Chinaman who was passing the mat-house where the attack took place, was assaulted and bitten by a dog belonging to Lewis, one of the wounded men. The man, in self-defence, threw a brick at the dog. On seeing this Lewis pursued and beat him. Smarting under the sense of insulted dignity, and perhaps sore bones, the Chinaman, who had been an officer of braves, went at once to an opium-shop in the city, where he found some soldiers of the city garrison. The latter sympathised with him, and they agreed to make a night attack on the offending foreigner and obtain their revenge. Excited by opium and samshoo, and under the leadership of the man who had been flogged, they broke into the mat-house early on Saturday morning, expecting to find Lewis alone, but Pickernell and Filleul being unfortunately asleep in the house, they also fell victims. The leader was arrested a few days after the attack, having been traced by a sword that was dropped during the scuffle, and was executed on the 9th instant, but not before he fully confessed his share in the outrage, and the motive that led to it. Yesterday one of his accomplices also was executed on the spot where the murder took place. Three hundred of Kuo Sung-ling's disciplined troops, headed by a blue-button mandarin, were in attendance, and gave three cheers when the culprit's head was struck off. This man also made a full confession before he died. The others who are known to have been concerned have made their escape to the north bank of the river, but the native authorities having offered rewards for their apprehension, it is to be hoped that they will eventually be captured and punished. None of the soldiers under Generals Yang and Kuo have been proved to have had anything to do with the attack. It is a fact worthy of notice that the confession of the leader of the band was voluntarily made.

By last advices the men-of-war in harbour were as follows:—

Acorn, Speer, hospital ship; Hardy, H.M.'s gunboat; Hong Kong, French steamer; Laplace, Amet, French steam-ship; Perseus, Stevens H.M.'s ship; Starling, Lieutenant Stodherd, H.M.'s gunboat: Weazel, Hailes, H.M.'s gunboat.

At Ningpo: Cockchafer, H.M's gunboat, Dayrell; Le Brethon, French steamer, French Government, built at Ningpo, 1864.

A special meeting of the Racquet Club was held on the 2nd Sept., for the alteration of some of their rules, which now stand as follows:—

1. That the members of the club be divided according to their proficiency in the game into Classes A and B—such classification to consist as nearly as possible of an equal numerical division of its members, to be made by a committee consisting of the secretary (for the time being) and two members, which latter are to be elected by both classes, but the members so chosen must be from Class A.

2. That all new members joining the club be placed in Class B.

3. That Class A have the use of the court on Mondays Wednesdays, and Fridays; and Class B on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.

4. That any member of Class B wishing to move into Class A may challenge any member of that letter to play him a single match of the best of five games; and the member so challenged must play the one in Class B on a day fixed by the committee for that purpose, or forfeit his privilege of playing in Class A, unless very good and sufficient reason be given for his non-attendance on match day. The committee's decision on this point to be final.

5. The challenge so given must be sent in writing to the secretary, who will consult with the committee and fix the day, such, if possible, to be one week from date of challenge; and no two matches to occur in one week; and the days so chosen for these matches are to be taken alternately from those in which Classes A and B are entitled to the use of the court.

6. That the loser of the match shall forfeit $10, such moneys to go to the general funds of the club.

7. That, should any member in Class A be defeated, the same shall not be eligible to play with or challenge any member of that class until one month has elapsed from the date of his defeat; also that any member of Class B not winning his match cannot again challenge under the same period.

8. On the admission of a new member, who will enter Class B, according to Rule 2, he will have the privilege of challenging any member of Class A within two weeks of his election; but, should he not do so so, and the number of members in that class be found to be short of Class B, then the two best players of Class B shall have a single match to decide which of them is to enter Class A; but such match must be played on one of the days that Class B are entitled to the use of the court.

The following notice of the new court is from the *Friend*. Sir Edmund Hornby took his seat on the bench on the 4th, for the first time since the inauguration of the Supreme Court, and gave judgment in a case, striking right home at the abuse we have so long complained of, viz., that of masters of merchant vessels leaving their crews on shore; in other words, sowing seed in the field for a crop of Rowdies. The gentleman prosecuted by the Crown in this case, was Captain Coolie, of the steamship *Elgin*; the information appearing in the shape of a demand on him for twenty-three Mexican dollars, due to the Queen, as sworn to by Mr. Tapp, on a bill for sustenance provided at the Sailors' Home.

The decree ran that, besides paying the twenty-three dollars, means were to be taken to keep the discharged sailor off the public coffer—a decree resulting in payment of the man's passage to Hong Kong by an early despatch hence. Sticklers for correct forms, says Judge Hornby, had no power to go into a case of this kind; that it is clearly treatable under the Merchant Seaman's Act—an Act in which no mention whatever is made for adjudication by "Wig and Ermine."

We simply mention the demur—we do not concur in the opinion; and we hail the appearance of his Lordship in so small a matter as a bread-and-cheese bill as a certification that we have the right man in the right place. As a rule, when the master works well, and is not above his business, his assistants imitate him.

As was to be anticipated, we already hear "growls" about the difference in which judicial work is entered on at the Consulate under the new *regime*:—Almost as a matter of course, people having got so used to the old happy-go lucky informal style of doing things, that many wish the old order still continued. But suitors must not be impatient. Everything will shake down to its place in time, and then, as Americans say, "there will be a good time." But there is one thing which those who have recently had business at the Shanghai Consulate must bear in mind. They must not expect their business to progress unless they move it in the first place themselves. "Tell every one," we heard Mr. Law Secretary Fraser say to the office clerk, "that all the archives are now under my charge; but they must not expect me to look up this case or that to be gone on with. They must put their own shoulders to the wheel if they desire to start their particular waggon." This, we think, is perfectly correct.

For some time to come the Law Secretary will have his hands full enough with the work of the current day, without seeking among the records for cases in order of priority of entry. We shall be greatly mistaken, indeed, if in a short time the community are not proud of and pleased with their Supreme Court, and the way in which it is managed. Mr. A, say, has a dispute with Mr. B, and, as the matter cannot be settled without

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an umpire, they resolve, or A resolves, to go to court. In the olden time of last week the course in the first place would be an entry of the plaint, an affidavit to the truth, and a variety of other performances, all calculated to run up a bill of fees for the Consular Treasury, with a setting down for trial at some period of time when the Court might be at leisure, from a quarter to half a year hence, perhaps. Now, all this is changed. Mr. A makes a complaint, Mr. B answers it, and then the clerk of the court fills in the following form :—

1. Issue for Decision of Questions of Fact without formal Suit.

In Her Britannic Majesty's Court at [Shanghai] [Saturday] the [ ] day of [ ] 18 , between A and B.

This court has ordered that the above-named A. of [gentleman] and the above-named B. of [merchant] may proceed to the trial of the questions of fact to be determined between them without any petition presented or other pleading.

This court therefore now further orders that the following questions be tried :—

1. Whether, &c.

2. Whether, &c., the said A. maintaining the affirmative and the said B. the negative thereof respectively (Seal).

This being followed by a summons running thus :—

2. Summons in Summary Procedure for Claim under 100 dollars.

In Her Britannic Majesty's Court at [Canton] [Saturday] the [ ] day of [ ] 18 , between A.B. plaintiff, and C.D. defendant. [or in the matter of E.F. an infant]

To C.D. of [gentleman], the above-named defendant.

You are hereby commanded, in Her Majesty's name, to attend this Court at [ ] on [ ] the [ ] day of [ ] at o'clock in the [ ] noon on the hearing of a claim [or an application] on the part of A.B. of [merchant], the above-named plaintiff [state the precise nature and particulars of the claim, and the amount sought to be recovered, or the precise object of the application, as the case may be].—(Seal.)

But those who want to know how to carry on a suit in either of the consulates without the intervention of a lawyer should send a dollar to Mr. Law-secretary Fraser, and ask him for a copy of the rules, a book of 111 pages, exceedingly cheap, as books are sold in China.

The following items are from the *Friend* :—

The advertisement for tenders for Kerosine lights in the streets has resulted in nothing, no one being willing to tender, at a reasonable rate, so long as he had no stock of the oil to rely upon. If the Municipal Council are really in earnest about Kerosine, they should give Messrs. H. Fogg and Co., or some other respectable American house, an order for a quantity equal to a year's consumption, and then employ their own lamp trimmers and lighters. We suppose, however, after all, we shall have the gas, and then—hey for coal!—by everyone deemed the incubus in the way of cheap light.

We hear that the Chinese authorities have notified the United States Consul-General that the bodies of Burgevine and the Englishman drowned with him have been recovered, and can be seen at some place sixty miles west of Ningpo.

The steamer *Viola* has been sold to Prince Satsuma for $95,000.

Vessels in the port of Nagasaki on the 9th Sept. were British ship Lammermuir ; barques Queen's Own, Kate Cleather, Chanticleer, Yokohama, Fisher, Tasso, Dolphin, Blanche, Edith, Stella, Rifleman ; brigs Wild Wave, Ben Nevis, Northern Crown, William Duncan ; schooner Kaffer Chief ; French barques Reconnaissance, St. Julien ; Dutch barque Munster Von Hall ; Brig Japan Packet ; American barques Mathew Luce (113 days from Boston), E. W. Seyburn ; Russian brig Atlantic Prussian brig Danzig ; steamers City of Nantes, Australian Armenian, Peking ; H.M.'s ships Barossa, Osprey, Bustard.

A prospectus has been issued at Yokohama of a new paper to be called the *Japan Times*. "On the 8th will be published the first number of the *Japan Times*, a commercial, political, and general weekly newspaper. In making such an announcement as the above, it is usual for the conductor of the new journal to lay before the public some exposition of the policy it will pursue and the objects it purposes to gain, prefaced by a demonstration of the urgent public want, to supply which would seem to be the chief object of its spirited proprietors. The present occasion, however, will be found to be an exception to this general rule, 'Reden ist silber, aber Schweigen ist gold.' Should the 'want' usually assumed be in this instance really felt by the public, it will doubtless be manifested immediately on the appearance of this advertisement in the usual way, and, as a facile method of satisfying their curiosity as to the principles and policy of the *Japan Times* will thus be open to its subscribers, it is unnecessary for the editor to turn his prospectus into a manifesto."

HANKOW.

A correspondent of the *Friend of China*, under date Sept. 2, says :—The weather has set in delightfully cool and pleasant ; thermometer 80 by day, 72 night ; average maximum throughout, 76.

The water has fallen considerably ; those parts that were inundated have collected a large amount of filth, which should be at once removed.

The market for imports during the past month has been limited, owing to the very unusual high rise of the river, which has prevented the conveyance of merchandise into the interior of the country and adjacent provinces. Prices, however, are satisfactory for most descriptions of goods, and deliveries have been taken of 23,800 pieces of Grey Shirtings, 3,000 White do., 10,250 of T-Cloths, 2,580 Long Ells, 20,500 bags of Brown Sugar, 6,800 bags of Black Pepper, and 85 chests of Malwa Opium ; many other articles having also changed hands.

Since my last, settlements of 71 chops of tea have been made, making total to date, 485 ; stock about 50 chops.

The first part of the new crop of yellow Szechuen silk has come in. Prices asked are 288 to 312 taels per picul. Of new hemp about 800 bales are on the market, at 10 to 12 per picul.

A fair demand has sprung up for Japan produce. Quotations, however, are not remunerative for speculators.

Mushrooms, say 30 to 31 tls. per picul ; seaweed, cut, 5.60 to 8.50 tls. ; long, 3.80 to 4.20 tls. ; isinglass, 40 to 41 tls.

Cuttle fish, 9.50 to 9.66 tls.

Exchange on Shanghai, 10 days' sight, 3½ per cent. ; bank bills, 3¼ per cent.

Gold bars, 145½ to 148 tls. per 10 taels weight ; ditto, leaf, 148 to 151 tls. per 10 taels weight.

Freight per steamer, 4 tls. per ton of 40 cubic feet measurement.

FOOCHOW.

We are glad to hear the Foochow dock is in working order, one ship is already on the blocks, and others waiting to fol

The export of tea, per *Agra*, to London, 16th Sept., is 1,123,300 lbs., and the *Mary Hamilton*, to Melbourne, 262,600 lbs.

AMOY.

The following is from the report of G. Hughes, Commissioner of Customs, on the trade of Amoy :—

In 1864, the total value of imports and exports amounted to $13,193,436, which, compared with the value in the year 1863, $12,523,565, shows an increase of $669,172.

Of foreign vessels, in 1864 there were 661, tonnage 210,539 entered ; and 655 vessels, tonnage 209,290 cleared ; while in 1863, 677 vessels, tonnage 207,437 were entered, and 681 vessels, tonnage 209,023 cleared ; showing in 1864 a decrease of 16 vessels, and an increase of tonnage 3,102 entered, and a decrease of 26 vessels, and an increase of tonnage 267 cleared.

In 1864 the total amount of duties received was 474,900 Haikwan taels, which, compared with the collection in 1863, 470,992 Haikwan taels, exhibits an increase of 3,937 Haikwan taels.

In 1864 there was an increase in the import of opium of 84,181 piculs, caused by the ports in Formosa now open to trade drawing much of their supply of the drug from Amoy instead of from Hong Kong.

The increase in cotton yarn, 109,651 piculs, is due to the prosperity apparent here in the early part of last year.

The export of tea for the seasons, *i.e.*, from 1st June, 1864, to 1st June, 1865, is 6,224,434.

The opening of foreign trade of Wan Chew and Chin Chew is greatly desired by natives and foreigners. The opening of the former, in addition to greatly increasing other coasting trade, would give employment to foreign shipping all the year round.

Mr. Hughes strongly urges the opening to foreign trade of these ports.

In conclusion Mr. Hughes remarks, that up to the capture of Chang-chow-Foo in October last the prosperity of Amoy was most marked ; should Chang-chow-Foo be recaptured, the insurrection quelled and tranquillity restored, there is sufficient energy and determination to speedily restore trade to its former standard.

The Customs returns, made up from 1st January to 31st Dec., show the export of tea in 1863 to be 8,552,667 pounds, and in 1864, 7,151,019 pounds, or a decrease in 1864 of

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1,401,648 pounds. But neither the export nor the import trade can be expected to more than exist, so long as Chang-chow-Foo, a large manufacturing city, the richest and most important in this district, and which was, in fact, the market of Amoy, remains in rebel hands. At the present moment, with the exception of opium, all other staple articles of import are unsaleable.

It is rumoured now, that in consequence of the existing troubles the cultivation of the tea plant and sugar-cane are but little attended to.

Transit passes for the conveyance of produce from, or imports to the interior, are very little availed of here.

Amoy consumes and produces little herself, but she is the entrepot of Chang-chow-Foo—which possesses seven Hsiens, Chin-chow-Foo, Ankoi Hsien, Tung Wa (Ngan), Hsien Peh-chuey-ya, and several tea producing, sugar-growing, and manufacturing places; she is also the highway of commerce between China and the southern markets of the Indian Archipelago, viz:—Bangkok, Singapore, Malacca, Penang, the ports in Java, Sumatra, Borneo, and Macassar. Most of the Chinese in Java, Siam, and the Straits Settlements are Fohkien men, who naturally desire the productions and manufactures of their native produce, hence there existed a large trade in Straits produce and miscellaneous articles; vessels under the British, Dutch, and Siamese flags used to rendezvous at Amoy, trade and barter, then proceed northward; returning here they disposed of their cargoes obtained at Ningpo or Shanghai, and then laid in a stock of Chinese goods suitable to the southern markets of India.

Much of this trade has now passed to the free ports of Hong Kong and Macao.

Formerly a large carrying trade in foreign bottoms existed between Amoy and Wan Chow (I am informed that some years ago fourteen foreign vessels, all chartered by natives of Amoy, were lying at this port at one time), Chin Chew, Quemoy, Chimo Bay, Hock An, Nam Kwan, Meng Tek, &c., and the ports in Formosa, and those between Amoy and Hong Kong. The cargoes removed coastwise to these places consisted chiefly of sugar, hemp, cloth, tiles, bricks, common crockery earthenware, and small quantities of Straits produce, foreign woollens and manufactured goods, and opium. Those received, of rice, wheat, alum, charcoal, dried sweet potatoes, medicine, deers' horns, hides, and oil.

Salt from Amoy and Quemoy was also removed coastwise in enormous quantities, and even exported to Manila, Singapore, and Java.

HONG KONG.

The mails of the 26th July, which broke down in the *Ottawa*, arrived with those of the 10th August, per *Baroda*, on the 19th Sept. The following notice is from the *Evening Mail*:—

The P. and O. steamer *Baroda* arrived in harbour this morning at 9.30 (19th Sept.); her appearance was all the more welcome as she not only cleared up the mystery regarding the missing last mail, but she also brought on her mails passengers, and cargo.

The *Baroda*, Captain Haselbrook, left Galle with China mail, at noon, on Sept. 4, and arrived at Penang at 7.11 A.M., on September 9; found the steamer *Ottawa*, with previous China mail, lying there broken down. The steamer *Behar*, from China, arrived in Penang same day. The steamer *Baroda* left Penang with *Ottawa* in tow, on the 9th, and arrived in Singapore on the 12th. Ships in Singapore, H.B.M.'s *Coquette* and H.I.M.'s *Cosmao*. The steamer *Indore* was being towed in as the steamer *Baroda* left, with shaft broken. Sept. 13, at 8.15 A.M., the steamer *Baroda* sailed for Hong Kong, and passed the ship *Solent* for Singapore outside the harbour. The steamer *Baroda* experienced light monsoon, with occasional squalls throughout.

H.M.S. *Conqueror* arrived in harbour on the 16th September, having left Yokohama on the 24th August. On the 3rd, 4th, and 5th September she encountered a very severe typhoon, in which she lost two men overboard, and many of her sails, spars, and boats. She brings 450 of the Royal Marines.

The British steamer *Ta-pang-Nyo* reports having left Foochow on the 13th, Amoy on the 14th, and Swatow on the 15th September, having made the run from the latter port to Hong Kong in 17 hours. During her passage she had fresh N.E. breezes and fine weather. H.M.S. *Scylla* arrived in Amoy on the 14th. The steamers *Formosa* and *Feloong* arrived in Foochow on the 12th; the steamer *Stirling* was in Amoy discharging. The steamer *Undine* left Swatow on the 14th. The crews of the two vessels reported as having been wrecked, and all hands murdered, in Chin-chew Bay some six weeks ago, have been brought safely to Amoy by a brig, which was sent up to look after them. One of the vessels was a small schooner, called the *Sir William Wallace*, and the other a German vessel. Their crews had been robbed and ill-treated, but their lives had been spared.

The loss of the Hanovarian barque *Melchers*, bound to Chefoo, has been reported as on the 27th August, off Shantung. The crew arrived all safely at Chefoo. The building of a light-house in the Kung-Kung Taou Island, at the entrance to that port, has just been commenced.

The *Corrieumbze* put into Hong Kong on the — Sept. in distress. She was bound from Manila to San Francisco.

The present French mail steamer has on board about 1,800 bales silk, also 885 boxes silkworm' eggs.

The *Spray of the Ocean*, noticed in our last as having been taken up to convey coolies to Tahiti, sailed on Sept. 22.

H.M.'s ship *Pelorous* left Amoy for Japan on Sept. 20.

On the subject of the surrender of the Mo Wang, the *Daily Press*, of the 23rd Sept., has the following article:—

We are happy to learn from our own advices that the rendition of the Mo Wang is deemed calculated to create a feeling of unqualified indignation in England. Mr. Mercer we believe is likely to feel the weight of Earl Russell's displeasure for his reprehensible conduct in the matter. We cannot exactly make out what is going to become of him—that he is not to stop here is, we believe, a settled question.

Our contemporary of the *Mail*, after supporting the outrage with very plausible and special arguments, perpetrates a sad collapse in his last issue. He sets forth the following statement:—"It is imperative on our part to state distinctly that the man (Mo Wang) was surrendered on distinct proof of his being a party in a gross state of piracy." If this were true it would doubtless set the question at rest, but it is the very reverse of true. Where a man argues on wrong premises it is folly to attempt any analysis of his deductions, and it becomes necessary to impugn his facts. The charge against the Mo Wang for piracy was sustained by one witness only, and ran to the following tenor and effect. The witness was in a trading vessel on the Yangtsze some three or four years previously, when the Mo Wang, being at the head of a band of men, captured the boat witness was in, and made the crew thereof prisoners. Witness was for some time held to ransom, but as that was not forthcoming, he was allowed, or compelled, to join the band whereof the Mo Wang was chief. In that position he remained for about two years, during which time several towns and cities were attacked and taken. Being at last defeated by the Imperialists, the witness effected his escape.

Now, if this be taken for truth throughout, it simply goes exclusively to prove that the accused was a Taiping chief—nothing more nor less. But we should add, what is beside the question by the way, that the truth of the statement might well be doubted, inasmuch as it was proved that the witness had attempted to extort money from the Mo Wang, and had been forcibly ejected from his shop.

The *Mail*, however, lays down most positively that it matters not whether piracy or rebellion was the charge against the Mo Wang—in either case the British authorities were equally compelled by treaty to surrender him. That there may be no mistake about this startling *dictum* we shall quote our contemporary's words:—"Our opponents should recollect that the Taipings had never accorded to them any political status whatever, and that if the Tien Wang himself had taken refuge in Hong Kong, it would have been nothing more or less than the duty of our local authorities to have given him up."

And has our contemporary become reduced to this sad strait in this important argument? If this were his meaning from the first, why could he not at once say so? He sees that the charge of piracy was in reality one of rebellion, and instead of admitting it, he exclaims in effect, "It's all the same thing."

Why, then, was the man not demanded on a charge of rebellion? Our contemporary's dictum will not hold a drop of water. The clause in the treaty of Tientsin which bears on the point is Art. XXI., which runs thus:—"If criminals subjects of China, shall take refuge in Hong Kong, or on board the British ships there, they shall, upon due requisition by the Chinese authorities, be searched for, and on proof of their guilt, be delivered up."

Dismissing the point of the rendition of the Mo Wang having been demanded on a charge of piracy and made on a charge of rebellion; and giving our contemporary the full advantage of the irregularity, it simply remains for us to point out the fallacy of his dictum, that piracy and rebellion were equally criminal in the case, because, as he avers, no political status had ever been granted to the Taipings.

Our contemporary is entirely mistaken—the same political status was allowed the Taipings by the British Government as was allowed to the Confederate States of America—no more, no less—but precisely the same. A declaration of neutrality was issued in both cases, and that acted alike in each—the one acknowledged the belligerency of the Southern States, the other the belligerency of the Taipings. In neither case was belligerency admitted by any other means, and in both cases was the acknowledgment of a civil government rejected.

Can our contemporary have forgotten the case of the outrage committed on the *Trent*? Messrs. Mason and Slidell, who were taken from that vessel by the *San Jacinto*, were viewed by the British Government as belligerents, whose capture was deemed such a gross violation of the law of nations, that war would assuredly have been declared had they not been surrendered. Yet their belligerency was only based on the proclamation of neutrality—their political status was never admitted any more than was that of the Mo Wang!

Subjoined are the estimates for the year 1866, as published in the *Gazette*:—

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CIVIL ESTABLISHMENTS:—	
The Governor	$240.00
Colonial Secretary	6,636.00
Colonial Treasurer	5.496.00
Auditor-General	8,252.00
Clerk of Councils	72.00
Surveyor-General	16,012.80
Master of the Mint	39.939.00
Postmaster-General	140,008.00
Registrar-General	1,704.00
Harbour Master and Emigration Officer	8,608.00
Judicial Establishments	6,440 00
Registrar of Companies	816.00
Ecclesiastical Establishment..	942.00
Educational Establishment	9,386.00
Medical Establishment	15,110.00
Police Magistrate	4,650,00
Police	153,900.00
Gaols	59,398.00
Charitable Allowances	480.00
Transport	1,500.00
Works and Buildings	103,100.00
Roads, Streets, and Bridges	59,500.00
Miscellaneous Services	5,966.00
Military Contributions	92,000.00
Total ...	$740,155.80

PHILIPPINES.

MANILA.

To those interested in the trade of Manila the information contained in the paragraph given below, extracted from *El Porvenir Filipina*, of the 29th of August, cannot fail to be acceptable. We have more than once had occasion to comment on the very imperfect nature of the transit arrangements between this port and Manila; the irregularity and uncertainty that prevailed in the transmission of the mails; the utter absence of any provision for passengers; the difficulties and delays that were perpetually interfering with the plans of our merchants, whether for business or pleasure, which were in any way depending for their success on the possibility of crossing to the Philippines. Such a state of affairs could not but be detrimental to the best interests of Manila, and of Eastern commerce in general, and we hail with pleasure any prospect of an improved mode of steam communication.

We have been informed that a proposition is about to be submitted to the Government for carrying on the mail service by means of a line of merchant steamers running between this city and Hong Kong. If, as we hope, the conditions on which this proposition is founded are such as are to the advantage of the State, which is now incurring great expenses in conveying the correspondence, commercial men will have reason to rejoice when the plan comes into operation, and our brave seamen will be relieved from a very troublesome duty which now falls to them.

The article given below is the first of those we promised to reproduce from the columns of our contemporary, *El Porvenir Filipina*. It will be observed that it treats the subject of trade in a broad and enlightened spirit, speaking in favour of its freedom with "eloquent figures," which indeed demonstrate the writer's arguments very clearly:—

In our first number we promised to devote much of our space to the interests of commerce, the powerful influence of which on the progress of civilisation is generally and justly recognised. To-day, in accordance with that promise, we submit a few considerations on the trade of the ports of Iloilo and Sual, based on figures of the accuracy of which we have no doubt, and which, far better than the most cogent argument, demonstrate the impetus given to the public prosperity in these localities by the wise resolution to throw open to the commercial navies of the world the ports of Iloilo, Sual, Zamboango.

It is a difficult task, when the public Press, in fulfilment of its elevated mission, has in obedience to its convictions and in the best interests of the social body, to initiate reforms which because they are reforms are received with mistrust, and sometimes with that disdainful patronising air that does more than anything else to set mediocre minds against them. But when on the other hand the Press has to deal with accomplished facts, when its arguments are based on the inexpugnable logic of figures, when it has to point to results foretold by it in former time, when the public writer enjoys one of those brief moments of enjoyment the intensity of which compensates entirely for the many disappointments and disagreeables which constitute the life of a public journalist.

(To be continued).

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

The French mail of the 17th August arrived out on the 21st Sept. The dates are now down to the 30th. The steamer *Reyna* arrived from Manila with dates to the 14th. The steamer *Lightning* left for Hong Kong on the 27th Sept., but put back, owing to a fire on board, produced, it is supposed, by the spontaneous ignition of the cotton. Several chests of opium and a quantity of tin was destroyed. The damage is estimated at $50,000. The vessel was discharged at the Borneo Company's wharf

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

BAUMGARTEN—On the 25th Sept., at Singapore, the wife of Alex. Baumgarten, Esq., of a daughter.

BURROWS—At Hong Kong, on the 8th Sept., the wife of O. H. Burrows, of a son.

LARKEN—At Foochow, on the 3rd Sept., the wife of Thomas Lancaster Larken, Esq. of a son, who survived his birth a few hours only.

OPPERT—At Shanghai, on the 17th Sept., Mrs. E. Oppert, of a daughter.

SMITH—At Fuhchau, on the 9th Sept., the wife of Thomas Smith, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

BIGGS—At the British Consular Gaol, on the 10th Sept., John Biggs, formerly proprietor of the Blackfriars Hotel.

BLACKMORE—On board H.M.S. Melville, on the 21st Sept., Samuel Blackmore, private, Royal Marines, H.M.'s gunboat Acorn.

BREADSMORE—At Hong Kong, on the 10th Sept., Margaret Breadsmore, aged 4 years and 1 month.

BUTTERFIELD—At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 6th Sept., of dysentery, Samuel Butterfield, a native of Carolina, U.S.A.

COLLS—On board H.M.S. Conqueror, on the 19th Sept., William Colls, seaman, aged 19 years (consumption).

CONROY—At the General Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 20th Sept., Thomas Conroy, private, 2nd Batt., 11th Regt., aged 23 years.

CONWAY—At Shanghai, on the 4th Sept., of cholera, after a short illness, James Conway, aged 21, of Boston.

CURRAN—At the General Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 21st Sept., John Curran, private, 2nd Batt., 11th Regt., aged 24 years.

DENSIL—At the General Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 19th Sept., Michael Densel, private, 2nd Batt., 11th Regt., aged 29 years.

FRAHILL—On board H.M.S. Melville, on the 21st Sept., Edward Frahill, ordinary seaman, H.M.S. Conqueror.

GROSVENOR—On the 13th Oct., at Clapton, Arthur Wellington Grosvenor, Esq., formerly of Cuba, deeply regretted.

HENDERSON—At Shanghai, on the 7th Sept., Margaret Isabel, only surviving child of the late James Henderson, M.D., F.R.C.S.E., aged 1 year.

HENRY—On the 16th Sept., at Shanghai, Alexander George Henry, Superintendent of the Shanghai Wharf, aged 28.

MACNAIR—On the 30th Oct., at Auchencck, Stirlingshire, James Alexander Macnair, late of Shanghai, second son of the late James Macnair, Esq., of Auchencck, aged 26.

MARTIN—At Shanghai, on the 9th Sept., Susan Martin, of Dumbarton, Scotland, aged 38 years.

MCKINNON—At Shanghai, on the 3rd Sept., of cholera, Mr. John McKinnon, a native of Ayrshire, Scotland, aged 36 years.

MEYER—At the Seamen's Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 21st Sept., Heuer Meyer, seaman, unemployed.

MORRIS—At the North Devon Barracks, Hong Kong, on the 10th Sept., Lieut. Morris, 2nd Batt., 11th Regt., aged 25 years.

NIXON—At the General Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 21st Sept., John Nixon, private, 2nd Batt., 11th Regt., aged 30 years.

ROACH—At the Civil Hospital, Hong Kong, on the 21st Sept., A. Roach, seaman, unemployed.

SATOW—On the 13th Sept., at Shanghai, Mr. Edward Mason Satow, aged 25.

SIMSON—On the 4th Sept., at Yokohama, H. P. Simson, Esq., of Messrs. Alt and Co., of Yokohama and Nagasaki, aged 33.

TOMS—On the 30th Oct., at Ilfracombe, Richard Toms, late of Messrs. Lane, Crawford, and Co., Hong Kong and Shanghai.

WILLIAMS—On the 27th Sept., at the United States Consulate, Yokohama, Japan, Franklin Delano Williams, Vice-Consul of the United States for Hong Kong, aged 44 years.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From London: July 26, Thomas Blythe. From Liverpool: 27, Vinco. From Cardiff: 24, Louisa Barrington.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Sept. 5, Assyrian. From Liverpool: 7, Sea Snake.

At HONG KONG.—From Hamburg: Sept. 14, Picoiola, Bertha.

DEPARTURES.

From SHANGHAI.—None.

From FOOCHOW.—For London: Fi-wan and Berwickshire.

FREIGHTS.

SHANGHAI.—To London, tea, 30s.; silk, £3.

FOOCHOW.—To London, 30s. to £2.

HONG KONG.—To London, tea, £1. 16s. to £2. 7s., per 50 cubic feet. To New York, tea, £2. 10s. specie, per 40 cubic feet, nominal.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Yokohama	6 months sight.	4s. 7¼d.	4s. 8d. to 4s. 8¼d.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 ditto	6s. 1d.	6s. 2d. to 6s. 3d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 6d.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.
At Singapore	6 ditto		
At Manila	6 ditto		

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 296 to 297 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 218 to 219 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 10 per cent. prem. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 73 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 26 to 27 discount. Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, 6 prem.; Gas Company, £3 to £4 prem.; Hong Kong and Whampoa Docks.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A REGISTER is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the FAR EAST and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, *and other parts of the* FAR EAST, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

Subscription 54s. per annum. including Postage. Export Supplement 12s. extra.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOV. 4, 1865.

THE SHANGHAI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE annual meeting of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce, held on the 23rd of August, is deserving of special notice, the business transacted on that occasion not being of the mere routine character usually occurring. The proceedings commenced with a discussion on the revised rules and regulations lately framed with the view of increasing the usefulness and efficiency of the Chamber; and these were finally adopted in place of the somewhat crude and imperfect code which had, up to that time, but indifferently served its purpose. The members then elected a committee for the ensuing year, after which a resolution was passed by a large majority which is calculated materially to affect the future statistics of the trade, and, we think, in a very favourable manner, as it will undoubtedly ensure greater accuracy in the returns than has hitherto been attainable. The resolution is as follows:—

"That this Chamber is of opinion that it is desirable, for the sake of uniformity in mercantile statistics, that the Tables of Exports compiled in China and Japan should date from January 1st to December 31st of each year, instead of from June 1st to May 31st, as at present. That the Secretary be hereby instructed to alter the statements issued by this Chamber in accordance with this resolution, on January 1st, 1866, and to communicate with the merchants of Japan to ascertain their views as to the change now recommended by this Chamber, which is also considered desirable by the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce."

The absurdity of the old system is best shown by its effect on the apparent exports of tea last season, which, as Mr. BRYANS pointed out, were absolutely false, as ships had loaded new season's tea at Foochow before the end of May, while at Canton teas of very early growth were actually shipped to Europe overland in the middle of March. It being clearly impossible to draw a line arbitrarily divding the old from the new season's shipments, it is wise policy to abandon the attempt and date the annual returns from the 1st of January.

But the principal feature of interest in the proceedings was the discussion which arose regarding the interpretation to be put on Article IX. of the Treaty of Tientsin. It runs thus:—

British subjects are hereby authorised to travel, for their pleasure or for purposes of trade, to all parts of the interior, under passports which will be issued by their Consuls, and countersigned by the local authorities. These passports, if demanded, must be produced for examination in the localities passed through. If the passport be not irregular, the bearer will be allowed to proceed, and no opposition shall be offered to his hiring persons or hiring vessels for the carriage of his baggage or merchandise, &c.

On the one hand it is urged that this clause virtually becomes a dead letter, unless it includes the privilege of renting land, building houses, and opening business establishments in the interior; inasmuch as the mere permission to "travel," though doubtless available for purposes of pleasure, can be of comparatively little use for purposes of trade. Against this, however, it is argued that the acquisition of land, and building of houses at any place which such travellers might choose to select, would lead to the formation of embryo settlements, which would sooner or later necessitate the presence of Consuls and the establishment of some means of protection—a measure which was clearly never comtemplated when the Treaty was framed. A resolution was passed, authorising the committee to address a letter to Earl RUSSELL, with the view of ascertaining the interpretation put by Her MAJESTY'S Government on the article; and this must, of course, elicit a reply which will set at rest the doubts at present existing: we do not, however, believe it possible, nor do we think it desirable, that British subjects should, at present, be permitted to erect permanent establishments at places beyond Counsular jurisdiction; and we think that Earl RUSSELL'S decision, when made public, will be found to accord with this opinion.

RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

WE received from our Paris Correspondent, in time for our last impression, a notice of a somewhat curious document, issued by the Board of Arts and Sciences at Peking, to which assembly it would appear that the question of permitting the introduction of railways into the Celestial Empire had been referred. The result of their deliberations is highly satisfactory. The use of steam, they say, is quite devoid of danger to the population, and therefore railways may be introduced without fear of inconvenience; from which it is inferred that concessions for several lines of railway already contemplated will forthwith be granted to European companies. For our own part we are, however, by no means so sanguine, and anticipate much delay before the thin end of the wedge will be got in. The comparatively liberal and enlightened views of the Peking Board, although certainly encouraging, will be of little avail against the stubborn resistance that will be met with among local and provincial authorities. The ice once broken, however, the advantages of railway communication will doubtless so force themselves on the Chinese mind, as to lead by degrees to a proper appreciation of them; but the ice of Chinese apathy and dislike to innovation will, we fear be found very hard to break, and we only hope that the energies of the projectors will not be frozen up in the first attempt.

THE SHANGHAI NOTIFICATION AGAINST THE USE OF FOREIGN VESSELS.

THIS notification, which was inserted in our last issue, was one of those arbitrary and tyrannical measures so frequently put in force by Chinese rulers, and as frequently, when practicable, evaded by their subjects. "Vested interests" are as important and need as much protection in China as in our own country; and it seems that in China they are suffering by the increasing use of foreign vessels made by native merchants, to the exclusion of their own junks, of which, therefore, a less number than usual are available to convey the annual tribute to Peking. It will be observed that we speak in the past tense of this notification, and we are glad to be able to do so, later advices having brought news of its withdrawal. Even had this not occurred we fancy the concluding formula—"let all obey"—would in this case have met with but little regard; the native merchants being far too keenly alive to the advantages of shipping in foreign bottoms to submit tamely to such a prohibition. And as the notification itself has now become a dead letter, it is perhaps hardly worth while to inquire what connection might have existed between it and the step lately taken by the Shanghai Commissioners of Customs relative to the ownership of foreign built vessels by Chinese subjects, to which we took exception at the time.

THE TRANSFER OF THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

SINGAPORE has of late been, metaphorically speaking, "between two stools," and has, for the time at least, "come to the ground." Neglected by the Indian Government, which has for some three years almost ceased to legislate for the Straits Settlements, and not yet formally transferred to the Crown, their interests have suffered more especially in a prospective view. Shortly before the departure of the last mail a special meeting of the Singapore Chamber of Commerce was held, with the view of agitating the question; but it was felt to be a public measure, and, as such, beyond the cognizance of a purely mercantile body, so nothing was attempted. We believe, however, that this anomalous condition of affairs will not be of long duration, as all preliminary arrangements are now completed and the passing of a Bill by which the transfer will be formally recognised, will be accomplished immediately on the meeting of the next session.

THE FRENCH IN SIAM.

IT has seldom been our lot to chronicle a more disgraceful outrage than that of which M. AUBARET, the French Consul at Bangkok, has been guilty. The already unenviable notoriety of that functionary has reached its climax in a series of such acts as can hardly be ascribed to any but a madman—embody-

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ing a gross insult to the First King of Siam, and a personal assault of the most degrading character on his Majesty's cousin, the Chief Judge. Of provocation there appears to have been literally none. Taking up the quarrel of a French priest, who had come to him with a petty, or perhaps, altogether imaginary grievance, he forced upon the King an insolent demand for an apology, and for the dismissal of a native noble from his post, and followed this up by a most unjustifiable threat of violence. And, notwithstanding the pacific attitude and the great and praiseworthy moderation displayed by the King, in sending one of his own relatives to the Consul with the view of effecting an amicable arrangement, M. Aubaret, having worked himself up into a fit of ungovernable fury, refused to listen to reason, and completed the catalogue of outrages by a brutal assault on the King's Envoy. Considering we presume, that his own honour, the dignity of his religion and the glory of France were then sufficiently vindicated, the Gallic hero took his departure from the scene of these exploits, and started for Europe; doubtless, looking forward to receiving favours and congratulation from his Imperial master. In this, we trust, he will be disappointed. Whatever aspirations after further conquests in the Far East may lurk within the Imperial breast, we cannot believe that advantage will be taken of such a pretext as this to gratify them, or, indeed, that such a gross breach of decorum will be allowed to pass unpunished.

CHINA SILK IN FRANCE.

This is the period of the year at which the silk trade is expected to be brisk in France, and during the latter half of October there was a remarkable improvement in the Paris trade, and a great increase in the quantity of silk which passed through the hands of the officials who are entrusted with the delicate duty of testing the condition of the material at Lyons. It may here be mentioned that the system employed at present in France in order to get rid of superabundant moisture, and thus fix the true weight of the raw material, is very different from that employed in Italy and formerly in France; that method consisted in keeping the silk for forty-eight hours in a stone-room of a given temperature,—the plan now adopted in France being to submit the silk to a current of hot air, by which means the silk is dried to the normal point in thirty or forty minutes. The officers who thus test the condition of the silk at Lyons publish an official account of the quantities which pass through their hands, and the returns for the past month are deserving special attention. They are as follow:—

October.	Bales.		Kilogs. = 2 1-5th lb.
1st week	691	=	45,023
2nd „	695	=	46.843
3rd „	1,229	=	77,530
4th „	1,106	=	68,190

The increase during the month speaks for itself, and requires no comment; but the amounts of the two latter weeks, when compared with the like official figures for last year, also exhibit a marked increase. The figures are as follow:—

October.	1864. Kilogs.		1865. Kilogs.
3rd week	56,830	.. ..	77,530
4th. „	48,037	.. ..	68,190
	104,867		145,720

being an augmentation of nearly fifty per cent. We have not at hand the returns of 1864 for the former half of the month. This increase is entirely to the advantage of Chinese and Japanese silk, which are represented by the number 667, against 439 parcels from other parts. At Lyons, in the Drome and elsewhere, these silks are considered to be the only ones which at present offer a chance of profit, and the promised arrivals are therefore anticipated with considerable interest. There does not seem to be any fear entertained that the quantity *en route* will overbear the market; nevertheless, the caution which we threw out respecting consignments some weeks since may still not be out of place.

The appearance of cold weather was doubtless the immediate cause of the improvement which we have referred to above, by causing winter goods to move off briskly. The long persistence of fine weather had delayed the movement which was otherwise withheld by the scarcity of the raw material. At Aubinas, the other day, all the silk in the market was bought up, and more demanded; at Cavaillon the dealers paid almost any price asked; at Marseilles it was nearly the same; and at Lyons the prices of the raw material have been from 25 to 40 per cent. higher than they were two years ago. The accounts from Italy are somewhat contradictory. At Milan business is brisk with Germany, England, and Switzerland; from Bergamo and Brescia the accounts are favourable; while at Genoa they complain that there is no demand except for immediate wants; and at Udine that there is nothing doing at all, the prices being so high as to be a great obstacle to consumption.

Our correspondent "Kioto" says, truly enough, in reply to an article which we quoted from the *Economist*, that the dealers in silk are still possessed of very large money capital. This is undoubtedly true, though the ruin of the growers of mulberry trees and of the rearers of silkworms is well nigh complete. It is equally true also that while the crop of French silk was abundant the merchants were not likely to go to China for what they could get at home. It must be remembered, however, on the one hand, that recent events in China and elsewhere in the Far East, and the efforts of the *Messageries Impériales*, backed by the Government, have had something to do with the matter; and, on the other, that, although there is rather a fierce debate on the subject in France, M. Guerin Meneville, who has worked so long for the introduction of foreign worms in order to supply, in part, the deficiency arising from the failure of the European worms, declares it to be his firm conviction that the disease is approaching its termination. M. Guerin-Meneville is a distinguished entomologist, and his opinion is important. Moreover, he has an extensive knowledge of the silk cultivation in France, and his main argument is simple and rational—the old disease which used to attack the worms is re-appearing, therefore the normal condition is probably returning. The scourges which attack the materials of man's industry are unfortunately numerous, but after the disappearance of the potato and the grape diseases, he would not be a wise man who calculated on the silkworm disease, and consequently the scarcity of European silk, continuing much longer.

HIEN FUNG'S TOMB.

A Correspondent of a French journal gives the following account of the tomb raised to the memory of the late Emperor of China, which, he adds, is to be inaugurated on the 10th of November. We have not seen the description before, and we give it for what it may be worth. The monument consists of a magnificent block of black granite (is there such a thing as black granite?) more than thirty feet high, and forty-five feet long. (It is a pity that the thickness is not also given, because we could then calculate the weight pretty nearly, and might learn afterwards what system the Chinese had adopted for the transport of this monolith, which was not *growed*, as Topsy suggested to herself, on the spot.) A series of galleries or passages are excavated in the block and lead to the sepulchral chamber in which the Imperial ashes are deposited. From the door of the monument, throughout the whole extent of the interior of the mausoleum, the walls are covered with characters sunk in the stone and encrusted with gold; these characters give the history, in outline, of the present dynasty, which commenced to reign in 1644, and detailed biographies of the late Emperor and of his father Tao-Kouang. This portion of the work was directed by Fann Ouang, a celebrated servant who fills the office of Court Chronicler. Over the entrance to the monument the Imperial dragon with five claws is sculptured in the stone itself. The mausoleum will be closed by two doors, an outer one of brass, and an inner one of solid silver. The reigning Emperor will keep the key in his own possession. Those members of the Imperial family, to whom the Emperor shall give permission, may visit the mausoleum after its inauguration; but should any other mortal succeed in opening the brazen and silver doors, slip through the keyholes, or in any other manner introduce his unimperial person within the precincts of the sanctuary, he will be immediately put to death. This magnificent sepulchre is placed in a grand pagoda, constructed expressly for its reception, in the vast temple of Long-fou. The monolith was roughly worked in the quarry from which it was taken, situated at the distance of about seven miles from Peking. This was done in order to reduce the weight of the block; but even then it required, we are told, six hundred oxen to draw the car upon which it was placed.

The transport of the Luxor obelisk, which stands in the *Place de la Concorde*—where, by the way, it is out of harmony with everything that surrounds it, and cuts in half both the Tuileries, at one end of the Champs Elysées, and the beautiful *Arc de Triomphe* at the other end, in the most provoking manner—and the setting it up in its present position, was thought such a wonderful achievement, that the tackle and

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other means employed are cut in gilt characters on the base on which it is reared, and models of the same are placed in the museum of the *Conservatoire des Arts et Metiers*. But the mausoleum of Hien-Fung must outweigh half-a-dozen such obelisks. We wish some of our correspondents would send us a scientific account of this marvellous monolith, its fabrication, ornamentation, and transformation. The Chinese bamboo scaffolding is certainly the most admirable in the world; the model shown at the Great Exhibition of 1862 attracted the attention of all engineers and constructors, and was afterwards very properly placed in the Woolwich Museum; who knows but that the mausoleum may not supply our scientific men with a few good practical hints.

THE TROOPS IN CHINA.

(Army and Navy Gazette.)

English troops in China seem to be in a bad way just now, and, considering they had barely got half way through the hot season by last accounts, there is every prospect of a gloomy sanitary report for the year 1865. The over-crowded state of the General Hospital in Kong Kong recalled to mind Scutari in the bad days of the Crimean campaign. Cholera, fever, and sunstroke were tolerably active, and reaping a good harvest. There is a mistaken notion here that China is no longer an unhealthy station, and that European troops are perfectly able to carry on the duties required of them there as elsewhere. By way of an experiment, and with a view of reducing the military expenditure, the authorities at the commencement of the year determined on withdrawing the Indian troops, who have hitherto proved themselves most useful on the station. Strong but unavailing remonstrances were made at the time by all the senior and experienced officers in the command, but the War-office turned a deaf ear to the voices. If more troops were positively wanted another European regiment should be ordered to Hong Kong; but the Indian troops must be got away *coute qui coute*. There was no help for it; the orders from England were so positive that shipping was immediately taken up, and off they went. This was about the end of April, and at the very commencement of the hot season. One regiment was left to perform all the duties and furnish the numerous guards, public offices, dockyards, commissariat, magazines, and the pestilential settlement across the water on the mainland, viz., Kowloon. The result was not slow in showing itself; the men fell ill, the hospitals filled fast, and those who managed to get through their tour of duty returned to their barrack rooms so exhausted that nothing else could be expected of them till their turn came round again. In England, and in a healthy climate, the average number of nights a soldier is supposed to get in bed before his turn comes on for the usual twenty-four hours' duty again runs from six to eight or nine days at least—at any rate rarely less than five; in Hong Kong, a notoriously unhealthy station for six months in the year, the average number has been three at the utmost throughout the hottest and sickly months. The arrival of the 2nd battalion 11th Regiment, from the Cape, about the end of May, was hailed with delight; but this pleasing prospect of a change for the better to the corps who had hitherto carried on the whole duty since the departure of the coloured troops was but of short duration. The authorities, in their eagerness to get away the latter, seemed quite to have overlooked the important question of barrack accommodation. Nothing was more natural to them than that, on the principle of one nail driving out another, the European would simply supplant the Indian regiments. They sat down, rubbed their hands with satisfaction at having at last attained their desired object—viz., riddance of the Indian scale and allowances for officers and men—and with one stroke of the pen cut away everything, commencing with the commanding officers of corps, no less than £3 a-day, or £1,100 a-year—surgeons, majors, and paymasters at the same average sweeping scale—and as to the captains, they were quickly disposed of by jumbling them up together with the lieutenants and ensigns, and were directed to make the best of their 10s. a-day. Leaving such a cruel injustice to speak for itself, which anybody at all acquainted with the exorbitant price of living in China will perceive at a glance, let us return to the newly-arrived corps at the station, and the question as to where it was to be put up. It would simply have been madness to put away white troops in huts at the hot season of the year, although they were found to be admirably adapted to the requirements of the sepoys; the only barracks which existed were even then so overcrowded that two companies of the 9th Regiment were forced to occupy the huts at Kowloon. There was an old hulk in the harbour, the *Hercules*, which had hitherto served as a floating convalescent depot for the troops, but on being overhauled her bottom was reported to be so rotten that she was condemned as unsafe. It was a case of Hobson's choice, and the fever-haunted huts over on the Kowloon side were fixed upon, whilst the local authorities exerted themselves in running about the town and hiring, at an unavoidably exorbitant rate, everything in the shape of a house they could lay hands upon. Fortunately, trade in China being slack this year, merchants were only too glad to let their godowns and warehouses at their own price, wisely concluding that though British soldiers were not quite so remunerative as cotton bales or silk, they were better than nothing at all, especially as they had nothing to do with their packing, insurance, &c., &c., and could make what in "business" language is called a good squeeze out of Government. The regiment eventually shook down here and there, many betaking themselves to the hospital; but how far beneficial it has been to the rest of the garrison was difficult to say, as the burden of guards seemed to fall as heavy as ever. There were no less than 245 in the last return of patients in hospital, and those who were not stalked about wan and worn like spectres. It has been stated that this year Hong Kong is unusually unhealthy; but there can be no doubt as to the main cause of all this disaster. The climate during the hot season is too severe for European troops. Assisted by an Indian regiment, they may get through tolerably well; but unaided they cannot, and never will. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the authorities will lose no time in remedying the mischief which has been so painfully brought before them in every report that has been sent home. Even in a pecuniary point of view thousands of pounds have been lost; the expense of maintaining an Indian regiment is far less; the sepoys require less comforts, keep better health, and consequently are able to get through more work than the finest British regiment that ever landed in the station. The saving to Government of the difference between Indian and English allowances makes but a small item in the balance when it is thrown against an increased number of white troops, losses from death or invaliding, not to speak of the already mentioned barrack accommodation, which alone entails an extra expense of £20,000 per annum. The chief drawback to the sanitary improvements of our forces in China has been the want of some recruiting station on the same principle as "the Hills" in India. This has at last been procured in Japan. It now only remains to see whether the British Government will avail itself of such an excellent opportunity. Hong Kong is within easy access of this bracing climate, a matter of something under the week in an average steamer. A regiment consequently could be easily moved up and down once a year at a, comparatively speaking, trifling expense, the more so as our relations with China and Japan necessitate the keeping up of a large and expensive fleet, which as a rule remains inactive for many months in the year—which could easily afford detaching a vessel or two for a month, at the outside, out of the twelve, on such an expedition.

A CHINESE STATE DINNER.

The last mail from San Francisco brought accounts of a grand dinner given by the Chinese merchants. Colfac's tourist party were entertained at dinner while at San Francisco by the six companies of Chinese and the merchants' committee. The chairs and side tables were hung with scarlet coverings, embroidered with gold, and the dinner-tables adorned with fresh flowers in regular Oriental style. The dinner proper consisted of 336 dishes, forming 130 courses, and, divided, comprised three distinct sittings. At the first sitting the courses consisted of soups and almost numberless "made dishes," into the composition of which entered fish, flesh, fowl, and vegetable substances in a thousand forms undreamt of to French cooks and Caucasian housewives generally. The famous "bird-nest soup," which was pronounced delicious by all who partook of it, and a vast number of sweatmeats and preserves of different fruits, were included in these courses. No knives, forks, or spoons of our patterns were upon the tables at the first two sittings, chop-sticks and the short thick China spoons or scoops being what each guest was expected to help himself with. The efforts of the uninitiated guests to master the chop-sticks and convey the food to their mouths with them created a vast amount of amusement to the company, and sometimes not a little mortification to the most awkward of the party. Some of the guests soon got "the hang of the things," while others, after repeated failures, gave up the attempt, and contented themselves with spearing the morsels of food with a single stick, as an Esquimaux would harpoon a walrus, or a schoolboy impale an unlucky blue-bottle on a pin. Champagne, claret, and the finer qualities of Chinese rose-coloured wines were served in profusion with every course. At the last sitting fruit only was served, all the varieties in the market being included in the list. At the end of each sitting the tables were entirely cleared, and the company adjourned to the reception room to smoke and pass away the time until the next was announced. At the end of the first sitting the six presidents paid their formal compliments to Colfax and party, thanking them for their attendance, in Oriental style, through their interpreter, and receiving the thanks of their guests in return, and then took their leave according to the "statutes in such cases made and provided," and everywhere recognised as rules of action by the Chinese. A Chinese band was now introduced, and the guests were much amused and interested by their peculiar performance, until the tables were ready for the second sitting. During the second sitting a deputation of the merchants approached Colfax and Governor Bross, and presented their compliments, welcoming them to the feast, and expressing their appreciation of the honour done them by their presence. The gentlemen replied in short speeches, which were translated by the interpreter, and the merchants then retired. At the end of this sitting the company were entertained in the reception room with a Chinese historical recitative song, accompanied by the music of a full band; and six visiting cards conveying the compliments of the six companies were presented to Colfax "for his high consideration." At the end of the third and last sitting a committee of the companies again approached Colfax and party, and repeating the thanks for the honour of their company, expressed their regret at not being able to furnish a more sumptuous repast. Colfax returned thanks for the honour done himself and friends, and said he was unable to conceive of a possibility of a more sumptuous repast being provided. A general shaking of hands and exchange of compliments followed, and the company separated at 12 o'clock—the dinner having occupied a few minutes less than six hours.

THE SILK TRADE—FRANCE v. ENGLAND.

(To the Editor of The London and China Telegraph.)

SIR,—In continuation of my letter dated the 20th October, which you had the goodness to insert, I will now discuss the remaining part of the *Economist's* paragraph, which attracted my attention, viz., "According to all appearances, then, the English will retain possession of the silk trade in Asia, provided they do not act in such a way as to render this monopoly absolutely intolerable, in which case they would have to fear that the Government would make up for the lack of means and energy of merchants by, as the phrase goes, doing something itself."

The time has, I think, passed away in which the English can retain possession of the silk trade of Asia. The knell of this supremacy was sounded by the Treaty of 1860, which gave up to France the possession of the English market for manufactured silk goods. The home silk manufacture has been almost annihilated by it, and the Manchester men who so eagerly demanded the application of free trade to this tender exotic have probably suffered more severely from it than any other branch of the trade.

There can be no doubt of the fact, that it was the English home trade, which up to the year 1845 had nurtured the growth of our silk trade with

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China and India. Up to this time almost, the great Anglo-Asiatic commercial houses looked exclusively to the home trade for customers.

In those days, nobody heard of the French and Italians in the London market, except as *sellers* of continental grown silk, which was frequently so reasonable in price, and of such excellent quality and fineness of size, as to offer a very rude competition to importations from Asia.

All this is now changed, and the foreign manufacturers, say of France Germany, Switzerland, &c., who nearly up to 1845 had disdained the use of China and Bengal silks, have since then become clamorous for that Asiatic silk, the intrinsic worth of which had been gradually forcing itself upon their unwilling attention. In the meantime the Emperor of the French, with that prescience of the future which distinguishes so highly his motives of policy, had decreed that France should be enabled to offer all those commercial facilities which hitherto had almost exclusively belonged to England.

He found London the money market of the world, but he has already compelled her to cede some of this renown. London had her bonded warehouses and the dock warrants on which money could be borrowed. France, was without these vital aids to distant commerce. The Emperor determined that this should no longer be a reproach in his time, and forthwith imposing warehouses of the most solid construction, backed by every facility for the hypothecation of the contents, was the next lure by which the commerce of the Orient should be woed to the shores of France.

Though much had been done, it still remained for the key-stone to be put in the arch, and one day, the great subsidised steam mail lines of England learned that the French Emperor was determined to share with his ally the dominion of the ocean postal service. To guarantee to France the effectiveness of this costly advantage, a subvention, double that paid by England, was granted to the companies which boldly undertook to work out the Imperial views. The French mail packets now perform a through monthly service between Marseilles, India, China, and Japan, and the return cargoes can be landed and stored at Marseilles.

This produce can remain there free of expense for one clear month, during which the French manufacturers can take their pick (and do so), and the residue can then be forwarded free gratis to London. Such facilities were never offered by the great steam companies of England. Indeed, being without competitors in Eastern traffic, probably no occasion had arisen.

London being the only money market, and the British the only merchants of great repute in the Far East, the rich cargoes of India had to knock at the doors of the mail service, and ask the favour of being carried to Southampton.

The freight rates, though heavy, were seldom grumbled at, provided the Goliath Company kept faith, and did not leave the stuffs by the way, in order to make room for still better custom coming from elsewhere.

The Emperor of the French having thus consolidated, within his dominions the appliances required for the development of commerce with Asia, had not to wait long for satisfactory signs that the adventurous spirit lying dormant in the French people had at length been evoked. His joint expedition with the English to Peking was a master-stroke of policy, and the spoils of the Summer Palace awoke in France a determination to emancipate the commerce of the country for the dominating influence of any other nation.

During the last season of 1864-1865, the number of silk bales which passed through Shanghai to Europe was 51,612. Of this quantity above one-fifth was shipped by foreign houses, some of whom had only been recently established in China. In Japan, the proportion was still greater. Of the total shipments from there, at least one-fourth was effected by houses not English, and late advices point to the fact that the English commercial element could with difficulty encounter the fierce opposition of Continental buyers in the scramble for silk at the open ports.

To the writer it has been for some time a grave question how long the English can retain possession of the silk trade in Asia. Of one thing he has no doubt, viz., that his countrymen who have hitherto conducted the trade of the Far East have deserved well of Europe; but of their ability henceforth to maintain the position of pre-eminence hitherto enjoyed he must be permitted to doubt, now that the French, German, Italian, and Swiss elements have been so largely introduced into the East by means of the agencies called into action by the French Emperor.—I remain, Mr. Editor, your faithful servant,

KIOTO.

Macclesfield, Nov. 1, 1865.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Oct. 25	Falmouth	Manila	Vorsetzen	Solist.
—	Gironde	Singapore	Prophete	Mouy.
— 26	Deal	Colombo	Geelong	Findley.
— 26	Do.	Do.	Chatouanga	
— 12	Boston	Manila	Conquest	Lewis.
— 26	London	Colombo	Julia Augusta	Hopper.
— 27	Deal	Macao	Northfleet	Symington.
— 26	Falmouth	Bassein	Scandia (late Johnson)	
— 25	Liverpool	Shanghai	Laila Rookh	
— 26	Do.	Singapore	Richard Cobden	
— 26	Do.	Rangoon	Bosphorus	McNab.
—	Queenstown	Manilla	Mary Russell	
—	Nieuwe Diep	Sourabaya	Anglia	Wilson.
— 27	Deal	China	Wm. Melkaish	
— 27	Liverpool	Singapore	Christopher Newton	Menzies.
— 27	Do.	Shanghai	Chedgrove	Armstrong.
—	New York	Do.	Haversham	
—	Do.	Hong Kong	Prince	
— 27	Deal	Batavia	Charlotte	Lange.
— 29	Liverpool	Manila	Ruby Castle	
Sep. 25	Callao	Macao	Christina	
Oct. 30	Deal	Colombo	Isabella Atkinson	Atkinson.
— 18	New York	Hong Kong	Pudel	Kalkloser.
— 29	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Noord Brabant	Loos.
— 15	Halifax N.S.	Shanghai	Eva	Kidd.
Nov. 2	London	Colombo	Conqueror	Noel.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Oct. 22	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Sir Lancelott	McDougall.
— 23	Shields	Shanghai	Isabella	
— 24	Cardiff	Do.	Vanguard	Scott.
— 26	London	Do.	Burdwan	Douglas.
Sep. 23	Callao	Macao	Amalia	Bollo.
Oct. —	Rotterdam	Batavia	Jeanette and Cornelia.	
—	Do.	Do.	Dordrecht	Loos.
— 30	Shields	Galle	Neptune's Bride	
— 31	London	Colombo	East Lothian	Drysdale.
— 31	Do.	Do.	Frances	Higgs.
— 31	Do.	Penang	Devonvale	Brown.
—	Cronstadt	Amoor	Belle	Wayman.
Nov. 1	Shields	Shanghai	Prince of Wales	

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Eliza Shaw, Challenger. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Conference, Broadwater. For Shanghai: Flying Spur, Min, Taeping. For Hong Kong and Canton: Belted Will, Black Prince, Northfleet. For Singapore: Belle of Southesk Dovercourt, Queen of May. For Manila: Loyola. For Galle: Colombo, Dora. For Colombo and Cochin: Abdul Medjid. For Colombo: Crouch Brothers, Palestine, Frances Milly, Aso, Boyne, John Bright.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Eclipse. For Shanghai: Illimani, Tewkesbury. For Penang: Singapore. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Harkaway. For Manila: Alavesa, Eulalia. For Galle: Oneiza, Timsur.

At GLASGOW.—For Manila: Bella Gallega. For Batavia and Singapore: Helen Baird. For Singapore: Grenada.

SPOKEN.

CHARMER, Liverpool to Singapore, Oct. 12, 44 N., 10 W.
HOLYROOD (ship), from Nagasaki, Aug. 21 29 N., 123 E.
ST. LOUIS (French ship), Bordeaux to Cochin China, July 21, 37 S., 3 E.
ETHIOPIAN (ship), Shanghai to London, Aug. 24, with chief officer sick.
UNICORN, Singapore to London, July 25, in Malacca Straits.
HESPERIA (barque), Shanghai to New York, July 23, 2 S., 128 E.
ANDREAS (Bremen ship), Shanghai to New York, Sept. 1, 35 S., 25 E.
MONARCHY (ship). Cardiff to Shanghai, Sept. 27, 8 N., 25 W.
OSEPH WILLEM, Newcastle to Batavia, June 18, 28 N., 19 W.
REGINA MARIA, Amsterdam to Samarang, 35 N., 16 W.
WILHELMINA (Dutch barque), Bat. to Rotterdam, Sept. 2, 35 S., 21 E.
SIR B. GOLDSMIDT (?) (Dutch ship), Bat. to Rott., Oct. 12, 30 N., 36 W.
PRINZ VAN ORANGE (Dutch ship), for Hong Kong, Sept. 17, 5 N., 24 W.
SAUNDERSON, Sunderland to Galle, Sept. 27, 10 N., 27 W.
LANSDOWNE, London to Shanghai, Sept. 28, 11 N., 28 W.
PRINCE OF THE WEST (?), London to Hong Kong, Sept. 22, 2 N., 23 W.
SIR G. POLLOCK, Colombo to London, Sept. 18, 9 S., 13 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

In outward freights we have nothing of importance to remark. Homeward, business still continues much restricted.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 35s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £41 and £2. For Shanghai: £5 and £2. 10s. For Manila: 32s. 6d. to 35s. For Batavia: £30 and 27s. For Singapore: £32 and 30s. For Galle: £28 and 27s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 214 tons naval stores from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

CASUALTIES.

The Dordrecht, Loos, from Rotterdam for Batavia, put into Portsmouth Oct. 30, leaky.

The Jeannette, Cornelia, from Rotterdam for Batavia, was assisted into Ramsgate Oct. 31, having slipped from an anchor and chain to avoid collision.

Advices from Helsingfors under date 24th Oct. state that the Bedford, Natrass, from Cronstadt to the Amoor, which capsized W.S.W. of Porkala on the 20th Oct., and afterwards drifted on Gasansudd, had struck on the Soderska rocks; part of her cargo has been saved, and endeavours are being made to get the ship off and tow her into harbour.

The Kew Kee, Fuller, from Liverpool for Shanghai, which sailed from Rio Janeiro 23rd Sept., after repairing, put back Oct. 6, the master declaring that the ship has "not the necessary nautical qualities for the voyage."

MISCELLANEOUS.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

China:—West Coast of Formosa.—Reported Danger in Fermosa Channel.

Information has been received at the Admiralty that Capt. Richer, of the French ship Immaculate Conception, recently arrived at Havre, when navigating the Channel between the Pescadores Islands and the West Coast of Formosa, saw an extensive line of high breakers in about lat. 23.45.50 N., lon. 120.2.20 East of Greenwich.

Vessels navigating this channel should do so with caution, for there is still a large extent of ground not sounded over, and a doubtful danger is marked on the Admiralty chart at 11 miles west of the position of the above breakers.

This notice affects the following Admiralty Charts:—Formosa Island, No. 1,968; China, general, No. 1,262, and China, East coast, sheet 4, No. 1,760.

Loading at Chinchas: Sept. 18, for China, Hortense Dusautoy and Antonia.

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THE NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY.

(ESTABLISHED 1st JANUARY, 1863.)

CAPITAL, TAELS 1,250,000, IN 250 SHARES OF TAELS 5,000 EACH.

Paid up Capital, Taels 1,000 per Share.

DIRECTORS.

L. G. DUNLOP, Esq. (Messrs. Birley, Worthington, and Co.), Chairman.

E. H. Lavers, Esq. (Messrs. Gilman and Co.).

Sol. D. Sassoon, Esq. (Messrs. David Sassoon, Sons, and Co.).

H. Howe Wiggins, Esq. (Manager Commercial Bank Corporation of India and the East).

David Reid, Esq. (Messrs. Reid and Co.)

The Company being about to be reorganised for a further term of three years, from 1st January, 1866, application for Shares will be received by the undersigned until 31st October current.

A certain number of Shares have been allotted to London, but further applications from there will be received until 30th November.

Application for Shares, from persons not resident in Shanghai, must be accompanied by Power of Attorney to their Agents, to sign the Deed of Settlement on their behalf, and generally to represent them in all matters connected with the Company.

By order of the Directors,

J. S. MACKINTOSH, Secretary.

Shanghai, July 12, 1865.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

No.

TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY.

Gentlemen,— hereby request you will allot to Shares in the above Company, and agree to accept such Shares, or any less number you may allot to ; and agree to pay the first call of Tls. 1,000 per Share, and all subsequent calls, and to subscribe the Deed of Settlement whenever required to do so.

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant.

Application for the Shares allotted to London must be made to—

ASHTON AND CO.,

AGENTS,

HATTON-COURT, THREADNEEDLE-STREET.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England.

The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)

Branches and Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo Kandy, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Point de Galle, Manila, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow, Nagasaki, and Kiu-kiang.

Deposits received at ten days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed period, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued and Bills negotiated payable in India China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay. pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government loan notes effected so that the interest may be paid in England. Every other description of Banking and Agency business in connection with India, China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

THE CHINA TRADERS' MARINE INSURANCE SOCIETY OF HONG KONG (Limited).

CAPITAL, 1,000,000 dols.

In 200 Shares of 5,000 dols. each. 1,000 dols. per Share Paid up.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

William Neilson, Esq. (Messrs. Olyphant and Co.)

J. W. Mackellan, Esq. (Manager Commercial Bank Corporation.

Richard Deacon, Esq. (Messrs. John Burd and Co.)

GENERAL AGENTS.

Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co.

The Allotment of Shares will take place on the 3rd day of October next, and further Applications for Shares will be received until the 3rd of October next.

Application to be made in the form given below, and addressed to the General Agents, from whom any information can be obtained.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To the General Agents of the China Traders' Marine Insurance Society of Hong Kong (Limited).

Gentlemen,—I hereby request that the Committee will allot to me shares in the above Company, and I agree to accept such shares, or any less number which may be allotted to me, and to pay the first call of One thousand Dollars per Share, and further calls to such amount and at such times and in such manner as may be authorised by the Articles of Association of the said Company, and to subscribe the Articles of Association when called on to do so.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obdient Servant.

Hong Kong, Sept. 7, 1865.

PORT OF AMOY.

SHIPOWNERS, AGENTS and COMMANDERS are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING and SPARRING VESSELS, and for CLEANING and PAINTING Iron and Steam Ships.

Their large Granite Dock, 280 feet long on the blocks, is in complete working order, and at average spring tides can take vessels drawing 16 to 17 feet water. The Dock is fitted with a Caisson Gate and with a Centrifugal Steam Pump of great power ensuring despatch in all states of the tide. An ample stock is kept on hand of Timber, Oregon Spars, Sheathing Copper and Yellow Metal, and of every description of material for Dockyard use.

The premises comprise an Engineer's Workshop, Brass Foundry, a large Smithy and Carpenter's Workshops, and the works are superintended by Resident Europeans, viz., a Shipwright, an Engineer, and a Blacksmith. Dry Godowns for the reception of vessel's stores, &c., when requiring to discharge them.

Amoy, March, 1865.

ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.—

Incorporated by Royal Charter. Authorised Capital, £2,000,000. Paid-up Capital, £500,000.

Head Office—No. 4, Lombard-street.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Melbourne.

The Corporation grant drafts and negotiate bills of exchange payable at the above places, issue letters of credit, and conduct every description of banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian securities, the receipt of dividends, &c., and undertake the safe custody of securities. They also receive deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of interest and exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

THE CHINESE COMMERCIAL GUIDE.

CONTAINING Treaties, Tariffs Regulations, Tables, &c., useful in the trade of China and Eastern Asia, with an Appendix of Sailing Directions for those Seas and Coasts, by S. WELLS WILLIAMS, LL.D Fifth Edition.

Hong Kong, SHORTREDE and Co.; London Agent, F. ALGAR, 11, Clement's-lane, E.C. Price Two Guineas.

TUPPER AND COMPANY.

MANUFACTURERS OF PATENT GALVANISED IRON, in Sheets, Tiles, Iron Roofs Sheds, Cisterns, Pails, Gutters, Wire for Fencing, &c.

WORKS AT BIRMINGHAM AND LONDON.

OFFICES: 61A, MOORGATE STREET, LONDON.

Merchants' orders executed with despatch.

DYSENTERY, CHOLERA, FEVER, AGUE, ETC.

CHLORODYNE.

CAUTION.—*Vice-Chancellor Wood affirmed in Court that Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE was undoubtedly the Discoverer of Chlorodyne; that the statements of the Defendant Freeman were deliberately untrue, and he regretted to say they had been sworn to (see "The Times" of July 13, 1864); all others must be spurious.*

Earl Russell has graciously favoured J. T. Davenport with the following extract of a despatch from Mr. Webb, H.B.M.'s Consul at Manila, dated Sept. 17, 1864:—"The remedy most efficacious in its effects (in Epidemic Cholera) has been found to be CHLORODYNE, and with a small quantity given to me by Dr. Burke I have saved several lives." Earl Russell communicated to the College of Physicians that he had received a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Manila, to the effect that Cholera had been raging fearfully, and that the ONLY remedy of any service was CHLORODYNE.—See *Lancet*, December 31, 1864. No home should be without it.

Eminent Hospital Physicians of London stated on oath that they prescribe CHLORODYNE largely, and mean no other than Dr. Browne's.

The General Board of Health, London, state as to its efficacy in Cholera and Dysentery:—"So strongly are we convinced of the efficacy of this remedy, that we cannot too forcibly urge the necessity of adopting it in all cases."

From A. Montgomery, Esq., late Inspector of Hospitals, Bombay:—"Chlorodyne is a most valuable remedy in Neuralgia, Asthma, and Dysentery. To it I fairly owe my restoration to health, after eighteen months' severe suffering, and when all other medicine had failed."

From W. Vesalius Pettigrew, M.D.:—"I have no hesitation in stating that I have never met with any medicine so efficacious as an antispasmodic and sedative. I have used it in Consumption, Asthma, Diarrhœa, and other diseases, and am most perfectly satisfied with the results."

Dr. M'Grigor Croft, late Army Staff, says:—"It is a most valuable medicine."

Dr. Gibson, Army Medical Staff, Calcutta:—"Two doses completely cured me of Diarrhœa"

Government supply both the Army and Navy with it. A Sheet of Medical Testimonials accompanies each Bottle.

Sold in Bottles, 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d., by all Chemists. None genuine without the words "DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE" on the stamp.

SOLE MANUFACTURER:—

J. T. DAVENPORT, 33, GREAT RUSSELL-STREET, LONDON, W.C.

Be not misled by the statements of unscrupulous persons, as the Defendant was termed by the Vice-Chancellor

THE CAPE, INDIA, AND CHINA AGENCY.

ORDERS for GOODS of all descriptions executed, and Shipped by the Overland Route or by Clipper Sailing Vessels. Consignments of Produce realised. The Goods are selected by parties who have had personal experience of the requirements of the markets at the

CAPE COLONIES, INDIA, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

TERMS:—One-half the estimated cost to be remitted with the order, and the balance on receipt of Bill of Lading and Invoice.

Commission, 2½ per cent. on Orders over £50, and 5 per cent. on amounts under £50

Orders and remittances should be addressed to the MANAGER.

Office, 12, George-yard, Lombard-street, London, E.C.

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THE HOUSEHOLD PATENTS COMPANY (Limited).

To be Incorporated under "The Companies' Act, 1862." by which the Liability is Limited to the extent of Shares taken.

Capital, £100,000, in 50,000 Shares of £2 each.

First Issue, 25,000 Shares.

5s. to be paid on Application, 5s. on Allotment; no Call will exceed 5s., nor will any Calls be made at less intervals than Three Months.

Fully Paid-up Shares will be Issued to those who prefer them.

Should no Allotment be Made, the Deposit will be Returned in Full.

DIRECTORS.

Colonel Onseley, Gloucester-place, Hyde-park.
George Warriner, Esq., Little Ilford, Essex; late Inspector of Culinary Arrangements to the Army.
Robert S. Craig, Esq., 8, Austin-friars; Director of the Financial Discount Company.
Captain C. M. Layton, Glasbury-house, Hereford; Director of the Brecon and Merthyr Tydfil Railway Company.
Marshall Hall, Esq., 3, Cleveland-terrace, Hyde-park, Barrister-at-Law.

(With power to add to their number.)

BANKERS.

The Union Bank of London, Princes-street.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Mercer and Mercer, Mincing-lane.

CONSULTING ARCHITECT.

John Ellis, Esq., Austin-friars.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. Johnstone, Cooper, Wintle, & Evans, 3, Coleman-street-buildings.

SECRETARY (pro tem.).

G. S. Ullathorne, Esq.

TEMPORARY OFFICES.

9, Mincing-lane, London.

PROSPECTUS.

This Company is established for the manufacture and sale of articles chiefly of domestic use, and mostly protected by Patents, and will comprise within its operations —Improvements in the construction of dwellings, and in their lighting, ventilation, and drainage; the preparation of all descriptions of food; the manufacture and economical use of fuel; and the most recent improvements in kitchen and other household furniture.

The Company will also assist inventors, by procuring patents for them—by purchasing the right of selling their inventions—or by selling the inventions and paying the patentees a royalty—and in other ways generally promote their interests, and develope ingenuity, which in many instances is hidden from the want of means to make it known.

The Directors have already secured the nucleus of a business which promises to be very profitable, having provisionally purchased the exclusive right to a new system of preparing American and Australian beef and mutton, so that it becomes as easily cooked and as palatable as fresh meat; also to a newly-invented Portable Roasting Oven, which will economise half the fuel now used; to an Improved Portable Romford Boiler, adapted for the army, navy, and private use; and to a newly-invented Stone Stewpan, and a Cooking Range.

Besides the above there are several valuable patents offered to the Company, and as soon as it is formed, the merits of these will be duly considered, and if found desirable will be acquired by the Company. In the meantime those already acquired will produce immediate returns.

To show the value of the first of these patents, the Directors need hardly allude to the disease in cattle, and consequent dearness of meat, which is likely to cause much distress among the poor this winter, and for some time to come; the Company will shortly be enabled to sell at a low rate, still leaving a very large profit to the Company, 28 lb. boxes of beef and mutton prepared as a wholesome and palatable food without bone; and as each piece of meat will be carefully and separately examined, there will be no risk of bad meat being sold. It is a preparation invented by Mr. Warriner, who, as instructor of Cookery to the Army, has had full means of testing its value, which is 15% per cent. more than ordinary English Beef.

The Directors deem it most advisable for the present not to manufacture all the various articles, but to contract with manufacturers to supply those which they deem inexpedient to make themselves.

The Memorandum and Articles of Association, which comprise all the intended operations of the Company, can be seen at the Solicitors' and the Offices of the Company.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR ORDINARY SHARES.

To the Directors of the Household Patents Company (Limited).

Gentlemen,—Having paid to your Bankers the sum of £ , being a deposit of 5s. per Share on Shares in the above Company, I hereby request you to allot me that number, and I hereby agree to accept such Shares, or any less number you may allot to me, and to pay a further sum of 5s. per Share on every Share which may be allotted to me within fourteen days from the date of allotment, together with all future calls thereon; and I authorise you to place my name on the Register of Members for the number of Shares so allotted to me; and I agree to sign the Articles of Association of the Company when required. I further authorise you to forward by post to my address as below the certificate for any Shares which may be allotted to me.

Usual Signature .....
Name in full.....
Residence.....
Profession or Occupation.....
Date .....1865.

HOUSEHOLD PATENTS COMPANY, (Limited).

The Directors are now prepared to Treat with Inventors for the Purchase of Working or their Inventions.—9, Mincing-lane, London, London, E.C.

HOUSEHOLD PATENTS COMPANY (Limited).

The Directors are now prepared to receive Applications from respectable Persons desirous of being Agents to the Company.—9, Mincing-lane, E.C.

T. & H. SMITH'S

CORDEIA LOZENGES.

THESE Lozenges have a remarkable effect in allaying Cough and Irritation of the Throat and Chest.

Prepared only by T. and H. SMITH and Co., 21, DUKE-STREET, EDINBURGH, and 69, COLEMAN-STREET, LONDON. In boxes at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. each.

RENOWNED FOR HIS SPECIAL PREPARATIONS FROM THE FAMOUS VIOLETS OF PARMA.

ESSENCE OF VIOLETS FOR THE HANDKERCHIEF.
VIOLET POMADE LIQUEFIED.
EMOLLIENT VIOLE SOAP.
SUPERFINE VIOLET POWDER.
EAU DE TOILETTE, STRAWBERRY AND VIOLET, COLD CREAM; EAU DE LAVANDE AMBREE PERFUMED OILS, &c.

A LA CORBEILLE DE FLEURS.

TRADE MARK.

ARTICLES SPECIALLY RECOMMENDED.

EXTRACT OF VERBINA FOR THE TOILET.
EAU DE COLOGNE, EXTRA STRONG.
EXQUISITE SCENTS FOR THE HANDKERCHIEF.
HYGIENIC ELIXIR FOR THE MOUTH.
SUPERFINE MILK OF LETTUCE SOAP.
EMOLLIENT POMADE FOR PRESERVING AND BEAUTIFYING THE HAIR.

SUPERFINE PERFUMERY & TOILET SOAPS.

ED. PINAUD, CHEMIST-PERFUMER, Rue St. Martin, No. 298. PARIS.

ED. PINAUD, whose House we specially recommend, is distinguished by the strictly hygienic and tonic quality of his productions, and for this reason his articles are in high favour with the *beau monde*.

HIS Establishment is the only one of its kind in which the recent Discoveries in Chemistry and the Arts have been put into practice. The proof is that ED. PINAUD obtained the Medal at the last London Exhibition.

The Productions of this House may be obtained at the Chief Perfumers in France and Abroad.

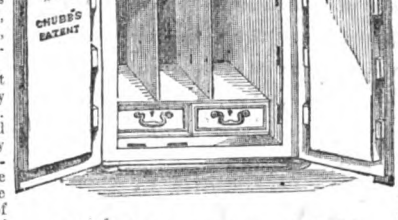
CHUBB and SON.—" For perfection of workmanship and construction of Locks also for the manufacture of Iron Safes."

Prize Medal awarded, International Exhibition, 1862.

CHUBBS PATENT DETECTOR LOCKS.—The most secure from picklocks and false keys, are strong, simple, and durable, and made of all sizes and for every purpose to which a lock can be applied.

Cash, Deed, and Paper Boxes of all sizes, Travelling Bags, Letter Bags, Writing Boxes, and Desks, all with the DETECTOR LOCKS.

It will be observed that no locks of inferior quality are made by Chubb and Son. The whole of their locks sold to the public at large are exactly the same in security and excellence of workmanship as those supplied to Her Majesty, the Government offices, the Bank of England, Stock Exchange, and other public establishments.



CHUBB AND SON,

CHUBBS PATENT SAFES afford the greatest ecurity from fire or burglars They are constructed in the best manner of strong wrought iron, and lined with the best known fire-resisting and non-conducting composition.

The doors are all secured by CHUBB'S PATENT DRILL-PREVENTIVE and their Patent Gunpowder-proof Locks.

Complete Illustrated Priced Lists of CHUBB'S Locks, Boxes Safes, and other Manufactures, will be sent gratis and post-free to any part of the world.

Makers to the Queen, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and the Bank of England

57, ST. PAUL'S CHURCHYARD, LONDON, E.C.

WALKER'S CRYSTAL CASE WATCHES.

PRIZE MEDAL, 1862.

JOHN WALKER,

CHRONOMETER, WATCH AND CLOCK MAKER

(BY APPOINTMENT), TO THE

English, Indian, Foreign, and Colonial Railways,

68, CORNHILL, AND 230, REGENT STREET, LONDON.

J. W. SOLICITS the attention of Military and Naval Officers and the Public of China to his CRYSTAL CASE WATCHES, as they are especially adapted for foreign use.

The CRYSTAL CASE WATCH is so constructed that it entirely obviates the necessity of a Hunting Case Watch, as it is much stronger and cannot so easily get out of repair. Description Pamphlets with List of Prices on application.

BASS AND CO.'S INDIA PALE ALE.

BARCLAY, PERKINS, AND CO.'S STOUT,

STRONG BURTON AND EDINBORO' ALES AND GUINNESS'S STOUT

In Cask and Bottle, in the best condition for Exportation.

AGENTS:

M. F. WHITE AND CO.,

Export Wine and Spirit Merchants,

16, JOHN STREET, MINORIES, LONDON.

EXPORT BOTTLING STORES—3, JOINER-STREET, TOOLEY-STREET.

WEST-END BRANCH—71, SLOANE-STREET, BELGRAVIA.

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THE CREDIT FONCIER AND MOBILIER OF ENGLAND

(LIMITED).

ISSUE of 100,000 NEW SHARES of £20 each, on which £5 per Share will be called up by instalments; no further call being contemplated. The issue will be made as follows:—50,000 Shares will be allotted to the present Shareholders, and 50,000 Shares will be allotted to the General Public. When the above issue is completed,

The Subscribed Capital will consist of 200,000 Shares of £20 each	**£4,000,000**
The Paid-up Capital	**1,000,000**
The General Reserve Fund	**500,000**
The Dividend Reserve Fund	**100,000**

Directors.

The Right Hon. JAMES STUART WORTLEY, Governor.
JAMES LEVICK, Esq., Merchant, King's Arms-yard, Deputy-Governor.
JAMES NUGENT DANIELL, Esq., Deputy-Governor.
JAMES CHILD, Esq., London.
WILLIAM DENT, Sen., Esq., Chairman of the Thames and Mersey Marine Insurance Company.
ALEXANDER DUNBAR, Esq., Old Broad-street, London.
CHARLES ELLIS, Esq., Lloyd's.
ADOLPHE HAKIM, Esq., Cornhill, London.
WILLIAM HARRISON, Esq. (Messrs. Young, Harrison, and Bevan), Deputy-Chairman of the Thames and Mersey Marine Insurance Company.
CHARLES E. NEWBON, Esq., London.
ALBERT GRANT, Esq., M.P., Managing Director.
RICHARD STUART LANE, Esq., Old Broad-street, London.
HENRY POWNALL, Esq., J.P., Russell-square, London
JOSEPH MACKRILL SMITH, Esq. (Messrs. Mackrill, Smith, and Co.), Old Broad-street, London.
EDWARD WARNER, Esq., M.P., London.
JAMES WHITE, Esq., M.P., London.

Bankers.

The AGRA AND MASTERMAN'S BANK (Limited). Messrs. SMITH, PAYNE, and SMITHS.
The NATIONAL BANK, London, Dublin, and its Branches in Ireland.
The NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND, Edinburgh, and its Branches in Scotland.

Solicitors.—Messrs. NEWBON, EVANS, and Co., Nicholas-lane, E.C.

Brokers.

Messrs. LAURENCE, SON, and PEARCE, 7, Angel-court, Throgmorton-street, E.C., London.
Messrs. HORSFALL and PENNY, Liverpool.
Messrs. TOD and ASHTON, Liverpool.
Messrs. SHORE and KIRK, Manchester.

Secretary.—ALFRED LOWE, Esq.

OFFICES—17 and 18 CORNHILL, E.C.

PROSPECTUS.

The marked success which has attended the operations of the Credit Foncier and Mobilier of England (Limited) is almost unexampled in the history of any commercial undertaking.

The results of its operations have been so satisfactory that, as will be seen by the half-yearly report just issued, a dividend and bonus, up to the 30th September, at the rate of 40 per cent. per annum, has been declared, being the same dividend and bonus as was paid for the previous half-year.

Besides these unprecedented results, the Company is in the possession, up to 30th September, of a general reserve fund of £200,000, of a dividend reserve fund of £100,000, and has profits in hand up to the same period, after paying the above-mentioned dividend and bonus, of £50,805. 4s. 9d., the paid-up capital being £500,000, making in all £850,805. 4s. 9d., or above £8. 10s. per share.

The following is the business transacted by this Company:—

This Company negotiates Loans for Colonial and Foreign Governments.
Co-operates in the financial arrangements of British and other Railways.
Makes advances to Corporations, Town Councils, and other public bodies.
Negotiates Loans for Public Works.
Assists in the introduction of Industrial and Commercial Undertakings.
Makes advances upon approved Stocks, Shares, Bonds, &c,
Makes temporary loans upon eligible freehold and leasehold securities, and generally transacts such other financial business as is suitable to the capitalist, whether as principal or agent.

The greatly increased and still increasing amount of business offered to this Company, both by eminent private firms, companies, and corporations, has decided the Court of Directors to make their second issue of shares, by allotting the remaining capital of the Company, consisting of 100,000 new shares, on which £5 per share only is intended to be called up.

These 100,000 new shares the Directors propose to issue as follows, viz.:

50,000 shares will be issued to the shareholders in this Company who stand registered on the books of the Company, to be allotted to them at a premium of £2. 10s. per share, in the proportion of one new share for every two shares now held; and

50,000 shares will be issued to the general public (including such shareholders as may wish to apply for shares in addition to those they are entitled to as shareholders), to be allotted at a premium of £3. 10s. per share.

The premiums to be received upon this issue will amount to £300,000, which will be added to the £200,000 already standing at the credit of the general reserve fund, and will thus increase that fund to £500,000. The dividend reserve fund being £100,000, the paid-up capital will then be £1,000,000.

The new Shares will be paid up as follows:—

On those issued at £2. 10s. per Share premium to the Shareholders:—

£1 0 0	per share on application; being on capital account.
1 10 0	per share on allotment; £1 being on capital account, 10s. on premium account.
2 10 0	per share on 1st January, 1866; £1. 10s. being on capital account, £1 on premium account.
2 10 0	per share on 1st March, 1866; £1. 10s. being on capital account, £1 on premium account.
£7 10 0	being £5 capital, £2. 10s. premium.

On those shares issued at £3. 10s. per share premium to the general public, the following will be the mode of payment:—

£1 0 0	per share on application; being on capital account.
2 10 0	per share on allotment; £1 being on capital account, £1. 10s. on premium account.
2 10 0	per share on 1st January, 1866; £1. 10s. being on capital account, £1 on premium account.
2 10 0	per share on 1st March, 1866; £1. 10s. being on capital account, £1 on premium account.
£8 10 0	being £5 capital, £3. 10s. premium.

These 100,000 new shares will participate in the next distribution of profits, pro rata with the existing shares, according to the amount of capital paid up thereon; the valuable option will be, however, reserved to the holders of these shares of paying upon any of them the whole of the above instalments at any time previous to the date of the last instalment, viz., 1st March, 1866, on paying the Company back interest from the date of such payment to 30th September last, at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum on the £5 on capital account; the shares so paid up to be then entitled to the same amount of profits next half-year as is declared on the existing shares.

Interest at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum will be charged on all instalments not punctually paid; and any instalment not duly paid will render the previous payments liable to forfeiture.

The Directors are aware that in thus admitting the public to subscribe for shares at a price so much below their real value they are departing from the practice generally adopted in an issue of new shares, of offering the whole of them to the shareholders; but the Directors are so impressed with the importance of increasing the area of influence of this Company—influence second only in importance to capital to a Company like the Credit Foncierd and Mobilier of England—and have had such proofs in the result of the issue of shares a year ago of the sound policy of admitting the public to a participation in such issue, that they feel confident of obtaining the approval of the shareholders in the course they have adopted.

The following calculation will guide investors in estimating the intrinsic value of the shares, after the dividend and bonus now declared are paid, and when the issue is completed:—

The capital paid up will amount to	£1,000,000	0	0
The General Reserve Fund ...	500,000	0	0
The Dividend Reserve Fund...	100,000	0	0
In hand, profits not divided ...	50,805	4	9
	£1,650,805	4	9

Equal to above £8. 5s. per share on the whole 200,000 shares.

So that the public, on subscribing at £8. 10s. per share (being £5 capital and £3. 10s. premium), are being admitted partners in this Company by only paying 5s. per share premium, as premium; £8. 5s. per share being actually represented in value in the assets of the Company. Over and above these advantages, there is the probable enhanced value which will attach to these shares, in the same way that the shares issued to the public at £2. 15s. 4d. premium in September, 1864, after having received £1 per share in April last as dividend and bonus, are now worth £5. 5s. per share premium, making together £6. 5s. for what they paid £2. 15s. 4d. for, being in one year more than 140 per cent. increase in value on the amount paid for premium.

The Directors feel that with a paid-up capital of £1,000,000, a general reserve fund of £500,000, a dividend reserve fund of £100,000, making a total of £1,600,000, they will be in a position to meet the exigencies of any business that may be brought before them; it is, however, the intention of the Directors to increase, out of future profits, the dividend reserve fund to £200,000, being in accordance with the plan announced in the last report, to have always in hand one year's minimum dividend at 20 per cent. per annum, calculated on the amount of the capital paid-up for the time being.

The Directors further wish to place on record their deliberate opinion and conviction that this Company is destined in a very short period to take a foremost place among the leading monetary institutions of the country.

Applications for shares may be made in the form annexed, and must be accompanied by the payment of £1 per share. Should a less number be allotted than is applied for, the sum paid on account of such application will, so far as it will extend, be applied in payment of the sum due on allotment.

Prospectuses, forms of application for shares, and copies of the half-yearly report, just published, may be had on application to the Bankers, Solicitors, Stock Brokers, or of the Secretary at the Offices of the Company, 17 and 18, Cornhill, E.C.

The lists of application for shares will be closed on Thursday, the 2nd November, at 4 o'clock, for London, and on Friday, the 3rd November, at 12 o'clock, for country applications, before the expiration of which time all applications must be made.

London, October 20, 1865.

Form C.—General Public.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To be retained by the Bankers.

No

To the Directors of the Credit Foncier and Mobilier of England (Limited).

Gentlemen,—Having paid to your bankers* the sum of £ being a deposit on £1 per share on New Shares in The Credit Foncier and Mobilier of England (Limited), I hereby request that you will allot me that number, and I agree to accept such shares, or any less number you may allot to me, on the terms of the prospectus, at £3. 10s. premium per share, and I agree to pay the amount due on allotment, and the other instalments as they become due, to sign the Articles of Association if required, and I authorise you to insert my name on the register of members for the number of shares so allotted to me.

Usual signature .....
Name in full .....
Residence .....
Profession .....
Date ..... 1865.

*Insert bankers' names.

THE CREDIT FONCIER and MOBILIER of ENGLAND (Limited).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the LISTS of APPLICATION for the NEW SHARES in this Company will be CLOSED on THURSDAY, the 2nd November, at Four o'clock, for London, and on FRIDAY, the 3rd November, at Twelve o'clock, for Country applications, before the expiration of which time all applications must be made. By order,

ALFRED LOWE, Secretary.

17 and 18, Cornhill, London, Oct. 24, 1865.

THE CREDIT FONCIER and MOBILIER of ENGLAND (Limited).

At a MEETING of the Shareholders of this Company, held THIS DAY (Tuesday), the 24th October, 1865, at 11 o'clock A.M.,

The Right Honourable JAMES STUART WORTLEY, Governor, in the Chair,

It was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously:—

That the Balance-sheet and Report be, and are hereby approved, confirmed, and adopted.

It was also proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously:—

That the best thanks of this Meeting are due, and are hereby given, to the Governor, Deputy-Governors, and Directors, for the great care and attention they have given to the interests of the shareholders, and for the extremely satisfactory results which have arisen therefrom.

It was also proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously:

That the cordial thanks of this meeting are eminently due, and are hereby offered, to Albert Grant, Esq., M.P., the managing director, for the talent displayed by him in the administration of the affairs of the Company.

It was futher proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously:

That the thanks of this meeting be given to Alfred Lowe, Esq., Secretary, for his unvarying attention; and to him and the other officers of the Company for their industry and zeal during the past half-year.—By order of the Court of Directors,

J. STUART WORTLEY, Governor.
ALFRED LOWE, Secretary.

17 and 18, Cornhill, London, Oct. 24, 1865.

THE CREDIT FONCIER AND MOBILIER OF ENGLAND (LIMITED).

The PROSPECTUS and FORMS of APPLICATION for the SHARES of the NEW ISSUE of CAPITAL of this Company are NOW READY, and, as well as copies of the Half-Yearly Report and Balance-sheet, can be obtained at the Company's Offices.

17 and 18, Cornhill, London, Oct. 24, 1865.

ALFRED LOWE, Secretary.

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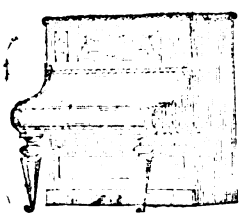
SOUTHAMPTON,

IMMEDIATELY OPPOSITE THE RAILWAY TERMINUS AND DOCKS

THIS FIRST-CLASS HOTEL, so well-known to most Travellers from the East and West Indies, China, the United States, Brazils, &c., is admirably situated for their convenience, Mr. RADLEY having, by careful organisation, made those arrangements that have tended so much to establish its reputation.

Mr. R. employs no touters or paid agents, but his Porters are always in attendance to meet passengers on arrival, with carriages, &c., as usual. Rooms may be engaged by letter from Malta.

TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND INDIA.



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PERFUMERY and POMATUMS of every description made expressly for Foreign Climates.

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RIMMEL'S
EXTRACT OF LIME JUICE AND GLYCERINE,
Which cleanses and cools the head, and gives the hair a beautiful gloss, without greasing it.

RIMMEL'S TOILET VINEGAR
Will also be found a perfect luxury as an adjunct to the Toilet and Bath, and a reviving Perfume.

RIMMEL'S PERFUME FOUNTAIN,
An elegant ornament for the Drawing-Room, Ball-Room, Dining Table, &c.
Price from £1. 10s.

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Perfumer by Appointment to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, 96, Strand;
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Sold by all Perfumery Dealers.

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THE largest STOCK of MANUFACTURED MARBLE, STONE, and GRANITE in Europe on view at the BRITISH AND FOREIGN MARBLE GALLERIES, WARWICK HOUSE, 142 AND 144, REGENT-STREET.

Manufactories—Carrara, Brussels, Peterhead, and 17, Newman-street, London.

W. H. BURKE and CO., Proprietors.
SOLE AGENTS FOR THE INVERNETTIE GRANITE COMPANY.

HUBBUCK'S PATENT WHITE ZINC PAINT.

THE most durable and beautiful paint known, is cheaper than White Lead, and is proved to be superior for all purposes than the pernicious Lead Paint, and equally adapted for all climates.

Its whiteness is unaffected by bilge water, boiling sugar, or noxious gases.

It is free from any poisonous ingredient, and suited in all respects to the use of the painter.

Each Cask of Pure White Zinc is Stamped "HUBBUCK, LONDON PATENT."

Inferior Zinc Paint, so marked, having been sold in Foreign Markets, the Patentees offer a Reward of FIFTY POUNDS for information which will lead to the conviction, in an English or Colonial Court, of those who have pirated their Mark. Both Exporters and Retailers are liable for its sale.

THOMAS HUBBUCK AND SON,
WHITE LEAD, OIL, PAINT, AND VARNISH WORKS,
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Are very durable, and the most valuable protection to Iron Roofs, Bridges, Piers, Ships and Buildings, exposed to stormy weather and scorching sun; they soon become extremely hard, and do not blister.

They are made of Stone, Slate, Copper, White, Blue, Green, or any other Colour that is desired.

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For Coating Iron and Wood Ships' Bottoms; a preservative against fouling and corrosion. This Composition is ready for immediate use, and obviates the waste of carrying unmixed Paints, Oils, Driers, &c. It is also applicable to all the purposes of other Paints.

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less colour than Raw Linseed Oil, is a quick, hard and certain drier for White and Light Coloured Paints.

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THIS Vegetable Syrup, prepared and guaranteed genuine by the signature of Dr. GIRAUDEAU DE ST. GERVAIS, is very superior to the purifying syrups. It effects a radical cure, without mercury, in all affections of the skin, scurf, scrofula, &c., and symptoms arising from the acrid state of the humours. The Rob is especially valuable in diseases which have resisted the effect of mercury or iodide of potash. The general entrepot of 12, RUE RICHER, PARIS.

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Price 7½d. per doz. Bottlers contracting for large quantities effect so great a saving in labour, &c., that they can supply them at one-fourth less in price to Shippers, who will find it most profitable to order their goods to be so packed in future. In use by all the leading London houses.—T. WHITEHEAD, 37, EASTCHEAP, E.C. Sole Manufacturer.

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Close to the Landing Place. Depot of
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WINE, BEER, CHAMPAGNE, and SPIRITS of the best quality. Bombay-made Soda Water and Lemonade. Perfumery, Confectionery, Oilman's Stores, and Stationery of every description. Sola Topees and Canvas Shoes, &c., &c., &c.

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Drawing and Reading-room free to Passengers.

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THE GROSS FRAUDS which continue to be practised by obscure manufacturers, more particularly in Germany, by imitating the Labels attached to JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s PERFUMERY, render it imperative upon the Proprietors to Caution the public against such nefarious proceedings, and to request their friends and patrons to purchase only of respectable dealers, who import direct from JOHN GOSNELL and Co., and invite special attention to the address, 12, THREE KING-COURT, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

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JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Prince of Wales Perfume

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Princess Alexandra Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Pomade.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Soap.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Real Old Brown Windsor Soap.

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JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Stereodesmic or Dentists, Tooth Brushes and Trichosaron Hair Brushes, warranted to purchasers.

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ROBERTSON and CO. will despatch the following first-class VESSELS to their respective destinations. They are well adapted for their several trades, and are confidently recommended to their friends:—

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Manila	Loyola ...	W.I.D.	W[illegible]es.
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Ditto ...	Guinevere ...	A 1 10 yr.	E.I.D.	To follow.
Kanagawa and Yokohama ...	Eliza Shaw...	A 1 15 yr.	E.I.D.	With des.
Ditto ...	Challenger ...	A 1 12 yr.	E.I.D.	With des.
Singapore ...	Queen of May	A 1 13 yr.	W.I.D.	Nov. 20.

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Eastern Star (new).	A1 12 yr.	[illegible]0	W.I.D.	To follow.
A Ship (new) ...	A1 15 yr.	[illegible]0	W.I.D.	To follow.

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FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the well-known clipper BELTED WILL, A 1 fourteen years, 812 tons register, A. LOCKE, Commander; lying in the London Docks. Has excellent accommodation for passengers.

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Incorporated by Royal Charter.

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The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants draft payable at the places above mentioned, issues letters of credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the Overland Route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

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SODA-WATER MACHINERY.

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For Larger Advertisement see the LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS, 26th of each month.

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EVERY DAY.

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TERMS OF ADVERTISING.—First insertion, Ten lines and under, 1 dol.; each additional line, 10 cents. Subsequent insertions, per week, 50 cents and 5 cents—("Auction" Notices excepted, for which only One Charge per week is made).

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(On Thursday Night.)

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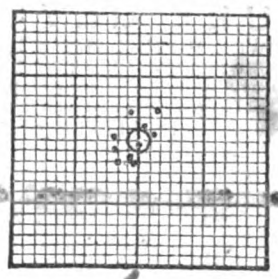
Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

AMMUNITION.



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OF EVERY DESCRIPTION FOR
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Double Waterproof Central Fire Caps, Felt Waddings, to prevent the leading of Guns, Wire Cartridges, for Killing Game, &c., at long distances, Breech-Loading Cartridge Cases of superior quality, for Shot Guns and Rifles.

Jacob's Rifle Shell Tubes, Cartridges and Caps for Colt's, Adams', Deane's, Tranter's, and other Revolvers.

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For Enfield, Whitworth, and Henry Rifles; also for Westley Richards', Terry's, Wilson's, Prince's, Deane's, and other Breech Loaders.

"Black Buck Shells," for 10, 12, and 16 Bore Breech Loaders.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE SEVENTH Volume of this JOURNAL commenced on the 3rd of January, 1865. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

Subscriptions and Advertisements received abroad by the following Agents:—

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Manila ...	PHILLIPS, MOORE, AND CO.
Hong Kong, Canton, Macao, & Swatow,	JAMES GARDINER, Hong Kong.
Amoy ...	BELLAMY AND CO.
Foo-Chow-Foo ...	HEDGE AND CO.
Shanghai ...	H. FOGG AND CO.
Tien-Tsin ...	JAMES HENDERSON.
Nagasaki—Japan ...	PIGNATEL AND CO.
Yokohoma ...	A. W. HANSARD.

OFFICE, 12, GEORGE-YARD, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

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The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"

A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 191.] LONDON, SATURDAY, NOV. 11, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	July 17	Sept. 7	Sept. 13
Nagasaki			„ 13
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			„ 6
Chefoo			„ 7
New-chwang			„ 7
Hankow			„ 13
Kiu-kiang			„ 15
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	July 17	Sept. 2	„ 20
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 19
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 20
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Aug. 10	Sept. 19	„ 27
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	July 17	Sept. 4	„ 20
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			„ 28
SIAM— Bangkok			„ 15
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			„ 13
JAVA—			
Batavia			Oct. 1
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Aug. 26	Sept. 30	„ 6
Penang			„ 8
		„ 28	

The following telegrams have been received :—Hong Kong, Oct. 15. Shanghai 8th: Exports, tea, 65,000,000; silk higher; exchange, 4s. 5½d. and 6s. 3d. Heavy gales off Manila, in which the *Tigress Sabina*, and other vessels were lost.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD

By this mail, per P. and O. Company's steamer, Syria, arrived at Marseilles Nov. 9.—From Hong Kong: Mr. J. Lewis, Mr. A. Mordella, Mr. M. Gay, Mr. L. M Zavier and native male servant, and one second-class passenger. From Shanghai: Mrs. Blakiston. From Singapore: Mr. J. Armstrong, Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Escosura, Mr. and Mrs. Llano and child, Mr. A. Kerkhoven, Mr. Montclar, Miss van Kempson, Mr. and Mrs. Rochussen, five children and two native female servants, and one second-class passenger.

To Southampton, per Pera, expected to arrive Nov. 16.—From Yokohama: Mr. Sagar. From Shanghai: One second-class passenger. From Hong Kong: Mr. Marwood, Captain Williams, two second-class passengers, two children and one deck passenger. To Gibraltar from Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Valle and two infants. From Hong Kong: Mr. Garson.

By French mail steamer Moeris, arrived at Marseilles Nov 2.—From Yokohama: Mr. Hegt. From Shanghai: Mr. Worthington and family, Mr. Mossoroy. From Hong Kong: Mr. Batchelor.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Poonah, from Southampton, 4th Nov.—To Shanghai: One second-class passenger. To Hong Kong: Mr. M. Murray, Assistant Surgeon J. Fraser, R.N., Messrs. R. J. Bristow, F. Nicholl, and B. T. Knight. To Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Robinson, and European servant, and three second-class passengers. To Penang: Mr. and Mrs. Lipscombe. To Ceylon: Mrs. Brotherton, Lieut. and Mrs. Molesworth, and ten second-class passengers. To Calcutta: Lieut. and Miss Gataker, Mrs. J. R. Muspratt and sister, Mrs. Dando, Mrs. Van Gelden, Capt. R. Smith, Major and Mrs. Dirom, Miss Hotchkis, Mr. Carr, Mrs. R. S. Moncrieff, Miss Hebdon, Mr. and Mrs. McAllum and infant, Lieuts. Rowland, Gray, and Lieut. Col. Ingilby, Mr. McIver, Mr. Algar, Jun., Messrs. A. Simson, Hogg, and A. Wilson, Major Blewmire, Messrs. A. H. Mowbray, Cruickshank, O'Sullivan, Dunne, and R. Reid, Mrs. Cornell, infant, and European servant, Mrs. H. Clay, Mr. R. Hawkes, Mrs. Taylor, twenty-one second-class passengers, and one child. To Madras: Col. and Mrs., and Miss McGoun, Miss Marshall, Lieut. Farrer, Lady Le Marchant, two daughters, and two European servants, Mr. H. S. Gwyn, Miss Harris, Miss Franklyn, Assistant Surgeon Hunt, Mrs. C. A. Rogers, Mr. Rowlandson. To Suez: Eight second-class passengers. To Alexandria: Mrs. McDermot, four children, and female servant, Mr. and Mrs. Caven, Mrs. E. Swann, Messrs. Boulger and La Tondie, Mr. and Mrs. Bethune, three children, and two female servants, Mr. J. C. Brown, and four second-class passengers.

From Marseilles, 12th Nov.—To Singapore: Mr. W. Alten, Mr. W. Paterson. To Penang: One second-class passenger. To Hong Kong: Dr. Juan Fernandez, Mr. Orme. To Shanghai: Mr. W. G. Howell, Mr. A. Campbell. To Calcutta: Miss Bland, Mrs. Lowis, two infants, and European servant, Mrs. J. H. Williams, Mrs. R. Lyall, Rev. A. and Miss Garstin, Mrs. and Miss Moffatt, Messrs. F. A. Cohen, J. W. Mirfield, and Cowie, Mrs. and Miss Murray, Lieut. R. C. Hennessey, Mrs. Monteath and infant, Miss Monteath and European servant, Mrs. C. J. Wilkinson, Major Brownlow, Mr. and Mrs. Agabeg, two infants, and native servant, Captain W. S. Young, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Howard, Major Gordon, Mrs. Lillie, Miss Watson, Mr. C. J. Wallis, two Misses Tweedie, Mr. S. Blackburn, Miss Dickins, Messrs. G. G. Morris, and J. C. Charles, Dr. Smith, Mr. A. Tolgood, Lieut. Gillespie, Captain and Mrs. Chapman, Miss Burney, Mr. W. M. Muirhead, Messrs. Tayleur, S. Gladstone, and Saunders, Captain F. Lloyd, Miss Bell, Mrs. Swaine, and four second-class passengers. To Madras: Mr. and Mrs. Chamle, three children, governess, and native servant, Lieut. Beauchamp, Dr. J. B. Fleming, Captain G. E. Callander, Captain and Mrs. FitzGerald. To Alexandria: Mr. Dugdale, Mr. and Mrs. Sacre, Mr. Lucovich and man servant, and five second-class passengers.

From Suez.—To Calcutta: Mr. Wolff, Major E. Thompson.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Nov. 12.—To Shanghai via Bombay: Mr. A. J. Parker, Mrs. Bennett and child. From Marseilles, Nov. 20.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Weiler. To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. Newman and child. From Suez.—To Penang via Bombay: Mr. and Mrs. Hasche.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Nov 20.—To Hong Kong: Messrs. G. F. Dodd and T. B. Mitchell. To Penang: Mrs. and Miss Mackay. To Ceylon: Captain K. Cove, Miss Staples. From Marseilles.—To Hong Kong: Miss F. Cubit. To Shanghai: Mr. John Robertson.

Per P. and O. steamer Mongolia, from Southampton, Nov. 27.—To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. R. Harvey. From Marseilles, Dec. 5.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. Watson.

Per P. and O. steamer from Suez, Jan. 19, 1866.—To Hong Kong: Sir Richard and Lady MacDonnell.

By French mail steamer Said, from Marseilles Nov. 19.—To Yokohama: Mr. A. Bovonschen. To Shanghai: Messrs. James M. Young and L. Mackintosh. To Hong Kong: Mr. F. Bovet. To Galle: Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Sillery.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

Dates are down to the 13th Sept., at which date everything was quiet.

The Japanese Government has paid into the hands of the representatives of the four Powers the sum of $500,000, forming one-sixth of the indemnity stipulated to be paid under the Simonoseki Convention. A second payment of the same amount will become due, under the terms of the convention, after a period of three months.

The *Japan Times*, noticed in our last, has been issued under the editorship, we believe, of Mr. Rickerby, late of Bombay, and for some time manager of the Central Bank of India at Yokohama, but we have not received a copy. The following is from the *Japan Herald*:—The absence of the Tycoon from Yedo seems completely to banish any possibility of incidents arising in the capital or in our neighbourhood the recital of which would have any interest for readers at a distance. Yet the past fortnight has not been absolutely barren. First, we have undoubted intelligence of the discovery of a plot to assassinate the young Tycoon. Reports leads to the belief that there is but little chance of the Tycoon's returning to Yedo for several months, and the consequences of his absence, are very severely felt by the citizens. The Tycoon is, at this time, going through an ordeal which will put all his energies and wisdom, and the wisdom and energies of his councillors and the friends of his Government to the test. His enemies are very many and powerful, and it is quite likely that the Daimio Hondha Shizen-no-sho is not the only unscrupulous one amongst them. It is said that Choshiu is actually about making his submission; but this may or may not be, as the Tycoon is said to have expressed his surprise at the number of friends who had rallied round the recusant Daimio, and declared that had he expected such a gathering against him, he would not have left Yedo. Such are the "*on dits*" floating about, but if there be any certain intelligence of importance, it is treasured up in the deepest recesses of official impenetrability.

Meanwhile, our representatives are not idle. The American Charge d'Affaires still continues to reside in Yedo. The

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British Minister repeatedly goes up, and remains a few days each time; and the Minister of France, having recently returned from Atamo, whither he had been for the benefit of the baths, paid the Gorogio a visit at the capital the day after he returned to Yokohama. The result of the various interviews with the Gorogio is only partially known; but what is made public is most important. The trade in silkworms' eggs, now a very large and increasing one, had been entirely prohibited up to a few months back. The prohibition was then removed, but it was only possible to purchase the precious seed through two of the native merchants licensed by the Government. These fellows were supported by the native authorities in all sorts of rascalities in their dealing with foreigners, and were even forbidden to sell to them, unless they produced a Consular permission to buy. All this is now at an end. One of the favoured merchants has "bolted"—but the trade is fairly thrown open, and any European may buy of any Japanese quite freely. The Gorogio declared that the restrictions were quite unknown to them, that they had been imposed by the Custom-house authorities at Kanagawa-Yokohama, and to mark their displeasure, the Governor of Kanagawa is dismissed and disgraced.

The men-of-war in the harbour are—English: Princess Royal, Argus, Leopard, Bouncer, and Kestrel. French: Dupleix and Kien Chan. Dutch: Zoutman.

The case of Alt and Co., charterers of the *Norfolk*, for Nagasaki, had been settled by arbitration, and the charterers absolved from liability, owing to the detention of the vessel; but no damages were allowed, to which we think they were justly entitled.

NAGASAKI.

Dates are down to the 13th Sept. The correspondent of the *North China Herald* writes that H.M.S. Rattler arrived on the 12th Sept., to relieve the Barossa, which latter vessel was to have left with the Osprey, for Shanghai, on or about the 16th. On the Barossa's arrival she will relieve the Perseus, and will wait here until the arrival of Sir R. Alcock, whom she will conduct to the Peiho, the Osprey remaining in Shanghai. On the return of the Barossa, the Osprey will sail for Nagasaki. The Perseus returns to Yokohama, but will call at Nagasaki to pick up the gunboat Bustard, and carry her to Yokohama, The Havoc, daily expected from Hong Kong, will remain at Nagasaki. The Leopard proceeds to Singapore, and the Scylla relieves the Pelorus at Amoy, the Pelorus rejoining the squadron at Japan, having left Amoy on the 20th September. The Argus has gone to Hakodadi.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

The dates are down to the 20th Sept., or two days later than per French mail.

It appears that some of the native merchants still hesitate to employ foreign tonnage, and the trade in wood from Foo-Chow is likely to be stopped.

On the steamer *Fukien*, Captain Johnson (an American), we extract the following from the *North China Herald*:—

"The '*Fukien* case' no doubt still remains fresh in the memory of our readers as one of the recent *causes celebres* in Shanghai. The imputation cast on the Hong Kong Government by the concluding paragraph of the finding, has called for an energetic protest on the part of the colonial authorities. The officials on whom the blame fell, not only vindicate themselves from the charge of carelessness, but prove with the utmost clearness that Captain Johnson's right to sail the steamer was, in fact, conferred on him by the Shanghai Consulate after the Hong Kong Government had refused to enter his name on the register. Yet the Consular officer who sat on the Court, and united in condemning the Hong Kong Government for allowing the *Fukien* to clear, is entrusted with the supervision of the shipping department, and regularly cleared her himself on each of her outward trips. It is further pointed out that the Hong Kong Government, in refusing in the first instance to inscribe Captain Johnson's name on the new register, and the Shanghai Consulate, in clearing the *Fukien* although her Captain was not in possession of an English certificate, acted in accordance with the regulations respectively governing the procedure of each. But the finding of the Naval Court proves that this correct action on the part of the Consulate was in this particular case the result of accident, in other words, the the result of neglecting an air-drawn ordinance which, had it existed elsewhere than in the imagination of the Consular officer referred to, would have rendered his conduct in constantly clearing the *Fukien* open to official censure. We are not surprised, therefore, to find that the Hong Kong Government accuses the members of the Naval Court of ignorance of the very Act which made their proceedings legal. The points commented on in the notification are identical with those brought forward by the directors of the Shanghai Steam Navigation Company at the time of the investigation, and that company is therefore, on the high authority of the Hong Kong Government, held blameless. The clauses in the finding which relate to Captain Johnson's seamanship have already been discussed by himself and others, but the important question of his right to navigate the steamer has been definitively set at rest. We, therefore, congratulate the directors on the removal of the imputation of want of judgment cast on them by the now celebrated finding of the Naval Court."

The same journal gives us a continuation of the outrage at Chinkiang, detailed in our last. The examination which was undertaken by the Chinese and foreign authorities subsequently elicited the following facts which tend to throw light on the sad occurrence:—

On Friday, the 1st Sept., a Chinaman who was passing the mat house where the attack took place, was assaulted and bitten by a dog belonging to Lewis, one of the wounded men. The man, in self-defence, threw a brick at the dog. On seeing this Lewis pursued and beat him. Smarting under the sense of insulted dignity, and perhaps sore bones, the Chinaman, who had been an officer of braves, went at once to an opium-shop in the city, where he found some soldiers of the city garrison. The latter sympathised with him, and agreed to make a night attack on the offending foreigner and obtain their revenge. Excited by opium and samshoo, and under the leadership of the man who had been flogged, they broke into the mat house early on Saturday morning, expecting to find Lewis alone, but Pickernell and Filleul being unfortunately asleep in the house, they also fell victims. The leader was arrested a few days after the attack, having been traced by a sword that was dropped during the scuffle, and was executed on the 9th inst., but not before he fully confessed his share in the outrage, and the motive that led to it. Two days afterwards one of his accomplices also was executed on the spot where the murder took place. Three hundred of Kuo Sung-ling's disciplined troops, headed by a blue-button mandarin, were in attendance and gave three cheers when the culprit's head was struck off. This man also made a full confession before he died. The others, who are known to have been concerned, have made their escape to the north bank of the river, but the native authorities having offered rewards for their apprehension, it is to be hoped that they will eventually be captured and punished. None of the soldiers under Generals Yang and Kuo have been proved to have had anything to do with the attack.

It is satisfactory to be able to state, that from the time of the murder the native civil and military authorities did their best to get to the bottom of the affair. As a matter of course, the foreign community was deeply moved by the occurrence of so glaring an outrage, and various schemes for defence were canvassed. A meeting was held on the 4th inst. in order to express sympathy with the wounded men, and the hope that the offenders would be brought to justice and condign punishment.

Although, as we have said, the native authorities exerted all their energies to discover the perpetrators of this crime, it cannot be denied that to their carelessness the sad event which has consigned one foreigner to the grave and mutilated another for life, must be attributed. So large a body of undisciplined troops should not have been permitted to encamp in the vicinity of a small foreign community, much less to pitch tents in such a manner as to surround and overlook the foreign settlement. So keen is the feeling of insecurity caused by the proximity of native soldiers that when, some two months ago, the Governor-General issued a notification calling on all compradores of foreign hongs and Chinese merchants in general to desert the left bank of the river, and settle on the city side, so as to leave the left bank free for the Government salt trade, the only objection made by the natives was the danger of living in the vicinity of ten thousand troops. From this it abundantly appears that not only are the lives and property of foreigners and natives endangered, but a rapidly rising trade is seriously interfered with. It was not strange that the framers of the treaty of Tientsin overlooked the necessity for guarding against such an eventuality, else there would surely have been a veto

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placed on the conversion of an open port into a Chinese garrison. As the matter stands, sufficient proof has been given that the presence of troops is extremely dangerous, and the recent murder affords ground for a strong remonstrance on the part of the foreign Ministers at Peking. No doubt the English Consul at Chinkiang will represent this to the Minister, and thus produce the extinction of one fertile source of ill-feeling between natives and foreigners.

Lewis and Filleul were both brought to Shanghai for medical treatment. The former has since died of dysentery, and the latter lies in a most precarious state.

Although the period of the first attack on Taitsang by Holland is now somewhat remote, many of our readers will recollect the circumstances which attended that ill-omened expedition. In brief, they were as follows:—On the 10th February, 1863, Holland, at the head of 2,500 men and 22 guns, left Sung Kong for Taitsang, where he arrived on the 13th. Having neglected to reconnoitre the ground, he found himself, as soon as the assault commenced, surrounded by difficulties so desperate that he was compelled to retreat with the loss of several hundred men, five officers, and two guns. The excuse given at the time was that the Mandarins had asserted that the city was bought over and would be surrendered on the first appearance of the Imperial troops. Holland, believing this statement, neglected the usual precautions, and laid himself open to very severe criticism on his strategic skill, and even, in some quarters, on his personal courage. The impression which prevailed at the time was that the city had in reality been bought over, and that the subsequent conduct of the garrison was an instance of gross treachery on the part of the rebels. All united in condemning the knavery of the Chang Maos and the ingenious viridity of the English commander. A new light has, however, been of late thrown upon the Taitsang affair. It will be remembered that the Chung Wang in his autographic deposition stated that the city was given up to him by one Li Wen-ping, a Canton Mandarin. The reason for Li's defection from the Imperial cause was that his troops had not been paid for three months, and both they and he were anxious for a new state of things. Li himself became a rebel, and was subsequently placed by the Chung Wang in command at Taitsang. Here he determined to change sides again, and accordingly visited Li-san-ta-jen's camp and arranged about giving over the city. Meanwhile the Chung Wang got wind of his proceedings, and hastening to Taitsang anticipated his treachery by cutting off his head. "The devils," says the Chung Wang, "reached Taitsang and so did I." From the time of his arrival the Chung Wang himself took command, and thus the welcome which the Futai's brother and Holland, with the disciplined Chinese, received, was not a piece of treachery, as has up to the present been imagined, but the result of the Chung Wang's discovery of Li's infidelity. Although this explanation affords no excuse for the neglect shown by the English and Chinese commanders of the disciplined troops, it is valuable inasmuch as it rebuts what we believe was the only apparently well-founded imputation of deliberate treachery on the part of the rebel leaders.

The Hsiao Tai, or Literary Commissioner,sent down to conduct the examination of candidates for civil and military degrees, was to have commenced the exercise of his functions at Soochow on the 15th Sept. It was found, however, that although several candidates for civil hsiutsai-ships presented themselves, there was no one ambitious of the corresponding military grade. The commissioner therefore altered his route, and will now visit the other cities wherein examinations are to be held, closing his circuit at Soochow in order to allow of the preparation of a sufficient number of military aspirants. Such an occurrence has, we believe, never before taken place in time of peace.

The fate of Burgevine still creates some interest, but the officers sent to inquire into the circumstances of his death have as yet discovered nothing of importance. The following facts relating to his last visit to China have lately been published. It is well known that constitutionally Burgevine was particularly sensitive to the action of alcoholic liquors, the smallest quantity of spirits appearing to put him completely beside himself. Of late, unfortunately, he had indulged more freely than was at all prudent, and consequently for a considerable time before he left Japan he was in a state of excitement bordering on madness. To him, tired of the quiet of existence at Yokohama, and anxious to behold other scenes, the offer of a passage from Kanagawa to Simonoseki was most welcome. The *Fei-pang*, a steamer held for speculation by her owners, was going down to Simonoseki to pick up any engagement likely to prove profitable, or to be sold. Report states that on her arrival there Choshiu, who had heard of the extremely ill-grounded terror wherewith Burgevine's name was greeted in China, offered him an important post in the army he was then engaged in levying against the Tycoon. This proposition was not finally accepted, as Burgevine wished to return to Yokohama before deciding on so important a step. But the owners of the *Fei-pang* had meanwhile altered their plans, and resolved to bring the steamer to Shanghai, and thence start for Hong Kong, returning direct to Simonoseki. As there were no means available for returning to Yokohama, Burgevine at length made up his mind to accept the offer of his fellow-passengers, and enjoy the round trip by Shanghai and Hong Hong. So far this visit to China was purely accidental, and we have, moreover, reason to believe that on the passage, when spoken to on the subject of joining the rebels, he expressed his conviction that the game had been played out, and that neither honour nor profit was to be derived from that quarter. Arrived in Shanghai, he met, we presume, some ardent sympathisers in the rebel cause. At any rate he resolved to leave the *Fei-pang* and take a passage in the *General Sherman*, which at the time was loading a miscellaneous cargo for Amoy. His design in visiting Amoy seems to have been to find out the chances in his favour were he again to join the rebels, but from his conversation it was evident that he had adopted no resolution on the subject. On arriving at Amoy, by the ill-judged indulgence, to use no harsher epithet, displayed by Mr. Irving, and the exertions of some few Anglo, Taiping residents, Burgevine, while in a state of intoxication was induced to pledge himself to visit Changchow, and if need be give all the assistance in his power to the rebel cause. Then the negro, Stanley Bennet, together with his *fidus Achates*, Mr. Commissioner Hughes, came on the scene, and by cunning in the one case and the basest treachery in the other, contrived to entrap the broken-down and utterly useless prize for which they were so anxious. It had been arranged that on her return from Hong Kong the *Fei-pang* would call at Amoy to pick Burgevine up, and to carry him back to Yokohoma. When, however, she did arrive, the news of his capture and imprisonment were in everybody's mouth. Thus, by a succession of accidents, none of which could have been foreseen, was the train of circumstances brought about which subsequently resulted in the violent death of three Europeans. Burgevine's career was a chequered one. The son of a southern gentleman, he was compelled to fly from his father's house on account of his political opinions. Taking refuge in New York, he became connected with the press, but was, after a few years, made the victim of a popular demonstration which left him houseless and penniless. He then obtained manual labour of some kind, sufficient to provide the necessaries of life, and at length, in 1859, obtained a berth as third mate on board the American barque *Edwin Forrest*. Having made the acquaintance of Ward, he was mixed up in one or two of the dashing exploits of that adventurer, and when the latter came across to China, Burgevine contrived to get a situation on board the same ship. Then commenced the career with which we are all familiar, and which, through a combination of culpable neglect, treachery, and a greed for applause, has now been closed by the hand of death.

On the 12th of September a parade of the Mounted Rangers took place at the Mainguard. The troops, who mustered about thirty strong, were reviewed by Sir E. Hornby, the new Commandant, who congratulated Captain Markham upon the efficient manner in which several manœuvres were performed, and made a short address, in which he expressed his interest in the corps and the volunteer movement in Shanghai. The training for the Autumn Races has commenced.

The *Recorder* gives the following items :—

The hafl-yearly meeting of the North China Insurance Company took place on the 18th Sept. The accounts show a surplus of tls. 624.340.63 in addition to paid-up capital of tls. 125,000.

BALANCE-SHEET, JUNE, 30, 1865.

Dr. LIABILITIES.	Taels.	Taels.
To paid-up capital		125,000.00
To balance of working account, 31st Dec. 1864	574,789.24	
To balance of working June 30, 1865, brought forward	49,551.39	
		624,340.63
		749,340.63

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Cr. ASSETS.				Taels.
By cash and bills, &c.				467,067.50
Furniture, &c., Shanghai				4,150.47
Shanghai Pilot Company's stock				4,000.00
Reserve in London, 30th June, 1865, in hands of Mercantile Bank	£20,000	0	0	
Commercial Bank	20,000	0	0	
Sent on sundry securities	16,500	0	0	
Cash on hand and at banker's	2,014	9	5	
	£58,514	9	5	
Remitted to London, but not received on June 30th, 1865	15,495	10	1	
	£74,009	19	6	
				246,639.92
Amount in hands of sundry agents				27,422.74
				749,340.63

WORKING ACCOUNT.—INCOME.

Dr.	
To net premia, 1st January—30th June, 1865	304,475.98
To Police fees, do.	1,910.00
To interest and exchange do.	31,797 88
	388,183.77

Cr. EXPENDITURE.	
By losses and claims, 1st January,—30th June, 1865 ..	280,397.79
By charges do.	8,234.59
By balance, carried forward	49,551.19
	338,183.77

The present company will terminate at the end of this year, and in addition to the directors now acting, namely, Messrs. A. G. Dunlop, E. H. Lavers, Sol. D. Sassoon, H. Howe Wiggins, and David Reid, Messrs. Duncanson and Bryans have been appointed to reorganise a company for a further term.

A meeting of the shareholders of the Shanghai Club took place on the 15th. The minutes have not yet been published, but we understand that little business of importance was transacted.

The China Traders' Insurance Society of Hong Kong (Limited), capital $1,000,000, in 200 shares of $5,000 each, $1,000 per share paid up, has been brought under notice here, Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co., acting as agents in Shanghai. The scheme is well regarded.

The steamer *South Western* has been sold for 12,000 tls.

Mr William Church has been declared a bankrupt. John Frazer, Esq., Law Secretary, official assignee. First meeting of creditors to be held on Friday, 29th inst.

A large number of the native bankers and compradores have failed at Hankow. A meeting was held at the Consulate with a view to taking steps to abolish the system of giving credit to native buyers.

A most important decision has been given by Sir Edmund Hornby, in the case of the P. and O. Company, *versus* Hall and Holtz and Mr. Valentine, a clerk in the same firm. This case was brought forward on account of Messrs. Hall and Holtz having shipped a box as stationery which also contained some copper caps, per steamer *Cadiz*. As the evidence showed that as soon as Mr. Grey (of Hall and Holtz) found out that the stationery box contained percussion caps, he disclosed the fact on the face of the bill of lading, Sir Edmund Hornby only recorded the conviction and ordered Mr. Grey to pay the cost of the suit, but he wished it to be distinctly understood that, for the future, the 239th section of the Merchant Shipping Act, which awards a penalty, not exceeding £100, for shipping dangerous goods without giving notice to the master or owner, in writing, at or before the time of carrying or sending the same to be shipped, would be strictly enforced. As he justly remarked, "It is the business of shippers to find out before shipment the nature of the goods they are shipping. A ship, cargo, and the lives of all on board are not to be imperilled simply because it is 'not usual' to do this, or because it occasions trouble."

The following, on mildewed shirtings, is also from the *Recorder*:—

The damage by mildew and bad packing of grey shirtings, which has caused so much trouble to the merchants of this place, has recently been brought prominently under the notice of the public by the case of Preston, Worrell, and Co., *versus* Bain, Tate, and Co. It appears that the plaintiffs bought of defendants 40 bales of grey shirtings, to arrive per *Ellen Rodger*, warranted in good order, that, on the arrival of the ship, the goods were received and paid for, but that forty days afterwards 37 bales were discovered to be damaged by bad packing and mildew. The plaintiffs then laid a claim against the defendants for the loss. The Court decided that the delivery of, and subsequent payment for, the goods; the time which elapsed between their being received into the godown before being inspected, and the want of due notice being given to the defendants, in time to enable them to return the price, made the claim invalid.

Although this decision may press rather hardly upon the plaintiffs in this case, it is evidently the only just one that could be arrived at with respect to the matter. The receipt of goods and the payment for them without protest or reservation is, for obvious reasons, always accepted as the final closing of any transaction. Upon this basis other matters are settled and remittances made. Any invasion of this principle would result in a total upsetting of all business arrangements.

The repeated arrival of cotton piece goods damaged by mildew is, however, a matter which calls for serious attention on the part of the mercantile community. We, therefore, consider it will be well carefully to review the whole of the circumstances connected with it. In discussing this matter it will be necessary, first, to consider from what cause and at what time the damage takes place; secondly, the nature of the custom with regard to reception and inspection of goods of this class; and, finally, what grounds there are for laying claim for damage and the probable result of such claims being instituted.

With regard to this first point, namely the cause of the damage, we find that the evidence in the case above alluded to, given by Messrs Lavers and Duncanson concurs as to the extreme improbability of the damage having been done in the godown, though Mr. Chambers is of opinion that mildew to shirtings would increase if they were stowed in a damp godown for two months. The fact is incontestible that a large number of shirtings have recently arrived in a mildewed condition. Messrs. Lavers and Duncanson attribute the damage by tar to the packing, and the mildew, to bad size. We think there can be little doubt as to the correctness of this view, not only on account of its being the one generally current among mercantile men here, but also because it the most probable, seeing that it is only recently that this species of damage has occurred. The kind of mildew now found in shirtings is quite distinct from anything previously known. It appears to result from a vicious principle inherent in the goods themselves, so that, though in perfect order when leaving the manufacturer's hands, in the course of the voyage they seem to do what is known by heating, in fact, to undergo some chemical change, which results in a rotting of the material. That this is not brought about by external causes is proved by the fact that several parcels, in good order as to packing, have been found on arrival damaged in this manner. Speaking generally, we may, therefore, conclude that the mildew in question is the result of bad size or other fault in the manufacture of the goods, and that it takes place commonly in the course of the voyage.

Upon the second point, namely, the custom with regard to reception and rejection of goods of this class, the evidence given by Messrs. Duncanson, Chambers and King agrees. Neither of these gentlemen would receive such goods except after inspection. Mr. Lavers, however, states he would inspect some chops, and added that he would do so to the one in question. As far as the individual case under consideration is concerned, the opinions of the above-named gentlemen were identical. They would all have inspected the goods before payment.

Native reports state that the Imperialists have obtained a dearly purchased advantage over the Mahomedan rebels in Shangtung and Honan. The troops under Tsengkwo-fan, after capturing successively several cities, drove the rebels towards the Yellow River, where they succeeded in surrounding them, when a sudden rise in the river swept away a large portion of the Imperialist army, together with the rebels, of whom it is said not one escaped. A large amount of booty is said to have been captured.

Takee, the well known Chinese banker and merchant, is dead. He was one of the first to trade with foreigners at this place, and had dealings with them in the early days, when Shanghai was only looked upon as an insignificant out-port. He is said to have been worth Tls. 1,000,000; but this statement must be received with a due recollection of the Italian proverb, which says there is commonly less wealth and less learning than is reported.

KIUKIANG.

The following is from the Report of Mr. F. C. White, Commissioner of Customs, on the trade of Kiukiang for 1864:—

Although the total export of China ware for the year shows an increase, yet for some time past the export has been falling off. Owing perhaps to the recapture of Nanking, and the consequent tranquillity of the river, the necessity no longer exists for sending China ware in such large quantities as formerly to this port for shipment..

Imports.—The import trade of the year 1864 shows some improvement on that of the year 1863, although there is a decrease in the import of a few of the chief articles of import, viz., medicine, pepper, shellfish, nankeens, shirtings, &c.

Exports.—The export trade for the last year, as compared with that of the year 1863, presents an unfavourable contrast. The export of tea has declined considerably, showing a falling off of 5,728,922 piculs as compared with the previous year. Apprehensions are entertained that the native dealers will in future forward large quantities of tea, which used formerly to find an outlet here, to Ningpo, via Hangchow, that being an easier route, and Ningpo probably affording a better market than this has hitherto proved.

Tonnage.—There is a decrease in the total amount of vessels of all classes, entered during the year, of 25,472 tons, and of vessels cleared during the year of 26,202 tons. There is an increase, however, in the tonnage of British vessels entered

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of 3,492 tons—cleared, of 3,148 tons; and a decrease in the tonnage of American vessels of all classes entered of 28,834 tons; cleared, of 29,250 tons. No French vessels entered or cleared during the year.

Freights.—During the first seven months freights were so low as to be unremunerative. A combination among the agents of steamers, in July, led to the rate being fixed at three taels per ton of forty cubic feet, which arrangement lasted for two months, when a decline to two taels per ton took place. In November the owners and agents of steamers in Shanghai came to a resolution, fixing the minimum rate of freight at three taels per ton, and during the winter months at four taels per ton, which rate still continues.

HANKOW.

Minutes of a Public Meeting held at Hankow, 4th September, 1865.

Present:—Messrs. R. Watmore, W. G. Gordon, T. B. Higson, W. G. Price, C. Beadel, S. H. Cheshire, W. S. Maclean, M. P. Evans, R. C. D. Moffat, J. Cunningham, G. Holbertson, A. W. Soutar, A. Thurburn, J. Booth, T. Mills, J. Monro, H. W. Hardy R. Maxwell, F. Carnie, J. Macreath, T. Menzies, W. H. Medhurst, M. Schallasse, J. Aitken, H. W. Carey, K. R. Mackenzie J. F. Ballance, L. Luddeke, A. Hutchinson, J. A. Crawford, J. A. Handy, and others.

Mr. MACKENZIE proposed, seconded by Mr. WATMORE, that Mr. Medhurst, H.B.M.'s Consul, be requested to take the chair.

Mr. MEDHURST then took the chair, and opened the meeting by reading the notice convening it, as follows:—

A public meeting of the foreign merchants at this port will be held at the Club, on Monday next, at 5 P.M., to consider the advisability of establishing a system of cash payments for goods sold. A full attendance is requested.—(Signed) W. G. Gordon, Acting Chairman, Municipal Council.

The CHAIRMAN called on Mr. Mackenzie to explain more fully the object of the meeting.

(To be continued.)

HONG KONG.

The dates are now down to the 27th Sept., or four days later than per French mail received and given in our issue of the 4th inst.

H.M.S. *Conqueror* had not left for England on 27th Sept. with the Marines from Japan. It is also noticed that she will clear off about 180 unemployed sailors.

The new post-office is now occupied by the postmaster and staff.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 12th September, and we subjoin a report from the *Daily Press*:—

Present: His Excellency the Acting Governor, the Acting Colonial Secretary, the Acting Attorney General, the Colonial Treasurer, the Hon J. C. Whyte, Chief Magistrate; the Hon F. Chomley, and the Hon. Thos. Sutherland, non-official.

His Excellency was understood to say that the principal object in convening the Council was to lay before it a draft of the estimates for the financial year, 1865-66. The draft itself was in the hands of the printer, and would be ready by the end of the week, and would then be delivered to members of the Council. There was one very important item in the estimates which he thought it proper to refer to, namely, the provision which would require to be made for the Mint establishment, which was, exclusive of the salaries on the civil list, $41,000.

The COLONIAL TREASURER: Does that include the wear and tear of the building and the machinery, and all the salaries of the persons engaged in the Mint, such as the assayers?

His EXCELLENCY: No. It only includes the salaries of the foreman about the place and the coolies. A very large item was that for coal, which Captain Kinder estimated at $12,000 per annum. That gentleman had also fixed the number of coolies that he should require at about one hundred.

The COLONIAL TREASURER was understood to say that the estimate was very high, and that it was more than the colony could afford.

His EXCELLENCY: Captain Kinder calculates that the profit arising from the Mint will amount to £50,000 per annum if kept regularly occupied. He had also stated that he expected to be able to commence operations shortly. It would perhaps be within the memory of members of the Council, that Sir Hercules Robinson had, in a despatch to the Home Government, requested that the Legislature of Hong Kong be absolved from the necessity of voting the yearly sum of £20,000 towards the support of the garrison of this place; in reply to which communication, Mr. Cardwell had written to the effect that the matter would be taken into consideration by Her Majesty's Government and their decision forwarded hither. This answer has not as yet been received, therefore the sum of £20,000 for that purpose would be found in the estimates for the ensuing year. The Colonial Government had also received from the Imperial Government two circulars, copies which should be furnished to members of Council. The first one had reference to the Naval Reserve, and stated that legislative bodies in all the colonies had been invited to take measures to establish a system of Naval Reserve within their respective jurisdictions. Whilst the action of the Home Government in this matter was referred to as being a guide, nevertheless every legislature was invited to consider the mode most applicable to the local considerations and to submit its plans to the Home Government for approval; the object in all cases being the same, viz. to train men in time of peace so as to be available in time of war. His Excellency added he could not exactly see at present what the Council could do in the matter. He had already expressed his opinion that the £20,000 which the colony paid to the army would be more appropriately given to the navy, as the colony certainly derived more benefit from the latter than the former. However, members would have time to consider the steps to be taken in the matter. The second despatch referred to certain tolls to be levied for the support of a lighthouse upon the Basses Rocks off the island of Ceylon. The Home Government wrote that the Legislature of Ceylon had already passed a Bill for the levying of such passing tolls, and that they had invited the Legislature of Mauritius, Natal, &c., to do the same, and the Colonial Government of this place are asked to take measures to carry out the object proposed. The parties principally interested in such an imposition would be the Messageries Imperiales and the Peninsular and Oriental Company, whose boats touched at Point de Galle, and the shipping employed between here and Bombay. It had been calculated that the dues arising out of the Hong Kong traffic within the *rayon* described in the circular, would not exceed £500, which was a sum too small to call for any legislation. He (the Acting Governor), moreover, could not see the justice of this claim, and he would advise the Council not to allow the thin end of the wedge to be inserted in reference to levying tolls or impositions of any sort upon the shipping of Hong Kong. He himself should be very sorry to see a single penny so levied.

We published in our last the estimates for 1866. In the *Daily Press* we find the following notice:—

The estimated expenditure for 1866 is		$740.155.80
Add Civil List		157,000.00
„ Pensions		10,000.00
Total		$907,150.00
Deduct the Imperial portion of the postage revenue		125,000.00
		$782,150.00
The estimated revenue for 1865 was	$700,000.00	
The cash balance on Dec. 31, 1865	150,000.00	
Sale of old Police Station, say ..	40,000.00	890,000.00
So that at the end of 1866 there should be surplus of, say		$100,000.00

This does not include one cent. for the out-turn of the Mint, which must yield something, as its gross expenses are included in the expenditure. At the end of 1866, the whole of the public works will be paid for, so that the expenditure of 1867 should be far less than the income. Besides, the sale of land near the Mint should come to something.

Another meeting was held on the 23d Sept.

His Excellency the Acting-Governor said that the principal object for which the council had been convened was for the second reading of "a draft of an ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding $745,000 to the public service of the year 1866."

The Assistant Surveyor-General had received an additional $340, and the clerk of the works had also received a slight increase of salary, and in order to give him a better position in the eyes of the public, his title had been altered from "overseer" to that of "clerk." An increase of £50 per annum salary had also been made to the superintendent of Government gardens and plantations. The salaries of the general staff employed at the Mint had been estimated at $18,689. The cost of coals would amount to about $12,000 per annum, but as the place would not be in operation until March, there would only be $9,000 required for this year.

In the Harbour Master's department there was a saving of $70 in the salary of the boarding officer and an increase of $288 for boatmen. This latter increase was necessitated by the assistant-surveyor continually requiring the services of a boat. Under the head of Works and Buildings there was an outlay of $12,000 for a tramway one mile in length. This had been adopted upon the recommendation of Mr. Wilson, as an economical arrangement in the construction of roads, and being portable, when not required here could be removed to Kowloon. That gentleman was also of opinion that it would be something novel and useful for the native Chinese to study.

A sum of $10,000 would be also expended upon the drainage of Wongneichoong valley. In the earlier times of the colony this valley had made itself remarkable as being very unhealthy, and had in consequence been acquired by the government of that day, and a considerable sum expended upon it for drainage. Still there was much to be desired in respect to its healthiness, and as building in that vicinity was on the increase, it was resolved to drain it more effectually. The improved drainage would also make it more attractive for those who went there for their recreation. Altogether he (the Governor) thought it would be money well expended.

There would be $3,000 required for a Government bungalow at Kowloon. At present there was only a mat shed, and as a police-magistrate would have to be appointed for that place, a suitable building would be required.—Mr. Sutherland asked if the reclaimed land at the foot of the parade ground would be made available for anything, and expressed a hope that it would be left open to the public, as that part of the Praya was now the only good access to the harbour since Pedder's wharf had been closed by the clock tower.—The Acting Governor replied that the ground would be left open as they were under obligations to the military authorities in regard to that land. There would also be no probability of extending the Praya along the front of the Naval Yard. Admiral Hope had reported favourably to that improvement, intending to have a basin inside the yard for the accommodation of boats, but Admiral Kuper had entertained a contrary opinion.

The Hon. Mr. Sutherland moved, as an amendment: "That the sum of $92,000 military contribution be omitted from the estimates until such times as the revenue derived from the Mint attains that sum." The hon. member said: In bringing this amendment before the Council, it is unnecessary for me to enter into any very elaborate arguments on the subject, as the question has been already sufficiently discussed in Council.

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Indeed it has been the subject of very strongly expressed opinions throughout the colony. It appears to me, however, that the necessity of urging the financial considerations connected with this question, on the notice of the Council, and obtaining the opinion of members thereon, is even greater now than it was last year, for by the statement of revenue and expenditure before us, it appears that the colony is fast verging on—if it has not already arrived at—a position from which it has fortunately been free for some years past, of not being able to meet its current expenses. By the statement before the Council it appears that the revenue for 1866 is estimated at $784.845.00, whilst the expenditure is set down as $913,639.00. the difference indicating an anticipated deficit of $128,794.00. I cannot conclude my remarks without reference to the Mint, the support of which, either with or without employment, will probably entail a yearly expenditure of about £20.000. I should have been glad to have received some definite assurance of what the views of the Government are in regard to the new currency. but there seems to have been nothing further decided upon than the building of the Mint itself. I had hoped to hear at the least that the Imperial Government, whose support we have always been led to count on in this undertaking, would at once have given the Mint employment by ordering the coinage of three or four millions of dollars for the payment of the army and navy in these waters. But it appears there is no likel hood of this being the case. On the contrary we are told that a comparatively small amount of Sycee receivable from the Chinese as indemnity, is all the commissariat is prepared to hand over for mintage, and it appears at present that they will expect to have that coined for them free of any charge.—The Colonial Treasurer seconded the amendment. The hon. member was understood to say that he could not perceive where the profits from the Mint were to come from, for as the average price of bar silver in London was 5s. 1½d., the freight and insurance 3 per cent., the Mint charge 2 per cent., it followed that if the Hong Kong dollar was of the same weight and touch as the current Mexican dollar, the laying down price at the Mint would be 4s. 8d. This fact any one could verify by calculation. He was also of opinion that there would not be any surplus revenue at the end of the financial year. He (the hon. member) had examined the subject and found that the expenditure was increasing. Within the last six months the expenditure had exceeded the receipts by $24,000.—The Acting Attorney-General said that he should support the original motion, as voting against it seemed to him like voting against the law.—The Hon. Mr. Whyie said he could not see it in that light, as the military contribution was voted yearly. He should support the amendment.

The amendment being put to the vote there were:—For the amendment—Hon. Thos. Sutherland, the Colonial Treasurer, Hon. J. C. Whyte. Against the amendment—the Acting Colonial Secretary, the Acting Chief Justice, the Acting Attorney-General, and the Colonial Auditor. The amendment was consequently lost by four votes to three.

The Acting Governor continued, that as regarded the light on the Basses Rocks he had seen somewhere a statement to the effect that such a lighthouse did not exist, but from the papers he had received from the home Government he (the Governor) could only infer that there really was a light upon those rocks. (It is not so, however.) The purposed tax was settled by a commutation of £500.

THE PHILIPPINES.

MANILA.

Dates are down to the 19th Sept. *via* Hong Kong. The English mail of July 26 (owing to its breakdown at Penang) had not arrived. The arrivals have to be reported, on the 9th and 18th Sept. respectively, of the *Olano* and *Iberica*, both from Liverpool, with fair supplies of manufactured goods, the greater portion of which have met with a ready sale. The value of coloured staples has been well maintained, but plain goods cannot be placed at recent quotations.

It is now nearly nine years since the Government of Her Majesty opened the ports of Sual, Iliolo, Zamboanga, and Cebu to trade. At that time the Press of the city, and especially our illustrious contemporary *El Diario de Manila*, giving expression to the public feeling, thanked the far-seeing Ministry that had adopted the measure in question, and the honourable authorities of these islands, who had contributed to its passing. The name of the Supreme Civil Governor, Don Manuel Crespo, is even yet mentioned with enthusiastic gratitude by the mercantile body. In an official document of recent date addressed to a foreign Government by its representative in these islands, we read these words—"To General Crespo, and to all those persons who directly or indirectly contributed to the adoption of this important measure, a debt of gratitude, increasing day by day as the prosperity and material wealth of the country increases, is due by the entire commercial interest."

That such a debt is justly due by the mercantile body and by the entire nation to our illustrious Government is proved by the results displayed in the figures which we insert below:—

PORT OF ILOILO.

Exportation of Sugar in 1855	12,000 piculs.
Do. do. in 1863	250,832 „
Difference in favour of 1863	238,832 piculs.

PORT OF SUAL.

Rice exported in 1857	3,220 tons.
Do. do. in 1863	16,041 „
Difference in favour of latter year ..	12,821 tons.

Nothing can be more eloquent than these figures. Nothing can more effectively demonstrate the rapid development of trade and agriculture in the above-mentioned localities during the short space of eight years. And it could not have been otherwise. Before the opening of the ports the native farmer, with whose position and resources we are all well acquainted, could only dispose of the produce of his fields to a few traders scattered through the province, and among whom, if anyone had attained a competency, it was on so small a scale, that the prices obtained by the farmer were always insufficient to meet his most pressing needs. From this want of a market, and partly from the peculiar character of our institutions, the farmer saw himself under the necessity of selling a part or the whole of the future crop of his farm, a sale always effected at a price ridiculously underrated.

Now the opening of the ports has attracted capitalists to the province in great numbers, and with them wealth has flowed in. Now the productions of those localities which have benefited by the measure, are sent direct to markets at which more profitable prices are obtained, without the necessity of incurring the expenses consequent on the transmission of the goods to this city. Now, looking only at Iloilo, the average price of sugar throughout the year is 75 cents a picul, whereas in 1855 it barely reached half that.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

The London mail of August 26 arrived out on the 30th Sept. Dates are now down to October 6.

Various reports have reached this during the past fortnight concerning the progress of the Dutch expedition to Assahan, some asserting that it had met a serious repulse, and that the commandant had been killed. Such reports, however, which find their way through native channels, as these have, are very little to be relied upon, and it is probable that very little resistance, if any, was at all offered to the Dutch landing. At all events we received intelligence (says the *Straits Times*) from Rhio, brought by one of the steamers returned from the expedition, that Assahan had been taken, and the Dutch had ascended the river of that name in small boats for a great distance, planting the Dutch flag at all the considerable villages they passed.

The fourth criminal session of the court opens on the 9th, but there are no particularly important cases to be got through. The Governor is expected to return from Penang to-morrow. The 34th Regiment of Madras Native Infantry, which has been stationed here for upwards of two years, is to be removed to India, and the 7th Regiment sent in its place. The weather has been exceedingly hot during the fortnight, and a great deal of sickness has prevailed.

A murderous attack was made on Mr. Turnbull, at the Borneo Company's wharf, by a Chinaman, but he escaped with little hurt.

The steamer *T. A. Gibb* arrived from Calcutta, *en route* to Hong Kong, with 4,650 bales cotton and 285 chests opium.

The *Maribelle*, Captain Martin, has been lost at the entrance to the Carimata Passage. Two steamers had gone to the wreck.

The P. and O. steamer *Ottawa* has been fitted with a new shaft, and left for Galle and Bombay. She will take her place again on the China station.

A committee has been appointed to inquire into the objects and utility of the Singapore Screw Pile Company, lately noticed by us.

It has been resolved to send a memorial to the Home Government, on the encroachments of the Dutch in Sumatra.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

BLAIN—On the 31st Sept., at Lawrie Park, South Norwood, Mrs. John Blain, of a son.

DALZIEL—On the 3rd Nov., at 1, St. George's-square, Regent's-park, the wife of Mr. Davison Dalziel, of a son.

GORDON—On the 16th Sept., at Hankow, the wife of W. G. Gordon, of a son.

HALL—On the 31st Oct., at 11, St. George's-square, Sunderland, the wife of Commander Basil Hall, R.N., of H.M.S. Active, of a son.

HARVEY—On the 3rd Nov., at Pembroke, the wife of Commander F. Harvey, R.N., of a son.

MOULE—On the 14th Sept., at Ningpo, the wife of the Rev. C. E. Moule, Missionary, C.M.S., of a daughter.

TOWSE—On the 4th Nov., at Thornwood Lodge, South Norwood, the wife of W. Wrench Towse, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

GLYNN—CRAWFORD.—On the 2nd Nov., at St. Peter's, Pimlico, by the Rev. G. W. Knightley, rector of Dunsby, assisted by the Rev. A. H. Williams, William Anthony Glynn, late of the 26th (Cameronian) Regt., elder son of William Anthony Glynn Esq., of Fairy Hill, Isle of Wight, and Boyton, Cornwall, to Margaret Anderson only daughter of Robert Wigram Crawford, Esq., M.P.

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HOSKINS—ROBINSON.—On the 27th Oct., at Cranford, Captain A. H. Hoskins, R.N., to Dorothea, only daughter of the Rev. Sir G. S. Robinson, Bart., of Cranford, Northamptonshire.

HUTH—DOBREE.—On the 2nd Nov., at St. Mary Abbott's, Kensington, by the Rev. John Gale Dobree, rector of Honton, Suffolk, assisted by the Ven. Archdeacon Sinclair, Ferdinand Marshall, second son of Charles Frederick Huth, Esq., to Caroline Locke, eldest daughter of Bonamy Dobree, Esq.

DEATHS.

IRVIN—On the 10th Sept., at Amoy, after two days' illness, Dr. William Irvin, United States Consul.

LEIGHTON—On the 31st Sept., at Yokohama, Stanley Robert Leighton, aged six days.

LEWIS—On the 10th Sept., at Shanghai, —. Lewis (American), one of the party attacked by Chinese at Chinkiang.

MAXWELL—On the 18th Sept., at Shanghai, William Maxwell, Commissioner of Customs at Taiwan, Formosa, aged 29 years.

MILBANK—On the 7th inst., at Norfolk-road Villas, Bayswater, the wife of John James Milbank, of the steamship Ottawa, of a son.

TALLENTIRE—On the 15th Sept., at the Shanghai General Hospital, of dysentery, John Tallenture, late Master of the British ship Invincible.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1865-66.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1865	317120	22311914	22673100	...	4877838	50179972	27467
Corresponding period last season	320655	3345759	24390470	212087	3606468	51875439	8820

SAILED SINCE.

		Ship.		From.			
Sept. 1	...	Fi-wan	...	Foochow	...	1,181,700	
— —	...	Philip Nelson	...	Hankow	...	550,076	
— 5	...	Art Union	...	Shanghai	...	836,366	
— 8	...	Berwickshire	...	Foochow	...	1,328,200	
— 9	...	Statesman	...	Shanghai	...	909,600	
— 10	...	Caractacus	...	Amoy	...	199,246	
— 11	...	Orissa (mail str.)	...	Shanghai, &c.	...	—	2,286
— 12	...	Herald	...	Macao	...	530,840	
— 15	...	Veronica	...	Canton	...	419,240	
— 16	...	Agra	...	Foochow	...	1,123,300	
— 19	...	Garrawalt (lost)	...	Shanghai	...	863,183	
— 23	...	Alpha	...	Do. &c.	...	—	925

TO UNITED STATES.

							Piculs
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	3387059	1885
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	1963723	62

SINCE SAILED.

Sept. 2	...	Surprise	...	Yokohama	...	916 643	
— 4	...	Azelia	...	Foochow	...	312,800	
— 13	...	Panama	...	Canton	...	61,080	28
— 15	...	J. W. Seaver	...	Shanghai	...	113,115	

TO THE CONTINENT.

							Bales.
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	88	...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

							Tea pkgs	Boxes.
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	12147	300	
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	9252	...	

SHIPMENTS SINCE.

Sept. 2	...	Marmion	...	Hong Kong	...	1,275	94
— —	...	Florence	...	Yokohama	...	3,018	
— 10	...	Chillingham	...	Hong Kong	...	36	

TO AUSTRALIA.

From June 1st to Aug. 31, 1865 ... ... 3,246,490 lbs.
Corresponding period last year ... ... — „

SAILED SINCE.

Sept. 4	...	Helen	...	Foochow	...	423,500
— —	...	Asia	...	Do.	...	370,500
— 9	...	Frey	...	Do.	...	146,200
— 13	...	Mary Hamilton	...	Do.	...	226,800

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	...	...	...	51,022,600	...
„ 1845 to 1846	...	...	...	57,334,200	18,604
„ 1850 to 1851	...	...	...	63,972,000	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854	...	...	...	77,327,800	61,280
„ 1855 to 1856	...	...	...	92,240,300	50,480
„ 1857 to 1858	...	...	...	76,990,255	68,311
„ 1858 to 1859	...	...	...	65,789,792	83,136
„ 1859 to 1860	...	...	...	86,560,452	64,163
„ 1860 to 1861	...	...	...	90,066,160	70,644
„ 1861 to 1862	...	...	...	109,854,040	79,199
„ 1862 to 1863	...	...	...	121,273,580	72,848
„ 1863 to 1864	...	...	...	117,463,586	46,605
„ 1864 to 1865	...	...	...	121,236,870	32317

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1865	...	...	...	2375	133	...
	90425	...	150	650	76	...

SAILED SINCE.

None.

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1865	5800	...	...	...	...	4000
	...	...	...	...	...	...

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1865	31425	10209	500	1430	...	...
	500	2500	...	...	...	...

SAILED SINCE.

Sept. 13	...	Panama	5,000	...	6,214	...	400	...	1,600	...	...	...

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1865	...	5130	40565	1100	210	140300
	375	1803	11983	540	3050	89080

SHIPMENTS SINCE.

Sept. 2	...	Marmion	...	Hong Kong	...	27	...	253	...	14,487	...	120	...	17500
„	...	Fairlight	...	„	...	—	...	—	...	7,314	...	—	...	—
„ 5	...	Passing Cloud	„		...	—	...	—	...	4,413	...	—	...	3,500
„10	...	Chillingham	„		...	16	...	4,953	...	—	...	—	...	—

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1 to Aug. 31, 1865	...	645	3888	725	9600	...

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

TEA CARGOES AFLOAT.

According to the circular of Messrs. Mitchell and Aspinall the following is the list of tea vessels on the way, exclusive of advices of the mail arrived this day.

					lbs.
1865. Feb.	24	Beatrice	S	London	543,267
		NEW SEASON'S.			
1865. June	25	Isles of the South	H	„	1,039,935
	25	Guinevere	S	„	864,630
July	1	Gossamer	S	„	950,449
	7	Lauderdale		„	1,224,400
	7	Bella	„	„	511,330
	8	Japanese	„	„	1,024,280
	9	Highflyer	S	„	1,181,373
	15	Pegasus	H	„	612,389
	18	Devana	F	„	1,053,300
	22	Valdivia	CM	„	440,680
	22	Ethopian	S	„	999.553
	25	Dunmail	F	„	952,979
	25	Weymouth	H	„	1,095,600
	29	Elizabeth Nicholson	S	„	1,132,806
	31	Golden Spur	„	„	780,151
Aug.	3	Lorton	F	„	681,700
	3	Chaasze	„	„	695,419
	5	Bengal	„	„	1,004,300
	5	Everest	„	Liverpool	724,346
	7	Areta	„	London	793,700
	7	Whinfell	„	„	1,065,386
	1	Hoang Ho	H	„	678,510
	8	Ellen Rodger	S	„	758,140
	8	John Lidgett	„	„	998,584
	9	Star of China	„	„	1,055,434
	10	Queen Bee	F	„	916,700
	10	William Mitchell	„	„	788,800
	10	Eleanor	J	„	317,000
	12	Scawfell	C	„	869,297
	12	Fychow	H	„	952,069
	15	Thurso	F	„	623,700
	16	Mary Nicholson	C & M	„	692,718
	16	Constance	C	„	290,855
	18	Norwood	S	„	952,636
	24	Dunkeld	„	„	868,514
	27	Red Deer	„	„	956,929
	29	Burnswark	„	Liverpool	319,473
	29	Neville	„	London	818,483
	30	Kelso	„	„	731,264
	31	Fi Wan	F	„	1,181,700
Sept.	5	Berwickshire	„	„	1,267,800
	18	Agra	„	„	1,123,260
					36,583,839
				Arrived, but not included in Stock	691,600
				Total 1865	37,225,439
				Same period 1864	47,640,800

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COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF DELIVERIES AND STOCKS OF CONGOU IN LONDON AND LIVERPOOL, FROM 1ST JANUARY TO 31ST OCTOBER IN THE YEARS 1854 TO 1865.

Year.	Delivered in 10 Months From Jan. 1 to Oct. 31.	Monthly Delivery.	Stock of Congou on October 31.	No. of Months' Stock.
1854.....	41,670,000	4,167,000	39,745,000	about 9½
1855.....	49,812,000	4,981,000	40,106,000	„ 8
1856.....	43,471,000	4,347,000	54,529,000	„ 12½
1857.....	47,323,000	4,732,000	46,679,000	„ 10
1858.....	51,328,000	5,132,000	44,364,000	„ 8¾
1859.....	52,272,000	5,227,000	28,844,000	„ 5¼
1860.....	57,337,000	5,733,000	35,566,000	„ 6½
1861.....	57,420,000	5,742,000	36,279,000	„ 6⅓
1862.....	67,694,000	6,769,000	40,556,000	„ 6
1863.....	69,150,000	6,915,000	48,555,000	„ 7
1864.....	65,904,000	6,590,000	54,989,000	„ 8⅓
1865.....	76,074,000	7,607,000	52,970,000	„ 7

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Yokohama	6 months sight.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 6¼d.	4s. 7d. to 4s. 8d.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 ditto	6s. 1d.	6s. 2d. to 6s. 3d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 6d.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.
At Singapore	6 ditto		
At Manila	6 ditto	4s. 0½d.	4s. 1d. to 4s. 2d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 296 to 297 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 218 to 219 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 10¾ per cent. prem. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 73 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 26 to 27 discount. Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, 7 per cent. prem.; Gas Company, £3 to £4 prem.; Hong Kong and Whampoa Docks, and Union Docks nominal.

Telegrams from Shanghai 9th Oct. report Exchange at 6s. 3d., and Hong Kong 15th Oct. 4s. 5½d.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEAS.—Buyers appear to have become alarmed at the exeessive export, and disappointed at the effect of the reduction of duty in England. A manifest disinclination to operate for the London market has been displayed during the fortnight, and the rates for black tea at all the ports have fallen. There are very few buyers of green teas; but that description being in small supply maintains itself. Canton: After the departure of the last English mail, this market remained extremely quiet for a week, when considerable activity was shown in scented teas, whilst other kinds were comparatively neglected. The following are the sales of the fortnight:—Country Congous, 1 chop at 23 taels. Scented Or. Pekoe, 10,000 boxes at 22 to 35 taels. Scented Caper, 13,000 boxes at 12½ to 33 taels. Country Greens, 2,620 hf.-ch. at 35 to 53 taels for Gunpowder, 32 to 43 for Imperial, 19 to 42 for Young Hyson, 25 to 66 for Hyson, and 15 to 20 for skin.

AMOY.—Transactions have been on a limited scale during the past fortnight, and prices are without alteration. Congous: Settlements amount to 1,850 half chests, at $16¾ to 18.50 per picul, for fair to good flavory descriptions; stock, 1,300 half chests. Oolongs: Only 5 parcels, 680 half chests of good to fine cargo at $26.50 to 32, and 220 boxes common quality at $22 50, have been taken, prices remaining unchanged. The teamen continue firm in their demands for former rates, to which buyers generally refuse to accede. Stock, 16,120 half chests, and 1,028 boxes.

FOOCHOW.—The market has been quiet, and a general indisposition manifested to operate for export to London, except at a reduction of rates which to some extent has been established. Oolongs continue to be taken for New York at previous rates. The following are the settlements:—Congous: 6,300 chests and 10 800 half-chests, at 6 to 10 taels dust to dusty, 11 to 13 for broken-leaf, 14 to 16 for fair to good common, 17 to 22 middling flavor to Souchong flavor, and 23 to 27 for medium to good Kaisows. The demand has been dull, but settlements display no depreciation. Oolongs: 13,800 half-chests at 14 to 16 taels for common cargo, 17 to 20 for fair to good do., 21 to 24 for superior do., and 25 to 30 for fine. Supplies limited—rates fully maintained. Flowery Pekoe: 150 chests at 19¼ taels for common, and 32 for fine. Scented Teas: 2,200 boxes at 7¼ to 13 for dust and broken-leaf, 24 for medium, and 34½ for fine.

SHANGHAI.—Black: The market is being fed by constant additions from Hankow, and the stock still stands at 57 chops. Quotations:—Second and third crop Oopacks, Tls. 24.0 to 29.0; second crop Ningchows, 27.5 to 33.5; first and third crop Oonahms, 17.5 to 27.5; second and third crop Howows, 17.5 to 19.5. Settlements on this market are 13,700 ch.; reshipments on owners' account, 8,500 ch. Total settlements and reshipments to date, 127,415 ch.; against season, 1864-65, 248,577 ch. Stocks of Congou are estimated at 24,600 ch. Greens:—Supplies of country Tea are limited, but as the bulk of the Fychow and Teenkai crops will be conveyed *via* Ningpo (and not by Kiukiang), it is known that a considerable quantity may shortly be expected. Four chops from these districts have been settled at Tls. 36.5 to 41.0 proportion, which again shows an advance on the opening purchases advised last mail. Of Pingsueys there is now a moderate quantity on the market, but buyers neglect them, and only 1 chop has been settled at Tls. 35, which establishes a decline. Two chops of Shanghai-packed Teas have been settled at Tls. 27.5 to 29.5.

HANKOW.—Limited business, principally for the Shanghai market, at 1.0 to 1.5 decline, buyers giving the preference to all teas with quality, and neglecting the commoner grades. Third crop Oopacks and Oonahms were quoted 14 to 26.5 tls. short price. Settlements for the fortnight, 16,550 chests and 3,700 half chests. Making total settlements to date this season, 230,610 chests and 50,200 half chests; against to same time season 1864-65, 248,190 chests and 46,620 half chests. The stock is estimated at 15,000 chests against 30,800 chests at the same time last season. Black Teas: About 3,000 packages had been settled at 22 to 26 tls., and 11,000 shipped forward to Shanghai on native account, teamen being desirous to defer the acceptance of a decline which buyers on the spot were determined to establish. Only 2,000 chests were left in stock. The Emperor had been put on the berth for London at £2 15s. per ton. Quotations: Ningchows, common to fair, 18 to 26 tls.; Hohows, common to fair, 17 to 21 tls.

YOKOHAMA.—Supplies have come forward freely and regularly, and purchases have about kept pace with them. Quotations are unchanged, but are firm, the finer sorts being scarce. The demand is principally for shipment to New York. The settlements of the fortnight amount to about 2,700 piculs, and the stock on the market is estimated at 3,000 piculs. The quotations are—Ordinary, none; common $19.50 per picul; good common, $20 to 23; medium to good medium, $23.25 to 27.25; fine to finest, $28 to 32. The export for the present season to date is 976,696 lbs. against 1,303,760 lbs. same period last season, and 1,241,155 lbs. season before.

RAW SILK.—The French mail steamer took 1,389 bales for Marseilles and Southampton. The present conveyance takes 1,269 bales and cases for those ports Shanghai: Settlements for the fortnight are estimated at 1,700 to 2,000 bales, taken mostly from medium to inferior classes of Tsatlees and Taysaams. Prices generally have not varied much from last quotations, but the extreme scarcity of good and desirable parcels of silk has made dealers very firm in their demands for such descriptions, and the prices paid in most instances show an advance of about 5 taels per picul. The receipts from the interior have been on a very small scale, and they are likely to remain so for some time, as the prices ruling there are said to be above the equivalent of Shanghai rates. The unsold stock has consequently been considerably reduced, and is now estimated at 1,500 to 2,000 bales, consisting chiefly of common grades of silk, and some damp and mildewed parcels. From Japan, the receipts by the French and English mail steamers have amounted to 290 bales. Tsatlees, No. 1, 560 taels per picul; No. 2, 540; No. 3, 520 to 525. Taysaams, No. 1, 470 to 490; No. 2, 450. Yuenfas, No. 1, 480.

CANTON.—Owing to a somewhat sudden inquiry from Bombay, prices have advanced about twenty dollars per picul for Kow-kongs, whilst for Europe the finer sorts have ruled from five to ten dollars higher.

YOKOHAMA.—A large business was done in silk seeds in the early part of the fortnight. The first buyers made a great mistake with regard to this article. They purchased largely about one month ago and since at 2½ to 3 itzeboos per card, some paying as high as 3½ itzeboos for yellow. All these purchases are still in Yokohama, and will not be shipped for three weeks hence. At the present time contracts can be made with the Japanese for the yellow at 2 itzeboos for cash. Large quantities are offered for sale, all restrictions being entirely removed. Later than the end of this month it would not be advisable to ship. The inquiry for raw silk during the fortnight has fallen off materially, the total settlements not having exceeded 200 bales. The holders have displayed a desire to realise by reducing their rates (say $20 to 25), but not to a sufficient extent to induce operations. There is a large unsold stock, nearly 5,000 Japanese bales, a great portion of which has been pledged to foreign firms for cash advances at high rates of interest. This state of affairs cannot be of long duration, and a fall in rates may be shortly anticipated. Mybash and Sinshiu, $700 to 790; Oshiu, $620 to 770; Koshiu, $590 to 660.

DRUGS, &C.—CANTON.—Cassia Lignea: Notwithstanding the very limited demand, during the whole of the present month, the stock augmented to 4,500 pls., which makes it apparent that holders expected the same purchases to continue. There being no settlements for the fortnight, the quotation is still the same as last reported, viz., $17 to 17.30 per picul; buyers being disinclined to pay this rate at present. China Galls: A sale of 100 pls. is reported for export at $12.25. Vermilion: $37.50 per box of 50 catties—very little doing. Galangal: 100 pls. reported settled for the Indian market at $1.90. Rhubarb: No supplies, no stock. Musk: A new arrival of about 30 catties inferior quality is firmly held at $105 per catty. Ginger: The report about the extensive failure of the new crop is fully corroborated, and prices are further advancing. Essential Oils: No settlements, no supplies.

CAMPHOR.—HONG KONG.—The small parcel of Japan has been reshipped by importers, and as there has not been any fresh arrivals, oru market is now bare of stocks; the nominal quotations are 19.50 to 20, packed.

CHINA IMPORTS.

COTTON YARN.—Sales amount to about 140 bales: prices are much the same as last reported. Grey Shirtings: About 18,000 pieces have been sold at slightly advanced rates; the higher numbers are much inquired tor, but there are none in stock. White Shirtings: 1,100 pieces have found buyers at previous rates, and 300 pieces 56 reed in Foochow at $3.65. T-Cloths: These continue in good demand at steadily advancing prices; settlements amount to about 10,000 pieces, which include 900 sold at auction being damaged goods, and also 6,000 pieces Long Cloths. American Drills: The market continues bare of these goods. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades: The only transactions to note is the sale of 1,000 pieces of Brocades; prices are slightly higher. Damasks and Chintzes: Sales comprise 500 pieces of the former, and 1,300 of the latter; an advance of about 50 cents in Damasks may be noted. Handkerchiefs: About 5,100 dozen have been settled at previous prices.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes and Habit Cloths: A steady but moderate demand continues for these goods. Settlements very nearly correspond with those of last fortnight, they are 708 pieces of the former and 214 of the latter. In Foochow 284 pieces Spanish Stripes have

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been sold. Long Ells: A brisk inquiry still exists for Long Ells, but the stock remains as scanty as before, 200 pieces have found buyers, and rates are firm at last quotations. Camlets: 1,090 pieces have been sold; prices unchanged. Lastings: 400 pieces have been cleared at previous rates.

METALS.—Iron: There is no change to note in price. Sales have been effected of Nail Rod Iron to the extent of 1,680 piculs, and of Flat 372 piculs. Lead: Settlements amount to about 2,098 piculs, against 1,300 last fortnight, and about 100 the previous one. Prices are much as last quoted, but the tendency is upwards. In Canton 850 piculs have been sold, and 3,500 piculs in Foochow. Tin: 1,300 slabs have found buyers. Tin Plates, and Steel: No sales to report.

COALS.—HONG KONG.—The market is firm, with an upward tendency, owing to an entire cessation of arrivals. The quotations are—Welsh, 10½ to $11 (scarce); English, 10 to $10½; North Wales, 9.50 to $10; Australian, 7 to $7½ (scarce). Shanghai: Without any arrivals for several weeks of English coals on the market, prices for the remaining stocks for sale from godowns have become firmer. As the demand is, however, restricted to purchases of small lots, it is difficult for holders to establish higher rates. Sales: English steam coals, from godown, lots to suit, 9 to 9.5 taels per ton. Cardiff, to arrive, 9.2.5 taels per ton. American, slow of sale at 9.5 to 9.7.5 taels per ton from godown, and 10 taels from ship. Stock of American in port afloat, 1,000 tons. Sydney coals have been selling in small lots from ship at 7.2.5 to 7.5 taels per ton. No stocks. Japan coals, no market for inferior qualities.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From London: Aug. 27, Gleam.

At SHANGHAI.—From Liverpool: 7, Chinaman. From Sunderland: 17, Robin Hood. From New York (*via* Hong Kong): 15, Amaranth.

At HONG KONG.—From London: Sept. 25, Cambalu. From Hamburg: 26, Freya.

At MANILA.—From Cardiff: Sept. 3, Moulin; 4, Adriana Petr.; 7, Langdale; 2, Gesurigeen; 16, J. Lodkwyk, Uriend Schap.

At SINGAPORE.—From London: Oct. 1, Cosmos; 4, St. Paul. From Glasgow: Sept. 27, Lochleven Castle. From Hamburg: Oct. 1, Elise.

At PENANG.—None.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—For New York: Sept. 2, Surprise.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Sept. 4, Art Union; 11, Statesman; 19, Garrawalt (lost off Formosa). For New York: Sept. 15, J. W. Seaver.

From FOOCHOW.—For London: Aug. 16, Agra. For New York: 8, Azelia.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For Liverpool, via Macao: Sept. 10, Veronica. For New York: 16, Panama.

From MANILA.—For Liverpool: Sept. 19, Peerless.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Sept. 23, Lorton; 29, Eliza Thornton.

From PENANG.—For New York: Oct. 5, Casilda.

LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Raphael, Simon Hobley, Seringapatam.

At HANKOW—For London: Iron Crown, St. Andrew's Castle.

At KIUKIANG.—For London: Emperor.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: City of Quebec, Dartmouth, Ensign, Glencoe, Glengairn, Helen Nicholson, Horsa, Polmaise, Wild Deer. For Liverpool: Patna. For New York: Finzel, Podesta.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Aurora Australis (full), Manfred, Banian, Merse, Lord Macaulay, Alexandrina, Caractacus, Canaan. For New York: Douglas Castle, Glenaros, Archer.

At AMOY.—For London: Florence Nightingale.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Annie Archbell, Yaratilda, Arab Steed, Tamerlane. For New York: Sea Serpent, Powhattan, Tanjore, Tyndale.

At MANILA.—For London: Monsoon, Nelson. For Liverpool: Tigris. For New York: Melita, Cutwater.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Caldbeck, Zoe, Wye, Zanthippe. For Liverpool: Lochleven Castle, Mary Spencer, Simoon. For Channel: Forerunner, G. H. Wappans. For Bordeaux: Maria.

At PENANG.—For London: Balnaguith, Adelaide, Nyassa.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

At YOKOHAMA.—To London: Tea and cotton, £1. 10s. to £2. 10s.; Silk, £3 to £3. 10s. per ton.

At HANKOW.—To London: £2. 10s. to £3 per ton.

At KIUKIANG.—The Emperor is loading for London at £2. 15s. per ton.

At SHANGHAI.—Rates continue extremely low. A large amount of tonnage is leaving the port—seeking which may prove advantageous to those remaining, for coasting, there exists but little chance of improvement. To London the rates are £1. 10s. to £2. 10s. nominal.

At FOOCHOW.—To London: £1. 10s. to £2 per ton of 50 ft. To New York: $9 per ton of 40 ft.

At HONG KONG.—The following settlements are from the Circular of G. Holmes:—Gresham (965), to Portsmouth with Invalids, at £22 per man. Madagascar (1,337), Manila to New York, or London or Liverpool with hemp, £2. 5s. per ton; Sea Mew (510).—From one or two ports in Java and Padang to New York or Boston, or to the Channel for orders, £2. 7s. 6d per ton. Catherine (414), Manila to Sydney, £1. 17s. 6d.; Peiho (408), to Melbourne, £1. 7s., if on to Sydney, £1. 10s.; Libelle (280), to San Francisco and back, $7 per ton of 40 feet. In coasting charters we notice the Abeona (261), to Chefoo and back, 22½c. per picul; Canton (309), to Newchwang and back, 27c.; Princess (212), Whampoa to Newchwang and back, 29c. The British barque Pride of the Ganges (631) is taken up for coolies to Demerara, at £14 per head; and we observe two French, one Swedish, and one Norwegian vessel are taken up to convey coolies to Havana at £12 per man. The estimated number and tonnage of disengaged vessels in Hong Kong is—British, 62, 29 070 tons; foreign (exclusive of Siamese), 54,23,662 tons; total, 116,52.716 tons.

MANILA.—The English ship Monsoon has engaged for London about 600 tons, Unclayed Sugar at £1. 10s. per ton. The Nelson on the berth for the same port has secured about 200 tons Hemp at £1. 10s. per ton.

PENANG.—Very little freight is offering, while the available tonnage is much in excess of the requirements. The Italian barque Adelaide, 456 tons, has forced down rates, and is loading for London at 15s. tin sugar £1 to £1. 2s. 6d.

CASUALTIES.

SHANGHAI.

The Garawalt, from Shanghai to London, Sept. 19, with 863,183 lbs. of tea, is reported by telegram to be lost off Taiwan (Formosa).

The Salamander reports on her passage from Taiwan to Takao, saw a large brig high and dry on the sands and laying on her beam end; rounded too, and hoisted up No. 675, "Do you require any assistance?" the brig hoisted up No 38, "No!" she hoisted Hanoverian colours and her name is the Amphitrite.

SINGAPORE.

The War Eagle, Singapore to London, Sept. 19, also reported lost near Anjer.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—Sept. 9, Honigby, Cardiff to Singapore; 14, Kinderdyk, Newcastle to Batavia; 15, Felix, Liverpool to Manila; Thos. Dickson, Sunderland to Hong Kong; Cornelis Anthony, Rotterdam to Batavia; Mountain Ash, London to Hong Kong; 16, G. van Hogendorp, Rotterdam to Batavia; 18, Lochleven Castle, Greenock to Singapore; 19, Allegonda Jacoba, Newcastle to Batavia; K.N. Yachtclub, Newcastle to Batavia; 25, Elizabeth, Newcastle to Batavia; 28, Johanna Maria, Newport to Singapore; Elizabeth, Shields (orders); Cosmos, London to Singapore; Quintet, Amsterdam to Sourabaya.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—24, Benefactress, New York to Hong Kong; American, Boston to Batavia.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—13, Boy Bendisen, Macao to Hamburg; 14, Hastings, Singapore to London; 24, Star of China, Shanghai to London.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—13, Shirley, Manila to New York.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

The interest due on the Ceylon debentures under Ordinances 10 of 1860, and 19 of 1862, will be paid on the 15th by the Crown Agents for Colonies.

TOBACCO.—Japan was quoted, in the circulars of the 1st inst., at 4½d. to 7½d. per lb., which is an advance on previous rates, but the market for this description is firm and rising, and we have heard of a parcel realising the high figure of 10d. per lb. Java is quoted at 5½d. to 13d. per lb.; Manila at 6d. to 3s.; and Manila Cheroots at 7s. to 8s. per lb.

The Circular of Mr. Page states:—Mexican Dollars: Market continues inactive and business limited. Owing to the large supply expected by the Seine having been left behind at Tampica, about £12,000 realised 60d. for the Southampton steamer of 4th inst., and about £15,000 has since been sold at 59¼d. for refining. Bar Silver: The demand for India continues very active, and the business during the fortnight has again been on a large scale; the settlements (including contracts in advance) considerably exceed half a million sterling. The price has advanced from 61 3-16ths to 61⅞. The shipments recorded since 26th ultimo amount to £2,201,970, of which nearly two-thirds was for Bombary, about £350,000 is engaged for the Bombay steamer from Southampton on 12th inst. The rates of exchange are, on Calcutta, 60 days' sight, 1s. 11⅞d. to 2s.; on Bombay, do., 2s. to 2s. 0⅛d.; Singapore, do., 4s. 5½d. nominal; Hong Kong, do., 4s. 5d½d. do.; Shanghai, do., 6s. 4d. do.; Yokohama, do., 4s. 7d. do.

CASUALTIES.—The Princess of Wales (barq) of Harwich, bound for Shanghai, whilst being towed out of Harwich harbour on the morning of the 9th of November, ran into the Martlet (s.s.), and sustained loss of bowsprit and jibboom. She consequently was obliged to put back.

The Belle, of Sunderland, Wayman, from Cronstadt to the river Amoor, which put into Falmouth on the 31st October, having grounded on the Ruggen Flat, off Copenhagen, has been surveyed and commenced discharging her cargo.

The Prinses Amelie, Groeneveld, from Batavia to Amsterdam, which put into Mauritius, 5th October, very leaky, had commenced discharging. Sundry bales of coffee were damaged, and it was feared that the sugar would also be found in the same state.

SPOKEN.—Ary Scheffer, Rotterdam to Batavia, Oct. 5, 7 N., 26 W.

LAID ON.—At Liverpool: For Batavia and Pekalongan, Edith Haviland. At London: For Hong Kong and Canton, Punjaub.

DEPARTURES.—Nov. —, From Amsterdam for Batavia, Zaanstroom; 8, from Plymouth for Batavia, Sunda (s.s.); 9, from London for Newport and Singapore, Bencleuch; 10, from London for Newport and Galle, Codan.

THE MATELLA COFFEE ESTATES.

This company has been formed for the purpose of taking over three coffee estates in the Matella district, which, by last advices from Ceylon, will be brought very near to the line of railway, and thus avoid the delays hitherto so objectionable in Ceylon. The vendor guarantees a dividend of 12 per cent. per annum, and, considering the enormous increase in the demand for Ceylon coffee, we think there is little doubt of that and much larger profits being realised. Ceylon coffee now stands at the head of improvable produce in Mincing-lane. The directors are gentlemen of local experience, and in these affairs that is the main point to success. In fact the representations in the prospectus would not be put forward by them unless entirely reliable. There are only 2,000 shares to allot, the particulars of which can be seen on our last page.

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Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, Nov. 8.

Political news is very scarce; the members of Parliament are still busy in the sections examining the Budget. On the 9th the debate will be opened. Rumours about a Ministerial crisis still circulate, but I do not think there is any truth in them. It is said that our Premier will make a declaration in this sense in one of the first sittings. Our Cabinet, however, is still threatened by the Lemburg question, created by the Bill of our Minister of the Financial Department, who desired that this province should pay equal excise imposts with the other provinces. *L'Ami des Inhérits Lembourgois* says that the inhabitants will beg Napoleon to interfere with our Government, because their rights are attacked. This question perhaps will become a European affair, when M. Bismarck meddles with it; for Lemburg also belongs to the German Confederation.

The Royal family are at "Het Loo." They will remain there for some weeks. Nothing more is heard about the Prince of Orange and his financial embarrassments.

The *rinderpest* still prevails in many parts of the province of South-Holland. Since the plague broke out 6,093 head of cattle have been attacked, of which number 2,121 have died, and 1,752 were cured. The medical treatment is now very successful, so that about 50 per cent. of the cattle attacked are saved. Acceding to the wishes of the Opposition, the Government has drawn a *cordon sanitaire* for a considerable distance round the infected places. Soldiers and men-of-war are appointed to watch all the roads and rivers to prevent any passing, so that it is now impossible to export either from Rotterdam or Dordrecht to the London market. I need scarcely say that this measure causes a great deal of remonstrance from the trade. On the other hand, the success of the *cordon* has been established by the fact that outside it only three cases of *rinderpest* have occurred. Till now no animals except horned cattle; and those inoculated have taken the disease. The veterinary surgeons apply either the allopathic or the homœopathic system of medicine; but in general the farmers have a dislike for medical treatment, and they prefer to slaughter their cattle and to sell the infected meat for 1d. to 2d. per lb. No higher price can be had, in consequence of it being generally forbidden to import fresh meat into the towns.

The Minister of the Marine Department, the managers of the Trading Company, the Japan officers, and several more authorities, were present at the launch of the screw steam frigate *Kai-Yoo*, on the 2nd, from the yard of Messrs. C. Gips and Zonen, at Dordrecht. This war steamer, of the most elegant construction, was built for the Japan Government. She measures 2,600 feet, and will carry 28 hundred-pounders. She will be propelled by a pair of engines of 400-horse power, which are to be manufactured at the iron works of Fyenoord. The cost of this frigate is estimated to amount to 1,600,000f. The Trading Company entertained at dinner all the authorities who were present. The Manager proposed, as the first toast, "the health of the Emperor of Japan," which was replied to by the Japanese Commander, who proposed "the health of the King of the Netherlands."

The guns taken at Simonoseki have been placed in the Hospital of Invalids at Brombeck. Jhr. F. de Casembroot has written a history of this battle, of which a second edition has already appeared.

The Culture Bill meets with the general approval of the Liberal party. It is beyond doubt that the Bill will be passed with a very great majority.

Anyone who visited our Opera last Wednesday week might have easily imagined himself, on leaving the house, to be in Prussia, and under the immediate control and sceptre of Von Bismarck; for at all the doors, and even in the entrance hall, one saw Prussian policemen, in full uniform. Evidently they were looking out for some one; they stared all passers-by full and most impudently in the face. Some, perhaps, thought that they were "wanted"—wanted by that Prussian Minister, who, perhaps, might have a mind to treat the Netherlands somewhat like Schleswig-Holstein; but all the opera visitors were allowed to pass, till, at last, a young, pale-looking German, of about twenty years of age, came down from the stairs—from the upper part of the house. He grew still paler, when he saw below what seemed to him familiar faces. One of the Prussia policemen laid hold of him; the poor culprit, who, fancying that he was still in Prussia, thought no escape possible, made no resistance, was "nabbed," and taken to the police-station. The bystanders looked on, but evidently did understand the meaning of what was going forward. However, when the next morning the *Nieuw Rotterdamsche Courante* put the story in its true light, every one was bursting with indignation; nothing but this affair was thought or spoken of. *Foreign* policemen had dared to arrest a man; but still more than this, our own police authorities had assisted them in doing so; notwithstanding the one as well as the other proceeding is penally forbidden by our laws and treaties. The poor fellow had been taken by the Prussians to the police-station, and had been put in prison, because the police said he admitted to have stolen from his master, a lawyer at Gladbach, about 400 thalers, which he spent on a *danseuse*.

In the town-council the next day one of the members demanded an explanation from the burgomaster (mayor and head of the local police). He could not give any information, but said, at the next meeting, that he had received a report from the director of the police, in which the statement in the newspaper was declared to be false, because the German was taken into custody by Dutch policemen. The accused himself and the bystanders declared, however, the contrary, and this proved to be the truth; for the next day the Government interfered, and the liberation of the German was at once ordered, and, also, that his money and goods should be given back to him. The poor culprit, Wiedemeyer is his name, started at once, *via* Ostend, to London.

I, however, do not think the matter has come to an end yet. People are so indignant about this gross abuse of power by the police authorities that they ask for their punishment. Whether this will be the case I cannot tell yet; but it is certain that seldom has a more disgraceful thing happened than that a man, guilty or not, should be made a prisoner by foreign police, and that he should be aided therein by our own officers.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Our market remains in a favourable condition, There are, however, but a few transactions in the Company's sorts to mention, because there is no stock, all what is offered is taken at auction prices. There is a lively demand for yellow sorts. During last week the following parcels were sold:—2,300 b. Padang, ex Maarten van Rossem, at 46c., 725 b., Java, ex Fop Smit, at 44c.; 408 b. do., ex Nederland, at 44½c.; 587 b. do., ex Nicot, at 46c.; and 820 b. do., ex Japara, at 45 to 46½c. The stock consists of 332,846 b. of the Trading Company's, and 35,100 b. private. To-day, 1,700 b. Java Coffee, ex Gebroeders, were sold at 45c. The Trading Company has announced its last auction for this year, consisting of 122,100 b., which will be held on the 22nd inst. Rattans: The 33,300 bundles Macao, offered by inscription, were sold at a price which did not transpire.

SUGAR.—The Trading Company advertised its auction on the 23rd o this month, at which will be offered 25,500 kr. In the last week 2,500 kr. Java were sold at 1⅛f. to 1⅜f. above the September prices. The market is in a firm condition. The stock amounts to 45,475,884 kilo.

RICE.—Dull.

SPICES.—Nutmegs are paid with 84 to 85c. for No. 1; 73 to 74c. for No. 2; Mace with 90c. for D, and 86c. for E. The few lots, which are offered, are taken at this quotation. The stock now consists of:—

	Nutmegs.	Mace.	Cloves.	Cinnamon.
On Warrants ..	5,723c. ..	1,025c. ..	3,509c. ..	514fard.
Unsold	311 ..	196 ..	— ..	666 do.

TEA.—On the 25th of Oct. the Trading Company offered at auction 7,062 ¼ and 523 ½-chests Java, which were sold. Since the auction there has been lively demand, so that it is supposed firm prices will be paid for the quantities of China and Java tea that will be offered on the 8th, 17th, and 24th inst. A cargo of 7,500 chests will arrive in the current month, per Yeavering Belle, direct from Foo-chow-Foo.

TOBACCO.—Java Leaves: The whole crop has now arrived on our market, and in general the quality is esteemed to be inferior. The favourable opinion which was maintained about the Reinbang tobacco has miscarried, and in such a manner that the whole crop is considered to be a bad growth; the colours are bad and the leaves are weak. The reports about the next crop of Java are also unfavourable, so that without any doubt it will become much dearer for fine qualities. Ordinary can be bought at a declined quotation, because there is a very large stock of common qualities. Manila: With some transactions for home consumption and export. For 1a and 2a the prices became somewhat better; those for 3a rather declined, because there is no demand here; 4a with much inquiry. On the 15th and 16th November another 6,000 bales are to be offered at auction. The stock amounted to 37,090 b. Java, and 4,402 b. Manila.

INDIGO.—With a good demand, some private lots were sold at full prices. The market has still a firm appearance for most descriptions, and importers have been disinclined to progress with sales, unless at outside quotations, and some classes advanced rates.

COTTON.—The Trading Company held its auction on the 28th Oct. 2,275 bales were offered, of which 322 bales Tinnevelly fair, sold at 101 to 103c.; 322 bales Japan good fair, sold at 102 to 104½c.; 84 bales ditto fair, sold at 103c.; 23 bales ditto middling fair, sold at 94½c.; all per half kilo. Subsequently, an advance of 4 to 5c. was willingly paid; but in the last days the market was rather heavier.

COCOA-NUT OIL.—Firm; prime Cochin was paid with 33f.

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'CHANGE.—London, 2 mo., f.11.81½; short, f.11.96¼; Paris, 2mo., f.56 5-16ths; short, f.56⅝; St. Petersburg, 3 mo. f.151; Hamburg, 2 mo., f.35 3-16ths; short, f.35⅝.

SHIPPING—ARRIVALS.—Oct. 26, at Texel, from Java, Cinghi; 28, at Flushing, from Java, Charlotte; 29, at Brouwershaven, from Java, Noord Brabant,; Nov. 1, Kensington, from Mauritius, with the cargo of the Johanna Maria.

DEPARTURES.—Nov. 4, from Brouwershaven for Batavia, Ankringa; 6, from Zierikzee, for Batavia, Speculant; 5, from Texel, for Sourabaya, Bonjer; for Batavia, Java Packet; for Samarang, Zaantstroom, Vertrouwen.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

For JAVA.—Per Java Paeket: Major Heyligers and family, Major Bacherus, Captain Offermans and family, Captain Weiland, Lieutenant Leeping and family, Mr. J. Schoon and family, Messrs. Croes, V. D. Linden, Reynicke, Heyligers, Kannemans, Katz, Schukink Cool, Bonte, Mrs. Buyn, Klein, Breunier, Ryke, and Walter; per Argo, Messrs. J. van Schmid, J. Thihaff, Noels, H. Bosch, A. Catoine, Harloff and family, van Waardenburg and family, Klad, van den Bergh, Bodegom; per Vertrouwen, Mr. J. Kind; per Zaanstroom. Messrs. A. B. Keuper and family, Lelyveld, Miss M. Filet, and O. van Riesz.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From JAVA.—Per Noord Brabant: Messrs. Nolthenius and family, Teeuwsen and family, van Opdorp, van der Loef, Meyer, H. Smit, Mrs. Tivez; per Anglia, Mr. P. L. Schweiler.

HAMBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NOVEMBER 7.

In my last letter I sent you a digest of the Government proposals for the reorganisation of the Russian American Company, since which a special general meeting of the shareholders was held at St. Petersburg, to take these proposals into consideration. I am now enabled to communicate the counter-proposals made by the company in the form of "requests." In consequence of the heavy expenses to which they have been subjected in the organisation of the colony, and the serious losses they have had lately by their tea trade, and which have fully exhausted their reserve capital, they beg permission to issue obligations to the amount of two millions of roubles, and to receive an annual subvention of 200,000 Rs., founding their claim to a subvention on the alleged fact that the Government would have had to pay a sum four or five times larger if they had had to support the churches, the clergy and troops in the colony. The company next pray to be left in possession of their two principal privileges of the exclusive right to carry on the fur trade, and the general commerce of the colony. As the company are to remain bound to provision the colony, if the ports are thrown open to free trade, they would only have a very unprofitable business in articles of consumption, whilst the trade in other commodities, which now tend to restore the equilibrium by leaving a moderate profit, would be open to general competition. Besides this, they contend that the sources of wealth derived from the fur trade would soon be exhausted, whilst it, would be impossible to prevent the importation of gunpowder arms, and spirits, which would be smuggled in large quantities. A division of the territory into that belonging to the company and that thrown open to free trade is, they maintain, practically impossible, because the company would be unable to protect their own division from smugglers. They also decline to admit the free exchange of their tokens against real coined money, because they would then require a double capital, and not be able to protect the colony from the importation of spurious coins. In agreeing to the admission of free immigrants in the colony they decline binding themselves to feed them or protect them from hostile attacks from the wild native tribes. Should the Government be induced to agree to these proposals they request an extension of their privileges for a term of twenty years, and as the company will be placed in a very difficult and trying position if the question remains much longer unsettled, they wish to have a definitive answer in the course of a month. If the Government decline to accept these proposed alterations, the company ask the Government to appoint and pay the salaries of the administrative officers hitherto in the service of the company. And finally, if the question cannot be settled in the course of a month, the company request the advance of a loan of money secured by a mortgage of their colonial landed and other property.

In the proceedings of the Russian Geographical Society, the appearance of the new weekly journal *Eastern Coast*, published at Nicolayefsk (from which I gave you some extracts in a former letter) is thus noticed :—"Besides meteorological observations and the movements of Russian vessels in the Japan seas, this journal gives some interesting accounts of the situation of affairs in those distant regions. From an article headed 'Unfortunate Consequences of the Thawing of our Rivers,' we learn that the navigation of the Amoor since the town of Nicolayefsk was first founded has always reopened between the 6th and 13th of May (old style). In another article called 'Present State of Nicolayefsk and the Amoor,' stress is laid on the disadvantages under which the inhabitants labour from the rawness of the climate. The last overland summer post leaves Nicolayefsk on September 15, and then no communication can be kept up till the middle of December when the winter road is established over the snow. In the spring the last winter mail is despatched on the 5th of March, and then follows another hiatus, which lasts till the opening of the navigation, about the middle of May. Very interesting too are the accounts given of the tigers in the Southern districts of the country. Almost every year accidents happen from the rapaciousness of these dangerous animals. They abound in such numbers that their skins are now a common article of trade, selling in the shops at Nicolayefsk at from 30 to 60 roubles each, though in the southern parts they are much cheaper and may be bought for 10 to 30 roubles according to quality."

From Vienna we learn that a deputation of the Provisional Committee of the First Austrian Export Company had the honour of an audience last week to thank the Emperor for granting their concession and deliver into his hands a pamphlet, explanatory of the patriotic objects they propose to accomplish, which his Majesty was graciously pleased to accept, and assured the gentlemen of the lively interest he took in the success of their spirited undertaking, promising them his hearty protection and the support of the Government.

Capt. Arminjou, of the Italian navy, has arrived in Paris for the purpose of conferring with the Japanese Daimios, now in the French capital, with regard to the general principles of a treaty between Italy and Japan. Capt. Arminjou goes out in the first instance to Buenos Ayres, from whence he will proceed at the head of a small squadron to Japan. The chief advantage proposed to be gained by this treaty is connected with the firm belief that exists in Italy that none but the Japanese silkworms are able to replace the Italian breed now annihilated by the disease that has proved so fatal to them, and there is no possibility of obtaining them genuine either by ships of war or private trading vessels, without the right of entering the ports of Japan consequent on the conclusion of a commercial treaty.

Paulino Natorio, a native of Manila, 27 years of age, and mate of the Spanish brig *Eloreano*, has just been arrested for the murder of a young lady of this city, with whom he was in love, but as she would have nothing to say to him and rejected his offers of marriage, he killed her by a blow with his stiletto in the neck, escaping for the moment, but was soon hunted down by the police and is fully committed for trial.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—There has been a continuous lively demand for most descriptions, some of which are 1s. 8d. Sch. Bco. higher, whilst the opinion is generally favourable. Sales of the fortnight 35,000 bags.

SUGAR.—Raw is again 4 Sch. Bco. dearer, but the amount of sales has been limited on account of the small stocks in warehouse. Refined in good demand at full prices. Sales since last mail 25,000 loaves.

RICE.—More animation prevails for cleaned grain, as several extensive orders have been effected for immediate shipment before the frost sets in. Of rough the only sale recorded was 1,000 bags of Rangoon ex *Melbourne* at full prices. Holders requiring higher rates has prevented more business being done in this article.

SPICES.—Large transactions in Cassia Lignea at rising prices, nothing now to be had under 11½d. to 11¾d. Sch. Bco. There is a good demand for Mace and Nutmegs, in consequence of which their market value has risen considerably. More attention is turned to Pepper.

TEA.—A fair amount of business has been done in most descriptions, chiefly at former rates. There is still a good demand for common to good ord. Congou, though mid. is neglected. Fine and superfine Kaisow, Moning and Pakling Congou have been largely taken for exportation. A parcel of superfine Souchong (new crop) was sold for arrival. Pecco is a shade lower, with a large business at the reduced prices. Of green Moyune there is but a very small stock on hand, and as this sort is in great request at high rates for North America, the next arrivals cannot fail to leave a good profit. No alteration in Canton made.

SPELTER.—At first a favourable reaction set in, 5,000 centners having been taken at 13.14, after which 14 marks were paid for 1,000 centners, and even 14.6 for special marks. But during the last week a complete stagnation ensued, and prices are now rather in favour of buyers. Arrived in October 38,000 centners. Do. from January 1 to end of October 270,000 centners against 471,770 last year at same time and 185,300 in 1863. Present stock 25,000 centners against 35,000 last year and 28,500 in 1863.

SHIPPING.—SAILED.—From Cuxhaven Oct. 31 Fidelio for Hong Kong.

LOADING AT HAMBURG.—Catharina, for Shanghai (ready to sail); Mauritius and Jan Tecker, for Singapore; Patria, for Singapore and Hong Kong; Garland, for Hong Kong; Margaretha, for Hong Kong and Tientsin.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOV 11, 1865.

ANALYSIS OF CHINESE COMMERCE.

UNDER the above title a carefully compiled analysis and comparison of the trade during the years 1863 and 1864 has been published by Mr. NOETZLI, of the Chinese Maritime Customs. With the view of placing on record, in a condensed form, some of the most useful statistics contained in it, we extract a few of the tables, and Mr. NOETZLI's explanatory remarks.

The first table shows the "comparative value of the total import and export trade at the different Treaty Ports in 1863 and 1864:"—

Ports.	1863. Taels.	1864. Taels.
Shanghai	79,139,446	66,027,683
Canton	17,628,616	14,692,165
Swatow	7,463,268	10,026,375
Amoy	9,924,343	9,313,919
Foochow	20,283,104	20,061,485
Ningpo	16,000,861	14,690,818
Hankow	22,471,005	23,944,532
Kiukiang	10,367,759	7,286,708
Chinkiang	5,258,633	5,830,611
Chefoa	3,821,084	5,574,768
Tientsin	7,188,442	9,476,208
Newchwang	—	2,388,908
Formosa	[illegible]	927,980
Total	199,546,561	190,242,160

The total estimated value of trade of each port includes the amount of the whole import and export trade, less the amount of the re-exports with the exception of Formosa, where the re-exports, consisting chiefly of opium re-exported to Tai-wan-Foo (Formosa), are not deducted.

From this it will be seen that the trade in 1864 shows a falling off as compared with 1863 of, at Shanghai, 13,111,763 tls.; at Canton, of 2,936,451 tls.; at Ningpo, of 1,310,043 tls.; and at Kiukiang of 3,081,051 tls. On the other hand, Swatow shows an increase of 2,563,107 tls.; Hankow, of 1,473,517 tls.; Chefoo, of 1,753,684 tls.; and Tientsin, of 2,287,766 tls., while Amoy, Foochow, and Chinkiang remain stationary, or nearly so; and the total for all ports in 1864 shows a decrease, as compared with 1863, of 9,304,401, notwithstanding the list for last year is swelled by the two new ports of Newchwang and Formosa with 3,316,888 tls. (together), which made no return whatever in 1863.

The two next tables give, firstly, the imports into, and, secondly, the exports from each port separately, for the year 1864, which we here condense into one table:—

Ports.	Total Imports. Taels.	Total Exports. Taels.
Shanghai	64,832,271	39,847,768
Canton	7,264,445	10,244,590
Swatow	6,399,786	3,700,112
Amoy	7,064,739	2,830,482
Foochow	7,134,133	13,124,056
Formosa	579,638	463,493
Ningpo	10,264,616	6,250,306
Hankow	10,862,216	13,453,425
Kiukiang	3,132,652	4,070,948
Chinkiang	4,673,353	1,208,939
Chefoo	3,024,974	2,758,547
Tientsin	7,779,197	1,730,780
Newchwang	709,738	1,710,398
Total	133,721,758	101,393,844

Showing an excess of imports over exports of 32,327,914 taels. To assimilate the aggregate shown by the above tables of imports and exports with the first table, the value of re-exports has to be deducted, amounting to 44,333,719 taels. An analysis of these tables shows the total amount of *British* trade in China to be 100,783,771 taels, or about ten-elevenths of the whole foreign trade of China.

The carrying trade of the thirteen ports during 1864 has occupied, entering inwards and outwards, 17,976 vessels (exclusive of native craft), giving a tonnage of 6,635,505. This shows a considerable increase in the number of vessels as compared with 1863, but a not quite proportionate increase in the aggregate tonnage. British shipping stands first, with 2,862,234 tons; American next, with 2,609,390; and Hamburg follows with 380,135. The rest is contributed in small proportions, by upwards of twenty different nationalities.

The duties received in 1863 at the eleven open ports amounted 8,691,817 tls., and, in 1864, to 8,138,102 tls., showing a falling off of 553,715 tls., notwithstanding two new ports being included in last year's returns. On the whole, the foreign trade of China is evidently a lucrative source of profit to the Imperial Government, producing, as it does, a gross revenue of somewhere about £3,000,000 sterling per annum.

THE JAPANESE COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE.

IT was said the other day that the Japanese who had been in Paris for some time had acquired all the information and collected all the men and material necessary for the establishment of the proposed arsenal at Yokohama, and that they were about to return home immediately. This is not, however, the case. The Commissioners are about to quit Paris, if they have not already quitted it, for a time, but not for Japan. They are about to proceed, first, to the western ports of France—Brest, Lorient, Saint Nazaire, and La Rochelle; they will afterwards visit the great paper mills and other manufactories in Angoulême, and then return to Paris by way of Poitiers, Tours, and Orleans, taking the opportunity of examining various large works on that route, and be back in Paris about the end of November. They will then visit London, and probably make a short tour of the manufacturing districts of England, and will embark from one of our ports for Japan. The Commissioners will be accompanied throughout their tour in France by M. LEONCE VERNY, a marine engineer, placed at their service by the Minister of Marine. *The Times'* correspondent says:—"The Japanese Government have applied to Herr ULHORN, the coining machine inventor at Cologne, to ascertain the price of forty machines of his construction. If his terms are acceded to, a perfect monetary revolution will ensue in the realm of the Eastern isles. The ULHORN machine was repeatedly exhibited in England, and certainly looks a marvel of ingenuity to the unprofessional eye."

THE PUBLIC MEETING AT HANKOW.

SOME very pertinent remarks on the dangers of the compradore system, as it exists in Hankow, are embodied in an article in the *North China Herald*, of the 16th September. The relative positions of foreign merchants and their Chinese compradores always seemed to us anomalous and unnatural, but the convenience of the system appeared, for a long time, to counterbalance its disadvantages. From the time, however, when the native banks began to play such an important part in all mercantile transactions, and, first at one port and then at another, the custom of taking bank "chops" arose, the already formidable powers of the compradores increased to alarming proportions. The merchant then became entirely dependent on his compradore in almost every transaction; being compelled to take in lieu of each cash payment a slip of paper, inscribed with a few characters in an unknown language, for whatever value the said compradore chose to assign it; while the well-known fact that all the compradores were connected with the native banks, shows at once how deeply interested they were in making these "chops" pass current. We have never regarded this question otherwise than with a feeling of anxiety and insecurity, not a little strengthened, from time to time, by occasional failures among the compradores of large European firms. But however unsatisfactory the system may be at other ports, it would seem to be worst at Hankow. There the native banks (says the *North China Herald*) bear a very indifferent character, and the relations between them and the compradores seem to be closer, and of a more suspicious nature, than elsewhere; while the compradores themselves are gene-

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rally *de facto* merchants, trading on their own responsibility, but with the credit of the houses to which they are attached. Some alarming failures that have recently occurred among them have inspired the foreign merchants to make an effort to throw off the yoke, and the meeting of the 4th September is a first step in the right direction. We hope, however, to find that, at the succeeding one, appointed for the 18th September, a greater amount of decision has been shown, and two important points, namely, the mode of enforcing the provisions of the newly-adopted system, and the expediency of having the resolutions printed in Chinese, and conveyed through the Consuls to the Chinese authorities, will be definitively settled; these questions having been discussed in an irresolute sort of way by the first meeting, and finally shirked, or postponed for consideration at the ensuing one.

THE NETHERLANDS INDIA STEAMERS.

Mr. H. O. Robinson, the managing director of this company, and the original concessionaire, proceeds by the present mail to Java to organise the various lines agreed on. The fleet of steamers, which have been noted in our journal when despatched, consists of the following:—Koning Willem III., Koningin Sophia, Baron Bentinck, Admiraal, Baron Sloet van de Beele, Minister van Staat Rochussen, W. Cores de Vries, and Sunda—say eight in all. It is intended to despatch one more to complete the number required for the various stations.

It is contemplated by the P. and O. Company to make t e Bombay line, next year, four times a month, instead of twice as at present.

Mr. R. F. Gould, late Secretary of the Municipal Council, and formerly Lieutenant of the 31st Regiment, is now studying for the Bar, or going through the process of "eating the dinners."

Lieut.-Col. Neale, C.B., late Charge d'Affaires in Japan, and since Secretary of Legation at Athens, left town on the 1st inst. for his post as British Minister to the South American Republic of Equador.

THE ROAD AND THE RAIL IN CEYLON.

We heartily congratulate Ceylon on the opening of 34½ miles of railway. The celebration of the event on the 2nd ult. may be regarded as inaugurating a new era of industrial and commercial development. The completed section from Colombo to Amliepusse leaves but 40 miles of construction to Kandy. So far the gradient has been easy, Amliepusse being only 180 feet above the level of the sea; the remainder of the route presents far greater engineering difficulties, the Kadnganawa station at 30 miles distance being at an elevation of 1,698 feet, whence there is an easy descent to Kandy, placed at a height of 1,602 feet. We fully anticipate that the works will be completed within contract time; but the great substantiality required by Government in the works, the sickness of workmen, and difficulty in securing labour, the general rise in wages and, until lately, the absence of efficient laws to keep the labourer to his contract, render it doubtful whether the contractor will be a loser or a gainer. The contract price is under £1,000,000, including the purchase of the works and plant of the company which commenced the enterprise; and thus its subsequent assumption by the Ceylon Government has saved the colony from being saddled with double that amount. The advantages of this line would have been seriously counteracted but for the organisation of the Ceylon Carrying Company, as the native carriers would certainly have combined to have enhanced their charges for conveyance to or from the stations proportionately to the reductions effected by means of the railway route. The promise of support alluded to by the Governor in his opening speech to the Legislative Council, and the names of planters identified with this company, constitute a guarantee that its purposes will be efficiently carried out. This railway must go far to break up other obstructive combinations, besides providing new ramifications for individual enterprise. Connecting the commercial emporium of the island with the great inland producing districts, it must result in inciting that free competition essential to the harmonious working of all interests. With prices less arbitrarily controlled, the profits of merchants on a given quantity of importations will be lessened; but, on the other hand, demand will be increased, and the public will experience the advantages of enlarged supplies. The artificial adjustment of prices, by complicating exchange operations, prevents merchants abroad from calculating, with far less certainty than would otherwise be the case, the result of their ventures, and so restricts consignments. We see changes impending both in banking and agency operations, always inevitable, but hastened by the more facile distribution of the articles of exchange. With an open market at Colombo, and the secrets of trade more fully unlocked, planters will have less temptation to become their own exporters. New companies of a mercantile character will, doubtless, from time to time appear in the field, followed by that appropriate organisation which the closer connection of Ceylon and her enlarging trade with other countries may demand.

A state of things will thus, we may hope, be brought about in which a large body of planters will be relieved from high rates of interest and commission on advances, and, generally, from such complete financial dependence. The construction of additional railways, penetrating the chief producing districts, cannot, in our judgment, be long delayed. The considerations that must weigh with Government in sanctioning further loans for this purpose are the enhanced value thus given to cultivable lands, the necessity of this aid to supplement private enterprise, on its present extended scale, with the rich resources of all kinds to be developed; the certain increase in returns to the Treasury chest, Ceylon possessing already a surplus revenue, ample for the payment of the public debt—which is comparatively small; together with the provision of a sinking fund. What may be the relative scale of tramways and railways to be constructed cannot as yet be determined; but we would advocate by all means a railway to Badulla. It is encouraging to note that the local Government is so bent on improving communications, thus recognising Ceylon's great want. The sanction of the home Government should not be withheld from any judicious railway scheme originating in her Council; for the rendering the chief districts easily accessible is, to this most improving colony, the key to almost limitless wealth. The stage coach, a recent institution with ourselves, is already driven off the route between Amliepusse and Colombo, and, before February of 1867, stage passengers must book their last fares between Amliepusse and Kandy. The charges of travel by rail must be considered moderate. As soon as the through route is opened it is evident that Kandy will be greatly resorted to for the sake both of health and pleasure.

THE NEW GOVERNOR FOR HONG KONG.

Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell, with Lady MacDonnell, leaves England shortly for the Continent, and will join the P. and O. steamer at Suez, corresponding to the mail from this of 10th January. Sir Richard intends stopping a fortnight in Ceylon, and will no doubt gain from his predecessor, Sir Hercules Robinson, much useful information.

Literature.

We believe we may announce, on safe authority, that Mr. Murray, of Albemarle-street, has in the press an Account of the late Expedition to Bhootan, from the pen of Staff Surgeon Rennie, M.D., whose *Peking and the Pekingese* will, we trust, be published this day (the 10th). The annual sale-dinner of this eminent publisher furnishes an excellent key to the public taste, by showing, from the actual purchases of "the trade," what books are most in demand, not only from among new publications, but also of educational and other works, the reputation of some of which dates back to the time of our grandsires. At the dinner at the Albion, in Aldersgate-street, on the 3rd inst., among the sales effected were the following:—

4,800 "Dr. Livingstone's Expedition to the Zambesi;" 600 "Fergusson's History of Architecture;" 3,700 Dean Stanley's new volume of "Lectures on the Jews;" 700 Bertram's "Harvest of the Sea;" 8,000 Dr. Smith's "Condensed Bible Dictionary;" 400 Rennie's "Peking and Pekingese;" 500 "Dean Milman's Translations from the Greek;" 1,800 "Smiles' Lives of Boulton and Watt;" 600 "Rawlinson's Babylonia and Media;" 500 "The Student's Blackstone;" 300 "Memorials of Major Macpherson;" 1,500 "The Student's Manual of Old Testament History." Of the old-established school books and other works the demand was equally large, as the following numbers will show:—1,200 James's "Æsop's Fables;" 9,000 "Mrs. Markham's Histories;" 1,000 "Byron's Works;" 10,200 "Murray's Student's Manuals;" 200 "Grote's History of Greece," 8 vols.; 3,000 "Smiles' Popular Lives;" 500 "Blunt's Scriptural Coincidences;" 6,500 "Smith's Latin and Classical Dictionaries;" 7,200 "Smith's Greek and Latin Course;" 5 300 "Smith's Smaller Histories;" 1,000 "Mrs. Barbauld's Hymns;" 1,200 "Hallam's Histories;" 8,000 "Little Arthur's History of England;" and 2,300 "King Edward's Latin Grammar."

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CHINA GRASS.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—I hope you will allow me to correct the impression that my letter of 12th Oct. seems to have caused. I can assure you that "jealousy" in the honest competition of trade has no abiding place in my character, but I do confess to sharing with many of my nation an irritation at seeing things claimed as new and wonderful by foreigners which to us are old and unexciting.

I should be little of an economist were I to cavil at the substance or the manufacturer even of so small an article as my handkerchief, so long as I was satisfied that it was the most presentable, durable, and inexpensive that could be obtained; but if I heard any assert that it was French manufacture when I knew for a fact that it had been produced by the enterprise and skill of my own countrymen, why, I guess, I should have little title to my nationality did I not claim honour for whom such distinction was due. From the following paragraph which appeared in the *Pall Mall Gazette* of 30th ult., you will see that others also question the Frenchman's figures anent China grass:—

"The *London and China Telegraph* affirms that the fibre so well known in India and China under the name of China grass can be used to mix with cotton with great economy. Experiments with it have been made in Rouen, and the Chamber of Commerce there has reported in its favour, as being cheap, strong, and easy to dye. One spinner professes his willingness to take a ton a day, and the only question is as to the quantity procurable. At present this is limited; and although it might be increased indefinitely, we question if the fibre will prove in the end cheaper than cotton, which grows in half the countries of the world, and is everywhere thoroughly understood."

My experience of the Gaul in business has taught me that he *is* an extremely "rosy" gentleman, and very apt to form very extravagant ideas about things new to *him*. My idea is that three years ago I was informed that China grass, before it could be made fit for the spinner, cost something like 1s. 10d. to 2s. per lb. (of course to sell at a profit), so great is the loss in weight and the waste. Remember, it is the fibrous bark of a twig seven or eight feet long. Again, the waste in spinning alone is very heavy, so that unless some great advances have been made, I should think the spinner could scarcely afford to sell his yarn much under 2s. 6d. to 3s. per lb.

The Chinese manufacture it largely themselves, but the cloth is always dearer than cotton. Besides, the fabric, in wear, feel, and warmth, is not a bit like cotton, but linen; and for this reason brown holland has been imported in small quantities into China for many years. Ladies in England will know what it resembles from the embroidered 'kerchiefs that their China friends send home. That this fibre will ever be produced cheap enough to compete with cotton is not at all likely, and if it were no one would use it instead of cotton; while, as regards linen, I do not think it equal to flax. I am of opinion that its great and proper use will be with the Bradford stuff and Macclesfield silk manufacturers; and I have no doubt that at this present moment it is used largely by some, "only, you know, if a man has a good thing, he likes to keep it to himself, you know."

Having written so much, and, I fear, wasted too much of your valuable space, I will not be a whit less bold than the valiant spinner of Rouen, but beg to inform him that I am ready to take ten tons of China grass yarn per diem at 20 per cent. less than the market price for cotton.—Your obedient servant,

AN ENGLISHMAN.

London, Nov. 4.

Naval and Military.

The Basilisk, 6 paddle sloop, Captain H. N. Hewitt, V.C., left Plymouth Sound on the 31st October, for the China station.

Mr. G. W. Mackay, assistant clerk, was sent out in the Basilisk to join the Princess Royal at Hong Kong.

Commander W. H. Cuming, who was promoted for service in the Barrosa, on the China station, has been appointed Inspecting Commander in the Coast Guard, and stationed at Carlisle.

Deputy-Assistant Commissary-General Mercer is under orders to proceed from China to the Cape of Good Hope.

The Daphne, 18, one of the old class of sailing vessels, attached to the reserve in Chatham harbour, having been surveyed and pronounced unfit for further service, has been towed round to the Thames, to be broken up at the ship-breaking yard of Messrs. Castle and Beech, Charlton.

Colonel Suther, who commanded the battalion of Royal Marine Light Infantry lately in Japan, and now *en route* for England in H.M.'s ship Conqueror, arrived home by last mail. The Conqueror sailed from Yokohama on the 22nd of August; she will touch at Hong Kong, Singapore and the Cape, and may be expected to arrive in January. The battalion left Plymouth on board the Conqueror on the 19th Dec., 1863, 538 strong, and arrived at Yokohama on the 28th May, 1864. On the 6th of June they disembarked and emcamped on the Bluffs above the foreign settlement, where, owing to the nature of the soil on which the camp was formed (no other site being obtainable) dysentery broke out, and in the months of July and August 22 men died of it, and some 30 or 40 were invalided. On the 26th of August the battalion embarked in H.M.'s ship Conqueror for the Inland Sea expedition, and was present at the bombardment of Simonoseki, on the 5th September, by the allied fleets of England, France and Holland. On the following day they were landed for the destruction of the forts and magazines, which service was successfully performed; the men contributed by other ships raising the total force employed to 900 marines and 300 blue-jackets.

On the 6th October the battalion again disembarked at Yokohama and went into huts built on the old camp ground by the Japanese; and continued to do garrison duty until the date of their departure for England. The general conduct of the men was excellent, and no desertions took place. The following is an extract from general orders dated Yokohama, 15th August, 1865:—"Major General Guy cannot allow this fine battalion to quit the Japan command without recording his sense of the admirable state of efficiency and discipline for which it has been conspicuous during the period of its service in this country."

20TH REGIMENT.—A correspondent in Hong Kong writes:—"About two years ago the second battalion of this regiment embarked at Portsmouth for India. On reaching Calcutta the regiment received orders to proceed to China, the women and children being sent to Dum Dum and there left. After some little time the regiment was ordered to Japan, leaving the women and children about seven miles from Hong Kong, at Stanley, where they have been left open to all temptations that could be possible for poor creatures in such a helpless condition. They have now been there sixteen months without the least effort being made to have them sent to join the regiment. Many of them have gone to a long home. Many orphans and husbands mourn their loss. The soldiers of the regiment have to see so many of their wives and children left to shift for themselves. In Japan there is plenty of room to build a few huts."

Although nothing has yet been settled upon the subject of reductions in the army next year, we think (say the *Army and Navy Gazette*) we may warn those concerned to prepare for the reduction of one more depot battalion. Our reason for doing so is based upon the fact that after next spring we shall have six less battalions serving abroad, and consequently six less regimental depots—about the strength of a depot battalion at home.

The military authorities at home have consented to the proposition of the Indian Government to reduce the strength of the army in Madras by one battalion. The relief of the 1st battalion 18th Royal Irish, by the the 2nd battalion 24th, from the Mauritius, is, however, being carried out, and the consequence of this step will be that the 80th Regiment will return to England in the spring, its place in Bengal being taken by one of the battalions now quartered in the Madras Presidency. The 80th will follow the 44th, 72nd, 54th, 56th, and 1st battalion 18th, already under orders for home.

Lieut.-General Sir Richard Airey, the new Governor of Gibraltar, has appointed as his aide-de-camp Captain Hood, of the 25th Regiment, who was aide-de-camp to Sir W. Codrington, and Lieutenant Bolton J. A. Monsell, 73rd Regiment. Lieutenant-Colonel Pearson, of the Grenadier Guards, will be his Assistant Military Secretary.

It has been announced at Chatham Dockyard that the appointment of Principal Storekeeper, vacant by the retirement on superannuation of Mr. R. Laws, has been conferred by the Admiralty upon Mr. Astley Paston Cooper, formerly storekeeper and accountant at the naval and victualling establishment, Trincomalee, Ceylon.

Lieut. Prince Alfred rejoined his ship, the screw corvette Racoon, 22, Capt. Count Gleichen, at Spithead, on the 2nd inst., on return from leave of absence.

Although a party of workmen have commenced taking to pieces the wooden screw frigate Belvidera, 51, 600-horse power, the only unarmoured vessel of that class now on the stocks at Chatham Dockyard, where she has been standing idle for about six years, no orders have yet been received as to the ultimate fate of the fine 91-gun screw two-decker Bulwark, about one-half completed, on the adjoining slip. Some time since a report respecting her was called for from the master shipwright's department, and it was then thought she would undergo conversion, be cut down, have one of her decks removed, her hull armour-plated, and be converted into a turret-ship. As she is almost the only two-decker now lying at any of the dockyards in a partial state of completion, and various circumstances preventing her being converted into an armour-plated frigate, it is suggested that she may be completed as a turret-ship of the Royal Sovereign class, for which her size and other circumstances well adapt her.

Arrangements are ordered to be carried out on an extensive system in Woolwich Arsenal for the purpose of fulfilling the design of the War Department, long contemplated, of superseding the use of timber for gun-carriages throughout the two services, and establishing that of iron in its stead.

The Royal Alfred, iron-cased wooden frigate, 4,056 tons, 800-horse power, will be completed in her armour plating and floated out of No. 3 dock of Portsmouth yard early in the ensuing month. This ship first appeared on the Admiralty Navy List as one of the latest improved 90-gun screw line-of-battle-ships, and was all but completed in that form at Portsmouth, when iron-clothed ships became popular. She was then ordered to be razeed to a frigate, divested of quarter and stern galleries, figurehead, &c., giving a conical shaped stern and a swan-breast stem, and clothed externally, from five feet below her load water-line upward, with 4½ inch rolled iron armour plates. In the meantime, however, 4½-inch iron-plating on the sides of a wooden ship possessing no inner iron skin had been demonstrated by experiments at Shoebury and elsewhere to be worse than useless. Accordingly the Royal Alfred has been again rearranged, and in her new and latest form will, without doubt, be the most formidable iron-cased converted wooden ship afloat. She will at the same time possess serious points of weakness, which are unavoidable in a converted wooden vessel. Purely as a specimen of workmanship, or rather, we should say, as a specimen of the skill of shipwrights in iron work, the Royal Alfred will surpass every other ship afloat. The edges of the armour-plating have been fitted with excessive nicety, and the plates subjected to a course of most elaborate and costly chipping, filing, and burnishing which seems unnecessary.

WAR-OFFICE, STAFF.—Lieut.-General Sir James Hope Grant, G.C.B., to be Quartermaster-General, vice Lieut.-General Sir Richard Airey, K.C.B., appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief at Gibraltar.

A correspondent of the *Army and Navy Gazette* writes:—The P. and O. Company's ship Poonah arrived at Southampton on the 22nd ult. with the India and China mails, passengers, &c. We regret to learn that between Hong Kong and Malta five deaths occurred, the first of which, that of Mr. Christopher Albert, master, R.N., took place when within a day of Singapore. Lieutenant H. G. Hale, late in command of Her Majesty's gunboat Weazel, died when within a day of Penang; Major Atkinson, when within a day of Point de Galle; then Mr. Charles Kettyles, quartermaster of 25th Regiment, when within two days of Suez; and, lastly, a private soldier of the 11th Regiment, soon after leaving Alexandria. All these were invalids, and the fact tells very much against the absurb system of delaying sending men home till hardly a hope exists of their recovery, which is invariably the case, more especially in the navy. Whether it is the fear of responsibility on the

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part of the medical officers, or that they are too much bound down by red-tapeism, it is hard to say; at all events, such cases should be worth the consideration of those in authority. Few things shocked the passengers more than the want of any means of providing for the invalided soldiers on disembarking at Suez. There was no sick quarters, no one to attend to the men, and had it not been for the kindness shown by some of the passengers, whose indignation was aroused by such neglect, one poor fellow would probably have died ere he reached the train. The men were unprovided with money to pay for meals or any trifling wants while crossing the Desert, and money had to be subscribed for them. Surely it would be an easy matter to establish sick quarters at Suez, with a medical man at hand to receive invalids of both services, and see that they were properly attended to while waiting at Suez, which they sometimes have to do for many hours. A distinguished officer, who arrived at Southampton in the Poonah, was an eye witness to the whole of this management, and we sincerely hope he will bring the matter before the proper authorities.

VOYAGE OF HER MAJESTY'S SHIP TAMAR.

The troop ship Tamar, Captain Frederick H. Stirling, went into Portsmouth harbour on the 6th inst., and anchored alongside the scull jetty in the dockyard. She arrived during the previous night from China, after a long and tedious voyage, the particulars of which will doubtless be read with interest.

She left England on the 15th of October, 1864, for the coast of Ireland. Arriving at Kingstown she embarked the 86th Regiment for Gibraltar. Soon after leaving Kingstown she encountered a "fearful gale," as described by those on board, during which two men were washed overboard. One was saved and the other drowned. During the gale the ship behaved remarkably well. She arrived safely at Gibraltar on the 26th of the same month, and disembarked the troops from Kingstown. On Nov. 3 she embarked the 2nd Battalion 9th Regiment for China, arriving at the Cape of Good Hope on the 7th of December, and Singapore on the 25th of January, reaching Hong Kong on the 7th of February, having made a remarkably fine passage. On the 1st of March she sailed from Hong Kong, having there embarked portions of the 67th and 99th Regiments, bound for the Cape of Good Hope. She called at Batavia *en voyage*, and arrived at Natal, South Africa, on the 10th of April, where she disembarked the head-quarters of the 99th Regiment. On the 15th of April she embarked a portion of the 11th Regiment for service in China. Proceeding to Buffalo Mouth, a wing of the 67th Regiment was disembarked, and the ship returned to China, calling at the Mauritius, where she arrived on the 28th of April, and left again on the 4th of May, calling at Singapore on the 19th, having made a very fine passage between the Mauritius and Singapore in 15 days. On the 28th of May she reached Hong Kong, at which port the 11th Regiment disembarked. The Tamar was detained at Hong Kong until the 26th of July, awaiting the arrival of troops from the north of China. Having embarked a number of naval and military invalids, also portions of the 67th and 99th Regiments, she sailed for Singapore, where she arrived on the 5th of August, making the Mauritius on the 27th. On the 11th of September she was at the Buffalo Mouth, where she disembarked portions of the 67th Regiment and the 99th. On the 13th she called at Algoa Bay, reaching Simon's Bay on the 16th, sailing again on the 24th, after having embarked more military invalids. On the 3rd of September St. Helena was made, Ascension on the 9th, and St. Vincent on the 19th. During the homeward passage of the Tamar, the rate of mortality on board has been large, no less than twenty-six deaths having occurred since she left China; the deaths, however, occurred chiefly among the invalids. Mr. Gruchy, the chief engineer, died, as did also the Rev. Mr. Hackett, and Lieut. Lyster, R.E. She has brought home Colonel Yonge, 67th Regiment; Lieut. Kenwick, 67th Regiment; Capt. Maunsell, 2nd Battalion 11th Regiment, wife, and two children; Capt. Barnard, 96th Regiment; Lieut. Nicholson, 2nd Battalion 9th Regiment; Lieut. Jeffars, 2nd Battalion 9th Regiment; Lieut. England, 1st West India Regiment; Staff Assistant Surgeon Beath, in charge of invalids; Staff Assistant Surgeon A. S. Tracey, from the Cape of Good Hope; Staff Assistant Surgeon Smith, from the Cape of Good Hope, in charge of invalids, wife, and two children; Purveyors' Clerk Mr. Hutchins, wife, and two children; Mr. Blackmore, wife, and four children; also Lieut. Cardew, 67th Regiment; Lieut. Cumming, late 2nd Battalion 9th Regiment, wife, and two children; Mr. Nightengale, harbour master of Simon's Bay, wife, and four children; also Surgeon Palmer, and Assistant Surgeon Inman, both the latter having completed their time of service in China; Sub-Lieutenant Stuart, invalided from the Princess Royal; Second Master Dobson, late of the Weasel; Sub-Lieutenant Luthy, of the Valorous (to pass for promotion); Assistant Paymaster Rawlinson, late of the Egmont. The last named officer is for disposal by the Admiralty. The troops brought home, including military officers, ladies, soldiers' wives, and children, include 13 officers, 237 men, 13 ladies, 24 children, 8 attendants, 36 soldiers' wives, and 55 soldiers' children. On board the Tamar were also Mrs. Caine, wife of the British Consul at Swatow, and family; also the widow of the Rev. Mr. Hackett, who died on the passage, and three children; 95 naval invalids from different ships on the station were also brought to England in the Tamar. The mortality caused by dysentery and fever is chiefly attributable to change of climate, many of those who died having been extremely ill on embarkation. One poor fellow was lying dead on the deck, with the union-jack placed over him, while the Tamar was moored off the jetty. She will undergo a thorough repair prior to further service.

THE ALLIANCE BANK V. THE CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA AND CHINA.—This case came before the court upon a demurrer. The plaintiffs, as the nominees of Mr. Robinson, the holder of five shares in the defendant company, demanded a transfer of the shares to the plaintiffs, but the defendants, relying on an article in their constitution which declared that no person not being a lawful claimant of any shares should be entitled to become a transferee of the shares unless he were approved by the board of directors, refused a transfer. Mr. Selwyn, Mr. Baggallay, Mr. Hobhouse, Mr. Bowring, and Mr. Westlake were counsel in the case. His Honour said the question whether the defendants were justified in declining to transfer shares to a rival bank must be decided at the hearing of the cause and not upon demurrer. Therefore he proposed to overrule the demurrer, but he would reserve the question of costs till the hearing.

THE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN INDIA AND CHINA.—The *Friend of India* says:—"It is time that the Indian Government should seriously take up the question of constructing a line of telegraph between Calcutta and Hong Kong. For this there are two routes; the first and best through Cachar and Muninpore, recommended by Dr. Williams, late Political Agent at Mandalay, and the second through Rangoon and Bhamo, the frontier town of the Burmese territory. The latter is the route recommended for the construction of a railway to connect Burmah and China, by Captain Williams and the Messrs. Sprye. We have always ridiculed the idea of a 'railway,' but the same objections do not hold good in the case of a telegraph; it would only require a few Europeans at the various signal stations who would not be molested, as the Burmese and Chinese are easier people to manage than the tribes of Turkish Arabia."

APPOINTMENTS, &c.—The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint George West, Esq., now British Vice-Consul at Suez, to be Her Majesty's Consul at that port. Thomas Backhouse Sandwith, Esq., now British Vice-Consul at Caiffa, to be Her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Cyprus. Sir Robert Alexander Osborne Dalyell, Bart., now Her Majesty's Consul at Jassy, to be Her Majesty's Consul at Roustchouk. Alexander Bower St. Clair, Esq., now Her Majsty's Consul at Varna, to be Her Majesty's Consul at Jassy. Percy Mitford and Edmund Constantine Henry Phipps, Esqrs., now Third Secretaries, to be Second Secretaries in Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service. John Ward, Esq., C.B., now Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires to the Free Hanseatic Cities of Lubeck, Bremen, and Hamburgh, to be Her Majesty's Minister Resident to those cities. Robert Bunch, Esq., now Her Majesty's Consul-General in the Island of Cuba, to be Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires and Consul-General to the Republics of Guatemala, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Honduras, and Salvador, in Central America; and William Webb Follett Synge, Esq., now Her Majesty's Commissioner and Consul-General in the Sandwich Islands, to be Her Majesty's Consul-General in the Island of Cuba.

FIRE AT BEALE'S WHARF.—A destructive fire occurred on Monday the 30th ult. at Beale's wharf, Tooley-street near the scene of the Great Fire of 1861. A boy and a porter were on the premises belonging to the Messrs. Beale, about 5 o'clock, for the purpose of lighhting the engine fire, when they noticed a smell of something burning, and concluded a fire had broken out. The boy at once went for the engine and gave the alarm to the police. A constable who was on duty sent immediately to Watling-street, and to the stations on the Surrey side of the river. In a short time two land steam engines arrived on the spot. The flames had by this time reached the first floors of the warehouse, in which were stored tea, Spanish liquorice, cane, seed, and pepper, and from the nature of the goods and mode in which they are packed they spread rapidly. Other engines arrived in quick succession, and there were present in a short time no less than eight land steam engines, two manual power engines, and the floating steam engine all in full play. The flames spread to several floors, but at last, between eleven and twelve o'clock, they were brought under control, and soon after extinguished. There has been destroyed about 1,200,000lb. of tea, worth £100,000. Hay's Wharf adjoining has escaped without damage.

THE FRENCH GIANT.—Gaul will not be outdone by the Celestials, and Chang has now to encounter a rival who at least makes a boast of "higher" attractions. Mr. J. Brécc, or "Anak, the Anakim," as the bills prefer to designate him, who is holding his levées at the St. James's Hall, is apparently about twenty-three or twenty-four years of age, is eight feet high, and weighs thirty stone. The width of his body, round the chest, is four feet six inches; his feet are sixteen inches long; his powerful hands look as if they could grasp a young forest tree, and they could, we have no doubt, wield with ease the sword of any giant of mediæval romance. His features are large and massive, and yet their expression is unusually, and even singularly, delicate and gentle. His eyes have a soft, thoughtful gaze, and his whole bearing is modest and kindly. In this respect as well as in the darkness of his complexion, he resembles Chang, the Chinese giant, to whom, however, he bears no sort of comparison in general proportions. Indeed he is not a patch upon Chang, and it is only necessary for visitors to survey the two to come to this conclusion. He appears to be in no way demonstrative, and he has no part to perform beyond passing down the centre of the hall, and allowing all who wish to shake his honest, open hand, or rather to seize one or two of his huge fingers. He is introduced in flaming and showy costume, but he has in no other way the manner or appearance of an actor. His exhibitors probably consider that he is in himself a sufficient portent, and in these times of public welcome to all abnormal or exceptional developments of the human form he will no doubt have his day, and that day will not be an unprofitable one.

CHANG'S LEVEES AT THE EGYPTIAN HALL.—Among the distinguished visitors to his Celestial "Greatness" have been the Duke of Sutherland, Lord Broughton, Lady Constance Grosvenor, the Countess of Spencer, Lord Ranelagh, Sir Robert Peel, the Hon. Mrs. Randell, &c., their Graces the Duke and Duchess of Wellington, Lord and Lady Rivers, Lady Hastings and the Misses Hastings, the Hon. Charles Wilson and Lady, the Hon. Mrs. Norton, &c.

REINFORCEMENTS FOR COCHIN CHINA.—The steam transport *l'Ardeche* has left the port of Toulon for Saigon with about 800 marines, &c.; there are also on board seven workmen skilled in the different departments of typographic art, to be employed in the Imperial printing establishment, from which, for the past two years has issued the *Courrier de Saigon*, the official journal for French Cochin China.

THE last outward mail takes the unprecedentedly large number of 268 passengers, 178 of whom left Southampton by the *Poonah* on the 4th, and the remaining 90 go *via* Marseilles.

AN evening contemporary says that in all probability Lord Napier will become Governor of Madras on the expiration of Sir William Denison's term of office.

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Monetary and Commercial.

—o—

The new manager of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China at Shanghai is Mr. Edward Maccal, lately at the Rangoon branch, who will be succeeded by Mr. Watson, late agent of the Bank of Bengal.

Mr. Walter Evans Gledstanes, of the firm of Messrs. Gledstanes and Co., of Austinfriars, has joined the direction of the Commercial Bank Corporation of India and the East.

The directors of the Asiatic Banking Corporation have declared an interim dividend for the half-year ended the 30th June last at the rate of 5 per cent, per annum, free of income-tax, on the original shares, payable on the 13th inst.

The following announcement appears in the Glasgow papers :

The partners of the firm of Buchanan, Hamilton, and Co. were formally discharged on Saturday from the liabilities of the firm, as well as from those of Hamilton, Gray and Co., in Singapore, and of Jarvie, Thorburn, and Co. in Shanghai, China, and Yokohama, Japan.

We hope that creditors will obtain in bankruptcy an equivalent of the composition of 12s. 6d. offered by the partners at the meeting on the 3rd of July, although we incline to think this doubtful, owing to the many legal questions which have arisen, and which would have been avoided had the offer of 12s. 6d. been accepted. If the creditors suffer in this respect they will have to thank the instigators of throwing this estate into bankruptcy. We understand that the assets and liabilities of each firm will be dealt with separately, but it is not finally decided.

The biddings for 35,00,000 rupees (£350,000) in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were—to Calcutta, 19,16,000 rs.; to Madras, 5,84,000 rs.; and to Bombay, 10,00,000 rs. The minimum price was as before, viz., 1s. 11½d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11⅝d. on Bombay. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 1s. 11⅝d. will receive about 52 per cent.; and on Bombay, at 2s. 0⅛d., about 17 per cent.—above these prices, in full.

The gradual absorption of private banks by joint-stock companies, which has been going on during the last few years, has considerably diminished the number of private banking establishments. The last case being that of Olding's, noticed below. Among the most noticeable of the old firms which have thus disappeared are the following :—Jones Loyd and Co., Masterman and Co., Hankeys and Co., Challis and Son, Lubbock and Co., Hanburys and Co., and Spooner, Attwoods, and Co. Notwithstanding the temptations offered by the Limited Liability Act, many of the old-established private banking firms stoutly resist the changed system introduced by it, among which the following are the chief :—Barclay and Co., Barnett and Co., (amalgamated with Hanburys and Co.) Biddulph and Co., Brooks and Co., Child and Co., Coutts and Co., Cunliffes and Co., Drummonds, Fullers, and Co., Glyn and Co., Goslings and Co., Herries, Farquahar, and Co., Hoare's, Martin and Co., Prescott and Co., Robarts, Lubbock, and Co., Smith, Payne, and Co., Williams, Deacon, and Co., Ransome, Bouverie, and Co., Price and Co., Stevenson and Co., Dimsdale and Co., Curries and Co., and Bosanquet and Co.

The following has been published in *The Times*' city article on the adulteration of piece goods, which it is to be hoped will be a caution to the unprincipled people in Manchester, who have thrown such discredit on their "cloth :"—

A year or two back the question of the adulteration of cotton by Indian shippers to the English market attracted great attention, and steps were taken at Bombay to check the evil. Some similar corrective seems now to be required on this side, the goods shipped from Manchester to India having of late been found to be mixed with a proportion of foreign substances far beyond anything previously experienced. The articles thus manufactured become mildewed and rotten, as they are especially liable to absorb moisture, and it is said that from all the up country dealers complaints are received by the merchants at Bombay and Calcutta, and that the repute of British goods is undergoing damage that may create a prejudice such as it would take years to eradicate. An analysis lately made of certain samples showed them to be composed of only about 66½ per cent. of cotton fibre, the remainder consisting of fermented flour 14 per cent., mineral matter about 13 per cent., and Hygroscopic water about 6½ per cent., although in good cloth the proportion of cotton fibre should not be less than 88 or 90 per cent. It is an important consideration that the annoyance and losses occasioned by these goods tend to damage in a nearly equal degree the sale of the better sorts, since a general distrust is excited, and buyers are afraid to operate in any descriptions. If similar practices should be found to prevail with regard to goods shipped to the United States, the ultimate consequences in checking the reputation and extent of our commerce may be still more serious. Some of the Manchester people argue that the matter is purely one of price, and that if a demand exists for goods at quotations that can only be met by the use of worthless materials it is our business to supply it. But, although this view is unanswerable, provided the goods are shipped with a true designation of their quality, it will not justify the practice of pretending that they are such as have hitherto had a place in ordinary trade. The Cotton Frauds Act in India to protect buyers of cotton from adulteration was passed at the urgent request of Lancashire manufacturers, and there is no difference between the two positions, except that the adulteration of goods being more difficult of detection than that of the raw material, any penalties or restrictions that may be adopted should be enforced with especial rigour in the former case.

The Paris correspondent of a contemporary writes on the silk trade :—

Trade has improved among the silk manufacturers of Lyons, and is progressing favourably. Articles suited to the Paris market have advanced considerably in price. This favourable change, together with news received from China and Japan, has induced many mill-owners to purchase raw silk. Mybash raw silk is bought freely at from 118f. to 120f., while there is no demand for European silk. There was likewise a demand for white Broussa spun silks at from 125f. to 127f., and at from 120f. to 122f. for yellow. The demand for raw silk is more brisk at Marseilles, without any change of prices. Eleven bales of spun Syrian silk were sold last week at from 100f. to 102f.

The following new companies are announced :—

The Leeds Woollen Extract and Spinning Company (Limited). The freehold of the Low Hall Mills, at Holbeck, near Leeds, is to be purchased by this new company, together with the premises, plant, machinery, patents, and goodwill. The business is now in active operation, and consists in spinning and in extracting fibres of wool from fabrics or materials composed of wool, combined with cotton, and other vegetable substances. Capital, £150,000, in 10,000 shares of £15 each.

The Real Estate Corporation (Limited). Capital, £500,000 (half to be first subscribed), in shares of £25, for the purchase of landed estates and their resale. Four properties have been provisionally bought—namely, one at Fulham of 40 acres, one at Banstead, Surrey, of 350 acres, one at Lowestoft, in Suffolk, and one at Cosham, near Portsmouth, of 34 acres.

The Pennsylvania Lubricating Oil Lands Company (Limited). This company proposes to purchase the freehold of 700 acres in the oil district of Pennsylvania, said to be rich in this lubricating oil, and provisional contracts for the purchase have already been concluded. Capital, £300,000, in £20 shares.

The Alhambra Company (Limited). Capital, £100,000, in shares o £10, to purchase the lease of the Alhambra in Leicester-square, for 20 years, for the sum of £55,000, half in cash and half in shares, and to carry it on under its present management.

The National Poultry Company (Limited). To apply a new system, organised by Mr. Geyelin, for the rearing of poultry on a site of five acres at Bromley in Kent. Capital, £25,000, in £10 shares.

The Anglo-Swedish Steel and Iron Company, capital £1,500,000, in shares of £25, to amalgamate the iron, steel, shipbuilding, and engineer-works and estates of the Hogbo Steel and Iron Works Company in Sweden with the Northfield Steel and Iron Company, near Rotherham, in England.

The Matella Coffee Estates Company of Ceylon; capital £60,000, in shares of £10, for the purchase of three coffee estates containing 1,010 acres, of which 552 are in full bearing.

The Ismit Forest Company, with a capital £160,000, in shares of £10. The object is to purchase the interest in a concession for working in perpetuity the whole of the forests of the province of Ismit, in Turkey, and also the existing works, consisting of steam sawing mills, &c.

It is announced that the business of Messrs. Olding, Osborne, and Co., private bankers, which was established in London more than 100 years ago—viz., in 1762—has been merged into the English Joint-Stock Bank (Limited)—an undertaking which, it will be remembered, has had for its special object to absorb country banks, as opportunity may arise. Hitherto the English Joint-Stock Bank have been merely country bankers, possessing thirty-one branches and four agencies, and the progress of the company has been checked by the fact that they have had to bear much of the expense of a London establishment without enjoying its full advantages. They will now become London bankers as well, the London business being specially committed to the management of Mr. Stephen Olding and Mr. Louis Courtauld, two of the partners in the firm of Olding, Osborne, and Co. The other businesses now combined with the English Joint-Stock Bank are the West Surrey Bank of Messrs. Mangles, established in 1836; the Ramsgate Bank, of Messrs. Burgess and Canham, established in 1808; the Bideford Bank, of Messrs. Harding and Co., established in 1844; and the Nottinghamshire Bank, of Messrs. Hart, Fellows, and Co., established in 1808.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Poonah*, from Southampton on the 4th inst., was :—In gold, to Alexandria, £2,000; to Madras, £3,314. In silver, to Madras, £26,250; to Calcutta, £48,870; to Hong Kong, £12,108; to Shanghai, £300. Total, in gold, £5,314; in silver, £87,528.

The Board of Trade Returns for the month of September tend in some degree to explain the extraordinary absorption of gold coin throughout the country. The amounts disbursed in wages must have experienced a sudden and heavy increase, since the total value of the shipments of manufactured goods during the period has exceeded by nearly one-fifth the large totals of the corresponding month of the last two years. Their actual amount was £17,316,681, showing an augmentation on September, 1864, of £2,628,739, or about 18 per cent. At the same time this large increase in value does not fully denote the increase that has taken place in the employment of hands, since, owing to the fall in the cost of the various principal staples, the quantities manufactured exhibit a much greater comparative advance. Thus the quan-

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tity of woollen goods shipped shows an increase of 81 per cent., while the increase in value has been only 29 per cent. Of cotton goods the increase has been 11 per cent. in value, and 34 per cent. in quantity, and of cotton yarns 90 per cent. in value, and 150 per cent. in quantity. It appears also that the activity of commerce has been very evenly diffused through most branches of production. In linen manufactures there has been an increased value shipped of 34 per cent., in silk manufactures 35 per cent., in iron 23 per cent., and in hardwares 4 per cent. This rapid revival of business has brought the total of our first nine months' exports to nearly the same amount as those of the corresponding period of last year, the difference now being only three per cent., while contrasted with the first nine months of 1863 they show an increase of 15 per cent. The value of the exports for the first nine months of 1865 is £119,717,377, while the exports for the same period of 1864 amounted to £123,404,061, and in 1863 to £104,294,713. The trade with China and the Far East, so far as distinctively classified in these returns is represented by the following figures :—

EXPORTS TO CHINA AND HONG KONG.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
	For the Month ended 30th September.		
Cotton yarn	511,320 ..	295,400 ..	44.476 lbs.
Cotton manufactures ..	6,328,453 ..	4,926.052 ..	12,343,309 yds.
Worsted stuffs	842,546 ..	1,308,835 ..	1,261,084 „
Woollen and worsted cloths	99,246 ..	202,779 ..	181,315 „
Lead	663 ..	1,174 ..	353tons
	Value for the Nine Months ended 30th September.		
Cotton yarn	£144,815 ..	£213,753 ..	£87,466
Cotton manufactures ..	830,589 ..	1,557.435 ..	1,899,359
Worsted stuffs	461,925 ..	739,126 ..	924,780
Woollen and worsted cloths.	251,782 ..	233,034 ..	220,151
Lead	243,128 ..	136,933 ..	32,870

The Cotton Manufactures exported to other ports and countries of the Far East were, in quantity for the month, and in value for the nine months, as following :—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
	Quantity for the Month ended 30th September.		
Ceylon	2,202.635 ..	2,059,629 ..	2,428,519 yds.
Singapore	4,038,325 ..	819,497 ..	2,591.199 „
Java	1,318,502 ..	747,158 ..	2,258.982 „
Philippine Islands ..	957.829 ..	— ..	4,480,022 „
	Value for the Nine Months ended 30th September.		
Ceylon	£280,377 ..	£336,879 ..	£230,142
Singapore	476.092 ..	546,284 ..	707,486
Java	251.774 ..	457.086 ..	489,086
Philippine Islands ..	273.010 ..	457,517 ..	541.678

Of Cotton Yarn, the quantity forwarded to Singapore during the September of this year was 54,510 lbs., and during the nine months 1,027,300 lbs. ; the value for the nine months being £96,709, against £90,472 in 1864, and £158,193 in 1863. To Ceylon the export was 108,108 lbs. for the month, and 229,500 lbs. for the nine months; the value being £17.879 for the nine months, against £24,511 in 1864, and £43,269 in 1863.

IMPORTS.

Raw Cotton exhibits a marked change this month in reference to the import from China, while British India maintains its place as regards the import for the nine months, with even a considerable increase on the single month. This is the return : —

	1863.	1864.	1865.
	Quantity for the Month ended 30th September.		
British India.. ..	359.634 ..	466,870 ..	640,008 cwts.
China	21,490 ..	33.367 ..	16 „
All parts	496,326 ..	653.211 ..	899,030 „
	Quantity for the Nine Months ended 30th September		
British India.. ..	2,165,152 ..	2,680,140 ..	2,581,409 cwts.
China	208,866 ..	571,332 ..	301,525 „
All parts	3,670,608 ..	5,323,211 ..	5,460,070 „
	Value for the Eight Months ended 31st August.		
British India.. ..	£14,058.913 ..	£21,161,406 ..	£10,244.094
China	1.350,182 ..	4,688,283 ..	1,449.586
All parts	26,844,115 ..	50,504,190 ..	29,944,508

Of Unrefined Sugar, the quantity imported during September from Java and the Philippine Islands was 2,882 cwt., of 3rd quality (not equal to Brown Clayed), and 13.067 cwt. of the 4th quality. The total quantity for the nine months, and value for the eight months, is given in the following figures :—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
	Quantity for the Nine Months ended 30th September.		
Of all qualities (cwts.)	670,777 ..	183,267 ..	528,367
	Value for the Eight Months ended 31st August.		
Of all qualities	£579,481 ..	£192,211 ..	£504,916

Of Hemp the import from the Philippine Islands was 3.632 cwt. for the month of September last, while the total for the year is thus represented :—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity to 30th Sept. (cwts.) ..	239,613 ..	119,812 ..	165,757
Value to 31st Aug.	£280,478 ..	£202.466 ..	£243,101

Of Raw Coffee Ceylon delivered to us 14,542,284 lbs. in September of the present year, and the total deliveries in this and the two preceding years are thus stated :—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity to 30th Sept. (lbs.) ..	51,812.711 ..	55,872.844 ..	62,770.334
Value to 31st Aug.	£1,744,355 ..	£1,630,383 ..	£1,652,561

The Declared Value of the British and Irish Produce and Manufactures exported during the first eight months of the three years to the ports and countries of the Far East named below was as follows :—

To	Exports for the Eight Months ended 31st Aug. 1863.	1864.	1865.
China (exclusive of Hong Kong).	£1,608.550 ..	£2,068,531 ..	£2,326,569
Hong Kong	788.918 ..	1,167.736 ..	957,673
Singapore and Eastern Straits	860,834 ..	903.568 ..	1,018,609
Ceylon	550.532 ..	526,554 ..	369,897
Netherlands India (Java, &c.)	359.814 ..	594.043 ..	581,620
Philippine Islands	384,373 ..	607,759 ..	612,474
Siam	11,986 ..	11,513 ..	22,365
Japan	73,526 ..	340,403 ..	897,456

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices Oct. 26.
£20	Asiatic Bank Corporation, new shares	£5	18 to 20	18 to 20
50	Agra and Masterman's	25	55 to 57	57 to 58
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	22¼ to 23¼ xd.	24 to 25
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	48 to 50	49 to 51
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	30¼ to 31¼	30¼ to 31¼
20	Eastern Exchange	5	1½ to ¾ dis.	1½ to ¾ dis.
50	London Joint Stock	15	49 to 51	50½ to 51½
100	London and Westminster . . .	20	97 to 99	95 to 97
25	Oriental Bank Corporation . .	All	49 to 50 xd.	51 to 53
50	Union of London	15	53 to 54	53 to 54
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan . .	25	19 to 21	20 to 23
100	Do. Issued at 2 pm.	25	19 to 21	18 to 21
100	Do. New	25	18 to 20	19 to 21
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi . . .	10	5 to 4 dis.	4 to 3½ dis.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	30 to 32	30 to 32
100	Bank of London	50	139 to 142	139 to 142
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India .	4	¼ to ½ pm.xd.	¾ to ½ pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3½ to 4½	3½ to 4½
50	P. and O. Steam Company . .	All	7¼ to 76	7¼ to 76
50	Do. New	35	16 to 18 pm.	17 to 19pm.
20	China Steamship & Labuan Coal Co	5	—	—
5	Bombay Gas	All	5¾ to 5¾	5¾ to 5¾
10	Hong Kong Gas	All	1½ to 2½ pm.	1½ to 2½ pm.
20	S. I. Irrigation and Canal. . .	12	4 to 3 dis.	4 to 3 dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company . .	1½	¼ dis. to par	¼ dis. to par.
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal. .	All	18 to 19	18½ to 19½
5	Oriental Gas	All	5¾ to 6	5¾ to 5¾
10	O. Inland Steam	All	1 to 2	1¼ to 2¼
100	West India Steam Company . .	60	116 to 118xd.	119 to 122
20	Ceylon Company	7	3¼ to 3¾ pm.	3¼ to 3¾ pm.
20	Do. A shares	2	½ to 1 pm.	¾ to 1¼ pm.
20	International Finance Society .	5	¾ to 1¼ pm.	1 to 1¼ pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2 to 2¼ pm.	1¾ to 2 pm.
50	London Financial Association .	15	6¾ to 7 pm.	7 to 7¼ pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	1½ to 1¾ dis.xd	1½ to 1 dis.
20	Société Financière d'Eg. pte . .	10	5 to 4 dis.	4½ to 3½ dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company . . .	All	15 to 15½	15½ to 16
10	Upper Assam Tea	4½	2 to 3 pm.	2½ to 3½ pm.
10	Do.	All	14 to 17	14 to 17

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—We have had a complete alteration in the tone of our market for old teas since the date of our last circular. The very wide difference in value between similar qualities of old and new season's teas attracted general attention, and an active demand sprung up for the former, both from the trade and speculators, and as the majority of holders have been inclined partially to meet the demand a large business has resulted, and an advance in prices of 1d. to 1½d. per lb. has been established, whilst in some cases even 2d. per lb. more has been realised. The small quantity of new teas which has arrived in the fortnight has not been enough to test the market, but prices are very firmly supported. Broken-leaf and dusty kinds of Congou have sold about ½d. per lb. dearer; fair to good common show an advance of 1d. per lb. The fair to good flavory kinds, of old import, have sold readily at an advance of fully 1½d. per lb. There have been no further arrivals of new Kaisows, but a few remaining parcels have realised fully former prices. Common to fair blackish-leaf kinds have been taken both on speculative and trade account at an advance of 1d. to 1½d. per lb. the medium kinds have also sold fully 1½d. per lb. higher. In new Monings a few chops of the fine to finest kinds have been resold for export at 1d. to 2d. per lb. above the opening rates; the few on offer of recent arrival have been very firmly held. In new-make Canton sales have been made at about previous prices. In Oolongs there has been a good business done at rather higher rates. In Souchong there has been no material alteration. Flowery Pekoes remain as before. In Scented Teas there has been rather more business done, but prices have again ruled in favour of the buyers, especially for medium Capers and Orange Pekoes over 2s. per lb. In Japans the few sales made have been at very extreme rates. Indian Teas show no change. Public sales are declared for the 15th inst. For Green Teas our market has become less excited, and the very extreme rates current a fortnight back cannot now be obtained, such rates being higher than exporters could afford to pay. We quote a general decline of 1d. to 2d. per lb. on nearly all descriptions; but at this there is a fair demand, especially for good to fine qualities, partly for home consumption. Canton-made teas show no alteration. The stock in the United Kingdom on the 31st ult. was estimated at 82 000,000 lbs., against 85.500,000 lbs., and the quantity afloat at 36,505,070 lbs., against 36,660,680 lbs. At Liverpool large orders are still in hand for the New York and Canada markets, but generally at impracticable limits; the latest advices from New York report a drop of 6 to 7 cents in country Greens owing to the arrival of supplies direct from China. The most recent purchases have been in Twankays from 9d. to 1s. 1d. per lb. for Canada, and fine Hysons 2s. 10d. to 3s. 6d. per lb. for the South American markets. The only noteworthy business in direct imports is the sale of the Chalgrove's cargo, one-half new Kaisow Congou, and one-half new Canton Scented Teas, the whole of which (with the exception of about 3,000 boxes Scented Caper) was placed within a very few days at most satisfactory

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prices; say, medium to fine Congou at 2s. to 2s. 5d. per lb., fine ditto 2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d. per lb.; medium to fine Oolong 1s. 10d. to 2s. 3d. per lb.; Canton Scented Caper, good to medium, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 8d. per lb., fine to finest, 1s. 10d. to 2s 6d. per lb.; Scented Orange Pekoe, medium to fine, 1s. 11d. to 2s. 2d. per lb.; fine to finest, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. per lb.; imitation Foochow leaf realising 1s. 11d. to 2s. 4d. per lb. Java tea has increased in favour, and the imports from Holland has been placed at higher rates.

SILK.—We have had a week of comparative quiet in Silk, but without relaxation of prices. In the meantime the deliveries are progressing fairly satisfactorily, and the telegrams received from China are of a character to give renewed tone to the market, so that the unloading now taking place will probably be taken off readily at full rates. Unfortunately, all the Silk arriving and that has arrived for some weeks past is in more or less bad condition—of course, for this allowances are made, but this is not satisfactory either to buyers or sellers; when the mischief arose we have no means of judging, whether in the packing or the reeling, but it is certain the Silk must have been exposed somewhere to great damp. The deliveries for the month are 3,593 bales of China, and 1,206 of Japan. The following is from Messrs. Kilburn, Kershaw, and Co's Circular: Silk has been in current demand throughout the past month, and there has again been a considerable business doing in Chinas and Japans, at gradually advancing rates; the suddenly increased value of money has not affected the market, the position of which is so strongly influenced by the China advice: best chop silks have now reached 30s. 6d. for No 3 Tsatlee, while good marketable parcels of 3½ and 4 are current at 28s. to 29s.; the best Taysaams are 26s. to 28s., and Japans, the finest Maibash which have been picked are over at 35s. 6d. to 36s., mixed parcels at 34s. to 35s.; at these high figures the market is at this moment extremely firm. China Silk Piece Goods.—The market was probably never so bare as it has been during the last few months; there is again but little to record for want of goods:—75 pieces of Plain White Pongee Handkerchiefs bought in at 30s., and 60 pieces Figured White 9¼ oz. sold at 28s. 6d. to 29s., comprised everything in the Sales. Of Crape Shawls there were none; the stock of these, once so heavy, is now a mere bagatelle, and comprises descriptions not at present wanted. Tussore Cloth:—A few small lots, in all only 290 pieces, but there were eager buyers for them, and although of only fair useful quality, realized 25s. 6d. to 33s.

CHINA.	Usual Imports.			
	s.	d.	s.	d.
CHINA:—Tsatlee, No. 1 & 2	30	6 to	32	6
,, No 3 & 4	28	0 to	30	0
,, Hangchow	26	6 to	27	0
Yuenfa	20	0 to	23	0
Taysaam	19	0 to	26	0
,, Skeins	21	6 to	22	0
Long Reel	21	0 to	23	0
Canton	21	1 to	24	6
Thrown	None.			
JAPAN:—Mibush, ...	30	0 to	35	0
Iedo Bricks	24	6 to	27	6
Sodai	26	0 to	27	6
Oshu, re-reeled	26	6 to	27	6
Koshu, Seté	27	0 to	28	0
Archezan slips	23	6 to	25	6
Mashtah do.	24	6 to	25	6

STATE OF THE WAREHOUSES.

	Sold Stock.		Unsold Stock.		Delivered.	
	Nov. 1, 1865.	Nov. 1, 1864.	Nov. 1, 1865.	Nov. 1, 1864.	Jan. 1 to Nov. 8, 1865.	Jan. 1 to Nov. 8, 1864
Bengal.....	2,362	2,517	2,438	2,991	8,668	7,351
China	7,206	6,187	8,800	4,117	25,557	26,032
Japan	1,282	2,511	2,335	451	10,888	15,818
Canton	495	126	953	27	716	2,136
Chinese Thrown.	10	315	16	23	109	898

COTTON.—The tone of the market was dull during the whole of the week ending the 4th, and prices declined ½d. to 1d. per lb. all round. On the 3rd, buyers were tempted by offers of Tinnivelly and Western afloat at low prices, and a considerable business was done at prices showing a decline of 2d. on Tinnivelly, and 1½d. per lb. on Western. During the week there were sales of 380 bales Tinnivelly at 16d. to 19d. fair to good fair; and 130 bales Japan, at 18½d. for good fair; with sales to arrive of 3,880 bales Tinnivelly at 15d. to 17d., October to August sailing, guaranteed good fair. The sales this week exhibit no change in prices. The stock of Cotton in London on the 2nd was 39,225 bales against 96,886 last year, of which 2,548 was China and Japan against 25,057 last year. The total stock at Liverpool on the 3rd was 323,000 bales against 496,000 last year. The total afloat to Europe on the 3rd was 142,311 bales (of which none is China or Japan), against 218,683 bales last year. At Liverpool on the 8th there was a fair demand at rather firmer prices. Sales on that day 10,000 bales, including 5,000 speculation and export, 4,000 American, 16d. to 20½d.; Bengal, Scinde, &c., 11¾d. to 12d.; China, 15d. to 16½d. With reference to the prospective supplies of cotton from America, the circular of Messrs. Neill Brothers, issued at New York on the 24th ult. states:—We think it probable that the imports of American cotton at Liverpool from the 1st October till the 31st December will amount to from 220,000 to 250,000 bales, the great bulk of which will be received in November and December, affording a liberal supply at a period when it cannot fail to be much wanted.

SUGAR.—Additional heaviness has been observable in the market since our report of the 26th ultimo, as, with a very general disinclination to purchase, the operations of the home trade have been curtailed to their most immediate wants, and the transactions effected are of extremely limited amount. On the 3rd the bulk of the parcels offered at public sale was withdrawn, the small proportion disposed of being at a decline of 1s. per cwt. on the rates of the 27th ult. The market remains in the same dull state during the present week.

COFFEE.—The public sales on the 3rd of 790 casks, 820 barrels and bags Plantation Ceylon, went off at full rates; 73 casks, 1,960 bags Native sold with spirit, and again rather dearer, the advance being from 1s. to 2s. per cwt. Sales of Plantation passed off steadily. 1,277 bags Malabar and Mysore brought fully former prices, also 27 4 bags Singapore-Siam at 67s. 6d. to 69s. 6d. Campar, 58s. 400 casks and 80 bags and barrels of Plantation Ceylon sold readily in public sale on the 8th at 6d. advance, triage and ordinary, 37s. 6d. to 73s.; low to fine middling, 79s. 6d. to 89s.; fine, 97s.; peaberry, 83s. to 91s.; 1,500 bags and 150 casks of Native also realised firmer prices, ordinary small to superior, 66s. to 72s.; 30 bales of Mocha bought in at 96s.

RICE.—During the past week 75,000 bags changed hands at fully previous prices to some advance. On the 8th 10,000 bags of soft grain sold; Bassein, old, 11s. 9d.; Necranzie, 11s. 3d. to 11s. 9d.

CARDAMOMS.—Steady; of 41 packages Malabar at auction, half sold at 4s. 9d. to 6s. 2d. per lb. for middling small to good; and 3s. 6d. to 3s. 7d. Seeds; 19 packages Madras sold at 4s. 3d. to 5s. 5d. for middling to fine Aleppy, and 4s. fair long.

CAMPHOR.—Market quiet, with limited business privately at 97s. 6d. per cwt. for Japan, and 92s. 6d. to 95s. China; 81 tubs Japan at auction retired.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Steady; of 461 boxes at auction, one-third sold at 105s. per cwt. for third pile. Buds: Rather cheaper, and of 75 boxes at auction, one-third sold at £10. 10s. per cwt.

CINNAMON (CEYLON).—At the recent Quarterly Sales, demand was visibly and largely in excess of supply; prices from the very commencement advanced 4d. to 6d. per lb.; and the whole of the following 990 bales sold, viz.: 229 bales 1st sort at 2s. 2d. to 3s. with superior at 3s. 3d. to 3s. 7d.; 496 bales 2nd sort, 1s. 11d. to 2s. 10d.; 212 bales 3rd sort 1s. 10d. to 2s. 6d.; and 53 bales 4th and Jungle, 1s. 5d. to 1s. 10d.

COCOA-NUT OIL.—This market has been very firm, with excellent demand for Cochin especially, which has further risen 10s. per ton: 273 casks Cochin, 130 Ceylon, 304 Sydney, and 100 Madras at auction.

DRUGS.—Cubebs, Dragon's Blood, and Galangal Root: Nothing of any consequence doing in either. Rhubarb: Continues to sell well; 177 cases of recent importation sold at auction at 9s. 2d. to 9s. 5d. per lb. fair flat; 8s. 11d. to 9s. 4d. round; 8s. 2d. to 8s. 6d. middling; and 5s. to 7s. 1d. pickings: 49 cases, various small lots, retired.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Quiet; and of 58 cases Sumatra at auction a few only sold at £11 to £12 per cwt. for false packed second quality. Damer: Dearer; 24 cases sold at auction at 52s. per cwt. for fair. Gamboge: Steady; but of 12 cases at auction only two sold at £10. 7s. 6d. to £10. 10s. per cwt. for middling pipe.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Quiet, but firm. Nothing of any importance doing.

HEMP (MANILA).—This market has remained very firm, but quiet, there being but little offering; auctions unimportant. Quotation £42 to £45 per ton.

HIDES AND HORNS.—The sales of East India during the month of October were 186,400 hides. There has been a good demand for consumption, but not much inquiry for export, and though at the last sales the prices paid early in the month were barely supported, they still show a general advance of ¼d. to ½d. per lb. on all descriptions, excepting extra heavy weights, as compared with the rates current at the end of September. Batavia: 2,659 buffalo hides have been cleared at 5d. to 6¾d. per lb. Singapore, &c.: The quantity offering has been larger than for some time, but generally met a ready sale at full prices. The sales comprise 7,974 ox and cow, and 4,980 Buffalo Hides. Ox and cow light 7d. to 7¼d. per lb.; Heavy 5¾d. to 6d. per lb.; Thirds 5d. to 5½d. per lb.; Fourths 3½d. to 4d. per lb.; Buffalo Best 6½d. to 6¾d. per lb.; Seconds 6⅜d. per lb. Horns, &c.: Have met a ready sale at full prices. 66 tons Buffalo Horns have been cleared. Siam at 45s. per cwt.; Bombay 26s. to 31s. per cwt.; Madras 24s. 6d. to 28s. per cwt. 49 tons Deer Horns realised 56s. to 66s. per cwt. for Ceylon; 39s. to 43s. 6d. per cwt. for Singapore.

INDIA RUBBER.—Moderate business on former terms.

JAPAN WAX.—Considerably dearer; 161 boxes at auction sold at 80s. 6d. to 87s. 6d. per cwt. for good saucers, and there is much inquiry.

OILS.—Anniseed: Moderate business at 7s. 8d. to 7s. 9d. per lb. on the spot and for arrival; 10 cases at auction retired. Cassia: Sales to a limited extent effected both on the spot and for arrival at 7s. 9d. per lb. Mace and Nutmegs: One case Oil Nutmegs and 3 cases Paste at auction retired.

PEPPER.—Black: Firm, with inquiry, and 3,142 bags Singapore at auction mostly sold at 3¼d. to 3⅝d. per lb. 288 bags Tellicherry sold at 3⅜d., and 120 bags Trang sold at 3⅛d. to 3⅛d. White: Steady, and 571 bags Singapore at auction mostly sold at 5⅛d. to 5½d. per lb. for middling to fair.

SPICES.—Cloves: Steady, of 1,265 bags Zanzibar at auction, three-fourths sold at 3d. to 3⅛d. per lb. for ordinary to good. Mace: This market has been firm, and the very good supply brought forward has met with excellent demand. Nutmegs: Have sold irregularly, but generally at higher prices; 59 cases Penang and 2 cases Singagore at auction sold at 3s. 2d. per lb. for middling bold; and 1s. 1d. to 1s. 10d. ordinary small to fair medium.

SAGO.—Steady: Of 1,105 boxes at auction, one-third sold at 20s. 6d. to 21s. 6d. per cwt. for middling to good small. Flour: Nothing of any importance doing. Sales for this day.

TAPIOCA.—117 bags middling Penang sold at 3¼d.; 300 bags good white were withdrawn at 4d. A small quantity Tapioca Flour (in tins) found buyers at 2¾d. per lb.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Firm; 237 bags at auction sold at 24s. to 25s. per cwt. for fair; good business done privately up to 26s. 6d. Gambier: Quiet; of 1,843 bales at auction, a few only sold at 20s 6d. per cwt. for middling blocks.

TIN.—This market has again been very animated, and large transactions have taken place in Straits up to £97 per ton, three months prompt; £95. 10s. cash; and £97 for arrival.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Blacklead: Steady, but quiet; of 267 barrels' at auction, very few sold at 23s. per cwt. for superior lump, and 10s. 6d. good dust. Galls: Very little doing in the annexed descriptions; of China 154 boxes brought to auction, and mostly sold at 64s. 6d. to 68s. 6d. per cwt. for middling to good; 54 boxes Japan sold at 62s. 6d. to 64s. 6d. per cwt. for good, showing no change in China, but some little improvement in Japan. Musk: Firm: 40 caddies Tonquin at auction sold at 27s. to 30s. 6d. per oz. for fair to good; and 20s. to 23s. pickings. Rattans: Withou

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material change; and of 4 600 bundles Singapore at auction, half sold at 5s. 8d. to 6s. 3d. per 103 canes, with superior 11s. 2d. to 18s. 6d. Sappan Wood: Rather quiet: 6 tons Siam, and 8 tons Manila at auction, all retired. Soy: Very little doing in China; 20 cases Japan sold at auction at 4½d. per bottle. Star Anniseeds: Very scarce; nothing doing. Sticklac (Siam): Dearer; 64 boxes at auction sold at 45s. to 46s. per cwt. for fair, but small and broken. Vermilion: Scarce and nothing doing.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7 to £7. 5s.; nail rod, £8. 10s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10; sheets, single, £10. 10s. to £10. 15s.; Staffordshire bars, £8. 10s. to £9. 10s.; rails, £7 to £7. 5s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £15.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £101 to £103 per ton; yellow metal, 8d. per lb.

TIN.—97s. to 100s. for block; 101s. for common bars. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 32s. to 32s. 6d.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, W.B., £21. 10s.; shot, patent, £23. 10s.; sheet, £21.; spelter, £21. 10s. to £21. 15s.; zinc, English sheet, £27.; quicksilver, £7. 18s. 6d. to £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—The improvement in the demand for metals which we noticed as having commenced in September, has increased during the past month, and we now report considerable activity in all descriptions, with improved prices. Iron: Scotch pig has fluctuated from 2s. to 3s. per ton, and closes 58s. 6d. cash. Manufactured of all descriptions is quoted rather higher with good inquiry. Copper: A large business was done in the beginning of October in all descriptions, and for ores and regulus increased rates were paid, consequently on the 18th, the smelters announced an advance of £5 per ton on copper, and ½d. per lb. on yellow metal, the great demand still continuing, a further advance was declared on the 25th ult., of £5 per ton, and ¼d. lb. on yellow metal. The possibility of the difference between Spain and the Chilian Government leading to active measures, and a blockade of the Chilian ports brought about much speculation. The price is now very firm. Foreign is well held, Burra at £97; Capunda, £99; Chili, £88. 10s.; Spanish, £87 and £88. Tin: English has been in active demand, and the shipments have been very heavy, especially to the United States, the consumption also in this country has been very great, but notwithstanding the large deliveries, the total stock here and in Holland is larger than a month since. On the 26th ult., the price of English was advanced 3s. per cwt., and a further rise is momentarily expected, as the smelters refuse to sell at official quotations. No doubt there is a scarcity of ores in Cornwall, as it is understood the richer mines are holding back with the expectation of higher rates. The arrivals of Straits during the month amounted to 650 tons, of which we estimate 300 tons are not landed. The quantity of Straits Tin afloat for Europe is about 1,418 tons, against 1,110 tons in 1864, and 486 tons in 1863. Tin Plates continue much inquired for, and the manufacturers find difficulty in giving delivery within reasonable time, prices are very firm with a tendency upwards. The quantity shipped last month was 105,000 boxes, against 62,000 boxes October, 1864. Lead has advanced during the month 10s. to 15s. per ton, and is scarce; it is difficult to obtain early delivery. The prospects of this metal seem very promising. Spelter has improved in price during the past week or ten days. The stock in London is 6,684 tons, against 11,816 tons Oct. 31, 1864.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£170,628
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£5,500
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£2,278,059
Singapore	£3,007	£272,460
Penang	—	£20,440
Yokohama	—	£54,330

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	... £57,966
Penang	—	... £4 508
Hong Kong	—	... £61,000
Foo-chow-Foo	—	... —
Shanghai	—	... £40,751
Yokohama	—	... £13,178

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£56	... £52,940
To Saigon	—	... £112,550
To Batavia	£3,966	... £3,360
To Hong Kong	—	... £104 542
To Shanghai	£80	... £121,133
To Yokhama	—	... £2,184

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4
Silver in Bars	0 5 1½
Mexican Dollars	0 4 11½

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

The Circular of Sam Mendel states:—There is some inquiry to-day, resulting only in few sales. Spinners and manufacturers offer further concessions without tempting buyers to enter on transactions to any extent, yet there is some disposition to make purchases (but not generally, at a very moderate reduction from the rates producers are inclined to accept. Grey Shirtings, 7 lbs., 14s. to 14s. 6d.; 8¼ lbs., 17s. 3d. to 17s. 6d.; Cotton Yarn, Nos. 16 to 24, 2s. 1d. to 2s. 2d.; Maddapollams, 6s.; Long Cloths, 17s.; T-Cloths, 11s.; White Spot Shirtings 19s.; White Brocade do., 19s.; White Damasks, 33s., nominal.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Oct. 25	Falmouth	Manila	Vorsetzen	Solst.
—	Gironde	Singapore	Prophete	Mouv.
— 26	Deal	Colombo	Geelong	Findley.
— 26	Do.	Do.	Chaturanga	
— 12	Boston	Manila	Conquest	Lewis.
— 26	London	Colombo	Julia Augusta	Hopper.
— 27	Deal	Macao	Northfleet	Symington.
— 26	Falmouth	Bassein	Scandia (late Johnson)	
— 26	Liverpool	Shanghai	Laila Rookh	
— 26	Do.	Singapore	Richard Cobden	
— 26	Do.	Rangoon	Bosphorus	McNab.
—	Queenstown	Maulmain	Mary Russell	
—	Nieuwe Diep	Sourabaya	Anglia	Wilson.
— 27	Deal	China	Wm. Melhuish	
— 27	Liverpool	Singapore	Christopher Newton.	Menzies.
— 27	Do.	Shanghai	Chalgrove	Armstrong.
—	New York	Do.	Haversham	
—	Do.	Hong Kong	Pride	
— 27	Deal	Batavia	Charlotte	Lange.
— 29	Liverpool	Manila	Raby Castle	
Sep. 26	Callao	Macao	Christina	
Oct. 30	Deal	Colombo	Isabella Atkinson	Atkinson.
— 18	New York	Hong Kong	Pudel	Kalkloser.
— 29	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Noord Brabant	Loos.
— 15	Halifax N.S.	Shanghai	Eva	Kidd.
Nov. 2	London	Colombo	Conqueror	Noel.
Oct.—	New York	Shanghai	Eva	
—	Do.	Hong Kong	Recife	
—	Do.	Manila	Sumatra	
— 19	Quebec	Shanghai	Guiding Star	Muhlenroth.
Sep. 14	Monte Video	Canton	Magdalena	Schmidt.
Nov. 4	London	Nagasaki	Ann	Stephen.
— 5	Falmouth	Maulmain	Bolden Lawn	Kerr.
Oct.—	New York	Shanghai	Acapulco	
—	Do.	Singapore	Sea Ranger	
—	Do.	Nagasaki	Swanley	

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Oct. 22	Liverpool	Hong Kong	Sir Lancelot	McDougall.
— 23	Shields	Shanghai	Isabella	
— 24	Cardiff	Do.	Vanguard	Scott.
— 26	London	Do.	Burdwan	Douglas.
Sep. 23	Callao	Macao	Amalia	Bollo.
Oct. —	Rotterdam	Batavia	Jeanette and Cornelia	
—	Do.	Do.	Dordrecht	Loos.
— 30	Shields	Galle	Neptune's Bride	
— 31	London	Colombo	East Lothian	Drysdale.
— 31	Do.	Do.	Frances	Higgs.
— 31	Do.	Penang	Devonvale	Brown.
—	Cronstadt	Amoor	Belle	Wayman.
Nov. 1	Shields	Shanghai	Prince of Wales	
— 1	Liverpool	Manila	San Luis	Caranza.
— 4	Do.	Singapore	Albert Victor	Overbury.
— 2	Queenstown	Batavia	Baron Bentinck (s.)	
— 1	Shields	Shanghai	Princess of Wales	
Oct. 31	Bromielaw	Galle	Mahratta (s.)	
— 29	Cronstadt	Amoor	Isabella Ridley	Watson.
—	Do.	Do.	Catherine	Molsen.
Nov. 3	Portsmouth	Batavia	India	Vonck.
— 4	London	Shanghai	Min	Smith.
— 4	Do.	Colombo	Crouch Brothers	Squary.
Oct. —	Marseilles	Singapore	Capitole	Champenois.
Nov. 3	Cardiff	Manila	Lady Blessington	Burnham.
— 4	Clyde	Singapore	Grenada	Herd.
—	Rotterdam	Batavia	Argo	Aukringa.
— 5	Newport	Shanghai	President Harbitz	Von der Ohe.
— 5	Do.	Singapore	Luconia	Admiraal.
— 6	Cardiff	Do.	Robt. Lowe (s.s.)	Frost.
— 7	Liverpool	Galle	Oneiza	
— 7	Do.	Do.	Timour.	

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Eliza Shaw, Challenger. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Conference, Broadwater. For Shanghai: Flying Spur, Taeping. For Hong Kong and Canton: Belted Will, Black Prince, Northfleet. For Singapore: Belle of Southesk, Dovercourt, Queen of May. For Manila: Loyola. For Galle: Colombo Dora. For Colombo and Cochin: Abdul Medjid. For Colombo: Palestine, Frances Milly, Aoa, Boyne, John Bright.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Eclipse. For Shanghai: Illimani, Tewkesbury. For Penang: Singapore. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Harkaway. For Manila: Alavesa, Eulalia.

At GLASGOW.—For Manila: Bella Gallega. For Batavia and Singapore: Helen Baird.

SPOKEN.

CHARMER, Liverpool to Singapore, Oct. 12, 44 N., 10 W.
HOLYROOD (ship), from Nagasaki, Aug. 21 29 N., 123 E.
ST. LOUIS (French ship), Bordeaux to Cochin China, July 21, 37 S., 3 E.
ETHIOPIAN (ship), Shanghai to London, Aug. 24, with chief officer sick.
UNICORN, Singapore to London, July 25, in Malacca Straits.
HESPERIA (barque), Shanghai to New York, July 23, 2 S., 128 E.
ANDREAS (Bremen ship), Shanghai to New York, Sept. 1, 35 S., 25 E.
MONARCHY (ship), Cardiff to Shanghai, Sept. 27, 8 N., 25 W.
JOSEPH WILLEM, Newcastle to Batavia, June 18, 28 N., 19 W.
REGINA MARIA, Amsterdam to Samarang, 35 N., 16 W.
WILHELMINA (Dutch barque), Bat. to Rotterdam, Sept. 2, 35 S., 21 E.
SIR B. GOLDSMIDT (?) (Dutch ship), Bat. to Rott., Oct. 12. 30 N., 36 W.
PRINZ VAN ORANGE (Dutch ship), for Hong Kong, Sept. 17, 5 N., 24 W.
SAUNDERSON, Sunderland to Galle, Sept. 27, 10 N., 27 W.

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LANSDOWNE, London to Shanghai, Sept. 28, 11 N., 28 W.
PRINCE OF THE WEST (?), London to Hong Kong, Sept. 22, 2 N., 23 W.
SIR G. POLLOCK. Colombo to London, Sept. 18, 9 S., 13 W.
SPIRIT OF THE DEEP (barq.), London to Shanghai, Aug 9, 33 S., 25 W.
SCHEFFLER. Rotterdam to Batavia, Oct. 5, 7 N., 26 W.
MEMNON (ship), Manila to New York, Sept. 15, 20 S., 65 E.
SYDNEY EGGERS (ship), London to Hong Kong, Sept 6, 32 S., 13 W.
FRISCH (schooner), Hamburg to Singapore, 13 N., 25 W.
LEOPOLD. Cardiff to Galle, 59 days out, 32 S., 21 (?) E.
LAUDERDALE, Foochow to London, Sept 16.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

No material change has taken place in outward freight since our last impression; all the berths for portt in China, except Shanghai, are amply supplied with tonnage, and rates are easy.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Singapore: 25s. to 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Batavia: 35s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 25s. measurement.

The quotations for coal and iron from the North are as follows:—For Hong Kong: £41 and £2. For Shanghai: £5 and £2. 10s. For Manila: 32s. 6d. to 35s. For Batavia: £30 and 27s. For Singapore: £32 and 30s. For Galle: £28 and 27s. These rates are from the Wear or Tyne, and Newport, Cardiff, or Swansea respectively.

CASUALTIES.

The Dordrecht, Loos, from Rotterdam for Batavia, put into Portsmouth Oct. 30, leaky.

The Jeannette, Cornelia, from Rotterdam for Batavia, was assisted into Ramsgate Oct. 31, having slipped from an anchor and chain to avoid collision.

Advices from Helsingfors under date 24th Oct. state that the Bedford, Natrass, from Cronstadt to the Amoor, which capsized W.S.W. of Porkala on the 20th Oct., and afterwards drifted on Gasansudd, had struck on the Soderska rocks; part of her cargo has been saved, and endeavours are being made to get the ship off and tow her into harbour.

The Kew Kee, Fuller, from Liverpool for Shanghai, which sailed from Rio Janeiro 23rd Sept., after repairing, put back Oct. 6, the master declaring that the ship has "not the necessary nautical qualities for the voyage."

The deck of the Bedford, Nahass, from Cronstadt to the River Amoor which vessel capsized W.S.W. of Porkala, Oct. 20, and subsequently drifted on Gasansudd, has burst up, it is supposed by the swelling of the cargo (flour). The greater part of the cargo has drifted away, and, as far as practicable, is being saved along the coast. Later advices report that the vessel drifted off the rocks at high tide and sunk in deep water, only the tops of her masts being visible.

The Prinses Amelie, Groeneveld, from Batavia for Amsterdam, put into Mauritius, Oct. 5, making fourteen inches water per hour, having experienced heavy gales Sept. 19 in about lat. 10 S., 96 E.

The Numa Vidal, Roura, from Sumatra for Marseilles, which put into Mauritius leaky, Aug. 7, has been condemned and sold there. Her cargo would be brought on by the Meteore and Sylvius.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Information has been received at the Admiralty that Capt. Richer, of the French ship Immaculate Conception, recently arrived at Havre, when navigating the Channel between the Pescadores Islands and the West Coast of Formosa, saw an extensive line of high breakers in about lat. 23 45.50 N., lon. 120.2.20 East of Greenwich.

At TABLE BAY.—Sept. 13, from Shanghai, Ocean Gem.

At ST. VINCENT, C. V.—Sept. 27, from Lisbon, Koning Willem III. (s.), Oort, and left 29 for Batavia.

At ST. HELENA.—Sept. 27, from Shanghai, Guinevere, McLean; 28, from Ceylon, Cresswell, Aitcheson, and both sailed 29 for London; 30, from Java, Constance, Mulder, and sailed Oct. 1 for Amsterdam,

A telegram has been received *via* New York, with news from Japan to the 15th September, announcing that a great hurricane had occurred in the China Sea, destroying three large steamers and several American and English ships. Another telegram, from Calcutta, dated 31st of October, reports the total loss of three ships. The message gives the following particulars:—The barque Alice Maud, 458 tons, Captain Sorensen, from Hong Kong for Singapore, lost on the 6th of October; crew saved. The ship Garrawalt, 621 tons, Captain Phillips, from Shanghai for London with tea, totally wrecked, supposed off the coast of Formosa; she was a first-class built ship, A 1 at Lloyd's for fourteen years. The ship War Eagle, 599 tons, Captain Maulet, which sailed from Singapore for London on the 19th of September, has been lost at the Thousand Islands, near Anjer; crew saved. The amount of insurances on the above ships is very large.

PORT OF AMOY.

SHIPOWNERS, AGENTS and COMMANDERS are informed that the Dock Company's Establishmen s at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING and SPARRING VESSELS, and for CLEANING and PAINTING Iron and Steam Ships.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, is in complete working order, and at average spring tides can take vessels drawing 16 to 17 feet water. The Dock is fitted with a Caisson Gate and with a Centrifugal Steam Pump of great power ensuring despatch in all states of the tide. An ample stock is kept on hand of Timber, Oregon Spars, Sheathing Copper and Yellow Metal, and of every description of material for Dockyard use.

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Amoy, March, 1865.

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THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

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Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

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The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)

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J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

THE NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY.

(ESTABLISHED 1st JANUARY, 1863.)

CAPITAL, TAELS 1,250,000, IN 250 SHARES OF TAELS 5,000 EACH.

Paid up Capital, Taels 1,000 per Share.

DIRECTORS.

L. G. DUNLOP, Esq. (Messrs. Birley, Worthington, and Co.), Chairman.

E. H. Lavers, Esq. (Messrs. Gilman and Co.).

Sol. D. Sassoon, Esq. (Messrs. David Sassoon, Sons, and Co.).

H. Howe Wiggins, Esq. (Manager Commercial Bank Corporation of India and the East).

David Reid, Esq. (Messrs. Reid and Co.)

The Company being about to be reorganised for a further term of three years, from 1st January, 1866, application for Shares will be received by the undersigned until 31st October current.

A certain number of Shares have been allotted to London, but further applications from there will be received until 30th November.

Application for Shares, from persons not resident in Shanghai, must be accompanied by Power of Attorney to their Agents, to sign the Deed of Settlement on their behalf, and generally to represent them in all matters connected with the Company.

By order of the Directors,

J. S. MACKINTOSH, Secretary.

Shanghai, July 12, 1865.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

No.

TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY.

Gentlemen,— hereby request you will allot to Shares in the above Company, and agree to accept such Shares, or any less number you may allot to ; and agree to pay the first call of Tls. 1,000 per Share and all subsequent calls, and to subscribe the Deed of Settlement whenever required to do so.

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant.

Application for the Shares allotted to London must be made to—

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AGENTS,

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William Neilson, Esq. (Messrs. Olyphant and Co.)

J. W. Maclellan, Esq. (Manager Commercial Bank Corporation.

Richard Deacon, Esq. (Messrs. John Burd and Co.)

GENERAL AGENTS.

Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co.

The Allotment of Shares will take place on the 3rd day of October next, and further Applications for Shares will be received until the 3rd of October next.

Application to be made in the form given below, and addressed to the General Agents, from whom any information can be obtained.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To the General Agents of the China Traders' Marine Insurance Society of Hong Kong (Limited).

Gentlemen,—I hereby request that the Committee will allot to me shares in the above Company, and I agree to accept such shares, or any less number which may be allotted to me, and to pay the first call of One thousand Dollars per Share, and further calls to such amount and at such times and in such manner as may be authorised by the Articles of Association of the said Company, and to subscribe the Articles of Association when called on to do so.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obdient Servant.

Hong Kong, Sept. 7, 1865.

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Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up capital, £750,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

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Madras.	Galle.	Singapore.	Hankow.	Mauritiu

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The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

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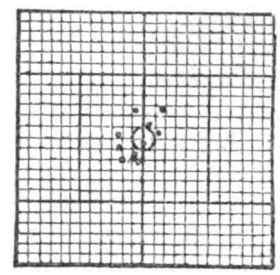

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CHLORODYNE.

CAUTION.—*Vice-Chancellor Wood affirmed in Court that Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE was undoubtedly the Discoverer of Chlorodyne; that the statements of the Defendant Freeman were deliberately untrue, and he regretted to say they had been sworn to (see "The Times" of July 13, 1864); all others must be spurious.*

Earl Russell has graciously favoured J. T. Davenport with the following extract of a despatch from Mr. Webb, H.B.M.'s Consul at Manila, dated Sept. 17, 1864:—"The remedy most efficacious in its effects (in Epidemic Cholera) has been found to be CHLORODYNE, and with a small quantity given to me by Dr. Burke I have saved several lives." Earl Russell communicated to the College of Physicians that he had received a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Manila, to the effect that Cholera had been raging fearfully, and that the ONLY remedy of any service was CHLORODYNE.—See *Lancet*, December 31, 1864. No home should be without it.

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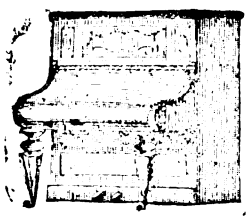

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"NO BUYERS for the BEST BRANDS, unless RE-PACKED," in consequence of repeated BREAKAGE.—Melbourne Journal of Commerce, Nov. 16. Heating and Breakage entirely prevented, and 15 per cent. saved in Freight of Cases by using SEYMER'S BOTTLE PACKINGS AND COOLERS.

Price 7½d. per doz. Bottlers contracting for large quantities effect so great a saving in labour, &c., that they can supply them at one-fourth less in price to Shippers, who will find it most profitable to order their goods to be so packed in future. In use by all the leading London houses.—T. WHITEHEAD, 37, EASTCHEAP, E.C. Sole Manufacturer.

COWASJEE DINSHAW,
Close to the Landing Place Depot of
EUROPEAN, CHINA, AND INDIAN WORK.

WINE, BEER, CHAMPAGNE, and SPIRITS of the best quality. Bombay-made Soda Water and Lemonade. Perfumery, Confectionery, Oilman's Stores, and Stationery of every description. Sola Topees and Canvas Shoes, &c., &c., &c.

STEAMER POINT, ADEN.

Drawing and Reading-room free to Passengers.

THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS" ON SALE

UMBRELLAS and SUNSHADES suitable for all Foreign Markets and the Colonies are supplied to Shippers on the most favourable terms by JOHN MORLAND and SONS, Wholesale Manufacturers 50, Eastcheap, London-bridge, City. Silk, Alpaca, Gingham Steel Frames, Canes, Fittings and all kinds of Materials for the Trade. Oiled and japanned silks and cambrics.

CAUTION.

THE GROSS FRAUDS which continue to be practised by obscure manufacturers, more particularly in Germany, by imitating the Labels attached to JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s PERFUMERY, render it imperative upon the Proprietors to Caution the public against such nefarious proceedings, and to request their friends and patrons to purchase only of respectable dealers, who import direct from JOHN GOSNELL and Co., and invite special attention to the address, 12, THREE KING-COURT, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s SELECT PERFUMES.—Ess Bouquet, Royal Yacht Club Bouquet, Jockey Club Perfume, Essence of Wood Violet, Victoria Bouquet, Garibaldi Bouquet, Frangipanni, Military Bouquet, The Bride's Bouquet, Tea Rose, Russian Leather Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Toilet Vinegar, Inexhaustible Salts, Aromatic Vinegar, Aromatic Eau de Cologne.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Prince of Wales Perfume

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Princess Alexandra Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Pomade.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Soap.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Real Old Brown Windsor Soap.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Golden Oil—Moelline—Macassar Oil, Bear's Grease, &c., for the Hair.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Extra Highly Scented Toilet and Nursery Powder.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Stereodesmic or Dentists, Tooth Brushes and Trichosaron Hair Brushes, warranted to purchasers.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Instantaneous Hair Dye.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co's Cherry Tooth Paste is greatly superior to any tooth powder, gives the teeth a pearl-like whiteness, protects the enamel from decay, and imparts a pleasing fragrance to the breath.

NOTHING IMPOSSIBLE.—The Greatest and most Useful Invention of the day, AGUA AMARELLA.—Messrs. JOHN GOSNELL and CO., 12, Three King-court, Lombard-street, London, Perfumers to Her Majesty, respectfully offer to the public this truly marvellous fluid, which gradually restores the human hair to its pristine hue—no matter at what age. The Agua Amarella has none of the properties of dyes; it, on the contrary, is beneficial to the system, and when the hair is once restored one application per month will keep it in perfect colour. Price One Guinea per bottle; half bottles, 10s. 6d.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co., Perfumers to Her Majesty and by Special Appointment to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, London.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—THE BEST WAY.—To gain any end there are often many ways, but there is always the best way. This statement applies with wonderful force to Holloway's remedies, which overcome ill-health by driving noxious matters from the frame, by repairing broken or injured structures, and by establishing regularity of action. This is the only safe and feasible method of combating diseases and securing sound health. With pure blood, good digestion, strong nerves, and perfect functional order, most maladies may be vanquished and strength surely established. The balsamic and healing qualities of Holloway's Ointment render it invaluable in the nursery for healing cuts, scratches, or sores, for allaying inflammations, reducing swellings, or cleansing unhealthy skins.

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WILLIAM BOLTON,
146, HOLBORN BARS,
LONDON.

(Formerly Dymond and Co.)

MANUFACTURER of Pure Chemicals for Photography and Chemical Research, Experiments, &c., and of all Pharmaceutical Preparations.

Aniline and its Colours, Benzole, Bicarbonate, Hyposulphite, and Silicate of Soda, Chlorate and Silicate of Potash, Phosphorus, &c.

Manufacturer of and dealer in Photographic, Chemical, Philosophical Electrical and Galvanic Apparatus.

Sole Proprietor of Bolton's and Dawson's New Negative Collodions and Hardwich's improved do. BOLTON'S Sulphate of Amorphous Quinine, and BOLTON'S Pure Benzine.

Agent for Ross's and Dallmeyer's Lenses.

Medical Glass, Porcelain, Enemas, Surgical Instruments and appliances.

Sole Export Agent for the Wothlytype Collodion and Paper and dealer in all miscellaneous articles now sold by druggists, photographers, opticians, &c., &c., in India, China, and the Colonies.

W. BOLTON advises parties when indenting to include all articles they may require of a general character, or such as may not be detailed in his Special Lists and Catalogues.

(Established 1770.)

To Merchants and Shippers.

ATTENTION is invited to DINNEFORD'S PURE FLUID MAGNESIA as a highly profitable article for Export. It is freely advertised, and most extensively used throughout the Empire, and in many Foreign Countries, as an invaluable remedy in disorders of the Stomach and Bowels, more especially in Warm Climates. A very liberal discount is allowed by the Manufacturers, DINNEFORD and CO., 172, New Bond-street.

T. & H. SMITH'S

CORDEIA LOZENGES.

THESE Lozenges have a remarkable effect in allaying Cough and Irritation of the Throat and Chest.

Prepared only by T. and H. SMITH and Co., 21, DUKE-STREET, EDINBURGH, and 69, COLEMAN-STREET, LONDON. In boxes at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. each.

"CHINA MAIL" OFFICE.

PUBLISHED at this Office, No. 2, WYNDHAM-STREET (back of the Club):—

1.—THE EVENING MAIL,
Every Day.

Price,—2 dols. per month.

Terms of Advertising.—First insertion, Ten lines and under, 1 dol.; each additional line, 10 cents. Subsequent insertions, per week, 50 cents and 5 cents—("Auction" Notices excepted, for which only One Charge per week is made).

2.—THE CHINA MAIL,
Once a Week.
(On Thursday Night.)

Price—15 dols. per annum; Single Copies, 44 cents.

Advertising.—First insertion, Five lines, 1 dol.; each additional line, 20 cents. Subsequent insertions, 50 cent. and 10 cents.

3.—THE OVERLAND MAIL.
Once a Fortnight.
(The Morning of the Mail's despatch.)

Price—To Subscribers to the Weekly issue, 8 dols. to Non-subscribers, 12 dols. Single copies, 50 cents.

Advertising.—The same as in the Weekly. All "Notices of Firms" appearing in the Weekly will be inserted in the *Overland*, and charged for, unless otherwise ordered. A. SHORTREDE & CO.

Hong Kong, Jan. 1, 1864.

THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

THE SEVENTH Volume of this JOURNAL commenced on the 3rd of January, 1865. The Subscription for the three numbers per month is 30s. per annum, including Postage, and to the Export Supplement 12s. Terms for advertising, 2s. 6d. per five lines; and 6d. for each additional line.

Subscriptions and Advertisements received abroad by the following Agents:—

Paris	G. W. Yapp, Rue de la Michodiere No. 13.
Amsterdam	Loman and Verster.
Rotterdam	P. C. Hooo.
New York	Wilmer and Rogers.
Gibraltar	W. Speed.
Malta	G. Muir.
Alexandria	F. Hay
Aden	Cowasjee Dinshaw.
Suez	
Bombay	Chesson and Woodhall.
Calcutta	Sanders, Cones, and Co.
Point de Galle	G. D. Anthanisz.
Colombo	Mr. Vandort.
Kandy	W. A. Archbald.
Labuan, Sarawak, and Singapore	John Little & Co., Singapore.
Penang	Sandilands, Buttery and Co
Bangkok	Scott and Co.
Batavia	Hunter, Houghton, and Co.
Anjer—Straits of Sunda	G. Schuit, Anjer Hotel.
Manila	Phillips, Moore, and Co.
Hong Kong, Canton, Macao, & Swatow,	James Gardiner, Hong Kong.
Amoy	Bellamy and Co.
Foo-Chow-Foo	Hedge and Co.
Shanghai	H. Fogg and Co.
Tien-Tsin	James Henderson.
Nagasaki—Japan	Pignatel and Co.
Yokohoma	Hansard and Black.

OFFICE, 12, GEORGE-YARD, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

THE HOUSEHOLD PATENTS COMPANY (Limited).

To be Incorporated under "The Companies' Act, 1862," by which the Liability is Limited to the extent of Shares taken.

Capital, £100,000, in 50,000 Shares of £2 each.

First Issue, 25,000 Shares.

5s. to be paid on Application, 5s. on Allotment; no Call will exceed 5s., nor will any Calls be made at less intervals than Three Months.

Fully Paid-up Shares will be Issued to those who prefer them.

Should no Allotment be Made, the Deposit will be Returned in Full.

Directors.

Colonel Onseley, Gloucester-place, Hyde-park.

George Warriner, Esq., Little Ilford, Essex; late Inspector of Culinary Arrangements to the Army.

Robert S. Craig, Esq., 8, Austin-friars; Director of the Financial Discount Company.

Captain C. M. Layton, Glasbury-house, Hereford; Director of the Brecon and Merthyr Tydfil Railway Company.

Marshall Hall, Esq., 3, Cleveland-terrace, Hyde-park, Barrister-at-Law.

(With power to add to their number.)

Bankers.

The Union Bank of London, Princes-street.

Solicitors.

Messrs. Mercer and Mercer, Mincing-lane.

Consulting Architect.

John Ellis, Esq., Austin-friars.

Auditors.

Messrs. Johnstone, Cooper, Wintle, & Evans, 3, Coleman-street-buildings.

Secretary (pro tem.).

G. S. Ullathorne, Esq.

Temporary Offices.

9, Mincing-lane, London.

PROSPECTUS.

This Company is established for the manufacture and sale of articles chiefly of domestic use, and mostly protected by Patents, and will comprise within its operations—Improvements in the construction of dwellings, and in their lighting, ventilation, and drainage; the preparation of all descriptions of food; the manufacture and economical use of fuel; and the most recent improvements in kitchen and other household furniture.

The Company will also assist inventors, by procuring patents for them—by purchasing the right of selling their inventions—or by selling the inventions and paying the patentees a royalty—and in other ways generally promote their interests, and develope ingenuity, which in many instances is hidden from the want of means to make it known.

The Directors have already secured the nucleus of a business which promises to be very profitable, having provisionally purchased the exclusive right to a new system of preparing American and Australian beef and mutton, so that it becomes as easily cooked and as palatable as fresh meat; also to a newly-invented Portable Roasting Oven, which will economise half the fuel now used; to an Improved Portable Romford Boiler, adapted for the army, navy, and private use; and to a newly-invented Stone Stewpan, and a Cooking Range.

Besides the above there are several valuable patents offered to the Company, and as soon as it is formed, the merits of these will be duly considered, and if found desirable will be acquired by the Company. In the meantime those already acquired will produce immediate returns.

To show the value of the first of these patents, the Directors need hardly allude to the disease in cattle, and consequent dearness of meat, which is likely to cause much distress among the poor this winter, and for some time to come; the Company will shortly be enabled to sell at a low rate, still leaving a very large profit to the Company, 28 lb. boxes of beef and mutton prepared as a wholesome and palatable food without bone; and as each piece of meat will be carefully and separately examined, there will be no risk of bad meat being sold. It is a preparation invented by Mr. Warriner, who, as instructor of Cookery to the Army, has had full means of testing its value, which is 150 per cent. more than ordinary English Beef.

The Directors deem it most advisable for the present not to manufacture all the various articles, but to contract with manufacturers to supply those which they deem inexpedient to make themselves.

The Memorandum and Articles of Association, which comprise all the intended operations of the Company, can be seen at the Solicitors' and the Offices of the Company.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR ORDINARY SHARES.

To the Directors of the Household Patents Company (Limited).

Gentlemen,—Having paid to your Bankers the sum of £ , being a deposit of 5s. per Share on Shares in the above Company, I hereby request you to allot me that number, and I hereby agree to accept such Shares, or any less number you may allot to me, and to pay a further sum of 5s. per Share on every Share which may be allotted to me within fourteen days from the date of allotment, together with all future calls thereon; and I authorise you to place my name on the Register of Members for the number of Shares so allotted to me; and I agree to sign the Articles of Association of the Company when required. I further authorise you to forward by post to my address as below the certificate for any Shares which may be allotted to me.

Usual Signature .....
Name in full.....
Residence.....
Profession or Occupation.....
Date .....1865.

HOUSEHOLD PATENTS COMPANY, (Limited).

The Directors are now prepared to Treat with Inventors for the Purchase of Working or their Inventions.—9, Mincing-lane, London, London, E.C.

HOUSEHOLD PATENTS COMPANY (Limited).

The Directors are now prepared to receive Applications from respectable Persons desirous of being Agents to the Company.—9, Mincing-lane, E.C.

HONG KONG and WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY.

The Company's Docks, at ABERDEEN and WHAMPOA, are in full working order, and the attention of Shipowners is respectfully solicited to the advantages which this Establishment offers for the Docking and Repair of Vessels.

The following description of the Premises is submitted for the information of the public:—

ABERDEEN DOCKS.
Dock No. 1.

Built of Granite.

Length	330 feet.
Breadth	80 „
Depth of water at Spring Tides	18½ „
„ „ Neap Tides	16 „

New Dock, No. 2.

Built of Granite.

Length	400 feet.
Breadth	90 „
Depth of water at Spring Tides	24 „
„ „ Neap Tides	21½ „

This Dock is now under course of construction.

WHAMPOA DOCKS.
Dock A.

Built of Granite.

Length	550 feet.
Breadth	80 „
Depth of water at Spring Tides	16½ to 17 „
„ „ Neap Tides	13½ to 15 „

This can be used either as one or two docks.

Dock B.

Built of Granite.

Length	340 feet.
Breadth	60 „
Depth of water at Spring Tides	18 „
„ „ Neap Tides	15 „

This Dock is at present in course of alteration.

The above are the largest Docks in China, and they are fitted with every appliance in the way of Caissons, powerful Steam Pumps, &c., to ensure safety and despatch in work.

Dock C.

Built of Wood.

Length	260 feet.
Depth of water at Spring Tides	14 „
„ „ Neap Tides	11 „

Fitted with Caissons and Steam Pumps.

Dock D.

Length	164 feet.
Depth of water at Spring Tides	16.6 „
„ „ Neap Tides	9.6 „

Dock E.

Length	120 feet.
Depth of water at Spring Tides	11 „
„ „ Neap Tides	8 „

D and E are Mud Docks available for small vessels, at very low rates.

WORKSHOPS.

The Workshops on the Premises, both at Aberdeen and Whampoa, possess every appliance necessary for the Repairs of Ships or Steam Machinery. The Engineer's Shops are supplied with Lathes, Planing, Screwing, Cutting, Punching Machines, &c., &c., capable of executing work on the largest scale, and driven by steam. The Shipwright's and Blacksmith's Shops are equally well supplied with plant, and the work is entirely carried on under the supervision of experienced Europeans.

Powerful Lifting Shears stand on a Jetty, alongside which vessels can lie in 24 feet water, and take in or out boilers, masts, &c.

BOILERMAKER'S DEPARTMENT.

The Company, in addition to executing Repairs, are prepared to tender for supplying new Boilers to Steamships, for constructing which they have great facilities.

FOUNDRY.

Iron and Brass Castings, either for Ships or general purposes, are executed with the utmost despatch.

STORES.

The Company's Stores will (when required) supply at moderate rates all the necessaries for Shipwork, such as Paint, Copper, Canvas, &c.

STEAM TUG.

The Company's powerful steam tug Fame (110 horse-power nominal) is always in readiness to tow vessels from Hong Kong to the Dock free of charge, and will take them back or to Sea at reduced rates

For further particulars apply to G. N. Minto, Manager, at Whampoa, or in Hong Kong to

D LAPRAIK, Secretary.

N.B.—The Consignees or Master of any Vessel seeing reason to complain of the work done in the Docks, or in any way respecting the Dock arrangements, should address the Secretary on the subject, when their complaints will receive the immediate attention of the Directors of the Company.

Hong Kong, April 3, 1865.

JOYCE'S AMMUNITION 1862.—

Established 1820.

The following articles, of the best quality manufactured by

FREDERICK JOYCE,
OF LONDON,

may be had of most Gunmake and dealers in Gunpowder.

MILITARY RIFLE PERCUSSION CAPS.
PATENT PYROXYLINE SPORTING DITTO
ORIGINAL (1824) ANTI-CORROSIVE DITTO.
PERBLE WATERPROOF CENTRAL FIRE DITTO
Chemically-prepared Cloth, Felt, and Paper Waddings
Cartridge-Cases for Breech-loading Guns, Wire and Universal Shot Cartridges, &c., &c. Contractor to Her Majesty's War Department.

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THE

MATELLA COFFEE ESTATES COMPANY OF CEYLON, LIMITED.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE COMPANIES' ACT, 1862, BY WHICH THE LIABILITY OF EACH SHAREHOLDER IS LIMITED TO THE AMOUNT UNPAID OF HIS SHARES.

CAPITAL £60,000, IN 6,000 SHARES OF £10 EACH.

POWER IS RESERVED FOR THE COMPANY BY SPECIAL RESOLUTION TO INCREASE THE CAPITAL.

The Directors and their friends Subscribe for 4,000 *Shares, leaving* 2,000 *to be offered to the public.*

£1 PER SHARE PAYABLE ON APPLICATION, AND £1. 10s. ON ALLOTMENT.

THE REMAINING £7. 10s. BY CALLS NOT EXCEEDING £2. 10s. PER SHARE, AT INTERVALS OF NOT LESS THAN THREE MONTHS.

The Vendor Guarantees and Secures to the satisfaction of the Directors, Dividends upon the Paid-up Capital of £12 per cent. per annum, by half-yearly payments, during the three years next after the Allotment. The Guarantee may be inspected at the Solicitors' Office.

The Vendor bears all Preliminary Expenses.

Directors.

CHAIRMAN—A. K. DYER, Esq., late General Manager in Ceylon of the Asiatic Banking Corporation.

JOHN RANDOLPH WORCESTER, Esq., Director of the Ceylon Coffee Estates Company.

H. H. POTTS, Esq., Director of the Hunasgeria Coffee Company.

RICHARD COURTENAY, Esq., Director of the Ouvah Coffee Company.

W. D. GRAY, Esq., late of Ceylon, Director of the Ceylon Coffee Estates Company.

Bankers.

THE AGRA & MASTERMAN'S BANK, Nicholas Lane, Lombard Street.

Broker.

JOHN INCHBALD, Esq., 2, Copthall Court and Stock Exchange, London.

Solicitors.

Messrs. COURTENAY and CROOME, 9, Gracechurch Street, London.

Agents in Ceylon.

Messrs. LEE, HEDGES, and CO.

Auditor.

JOSEPH SAWYER, Esq., Fenchurch Street, London, Accountant.

Secretary.

C. E. BANKS, Esq.

Offices—70, Cannon Street West, London.

The objects of this Company are the acquisition and working of Coffee Estates in Ceylon, and the selling of their produce.

The Directors have purchased three valuable coffee estates, situated in the Matella district; the contract may be seen at the Solicitors' office. These estates are known as the Beredewelle, Delagahoya, and Oodasgeria Estates, and contain about 1,010 acres—825 of which are freehold and 185 leasehold, at a nominal rent, held for the unexpired term of 46 years. The Directors are making arrangements for an extension of the term to 96 years. 614 acres are planted, 552 are in full bearing, and the remainder will be so next year; 55 acres are in guinea grass, for cattle. 200 acres of very fine forest land are to be planted this year, which will leave about 140 acres to be brought into cultivation at a later period.

The crop for 1864-5 (when the full bearing coffee was only 455 acres) amounted to about 4,000 cwts., which, after deducting the merchant's commission of about £420, being two-and-a-half per cent. on gross proceeds, will give a net profit of about £6,000. The Company will sell without the intervention of the merchant, and thus save the above commission.

The crop for the year 1865-6, and which is now partly picked, is estimated between 5,000 and 5,500 cwts., and as the vendor bears all expenses of up keep to the 30th June last, 5,000 cwt. should give a net profit available for dividend and reserve fund of more than £10,000.

When the whole acreage, exclusive of the 140 acres, is in full bearing, the estimated profit available for dividend would at present prices, amount to about £12,000, or at the rate of £20 per cent. per annum on the entire capital.

The Directors consider that the present prices will certainly be maintained, if not exceeded; seeing that the demand for coffee is greatly on the increase, whilst the Brazil and Java crops are annually decreasing, and that the reopening of the Southern ports of America cannot fail still further to stimulate the trade, and that there is little good land now procurable in Ceylon to be brought under coffee cultivation.

The before-mentioned estates have advantages which few properties in Ceylon can command; they are within a few miles of Matella Town, the great depot for labour and draft cattle; the Government road from the coast, by which most of the coolies travel, is the eastern boundary of the Beredewelle estate; this estate has a contract with Government for cleansing the town of Matella, by which much valuable manure is obtained at a trifling cost; and being situated on the high road from Colombo, the owners of these estates, instead of incurring a heavy loss (as many proprietors do) on the rice which they supply to coolies at fixed prices, have in most seasons actually derived a profit upon it; and whilst the cost of transit of coffee to the port of loading from many estates ranges between 5s. and 12s. 6d. per cwt., the cost from these estates averages about 3s. 6d. per cwt.

The railway from Colombo to Kandy is now partly open, and the contemplated extension to Matella will bring it within two miles of the Beredewelle estate. This will greatly reduce the expense of transit.

All the buildings are substantial and in good repair; there is an ample supply of water, cattle, carts, and machinery driven by water-wheels, and all necessary appliances for taking in and pulping the crops.

It is proposed to retain the present manager, who has had upwards of ten years' experience in the district.

The Directors and their friends take 4,000 shares, leaving 2,000 for the public.

During the period of the guarantee, the Directors will place to a reserve fund all profits beyond £12 per cent. per annum on the paid-up capital. At the expiration of that period this fund will be distributed pro rata amongst the then holders of shares to which the guarantee extends.

The Ceylon Coffee Estate Company's success shows what large profits are derivable from coffee cultivation. The Directors of that Company, which has a capital or £60,000, out of the profits on their first year's operations, paid a dividend of £10 per cent., and carried to the reserve fund £4,757. 5s., equal to about £8 per cent. more.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application for Shares may be obtained at the Offices of the Company, and of the Bankers, Brokers, and Solicitors, where the Contract for purchase may be seen.

Copies of the Memorandum and Articles of Association can be had at the Offices of the Solicitors, or at the Temporary Offices of the Company. Copies will be forwarded by post without charge, on application to the Secretary.

Printed for the Proprietors by WOODFALL and KINDER, Milford-lane, Strand; and published by JOHN ELLISON at the Office of the LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH, No. 12, George-yard, Lombard-street, in the Parish of St. Edmund the King, in the City London.—Saturday, Nov. 11, 1865.

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The London and China Telegraph.

新聞紙

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 192.] LONDON, TUESDAY, NOV. 28, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	HOMEWARD. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	July 17	Sept. 7	Sept. 30
Nagasaki			„ 23
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			„ 28
Chefoo			„ 30
New-chwang			
Hankow			Oct. 4
Kiu-kiang			„ 4
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	Aug. 17.	Oct. 7	„ 9
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 9
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 10
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Aug. 26	Oct. 7	„ 15
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	Aug. 10	Sept. 24	„ 7
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			
SIAM— Bangkok			„ 4
BORNEO—			
Labuan			„ 4
Sarawak			„ 3
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 15
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore	Sept. 17	Oct. 21	„ 22
Penang	Sept. 11	„ 14	„ 24

Telegrams from Galle of the French mail (Hong Kong Oct. 28) has been received, but no particular news. It will prabably be delivered on Dec. 6. The following P. & O. mail, with dates to Nov. 1, will be some six days late, owing to the Calcutta steamer having been neaped at Calcutta.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, per P. and O. Company's steamer Poonah, arrived at Marseilles Nov. 26.—From Yokohama: Mr. Beandstaine, and one 2nd class passenger. From Shanghai: Mr. Orkney. From Hong Kong: Mr. Moul, Mr. Wild, and one 2nd class passenger.

To Southampton, per Nyanza, expected to arrive Dec. 2.—From Shanghai: Mrs. Henderson and Eur. female servant, and one 2nd class passenger. From Hong Kong: Dr. Mackay, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Sampson, Messrs. Vaughan, Kerr, McKay, and Wood, and two 2nd class passengers. From Singapore: Dr. Smith. From Penang: One 2nd class passenger and infant.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Tanjore, from Southampton, Nov. 20.—To Hong Kong: Mr. T. B. Mitchell, Staff Asst. Surg. O'Toole, Asst. Surg. Purefoy, and four 2nd class passengers. To Singapore: One 2nd class passenger. To Penang: Mrs. and Miss Mackay. To Ceylon: Captain K. Coxe, Miss Staples, and one 2nd class passenger. To Calcutta: Mr. and Mrs. Erskine and European female servant, Mrs. Brundell, Miss Rice, Dr. A. Vansbest, Dr. and Mrs. Collins, Miss Leighton, Mr. H. Cobb, Miss Inglis, Major and Mrs. and Miss Steele, Rev. W. B. and Mrs. Drawbridge, Capt. and Mrs. Keppel, Mrs. Churcher and infant, Mr. Sladden, Mrs. H. Reilly, Miss Barton, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Cunningham and infant, Mrs. Pitfield Jones and daughter, Mrs. Galbraith and infant, two Misses Tooze, Mr. J. Ewart, Miss L. Campbell, Capt. Evans, Ensign Roberts, Mr. W. H. Allen, Miss Spencer, Capt. Wheeler, Mr. A. Hutchinson, Mr. G. Campbell, Major and Mrs. Ratcliff and two children, Mr. P. Harriss, Mrs. Holland, Surg. Major Mure, and ten 2nd class passengers. To Madras: Capt. and Mrs. Graham, Mrs. G. Thornhill, Capt Darrah, Col. Stevens, and two 2nd class passengers. To Aden: Col. Aitken. To Suez: Mr. P. W. Case and three 2nd class passengers. To Alexandria: Mr. C. Lee and son, Mr. Gisborne and groom, and three 2nd class passengers.

From Marseilles, Nov. 29:—To Shanghai: Mr. J. Robertson. To Hong Kong: Mr. J. F. Dodd, Miss F. Cubitt and European servant. To Calcutta: Vet. Surgeon Johnson, Capt. T. W. Boisragon, Mrs. Rowe and friend, Mr. Rowe, Capt. A. Darling, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Garrett, Mr. and Mrs. Wall, Mr. Gerlach, Mr. and Mrs. Gillan, Mrs. Hodgson Miss Dixon, Mr. Power, Mr. and Miss Watkins, Lieut. R. Thomson, Miss Woodside Messrs. W. S. Atkinson, Steward, and Eagleton, Col. and Mrs. Fooks, Miss Mackintosh Mr. C. S. Rundle, Mr. and Mrs. Mayne, Mrs. Haines, Miss Watt and European servant, Mrs. and Miss Preedy, Capt. A. C. Grant. To Alexandria: Mr. Dixon.

Per P. and O. steamer Mongolia, from Southampton, Nov. 27.—To Hong Kong via Bombay: Mr. R. Harvey. To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. W. Watson. From Marseilles, Dec. 5.—To Singapore via Bombay: Mr. Watson.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Dec. 4.—To Shanghai: Mr. H. Richardson. To Singapore: Mr. S. Shortridge. To Hong Kong: Mr. W. Dalrymple, Mrs. Cairns, Miss M. A. Russell, Capt. Gordon. To Ceylon: Rev. J. and Miss Scott, Miss Bois, Mr. R. Robinson, Mr. D. D. Graham, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Kent. From Marseilles, Dec. 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Jerdein, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Lambert, Mr. E. Behre, Mr. Reginald Smith, Mr. W. D. Paterson, Mr. Pye, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Burrows, jun. To Shanghai: Mr. W. Pardun, Mr. Innes, Mr. A. Downie. To Ceylon: Mr. L. P. Thomas.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Dec. 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Evans and infant. To Hong Kong: Major Peebles. To Ceylon: Mr. Mucan, Lieut. B. S. and Mrs. du Jardin, and Miss Hugo. From Marseilles, Dec. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mrs. Hunter, two Misses Hunter, Miss Hutton.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

From this port we have intelligence to the 30th September, at which date the London mail of 26th July, owing to its breakdown at Penang, had not arrived out, although that of the 10th August was due.

Various foreign Ministers had visited Yedo, but no polilti cal news of any kind had transpired. The chief item of interest was the arrival of H.M.S. *Adventure* from Hong Kong, with five officers, 172 rank and file, and 146 women and children belonging to the 11th and 20th Regiments, who disembarked on the 22nd September. The lamentable condition in which they landed is thus described in the *Japan Herald*:—We had been struck by the wasted condition of the men on the arrival of the ship, but we by no means realised their real condition, until we saw them ashore. Every man, woman and child of the detachments appeared in the most pitiable condition; several of the men were so completely prostrated from the effects of disease and the climate of Hong Kong, that on landing they lay down on the Hatoba, and several others who attempted to march up to the Bluff, fell out from sheer exhaustion. The women, if possible, presented a more haggard and worn-out appearance than the men, and we were surprised to see that no provision whatever had been made to carry to the barracks some who were scarcely able to walk. Several of them, indeed, employed coolies to carry their sick and helpless children. A kind-hearted and much respected lady of our settlement, seeing the condition of one poor creature with four young children, charitably placed at their disposal her chair, to convey them up the hill.

On the morning of the 28th September an execution took place of a Ronin, who having been taken in commission of other atrocious crimes, lately confessed himself to be the murderer, as long ago as November 1859, of a Chinese servant of Mr. José Loureiro, then Consular Agent for France. This confession led to his being brought to Yokohama for execution. The French authorities took care to have the man thoroughly questioned, and he declared his guilt in such a manner as to leave no doubt whatever on their minds as to his actual perpetration of the murder. He was brought from his cell in the Tobee prison, blindfold and bound, made to kneel down on the mat before the shallow hole that was to receive his head on its fall, and, without a word, bent to his fate. The head was severed from the body with a rapid and clear sweep, and death was instantaneous. The man was originally of respectable lineage, but becoming a Ronin, was engaged by Prince Mito, who, it would seem, protected him. The crimes for which he was originally sentenced have not yet been ascertained. He would have been executed elsewhere but for his confession of the Chinaman's murder, which induced the authorities to send him to Kanagawa, that foreigners might know that justice had her due.

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On the 26th September a mysterious murder was committed. A Japanese, armed with a single short sword, was seen for some time hanging about the bridge just outside Yoshawarra. After waiting a considerable time, another Japanese, unarmed, came from that locality, and, as he was passing from the bridge, the first made a desperate rush at him, and cut him down. The dead man's body remained near the spot until the following morning, but although the utmost efforts had been made by the police to discover the murderer they were without success, although three men were in custody on suspicion.

A few days before the departure of the mail two dead bodies were discovered floating in the harbour. One was identified as that of a seaman of H.M.'s gun-boat *Bouncer*, who had jumped overboard with the intention of swimming ashore, a day or two previously, and was drowned in the attempt. The other body was that of a Japanese evidently barbarously murdered. The arms were tightly bound to his sides, and there was a stab on each side, just below the heart on the left and in a corresponding position on the right side. Not the slightest clue has been obtained as to whence the body came. It had been several days in the water.

On the 29th September a cricket match was played between the officers of the fleet and the officers of Her Majesty's 20th. The latter were the victors in one innings, by 54 runs.

Some of the native silk merchants had tried the experiment of selling their staple at public auction, but having made the ridiculous mistake of sending men to run up the prices, the affair had ended in failure and ridicule.

An experiment very deserving of support was being made by Messrs. Stephenson and Co., who had laid on the steamer *Shaftesbury* for Suez direct, believing that the advantage, both to passengers and cargo, of having no shifting from one steamer to another at Shanghai, Hong Kong and Galle, will be very great. They had already some cargo engaged and several passengers, at much lower rates than those hitherto existing. The day of departure was not named, but would probably be early in October.

On the 28th September, about noon, a smart shock of earthquake was experienced in Yokohama.

The following notification by the French Consul-General appears in the *Japan Herald*:—Agreeably with instructions received from H.I.M.'s Government, the cards of silkworms' eggs shipped from this port to Marseilles will be marked with a special stamp, the model of which has been sent to the French Custom-house Board of Administration. The French or foreign merchants who wish to obtain for their shipments this mark of origin, are to apply with the shortest delay at the French Consulate-General in Yokohama, with a notice of the number of cards to be stamped.

Many reports were afloat of impending troubles with the Japanese. One rumour asserted that a Yakonin had drawn his sword on Sir Harry Parkes; another that the Gorogio had ordered all foreigners to leave Yedo. It is hardly necessary to say that all these are entirely destitute of truth. Sir Harry Parkes had selected a suitable position in Yedo for the British Legation, contracts had been entered into, and various preliminaries arranged for building a permanent residence there for the British Minister and his suite.

The vexatious restrictions imposed on the now large and increasing trade in silkworms' eggs have been entirely removed. From the very commencement of our commercial intercourse with Japan, complaints have been rife at every port of official interference with trade, and hitherto the Government has remained persistently deaf to all remonstrance, either attempting to justify the restrictions complained of, or denying their existence *in toto*. In this last instance, however, we have not only the substantial gratification of finding the prohibition removed, but the additional satisfaction of seeing the Custom-house authorities at Yokohama publicly reprimanded, and the Governor, at whose instigation they adopted the objectionable measure, dismissed from his post. These facts encourage us to hope that the Gorogio have at last become impressed with the necessity of carrying out their treaty obligations with good faith; and, should the same wise course be persevered in after the Tycoon's return to his capital, we shall have good ground for considering our relations with Japan on a more secure footing than they have ever been before. The report of Chosiu's submission still wants confirmation, but we, nevertheless, adhere to the opinion that the object of the Tycoon's expedition will be gained without resort to actual force of arms.

NAGASAKI.

A Nagasaki correspondent, writing on the 24th of September, states that the natives report a vessel wrecked on the north end of Cape Gotto, and only one man saved. Several bodies had been washed ashore. H.B.M.'s gunboat *Bustard* left on the 22nd to ascertain particulars, but had not returned.

CHINA.

TIENTSIN.

Dates are to the 28th Sept. A correspondent writes:—

The national flag of China has replaced the union jack and tricolour upon the Taku Forts, which were evacuated by the British and French troops upon the 16th inst., and restored to the native authorities. The allied occupation had lasted for upwards of five years, and the intercourse between the foreign soldiers and the native Chinese during that long period was on the whole cordial and friendly, so that the departure of the former is sincerely regretted, I believe, by a large majority of the latter, whose faith in the prowess of Chinese troops and the military capacity of Chinese officers is not very strong. The contrast between the forts as they appeared in August, 1860, and their present aspect is striking, and to a patriotic Chinaman, if there be such a man, the comparison must be a painful one. When we captured the place in 1860, five enormous earthworks, of immense strength, and constructed at a vast expense, guarded the entrance of the Peiho; in September, 1861, two out of the five, more or less dilapidated, have been handed back to the Chinese, whilst the other three have been totally destroyed, and are now merely great shapeless mounds of earth. It will cost large sums of money to repair the two forts that have just been evacuated, and the reconstruction of the other three is not likely to be commenced for a long time at least.

Meanwhile, the Shantung rebels that menaced this province in the spring have retreated into the interior, or dispersed altogether for a season, but serious disturbances have lately taken place in the neighbourhood of Monkeleu, in Manchuria, the cradle of the present dynasty, where bands of mounted robbers have been setting the Government at defiance, plundering and burning villages, and creating no small terror throughout the country. Some of the regular troops have been defeated by these gangs, and the Emperor orders prompt measures to be taken for the suppression of the movement. A band of mounted robbers are at this moment within eighty miles of Tien-tsin, but they will probably be captured or dispersed within a fortnight, as Chunghow, the Chief Mandarin here, is a man of considerable energy, and has a well-appointed force of armed men under his command. Several officers have been denounced for permitting the post at the Great Wall to be forced. Besides these political troubles, there are others of a more private and domestic nature. Gangs of robbers prowl in the neighbourhood of the capital with the design of robbing the ancestral tombs of wealthy families. Several magnificent mausolea have been violated, the coffins broken open, the ashes of the dead scattered about, and the grave-clothes and rich ornaments and buried jewellery carried off. Amongst the tombs which have been thus desecrated is that of a princess, daughter of the Emperor Taokuang, and therefore aunt of the present sovereign. The richly embroidered satins which shrouded her remains, together with her tiara and a large quantity of jade ornaments and precious stones, were stolen, and every attempt hitherto made to discover the depredators has proved fruitless. The sanctity of the tomb having thus proved insufficient to screen the dead from outrage, bands of armed men now patrol the burial-places of the Imperial family and of the wealthy officials and merchants.

Trade at this port shows signs of improvement this year after three years of depression, but here, as all over China, business men are still complaining of the bad times. The Chinese have that advantage over the foreign merchants that combination has over competition, and, until the foreigners draw in their horns a little, commercial failures and disasters will most certainly form not unfrequent items of intelligence in the *London and China Telegraph*.

PENANG.

In consequence of the Dutch aggressions on Sumatra, the merchants, at a public meeting, passed the following resolutions:—

1. Proposed by M. F. Davidson, Esq., seconded by F. S. Brown, Esq.—"That the present proceedings of the Dutch in sending a hostile force to Assahan, being likely to lead to results detrimental to British interests in

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the Straits Settlements, this meeting desires to draw the attention of the Home Government to the continued Acts of the Dutch Government in annexing the territories and ports of independent Rajahs in Sumatra with whom we have treaties of commerce, in contravention of the spirit of the treaty of 1824." Carried unanimously.

2. Proposed by J. J. Ventre, Esq., seconded by J. P. Stewart, Esq.—"That the treaty made by the Dutch Government with Gambi, and one or two other native States, which Lord Palmerston in 1841 declared to be incompatible with Act 3 of 1824, still exists, as far as we are aware—notwithstanding the remonstrances of that statesman." Carried unanimously.

3. Proposed by R. Bain, Esq., seconded by W. L. Hill, Esq.—"That the Ports of Baroos, Tapoos, Sinkel, on the west coast of Sumatra, formerly belonging to Acheen, with which kingdom we have had treaties of amity and commerce for over two hundred years, were annexed by the Dutch upwards of a quarter of a century ago, and that duties have since been imposed on imports and exports which were not levied previously, contrary to the treaty of 1824. And that the present proceedings of the Dutch on the east coast of Sumatra between Assahan, its dependencies and the port of Timian, also, belonging to the King of Acheen, lead this meeting to believe that similar results will follow on this side of the island, and prove most injurious to the trade of the Straits Settlements." Carried unanimously.

4. Proposed by W. T. Lewis, Esq., seconded by W. Allen, Esq.—That this meeting understands that the Dutch are annexing the native States between Siak and the Port of Timian, under the pretence of their being tributary to the Rajah of Siak, whereas the King of Acheen claims these States as his dependencies, and has represented his claim to the British Government, with the object of retaining in force the existing treaties between them." Carried unanimously.

5. Proposed by J. J. E. Brown, Esq., seconded by M. A. Anthony, Esq.—"That the following gentlemen be appointed to form a Committee to draw up a memorial to the Home Government embodying the above resolutions. L. Nairne, Esq., M. F. Davidson, Esq., W. L. Hill, Esq., Robert Bain, Esq., Dr. Anderson."

Amended by Robert Bain, Esq., seconded by M. F. Davidson, Esq., "That the proposer, J. J. E. Brown, Esq., be added to the Committee." Carried unanimously.

6. Proposed by F. S. Brown, Esq., seconded by F. Kusterman, Esq.—"That steps be taken to obtain through a member of the House of Commons copies of correspondence between the Straits Government, the Government of India and the Home Government, relating to the recent proceedings of the Dutch on the east coast of Sumatra, and all papers connected therewith." Carried unanimously.

7. Proposed by A. F. Anderson, Esq., and seconded by F. H. Friederichs, Esq.—"That the Chairman of this meeting is hereby empowered to forward a copy of the memorial to his Honour the Governor, with a request that his Honour will forward the same to the Government of India, and solicit their support thereto. Also that the Chairman is hereby empowered to forward copies of the same to John Crawford, Esq., The Right Honourable Edward Horsman, M.P., The East India and China Association, The Chambers of Commerce of Manchester, Liverpool, Glasgow, and Singapore, and solicit their support to its prayer."

The *Mohr* has returned from her trip to Larut. Mr. Percy Earl has succeeded in accomplishing some of the objects for which he was deputed there by the local Government. He has rescued from the hands of the ruffian Panghulu the Chinese woman whose husband was cruelly murdered there a short time ago, and has also brought back four Siamese belonging to this settlement, who were similarly kept there in hopeless slavery. No effort was made by the ruling chief there to arrest the murderers. Mr. Earl has failed in the object of getting the chief to adjust the claims for compensation due to Penang Chinese merchants, for losses sustained by the confiscation of their goods and destruction of their stores. It was not to be expected that the lawless petty chiefs of that country, long accustomed to live by plunder and rapine, would be inclined to listen to any friendly remonstrances. It is only by working on their fears that such men, hardened in crime and their hands yet reeking with the blood of their victims, are brought to their senses. It now remains for the Government to back its demands by an armed force. If the chief, who has been acting as the governing authority in Perak since the death of the Rajah, be supported by our Government in maintaining his control over the petty despots in Larut, he will, no doubt, be able to punish the delinquents and make a satisfactory adjustment of these matters.

SHANGHAI.

The mails of 26th July and 10th August arrived together on the 25th Sept. The French mail of 17th August arrived out on the 7th October. Dates are now down to the morning of 9th. The following summary of news is from the *Recorder*:—

From Peking we hear, through a private source, that the Russian Government sent out two telegraph officers to ascertain whether it were possible to obtain the permission of the Chinese Government to establish a telegraph from Kiachta to this place, but that the Chinese showed themselves altogether averse to the scheme, and the officers have returned.

Native reports from the interior announce that Kan-ch'ow-fu, the last stronghold of rebeldom in Kiangsi, has been deserted by the insurgent garrison, which has retreated to Fukien. The Mahomedan rebels also, at Tungkuan, in Shensi, are also reported to have been surrounded and slaughtered to a man.

The following extraordinary occurrence has recently attracted some attention. It appears that two foreigners, British subjects, were taken at Ming-Hong for firing at a gun-boat and were being brought under a Chinese guard to the English Consulate from the city. One of the men was handcuffed, and the other other, in addition to this, had a chain round his neck, by which he was being led. As they passed down the French Bund it seems that the man with the chain round his neck was pulled roughly by the Chinaman leading him, and a Frenchman passing, incensed at seeing foreigners in the hands of Chinese, attacked the guard, and would have succeeded in freeing the captives, but for the interference of the police, who took the whole party, including the Chinese, to the French Consulate. The Consul, on hearing that the men were British subjects, ordered them to be taken to the English Consulate, but deputed a guard to see that they were not maltreated on the French Concession. The guard left them at the Yang-King Pang, and the party had not gone much farther, when the man with the chain round his neck called out for help, and two passers-by attacked the guard, and succeeded in releasing the prisoners. The men who rescued the captives have not yet been discovered.

An extensive robbery was perpetrated by Cantonese, in concert with two or three foreigners, upon a large native bank at Chi-Pao, about nine miles westward from Shanghai past Sik-away. Some 5,000 taels were secured. The foreigners have not yet been captured. Two Cantonmen recently engaged a sampan to go alongside a ship. The boatman went to the one indicated but was told then to make for another. One of the Cantonmen asked him for a light and as he handed it, lugged him down by the arm, when both set upon him with knives, inflicting a large number of wounds. The unfortunate man jumped overboard. He was picked up—but there is little hope of his recovery. No motive can be assigned for the outrage. Another Cantonman went into a butcher's shop, and, having some dispute about price, took up the butcher's knife and stabbed him. He then inflicted a similar wound on his assistant, and attempted to stab a European watchman, and finally inflicted upon himself so severe a wound that he was not expected to live.

An announcement appears in the Shanghai papers from the manager of the steam saw mills (Capt. Blakiston) at Hakodadi, that they are now ready to deliver all descriptions of oak, ash, pine, beech, and cedar.

The entire property of the Shanghai Brick and Saw Mill Company, Pootung, all in one lot, including the land, buildings, machinery, and plant, will be sold by auction on the 21st October, by Messrs. Cowie and Co.

We have to record the death of Mr. Latimer, connected with the *North China Herald*. The following notice is from that paper:—"Our columns this day contain an announcement which will carry regret to a large circle of friends in England. The untimely death of Mr. Nichol Latimer has created a profound sensation in Shanghai, as no resident in the settlements was more universally or deservedly popular. Connected as he was with many public bodies, his loss will be deeply felt, but while the severest trial falls on the surviving members of his family, the deepest sympathy will be felt with their sorrow by the late associates of the deceased in Shanghai. Mr. Latimer was for several years connected with the proprietorship of this paper."

Advices from Ningpo inform us that an inquest has been held on the body of the Englishman, Green, who was in Burgevine's company at the time of the latter's arrest. The scalp had been torn from the head, and the body presented other marks of violence, which, however, in the advanced state of decomposition in which it was found, might be attributed to the effort to force the corpse into a coffin too small to receive it. Thus the legs were bent, and the head pressed downwards into the chest, but these injuries were probably received after death. The gentleman recently sent by the United States Consul-General to investigate the circumstances connected with Burgevine's death, has just returned, but without gaining any important information from the local mandarins. He obtained Burgevine's body, which now lies at Ningpo awaiting a steamer to convey it to Shanghai. Several foreigners have of late passed through the place, but whether voluntarily or as captives is not clearly known.

The following items are from the *North China Herald*:—

"The weather has been changeable, and the temperature decreased perceptibly. We are happy to announce the first theatrical performance of the season, to take place this evening.

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Our old friends, the Amateur Burlesque Company, have taken the initiative, and we may therefore anticipate a full house, and a pleasant entertainment. The pieces to be put on the stage are "The Area Belle," and "The Grin Bushes." An important case, that of H.B.M.'s Consul, on behalf of the Chinese Government, *versus* E. A. Reynolds, Esq., came before the Supreme Court on the 28th. Circumstances occurred, however, which caused an adjournment *sine die*. On the 27th Sept. the steamer *Fire Dart*, while going down the Wangpoo, sunk a junk lying in the 8th section. No lives were lost, but a large quantity of live stock went down with the wreck."

"We understand that the masonic bodies in Shanghai contemplate establishing a new library, to which a portion of the Freemasons' Hall about to be erected on the Bund will be devoted. The management will be in the hands of members of the fraternity, but the general public will be admitted as subscribers. This scheme, if placed in the hands of able men, is certain of success, and will doubtless be warmly supported by the literary portion of the community. Many men who appreciate access to well-selected books are not members of the club, and have therefore some delicacy in availing of the advantages of the present library since it has been removed to the club building. They will, we doubt not, make the most of the facilities afforded by the new project, and will by their support enable its promoters to make the proposed library a credit to the settlement."

"At length there seems to be a chance that the houses to which gaspipes have been laid down will soon be illuminated. A few days ago the mains were pumped dry, and gas passed through them. Soon, therefore, we may enjoy the blessings of light, if only the gas when it does arrive proves brilliant and inodorous. It will not be denied, in despite of the severe criticism to which the gentlemen connected with the gasworks scheme have been subjected, that the difficulties to be overcome by the company were very serious, and much of the delay unavoidable. The mistake made was the confident appointing of periods within which gas was without fail to be available. Of course no persons were more anxious for the completion of the works than those immediately connected with them, but the community justly felt aggrieved by the continual failure."

The following advertisement appears in the *Friend of China*:—

Regular Services of Carriages from Shanghai to Woosung and Back.—Departures: From Shanghai to Woosung every morning at half-past seven o'clock. From Woosung to Shanghai every evening at four o'clock. Fares: Two dollars per person for both ways. Letters or parcels for any of the above destinations will be taken at moderate prices. The consignees must take delivery of them at Woosung at the "Rendezvous des Chasseurs." In Shanghai, at Vinciene and Co.'s, Rue Montauban, where parties are requested to have themselves booked for the departures.

HANKOW.

The correspondent of the *Recorder* gives the following news:—

"We hear by the *Fusi-yama* from Hankow that affairs have almost assumed the nature of a crisis. The daily failing, defaulting, if not actual stealing, on the part of the compradores has brought business to a most critical pass. This is mainly attributable to the system of extended credit and the unwarranted confidence which has been imposed in native *employes*. Some of these worthies, we are glad to hear, are in prison, and we hope that all, together with their securities, will be firmly dealt with by the Consul at Hankow. We regret, however, to hear that one of the victims allowing his indignation to make him forgetful of his dignity, forced his way into the Taoutai's Yamun and administered chastisement to a defaulting compradore with a bludgeon, for which offence he had to appear before H.B.M. Consul, and was fined $15, and forced to make an apology to H.E. the Taoutai.

"Business under such circumstances was naturally dull. The banks, we hear have suffered in common with others. A warning such as this, we think, will tend more than any attempted combinations, to bring about more caution and prudence on the part of the merchants. It is clearly useless to incur risks such as these for almost any advance in price which could be obtained. Better to take lower rates with ordinary security."

"The water in the river was falling. It had done considerable damage among the houses on the banks. The *Iron Crown* was loading at £2. 15s., but hardly expected to fill before the steamer would be ready to tow her. Teas are rather lower, and no *bona fide* settlements were taking place. The shipments were chiefly on Chinese account."

The following is the report of the second meeting noticed in our issue of the 11th inst.:—

Minutes of the Adjourned Meeting held at the Club House on Sept. 21st.

PRESENT—K. R. Mackenzie, Esq., in the chair; Messrs. Monro, Hardy, Williams, Bridges, Booth, Carnie, Pomeroy, Thurburn, Luddeke, Soutar, Hogg, Higson, Francis, Hutchison, Cunningham, Macreath, Menzies, Mills, Hallam, Drysdale, Beadel, Watmore, Handy, Cheshire, Price, Holberton, Maxwell, Carey, Maclean, Cresswell, Gordon, Crawford, Dunn, Rowett, and others.

The Chairman expressed his regret that, owing to pressing official duties, the meeting would be deprived on the occasion of the presence of H.B.M.'s Consul, who had so efficiently presided at their last meeting. He believed that nearly all those present were perfectly aware of the object for which the meeting had been convened, and as a member of the committee appointed at the late meeting he had to state that, in accordance with the terms of Resolution No. 7, a letter had been addressed to Mr. H. D. Stewart soliciting his good offices in obtaining the sanction and co-operation of the principals of houses in Shanghai in carrying out the wishes of the mercantile community as embodied in the minutes of the proceedings and resolutions of the late meeting, published in the Shanghai papers. The Chairman then proceeded to read Mr. Stewart's reply to the communication of the committee. It stated that the principals of the houses with whom he had conferred were unanimous in their approval of a change in the credit system, adding that in his opinion the adoption of the Shanghai custom in regard to contracts and sales would be favourably received by most of the firms having branch establishments in Hankow, but that he thought that the signature of a bond would not be acceptable to many, whilst a "penalty would decidedly be objected to." The Chairman concluded by remarking that probably several persons present might have received instructions, or at all events been put in possession of the views of their principals in Shanghai on the subject before the meeting; and he doubted not a patient hearing would be accorded to any one desiring to address the meeting.

After a lengthened discussion, the following Resolution was proposed by Mr. Hutchison, seconded by Mr. Watmore and carried by a large majority:—

That after the 1st November no goods be delivered from foreign godowns unless five-day bankers' orders have been previously given for the same; that bargain money at the rate of 3 per cent. on opium and copper cash, and 5 per cent. on other imports, be paid when the sale is effected, and that the time for clearance be *ten days* for *opium* and *copper cash*, and *three weeks* for other articles of import.

Minutes of a Public Meeting held at Hankow, 4th September, 1865.

(Continued from last Number.)

Mr. MACKENZIE stated that the chief object of the meeting was in fact to endeavour to get rid of an acknowledged dangerous and pernicious system of delivering goods on receipt of native bankers' chops at three weeks to two months date; a system from which, as far as the speaker knew, no foreigner derived any benefit. These chops were written in a language understood by none of the merchants, who were necessarily dependent upon their shroffs or compradores to explain the amount, the date, and the signature at foot, and likewise the more important point of the stability of the bank signing the chop. In this bank, moreover, the very compradore consulted might probably be a shareholder, and would therefore have an interest in giving currency to the document. Changes of the nature proposed could not, however, the speaker thought, be made suddenly without risk, and he would suggest that a reasonable time be allowed before enforcing the new system. There was also another danger to be avoided. On a former occasion, when it was proposed to do away with the credit system, "unanimity" was unfortunately declared to be a *sine qua non*; and the consequence was that the strongly expressed opinions of a large majority were over-ridden by the dissent of a very slender minority. It was hoped that on the present occasion a different course would be pursued; and that as soon as the adhesion of as many of the principals of houses in Shanghai as possible could be obtained, the system should be adopted and worked upon its own merits.

Mr. MACKENZIE then begged to propose the following resolution:—"That, looking to the present objectionable system of sales for long credit, and the uncertain security offered by the acceptance of native bankers' orders on delivery of goods from godowns, this meeting is of opinion that cash payments on delivery should at an early date be adopted for all articles of import, and that this resolution shall also fully apply to all goods held by foreigners on native account."

Mr. WATMORE seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. THURBURN proposed:—"That bargain money to the extent of twenty per cent. on the amount of sale should be enforced on opium, and ten per cent. on all other articles of import."

Mr. GORDON seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. BEADEL proposed:—"That one week be allowed for the clearance of copper cash, three weeks for dry and manufactured piece goods, and four weeks for all other articles of import, at the expiration of which period, should the goods not be taken delivery of, bargain money shall be forfeited."

Mr. CHESHIRE seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. GORDON proposed:—"That the foregoing resolutions shall come into operation on and after the first of October next, and that in order to establish the system contemplated on a firm and satisfactory basis, and to permit of reference being made to principals at Shanghai, a further meeting be held at the Club House on the 18th instant, when the necessary documents will be prepared for signature."

Mr. CAREY seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. PRICE proposed:—"That a copy of the proceedings and minutes of this meeting be forwarded to Shanghai for publication in the local papers for the information of those concerned."

Mr. CUNNINGHAM seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. HIGSON then rose to propose the following resolution:—"That a fine of Tls. 1,000 be imposed on any person who shall hereafter break through the system now agreed to, by giving credit. In moving this

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resolution he begged leave to observe that this was not by any means the first time that the cash payment system, or modifications thereof, had been attempted to be introduced at this port, and the attempt had always fallen through whenever a cause for pressing sales had presented itself. He quoted several instances tending to prove that any such regulation must necessarily be enforced by a penalty to make it effectual.

The CHAIRMAN asked how Mr. Higson proposed to enforce the penalty.

Mr. HIGSON replied that a bond should be entered into between all parties consenting to the regulation.

Mr. MACKENZIE thought the regulation premature. It would be quite time enough to legislate on that point when they came to mature their plans at the future meeting to be called.

Mr. HIGSON begged leave to withdraw his motion.

Mr. WATMORE thought it would tend greatly to the furtherance of the objects of the meeting if some one at Shanghai was charged with the duty of communicating with the principals of houses there in respect to the measure now under proposal. He would therefore move:—"That the following gentlemen be appointed to act as a committee, and to arrange with some gentleman in Shanghai to co-operate with them on the subject:—Mr. K. R. Mackenzie, Mr. A. Hutchison, and Mr. W. G. Gordon."

Mr. BEADEL seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A suggestion was made by the CHAIRMAN to the effect that, as considerable opposition to the new regulations might be expected from the native merchants, it would be advisable to publish a summary of the resolutions in Chinese, and have them formally presented to the Chinese authorities through the Consuls. It was, however, decided to take this point into consideration at the subsequent meeting.

The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

AMOY.

A daring case of piracy has just occurred in this neighbourhood. On the 23rd Sept. the American brigantine *Garland* left Amoy with a crew of seven Europeans, two Chinese, and four passengers, viz., Mr. and Mrs. Stronach, Mr. Carter (the owner of the vessel) and J. Campbell, constable at the Takow Consulate. Shortly afterwads they were hailed by a suspicious looking junk and asked if they required a pilot. This they declined, and soon lost sight of the junk, which was going in the same direction as the *Garland*. About noon the junks came alongside, each mustering apparently about sixty scoundrels by way of crew. The steward of the *Garland* was now told to hail the junks and tell them that if they would spare the lives of her crew and passengers they might take anything they liked. One stinkpot was thrown on board from the nearest junk, and the pirates then prepared to board them. Up to this time the *Garland's* people had intended to show fight, being armed with seven muskets, six cutlasses, and four pistols; but the obvious superiority of numbers frightened them. The crew and passengers then got into the boat, the captain alone refusing to leave his ship; just as Mr. Stronach had returned for his amah, whom they left behind, the crew refused to wait any longer, and shoved off, leaving the captain, Mr. Stronach and the China-woman alone on board. The junks lowered two sampans in chase of the boat, who pulled vigorously for a European vessel in the distance; after a five-mile chase the pirate sampans desisted, and returned to the junks, the boat reaching the foreign vessel about an hour afterwards. She proved to be the *Philip I.*, a Hamburg vessel bound to Hong Kong.

The *Philip I.* now bore down to the *Garland*, which was drifting about in a helpless state, and the crew and passengers rejoined their unlucky ship. After getting a small supply of provisions and clothing from the captain of the *Philip I.*, they shaped course for Amoy.

The crew of the *Sir William Wallace*, from Chefoo, reported as having been wrecked and all hands murdered in Chin Chew Bay some six weeks ago, have been brought to Amoy by a brig which was sent to look after her.

HONG KONG.

The mails of August 26 arrived out on October 7. Our dates are now down to the morning of Sunday the 15th of October.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

OCTOBER 13, 1865.

The outgoing mail will take home a somewhat less appalling obituary list than has been usual during the last four or five mails, inasmuch as the return of cool weather has checked the diseases which have proved so sadly fatal throughout the past summer. Notwithstanding, however, the almost unprecedented heat and drought of the last few months, the mortality which has been so alarmingly great has, except in a few melancholy instances among the colonial residents, been almost entirely confined to the troops and seamen stationed here. The 11th Regiment especially, which was hurried here from the Cape without proper preparation, and with absolutely no accommodation provided on shore previously to its arrival, has suffered frightfully. The soldiers, crowded on arrival into half-finished warehouses, just as the hot season was beginning, and already, from long frontier service at the Cape, in a bad state of organisation, have died off in crowds; and the mere money loss to Government has been probably greater from this cause than the expense of providing proper barrack room on the healthy headlands of Kowloong would have amounted to. The specious parsimony of the existing Government appears, however, to allow no consideration of policy or humanity to interfere with the grand and absorbing object of showing a diminished expenditure sheet to a deluded public.

In business matters, a topic which has been much discussed here of late is the increasing tendency of the foreign trade with China to fall into the hands of natives, to the manifest detriment of the European mercantile communities. From every port the same accounts are received, of Chinese who no longer act as brokers for the staple exports, but ship on their own account through the shoals of petty commission agents who have started up, and who threaten to supplant almost entirely the solid and gigantic houses who once monopolised the Chinese markets. In the northern ports opened by the treaty of 1858 scarcely any other form of business than that of commission-agent exists, and at Hankow the Chinese are said to be largely entering upon the system of exporting on their own account. Should this manner of doing business become much extended, as it undoubtedly will, the China trade cannot fail to become thoroughly revolutionised, and the great houses of other days will gradually disappear before a crowd of small continental commission brokers and competing banking agencies.

Guano is beginning to figure as an article of import at this place and Canton, and, strange to say, the Chinese farmers have been found ready to accept so striking a novelty. During the last two or three years the agents for the Peruvian exporters have managed to dispose of about 1,000 tons of this manure, at prices varying from one to three dollars per picul (133lbs). The trade has not yet, I believe, begun to show any lucrative return, and, indeed, the object of the importers is rather that of finding some freight for the coolie-ships returning from the Chincha Islands in search of fresh human cargoes, than of entering upon any very large transactions in the manure. Vessel after vessel continues to be loaded at Macao with unhappy Chinese, regularly purchased from the crimps who swarm in all the coast districts of the Province of Kwangtung, and who use every description of art and violence to secure the victims of this infamous traffic. Several of these crimps were recently arrested and brought to justice in the City of Canton, where, however, an "Emigration House" for Peru and Havana has been opened by Macaese agents, under the auspices of the French Consul, and, if all reports are true, a very flimsy disguise is even there only thrown around the kidnapping system, by which the slave auctions of Callao and Cuba are fed.

The news from the interior of Kwangtung is highly encouraging for the Chinese Government. In my last letter I spoke of the band of rebels who had seized one or two district cities on the northern border of this province, and who constituted the last remainder of the Taiping host. The great majority of these have now surrendered, and the remaining band is surrounded in a mountain fastness, where their chiefs are already negotiating for surrender. They have been offered pardon and their lives on condition of their giving up the leader, known as the K'angwang, who is the only survivor of the coolie Kings of Nanking. Two of his fellows, the Lai Wang, said to be a nephew of Hung Siu-tsuan (the Taiping Wang), and another chief of note, were executed at Canton last Monday, having been captured a few weeks ago. These successes will complete the pacification of Southern China, and will leave the Government in a better financial position for coping with the disorders in the provinces north of the Yangtse.

The arrival of Sir Rutherford Alcock is looked for during the ensuing week.

There is much public dissatisfaction expressed at the present moment amongst the foreign community of China, at the fearful mortality which has taken place this summer amongst the Hong Kong garrisons. H.M. transport *Tamar* brought on from Mauritius in the beginning of the summer the second battalion of the 11th Regiment. There being no quarters

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ready for the men, they were most improperly housed, and, suffering from the heat and exposure, fever and dysentery grew so rife that the battalion became disheartened, and sustained such fearful mortality during the summer as to render them useless for service. The rumour is that the remains of the battalion are to be sent home! The season has been hot and unhealthy, but not sufficiently severe to justify such a scale of mortality. The officers appear to have escaped entirely, whilst the sufferings of the women and children have been sufficiently heartrending to excite public charity. The responsible officers spent the summer in Japan, and strictly prohibited any extra outlay. The waste of life thus occasioned has caused a deep sensation in this community. The press were silent on the subject, because its voice is powerless, and liable under such circumstances to breed discontent among the troops.

A number of the sufferers were sent on duty to Japan by H.M. transport *Adventure*. They landed there in such a miserable state as to excite public indignation. The editor of the *Japan Herald*, giving vent to his feelings, exposed the whole affair, and denounced the act of officers leaving their post under such circumstances. He was called on by some military officers who were spending the summer there to retract what he had stated, but he repeated it with additional aggravated facts he had gleaned. Two other papers (one in Japan and one in Shanghai) were then engaged to uphold the military authorities and to abuse the editor of the *Japan Herald*, which was done accordingly. The public knowing the facts are profoundly shocked.

The Nagasaki correspondent of the *North China Herald* informs us that great dissatisfaction has resulted from the action taken by H.B.M. Consul with regard to a case brought by a resident against Messrs. Alt and Co. The plaintiff, having secured the services of Mr. Lawrence, then residing temporarily at Nagasaki, requested that the case might be called before the departure of that gentleman for Shanghai. His frequent applications were, however, disregarded, although no sensible reason was assigned to justify the postponement. Mr. Lawrence was obliged to disappoint his client by returning to Shanghai, having entered a protest against the apparently unwarrantable action taken by the Consul. So the matter stood when our correspondent wrote. [We would remind our contemporary of the good old motto, *Audi alteram partem.*]

Her Majesty's gun-boats *Leven* and *Oppossum* left this on the 14th September for the purpose of looking after a batch of pirates who had attacked the British ship *Formby* off Hainan on that vessel's passage hence to Singapore, and had committed some other depredations. These two gun-boats have returned to port, after a long, and what is unusual with these craft, an unsuccessful cruize.

On reaching Tien-pak, the Mandarin at that station was communicated with. He stated he had captured a piratical junk about one month previous, the crew of which had confessed to having captured a British vessel off Tinhosa, and having murdered the whole of the crew, consisting of Europeans, Malays, and Chinese, they set fire to their prize. A quantity of articles were displayed which were taken from this vessel. but none of them appeared to be of British manufacture —a letter, a seal, and some of the contents of the medicine chest, are all that the gunboats brought away with them for the purpose of attempting to detect the name of the missing craft.

The Tienpak Mandarin could not proceed with the gunboats himself, but he sent an official and a pilot, when they proceeded to Hoi-how, calling at Now-chow. The Mandarins at Hoi-how stated that all piratical vessels quit the coast of Hainan, the latter end of the South West Monsoon, and that should any few remain they would probably be found lurking between Tienpak and Kulan. Proceeding in that direction, information was obtained that a piratical fleet was at Samoy on the South Coast, and intended to remain there during the whole of the North-East monsoon. Arrived at Samoy, the gun-boats found that the pirates had left three weeks previously, and as no trace could be found of them, the gun-boats returned to Hainan, whence they proceeded to Tienpak, where after riding out some of the late gales they returned to Hong Kong.

A light-house has been completed and lighted at Macao. It is 330 feet high, with a revolving light.

At Canton everything is quiet. The nomination of Mr. D. B. Robertson, H.B.M. Consul at that port, as Companion of the Bath, has been gladly noted by the communities of Canton and Hong Kong, as a proof, that the meritorious services of that gentleman have not been overlooked. Had the reward been of a higher class it would have been more cordially approved of.

The *Gresham* left on the 13th October with troops and invalids for England.

The Hamburg brig *J. H. Bocklemann* reports that at midnight on Sunday the 9th, about 20 miles E.S.E. of Capze Point, she was boaded by a large pirate lorcha, carrying upwards of 100 men and armed with 14 large guns and a large stock of smaller ammunition.

Mr. C. L. Davies has arrived and assumed the post o perintendent of the Bullion-office at the Mint.

A Macao paper says:—"Sent prisoner from Shanghai to reply to the charges brought against him by the house of Dent and Co., in which he had been employed for many years, Pedro Loureiro awaits the day of trial in the Monte Fort."

The *China Mail* has the following items:—

The storm has blown over, the cold weather has now fairly set in, and the comparative dryness of the summer would seem to be balanced by the apparent wetness of our autumn months. The thermometer has descended to 74 or 75, and the Chinese skull-cap, with European thick clothing, are looming in the distance.—Little of interest has occurred during the week. The mortality in the garrison does not present such a melancholy appearance as formerly which, it may be hoped, will continue so to be.

H.M.'s *Conqueror* left early on Sunday morning for the Cape and England. The reduced state of the men who left here per *Adventurer* some time ago for Japan, is the subject of severe comment by the Yokohama press, we observe, which deprecates the system adopted by members of the staff of living in Japan at ease while death and disease are busy at head-quarters.

Attention was drawn to the very great want, felt in Hong Kong at present, of clergymen of the Established Church. This has been painfully apparent during the past trying summer, when the entire duties have devolved on one or two young ministers, whose time is also partially occupied by other duties than strictly colonial work.

The same paper has the following on the loss of the *Garrawalt*, from Shanghai to London, already reported by us.—

There seems to be no end of the casualties that have occurred in the Chinese seas this year. Now we have to report the loss of a fine Aberdeen clipper, the *Garrawalt*, 11 days out on her passage from Shanghai towards London, with a cargo of tea and silk. On the 26th she fell in with very bad weather, which continued until the 1st instant, the wind blowing from north by north-east to east; the ship then struck on shoals off the north-east point of Hainan (which are, we have been given to believe, shifting sands), almost immediately becoming a complete wreck. The longboat capsized in the attempt to launch her, but fortunately the lifeboat was got afloat all right; not, however, until most of the hands were washed overboard, and Captain George Phillips, the master of the ship, and two seamen, Charles Chapman and James Cock, had met a watery grave. The remainder of the crew and also four passengers—Messrs. Lynch, Clementson, Painter, and Dowell—got on shore, and managed to walk to a place called Hoi-tow, from whence a junk took them to Sui-tong, where they found the British steamers *Prince Kung* and *Sir J. Jeejeebhoy*. The mate and seventeen of the crew, with the two latter-named passengers, arrived in Hong Kong in the *Sir J. Jeejeebhoy*, on the 13th of October.

CANTON.

The following anecdote, taken from the *China Mail*, will rather astonish old residents in Canton. To be designated FANQUI was a matter that a few years ago used to be endured with equanimity.

On the 2nd September, an Englishman strolling by the Western Fort (in the western suburb, back of Shameen), at about 5 o'clock in the afternoon, passed an opium and money-changing shop in the Cumhi Fow-street, in which was a man named Yu-a-He, taking his evening meal in company with his wife and child. On the Englishman passing the door, the shopman said to the child, "There goes a foreign devil" (fan kwei). The Englishman happening to overhear, enquired why a term so offensive to foreigners was used; and the shopman falsely replied that he made use of the words to frighten the child and to keep it from crying. The child's countenance showed, however, no trace of tears on close investigation, and the Englishman consequently concluded that the person was unwilling to recall his words, and was making excuses to screen his own misconduct; which was intentional, and not a merely careless utterance. If not checked, the child would most probably become accustomed to the use of such words, and thus a licence in the use of language would be allowed which it would afterwards be found difficult to rectify or repress. The Englishman therefore copied down the sign of the shop, and on the 4th instant laid a complaint at H.B.M.'s Consulate. The Consul said that the authorities had previously been requested to issue a prohibition of the use of such terms (as fan kwei). To this prohibition a large number of respectable people had rendered obedience; but there were some worthless characters who still made use of the objectionable words. The matter was referred to the local authorities

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for investigation. At about 4 o'clock on the 8th of September the Englishman observed a person in the street undergoing the punishment of carrying a "cangue"; whom he recognised as the offender of the "Say Hing" shop. On enquiry, it was found that the Magistrate of Nan Hai had, on being informed of the affair by the English Consul, immediately apprehended the man Yu-a-He, and sentenced him to carry the "cangue" for a period of one month, as a warning to other offenders.

PHILIPPINES.

MANILA.

Dates are to the 7th Oct. The English mail of July 26 and Aug. 10 arrived on the 24th Sept. The chief news is of the gale, which is thus described:—

A most disastrous storm passed over on the 26th and 27th Sept., causing very much damage both to buildings and crops, and in the harbour considerable devastation to the shipping. The British ship *Tigris*, British barque *Sabrina*, Dutch barque *Commisaire der Kœnig von der Heim*, and *Louisa Kroomprincess van Sweiten*, are ashore, and it is feared that they will be unable to get off. The British barque *Margaret Wilkie* was obliged to cut away her masts. A long list of vessels sustained various amounts of damage through collision, &c., and about a dozen which drove on shore, it is supposed, will be able to get off without much damage.

JAVA.

Messrs. A. van Hoboken and Sons, Reynst and Vinju, and Anemaet and Co., have proposed to establish a regular steam communication between Australia and Java on receiving a subsidy from the Australian and Netherlands India Governments. It is not known what answer the latter has given, but the Governors of New South Wales and Queensland have expressed warm approbation of the project, and promised to give every assistance in their power in promoting it. It is proposed that, starting from Batavia, the steamers should call at Sourabaya, Koepang, Cape York and Brisbane, with Sydney for the terminus, and the time to be consumed between the two places is reckoned at twenty-two days.

A Dutch ship, the *Willem Hendrik*, which had recently arrived from Holland, was totally destroyed by fire in the roads of Batavia on the night of the 24th September. The whole of her cargo was still on board. The cause of the fire had not been ascertained.

STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

Dates are down to the 21st October. The mail of the 11th September arrived out on the 17th, and the French mail of the 17th September on the 21st October. The Dutch attack on Assahan, and the memorial sent home, form the leading items. A copy of the resolutions at Penang on the matter will be found below. The Rajah of Assahan has fled into the interior, where he intends to resist the Dutch advance.

The *Straits Times* says:—The past fortnight has had more political significance than many of its predecessors. The quarterly sessions of the Supreme Court, which began on the 9th October, have unexpectedly opened up discussion on one or two subjects of public interest. The grand jurors, who have latterly confined themselves to the finding or rejecting of criminal indictments, and whose judicial functions are understood to be doomed, on this occasion returned to their ancient practice, and submitted to the court a presentment having reference to several of the chief reforms required by the settlement.

By last mail we mentioned the loss of the ship *Maribelle* on her way hence to Batavia, and we have now to report the loss of the ship *Ocean Eagle* on a similar voyage. Hopes are entertained of recovering the former vessel, but the latter is sunk in 15 fathom water. Sir Rutherford Alcock passed by last mail to China.

The steamer *Teen Chang*, which returned from the wreck of the *Maribelle*, brings part of the crew and some of the stores of the wrecked vessel, which is said to be still intact and hopes are entertained of getting her off as soon as the divers have got the ballast out.

H.M.'s Straits steamer *Pluto*, from Penang and Malacca, having on board his Honour the Governor and establishment, has returned here.

H.M.'s surveying steamer *Rifleman*, Captain Ward, from Labuan with dates to the 4th Oct., having the Governor of Labuan on board, arrived in the harbour on the 9th.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

DAWES—On the 27th Aug. (in N. lat. 25 deg., W. long. 24 deg. 21'), on the voyage from Gibraltar to the Cape of Good Hope, the wife of Lieut. W. Dawes, 1st Battn. 9th Regt., of a son.

LAY—On the 28th Sept., at Chefoo, the wife of W. H. Lay, H.M. Vice-Consul, of a son.

MOSES—At Hong Kong, on the 27th Sept., the wife of C. Lee Moses, U.S. Consul General for Borneo, of a daughter.

MACKENZIE—On the 22nd Oct., at St. Helena, the wife of Augustine Charles Colin Mackenzie, Esq., Royal Engineers, of a son.

MARTEN—On the 20th Nov., at Blackheath, Mrs. Charles Henry Marten, of a daughter.

REME—On the 8th Nov., at Greenbank, Fallowfield, Manchester, the wife of G. A. Reme, Esq., of a daughter.

SWINHOE—On the 2nd Oct., at Takow, Formosa, the wife of Robert Swinhoe, H.M.'s Consul at Taiwan, of a son.

SOLOMON—At Hong Kong, on the 4th Oct., the wife of Reuben Solomon (in the firm of Moses and Co.), of a daughter.

THOMSON—On the 15th Nov., the wife of the Hon. Mr. Justice Thomson, Supreme Court, Ceylon, of a son.

WRIGHT—On the 17th Oct., at Shanghai, the wife of James Hanson Wright, of a son.

WILBART—On Oct. 16, at the Patent Slip and Dock Co.'s yard, the wife of Mr. C. Withart, of a son.

WILLANS—On Oct. 19, at Sunnyside, Singapore, Mrs. W. W. Willans, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

SHARP—ALT.—On the 14th Nov., at Christ Church, Forest-hill, by the Rev. J. M. Clarke, assisted by the Rev. A. Druce, George Sharp, Esq., of Maryport, to Isabelle Anne Alt, of Forest-hill. No cards.

ALLEN—STEWART.—On the 7th July, at Trinity Church, Shanghai, by the Rev. John Henry Gray, M.A., Consular Chaplain, Canton, assisted by the Rev. Charles Henry Butcher, M.A., Consular Chaplain at Shanghai, James Whinyates George Allen, Esq., Assistant-Surgeon 99th Regt., to Jessie Stewart, widow, and daughter of the late Samuel Cardy, Esq.

PEARCE—HARDING.—On the 14th Oct., at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. J. Wilson, Acting Colonial Chaplain, assisted by the Rev. C. F. Warren, James W. Pearce, of Portsmouth, to Louisa, eldest daughter of Capt. Sam. Harding.

WINSOR—TANNER.—On the 23rd inst., at St. John's, North Brixton, by the Rev. George Mansfield, Philip Winsor, Esq., of S, Angell-park, to Helen Boyd, only daughter of the late Edward Tanner, Esq., of Penang.

DEATHS.

BOYD—On the 22nd Sept., at Shanghai, Robert Boyd, 2nd officer, a native of Ayrshire Scotland.

CATLEY—On the 7th Nov., at Southampton, having only landed from India on the 4th, Mr. Thomas Catley, aged 29, late chief officer of the P. and O. Company's steamer Nemesis, nephew of Mrs. Edmund Bowden, of Falmouth.

ELLERY—On the 28th Sept., on board the British ship Isca, at Hong Kong, John Ellerby, late Master, aged 54 years.

FILLEUL—On the 21st Sept., at the Shanghai General Hospital, of wounds received at Chinkiang, John Filleul, aged 22 years.

FORREST—On the 11th Nov., Sarah, the beloved wife of R. Forrest, Esq., of the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, aged 41.

GREENER—On the 11th Nov., at Vienna, on her way from Bagdad to England, Elizabeth, the beloved wife of John Henry Greener, Esq., Telegraphic Engineer, London.

GIBB—On the 27th Sept., in the Shanghai General Hospital, James Bowman Gibb, of Liverpool.

KINDER—On the 1st Oct., at Morrison-hill, Hong Kong, after a few hours' illness of fever, Ada Paszkowicz, second daughter of Thomas William and Mary Elizabeth Kinder, aged 14 years and 6 months.

LATIMER—On the 28th Sept., at Shanghai, suddenly, Nichol Latimer, Esq., aged 35, third son of the late David Latimer, Esq., of Saugh Head, Cumberland. Friends will please to accept this intimation.

LUDWIGS—On Oct. 18, at his residence, Queen-street, Singapore, Captain Theodore Ludwigs.

MCDONNELL—On Oct. 14, at Singapore, Mr. John McDonnell, aged 55.

NEBENDAH—On the 2nd Oct., on board the Hamburgh barque Canton, T. C. T. Nebendah, Chief Officer.

NEILSON—On the 10th Oct., at sea, on board the P. & O. steamer Aden, from Shanghai to Hong Kong, Edward Noel Neilson, of New York, U.S.A., aged 25 years.

RAYMOND—On the 30th Sept., at Shanghai, Captain Samuel J. Raymond, of New York and latterly of San Francisco, aged 45 years.

RAY—On the 4th Sept., at Amoy, China, of water on the brain, James Edward Ray, late of H.M.S. Pelorus, youngest son of Walter Ray, Esq., late 76th Regt.

SHERBOURNE—On the 16th Sept., at Chefoo, Leonora Izabel Sherbourne, infant daughter of G. F. Preston, of Shanghai.

VALLESEN—On the 25th Sept., on board the Hamburgh ship Albertine, Captain H. Vallesen, aged 51 years.

WAGHORN—On the 13th Nov., at Plymouth, James Waghorn, Esq., formerly of the East India House, aged 60.

WILKINSON—On the 12th Nov., at Claremont-place, Forest-gate, Edward Harrison Wilkinson, of the Oriental Bank Corporation, aged 31.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1865-66.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865	1217120	25639296	27636600	747284	5827918	61068218	40094
Corresponding period last season	320600	34551498	28170885	212087	5178130	68433201	14121

SAILED SINCE.

	Ship.	From.		
Sept. 6 ...	Manfred ...	... ...	Foochow	705,100

TO UNITED STATES.

							Piculs.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	1403638	1913
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	4647022	...

SINCE SAILED.

Oct. 2 ...	Douglas Castle	...	Foochow	692,600
— 4 ...	Glen Aros	...	Do.	804,000

TO THE CONTINENT.

							Bales.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	88	...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

						Tea pkgs	Boxes.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	17435	394
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	9252	...

SHIPMENTS SINCE.

Oct. 4 ...	Chetah	...	Hong Kong	137	8

TO AUSTRALIA.

From June 1st to Sept. 30, 1865	4,449,490
Corresponding period last year	4,582,510

SAILED SINCE.

Oct. 4 ...	Spec ...	...	Hong Kong	105,800

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TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844.....	...	...	...	51,092,600	...
„ 1845 to 1846.....	...	...	...	57,334,200	18,604
„ 1850 to 1851.....	...	...	...	63,972,000	22,143
„ 1853 to 1854.....	...	...	...	77,327,800	61,280
„ 1855 to 1856.....	...	...	...	92,240,300	50,480
„ 1857 to 1858.....	...	...	...	76,990,255	68,311
„ 1858 to 1859.....	...	...	...	65,789,792	83,136
„ 1859 to 1860.....	...	...	...	85,560,452	64,163
„ 1860 to 1861.....	...	...	...	90,066,160	70,644
„ 1861 to 1862.....	...	...	...	109,854,040	79,199
„ 1862 to 1863.....	...	...	...	121,273,580	72,848
„ 1863 to 1864.....	..	...	...	117,463,586	46,605
„ 1864 to 1865.....	...	...	...	131,236,870	32317

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865..	...	...	...	2375	133	...

SAILED SINCE.

None.

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865..	5800	...	...	...	...	4000

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865	36425	16423	900	3030	...	...

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865..	43	5383	71732	1100	330	161300

SHIPMENTS SINCE.

Oct. 4 ...	Chetah	...	Hong Kong	...	14,013	...	600	...	—	... 4,000
„ 8 ...	Bengairn	...	„	...	3,192	...	—	...	—	... —
„ 15 ...	Libelle	...	„	...	5,628	...	—	...	300	... —

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865..	...	...	...	...	...	...

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents, and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Yokohama	6 months sight.	4s. 5½d. to 4s. 6d	4s. 7d. to 4s. 8d.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 ditto	6s. 2d. to 6s. 3d.	6s. 3d. to 6s. 4d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 5½d. to 4s. 6d	4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.
At Singapore	6 ditto	4s. 6d.	4s. 6d. to 4s 7d.
At Manila	6 ditto	4s. 0½d.	4s. 1d. to 4s. 2d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 296 to 298 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 218 to 219 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 10¾ per cent. prem. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 73 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 26 to 27 discount. Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, 6 per cent. prem.; Gas Company, 30 per cent. prem.; Hong Kong and Whampoa Docks, 40 prem., and Union Docks nominal at 1 premium.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—The remarks made in last report may be repeated. The supplies will probably fall short of last season's. Exporters appear convinced at last that the standard of rates has been for some time too high, and the Chinese dealers, equally satisfied of the fact, are more inclined to yield than to hold.

CANTON.—This market for the first fortnight remained very quiet, when some disposition was shown to renew purchases of scented teas, and this was closely followed by a sudden inquiry springing up for Congous, which resulted in the settlement of four chops at fully one tael decline in favour of buyers, when four more chops were settled at somewhat higher rates, and we quote prices for this mail firmer.

SHANGHAI.—Black.—Since the date of our last we have received the London mails of the 26th July and 10th August, both bringing very unsatisfactory accounts of the home market for black tea; this, together with the largeness of our stocks, induced holders to make some concession in their demands, and a large business has resulted at irregular rates; a decline can, however, be quoted of about two taels on medium kinds, whilst common classes are unchanged. The arrivals from Hankow have been small, but our stock is still considerable and nearly entirely composed of common and undesirable parcels. Settlements have been as under:—8 chops second and third crop Oopack, at taels 22.0.0 to 26.5.0; 6 chops second and third crop Ningchow, at taels 25.0.0 to 29.5.0; 18 chops second and third crop Oonahm, at taels 17.0.0 to 22.5.0; 3 chops second and third crop Hohow, at taels 16.0.0 to 18.5.0

AMOY.—Supplies continue to exhibit a marked falling off as compared with last season as will be evident by the statement given below. Congous are now to be bought on somewhat easier terms. During the month 5,938 packages have been settled at $16¾ to 18½ for common to fair flavory kinds, $20½ for superior. Oolongs: Current rates are somewhat irregular but show an average decline of $1 to 2 on those last quoted. Settlements for the past month comprise 15,797 packages, besides 332 common Ankoi which have been taken at $13. We now quote mixed Ankoi and common grade $17½ to $20. Fair cargo $22 to 25, and good to fair $26 to 34.

FOOCHOW, OCT. 9.—Since the departure of the last mail there has been a downward tendency in prices of most descriptions suitable for shipment to England, and settlements have been made more freely, both for that quarter and Australia. There has, however, been less doing during the last day or two, and the market closes quiet, with the probability of prices going still lower. For America settlements have been made in Oolongs at advanced rates.

HANKOW.—A very fair business had been done during the past fortnight, and 60 chops altogether were reported settled, most of which, however, were shipments for Shanghai for resale. Prices continued very irregular, but on the whole showed a decline of nearly one tael. 27 chops remained on offer. Quotations were—Oopacks, medium to good (third crop), tls. 21 to 23¼; Oonahms, common to fair, tls. 13 to 21. Total shipments to date, 562 chops, or 284,300 chests, or 27,391,800 lbs., against 595 chops or 310,700 chests or 29,481,400 lbs. to same date last year.

KIUKIANG.—Black Teas: About 3,700 packages had been settled and nearly 8,000 shipped on native account during the fortnight, and purchasers have forced a decline of about one tael, which would probably be increased when the last London advices had had time to be appreciated. The stock amounted to 5,400 packages mostly common and medium teas.

YOKOHAMA.—During the past fortnight there has been no change in our tea market worthy of remark: a fair amount of business has been transacted; nearly the whole of the settlements made being for the American market. Settlements for the above period amount to 2,000 piculs, chiefly good medium and fine kinds, for which full prices have been paid. Stock now on offer consists of about 2,300 piculs, comprising the following, viz.:—Good common, 550 piculs; medium, 800 piculs; good medium to fine, 900 piculs; finest, 100 piculs. Quotations are as follows:—Good common, $16,00 to 19,00; medium, $21,00 to 23.50; good medium to fine, $24.50 to 28.00; finest, $30.00 to 35.00.

NAGASAKI.—During the early part of this month fair supplies were received, and an active business resulted, at a slight advance on former rates. Holders are now very firm. The Northern Crown sailed on the 13th September, with a full cargo of teas for London.

RAW SILK.—This mail will convey to Southampton, 2,633 bales and 111 cases silk—to Marseilles, 445 bales silk and 194 cases silk worm eggs.

SHANGHAI.—The London mail of 10th August arrived on the 25th September, bringing a confirmation of the reported decline in the Silk market of about 3s. per lb. from the highest point. But these advices were unfortunately accompanied by a telegram announcing large business doing in the London market at 30s. 6d. To this news amongst other causes we attribute much of the present firmness of holders. Settlements since the 20th ult. are estimated at 2,500 bales, giving a total from the 1st June to date of 40,500 bales, viz.: 34,600 bales Chinas, and 5,900 bales Japan, against a total of 15,500 bales for the corresponding period of last season. Our unsold stock is now reduced to between 1,500 and 2,000 bales, consisting almost entirely of the lower grades of Tsatlee, Taysaam and Yuenfa. As to future supplies, we cannot expect them to come forward very freely—that is to say, in excess of settlements taking place in this market. The silkmen as a body have little faith in the maintenance of prices at the present range, and are consequently unwilling to do more than a hand-to-mouth business between the country and this market. Tsatlees, Nos. 1, taels 560 to 570 per picul; 2, taels 540 to 550 do.; 3, taels 515 to 530 do.

YOKOHAMA.—The market seems to have become a little weaker several parcels having been disposed of at $10 to 20 less; but it must be borne in mind that the value of the dollar has risen within the last few days 2 to 3 per cent. in the native market, whereby the apparent loss to the sellers has been compensated. A week since 133 bales Oshio silk belonging to the Japanese Government were put up at auction; one half of the catalogue was knocked down to two foreign buyers at prices ranging from $640 to 665, for rather coarse medium quality; the rest was bought by a Japanese, assisted by a Custom-house interpreter, in such a way as to leave no doubt whatever of the fictitiousness of the sale. The total settlements of the fortnight may be estimated at 300 bales, making a total to date this season of 4,000 bales against 830 same time last year. The unsold stock on the market is heavy, we should say certainly 2,300 piculs. Business in silk worm's eggs continues very active, the green ones remaining scarce and prices well supported; the white ones on the contrary have been sold at daily declining figures. Quotations: Ida, inferior, 570 to 610; Mybash and Sincha, best parcel offering, 770 to 785; do., medium, 740 to 760; do., inferior, 733 to 730.

CAMPHOR.—Hong Kong: We have no importations, and we have no stock, nominal quotation is $20 packed.

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CHINA IMPORTS.

HONG KONG.

COTTON YARN.—The market is very bare of stocks, which are moreover almost confined to Nos. 16 to 24. Medium numbers which are not in any supply are wanted for Japan, and show a material advance in price. Grey Shirtings: The recent receipts of these goods per Cambalu, Canadian and Mountain Ash have tended to check inquiry, and a decline in value of from 5 to 10 cents is noticeable. Sales amount to 12,500 pieces, in addition to which some 3,800 pieces of damaged goods have found buyers at auction. White Shirtings: Sales amount to 1,200 pieces. Stocks are very limited. T-Cloths: In the absence of any stock, the transactions in this description of cloth have been extremely trifling, and prices remain as under date of last report. Settlements 2,950 pieces. American Drills: There are not any of these goods on the market. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades White and Coloured: The sales of the past fortnight are comprised in the settlement of 500 pieces of Dyed Spotted Shirtings, and 720 pieces of Coloured Brocades. Damasks and Chintzes: There are not any transactions to report in these goods. Handkerchiefs: 1,500 dozen have found buyers.

RAW COTTON has met with a moderate amount of inquiry during the past fortnight, but the value of the staple shows a material decline as compared with the last mail's quotations. The receipts during the fortnight of both Indian and native growth have been in excess of settlements, and it is anticipated that the former will come on still more freely ere long. Settlements of all descriptions amount to 8,750 bales. The sales in the Canton market amount to 2,000 bales of Chinese, and 1,000 bales of Bengal cottnn.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies and Habit Cloths: Remain at about the quotations previously advised, with sales of the first mentioned amounting to 380 pieces.

LONG ELLS.—These goods are in very small stock at present, and readily command the extreme quotations; the sales of the past fortnight amount to 1,800 pieces.

CAMLETS.—There is not any material alteration to notice in the value of these goods. Settlements are estimated at 715 pieces for the fortnight.

METALS.—Iron, Nail Rod, &c.: Iron remains at about the quotations previously current, with sales of 800 piculs of flat bar, and 420 piculs of hoop, Lead: Unchanged; the settlements being estimated at 500 piculs, while in Canton some 600 piculs of common quality have found buyers. Tin: 340 piculs have been sold during the fortnight. Tin Plates and Steel: There is not any business doing in these articles.

COALS.—Hong Kong: The only addition to the stocks of Coal since last report consists of a cargo of 700 tons of North Country, which realised $11¼ from alongside. This may be considered the value of English Coals while Welsh are worth a small advance on that price, Australian $7¼ to $7¾. At Shanghai there has been an advance in the rates for English Coals, with sales of cargoes from godown at taels 9.0.0 per ton, and a further advance may be expected, owing to the failure of the usual regular supplies from Great Britain. The prices from godown for English coals are now taels 9.0.0 to 10.0.0 per ton, according to quality. American coals are in some demand, at taels 10 per ton from ship, at which rate the stocks afloat have been cleared. Sydney Coals of all kinds are in good request at the quoted rates, and all the arrivals on the market have been sold. Quotations from ship here are:—For English Coals, taels 8.5.0 to 9.0.0 per ton, nominal; Cardiff, taels 9.5.0 to 10.0.0 per ton, nominal; American, taels 10.0.0 per ton, with sales; Sydney, taels 7.5.0 to 7.6.0 with sales; Japan, taels 6.0.0 to 6.5.0 per ton, nominal. Arrivals since the 19th ult. have been 2,057 tons from Sydney.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—None.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Sept. 25, Patrician.

At HONG KONG.—From London: Oct. 2, Canadian; 4, Mountain Ash. From Sunderland: 2, Hadassah.

At MANILA.—From Liverpool: Oct. 1, Felix. From Cardiff: Sept. 23, Cornelis Smit; Oct. 1, Magallanes.

At SINGAPORE.—From Liverpool: Oct. 17, Norah Greame.

At PENANG.—None.

At BATAVIA.—From Liverpool: Cornelia.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—None.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Sept. 23, Dartmouth; 30, Iron Crown.

From FOO-CHOW.—For London: Sept. 26, Aurora Australis; Oct. 7, Manfred. For Cowes: Yeavering Belle. For Channel: Hydra. For United States: Douglas Castle, Glenaros.

From Amoy.—For London: Sept. 26, Florence Nightingale.

From HONG KONG.—For Portsmouth, Oct. 13, Gresham. For don: Sept. 29 (via Macao), Anne Archbell.

From MANILA.—For London: Oct. 6, Nelson. For Liverpool: Sept. 22, Tigris. For New York: Sept. 22, Melita.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Oct. 11, Caldbeck. For Liverpool and Glasgow: Oct. 6, Sparkler. For Liverpool (via Cape), 13, Mary Spencer. For Boston (via Penang): Oct. 19, Magnet.

From PENANG.—For London: Oct. 10, Adelaide. For New York: Casilda.

VESSELS LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Raphael, Simon Hobley, Seringapatam. For Suez: Str. Shaftesbury, with silk, &c., for England, overland.

At HANKOW.—For London: St. Andrew's Castle.

At KIUKIANG.—For London: Emperor.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Polmaise, Glencoe, Helen Nicholson, Wild Deer, City of Quebec, Ensign Horsa, Glengairn, Prince Albert, Queen of the Ocean, Lord Clyde, to Falmouth for orders. For Liverpool: Patna.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Banian, Canaan, Caractacus, Alexandrina, Merse, Lord Macaulay, St. Dunstan. For United States: Jeannie.

At HONG KONG.—For London: Yaratilda, Tamerlane, Arab Steed, Spanker, Lanton.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Wye, Sarawak.

At PENANG.—For London: Balnaguith, Nyassa.

At BATAVIA.—For Channel: Eerzkerzog, Zodiac, Star Queen, Viking, General Windham. For Amsterdam: Affghan, Sandringham, Verden, Friedriek, Anthony van Hoboken, Den Elshout, Christina, Nicholaas Witsen, Franklin, Princess of Wales, Souburg, Kon. Ned. Yacht Club. For Rotterdam: Madura, Petronella, Nereus, Louis Meyer, Cornelis Anthonie, Samarang, Marie.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Cotton and tea, £3; silk, £4. 10s. of 50ft. nominal.

At SHANGHAI.—Vessels continue to leave the port seeking; freights remain very low, with little employment offering. Only two charters have been made for Europe, one vessel on the berth for London, at 25s. per ton. The Charters are: Lord Clyde.—Br. bq. 531 tons to Glasgow or London £2 (20 lay days), calling at Cork for orders. Panama.—Br. bq. 295 tons, from Java to U. K. or Continent 3 ports £2. 5. (35 lay days), loading tea, calling at Cork for orders; if sent to Padang £2. 15s. calling at Falmouth for orders.

At FOOCHOW.—To London, 30s. to £2 per ton of 50 cubic feet. To New York, $9 (gold) of 40 feet.

At HONG KONG.—A better business has taken place in home charters direct—3 vessels have been chartered for Hamburg and others for London and New York, as also two charters from Java. The following settlements are from the Circular of George Holmes:—Shakespere, 656 tons, Foochow to London, at £1. 15s. per ton; Launceston, from three ports in Java to New York or Boston, at £2. 6s.; Favourite, 255, two ports in Java to Europe, at £2. 10s.; Bothwell Castle, 593, Canton to New York, at £1. 5s.; Carobel, Akyab to United Kingdom, at £2. 10s., or back to Hong Kong at 45c. per picul. No coasting charters offering. We observe, also, there is one French, one Russian, one Lukeck, and one Oldenburg vessel taking coolies to Havana, at £12 and £1 per head. Estimated number and tonnage of disengaged vessels in Hong Kong:—British 61, tons 30,908; foreign (exclusive of Siamese) 103, tons 35,016; total vessels 164, tons 65,924.

MANILA.—The transactions to report for the U.K., are as follows:—The Nordcap (Norwegian), for Falmouth and a port in the U. K., at £1. 10s. for 300 tons unclayed sugar shipped here, and £2 for the remainder of her cargo (about 400 tons sugar), from Iloilo. The Sirocco (English), for Liverpool, with 400 tons unclayed segar at £1. 15s. per ton, and 300 tons hemp at £2. The Lottie Warren lays on for London with 1,000 tons clayed sugar at £1. 14s.

At SINGAPORE.—The state of the market is in a very depressed state, and little demand for freight exists; two charters have, however, taken place, the Wye and Sarawak to London, at 35s. per ton all round.

At PENANG.—The Nyassa, 489 tons (British barque), has been laid on the berth, and has been enabled to recover rates to the old figures of £1. 2s. 6d. dead weight, £1. 10s. light freight, but has only a portion of her cargo engaged, and will probably find it difficult to complete her loading.

At BATAVIA.—Heavy engagements have been made; the tonnage in harbour, however, is too great to allow of any improvement in rates, which are, for Channel. £1. 10s. to £2 sugar; £1. 12s. 6d. rice.

By last advices from Calcutta we notice the Far East, Captain Jones, was loading for China.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—Sept. 29, Independant, Toulon, for Saigon; Oct. 2, James Russel, London to Hong Kong; 4, Mary Frances, Newcastle to Hong Kong; 9, Jacob Cornelia, Holland to Singapore; Sir John Moore, Glasgow to Singapore; Nederlandsch Vlag, Rotterdam to Singapore; Duc, Bordeaux to Saigon; Clara Morse, Sunderland to Hong Kong.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—None.

From CHINA to ENGLAND and CONTINENT, &c.—Oct. 1, Malabar, Batavia to Channel; 4, Eduard, Manila to Queenstown; 6, Panic, Singapore to Liverpool; 7, William Mitchell, Foochow to London.

From CHINA, &c., to UNITED STATES.—Sept. 29, Earl of Shaftesbury, Singapore to New York; Oct. 1, Western Continent, Hong Kong to New York; 6, Ocean Rover, Manila to New York.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

A motion was made in the Vice-Chancellors' Court, on the 25th inst., to dissolve an injunction made by Vice-Chancellor Wood to restrain the London Joint-Stock Bank from paying certain bills of Exchange drawn by the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London and China. It appeared that the last-named bank had drawn bills of exchange to a very large amount on the London Joint-Stock Bank, and that these bills had been purchased by Messrs. Hamilton, Gray, and Co., and Jarvie, Thorburn, and Co., in India, as the agents of Messrs. Buchanan, Hamilton, and Co., of Glasgow, in the ordinary way of business. The Glasgow firm became bankrupt, and a Mr. Anderson and other persons were appointed assignees. The bills having come to maturity were accepted by the London Joint-Stock Bank (previous to the sequestration), and they were ready to pay them, when this bill was filed, on the ground that the Chartered Mercantile Bank were large creditors of the Glasgow firm, and had a right of set off. Judgment was reserved.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLE.—Nov. 24, at Plymouth, from Bassein, Rapide; 13, at New York, from Hong Kong, Benefactor; 22, at Cuxhaven, from Batavia, Boreas; 26, at London, from Hong Kong, Salvia, from Penang, Hanover; 27, at Deal from Colombo, Cruiser; 26, at Falmouth from Batavia, Loopuyt; at Liverpool from Singapore, Early Dawn; 25, at Texel from Batavia, Nederland; 19, Cadiz from Manila, Nuestra Senora de la Concepcion; 27, London from Hong Kong, Johanna Marie.

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DEPARTURE.—Nov. 25, from London, for Cardiff and Yokohama: Helena.

SPOKEN.—Bulgersteyn, Liverpool to Batavia, Sept. 27; Andromeda, Batavia to Rotterdam, Sept. 30, 34 S.; Apollo, Manila to New York, in the Sooloo sea; Early Dawn, Singapore to Liverpool, Oct. 20, 5 N., 26 W.; Hesperia, Shanghai to New York, Sept. 10, 35 S., 24 E.; Cambrian, Liverpool to Singapore, Oct. 26, 9 N., 24 W.; Ionia, Newport to Singapore, Oct. 20, 6 N., 22 W.; Loopuyt, Samarang to Schiedam, Oct. 15, 6 S., 18 W.; Jacoba, (Dutch barque), Batavia to Rotterdam, Oct. 1, 24 S., 6 E.

CASUALTIES.—The Loopuyt, V. der Hidde, from Batavia for Schiedam, arrived at Falmouth, Nov. 26, with damage.

The Eclipse, from Liverpool for Yokohama, put into Penarth Roads, Nov. —, with loss of steering gear, &c.

MISCELLANEOUS.—The *W. Cores de Vries* (s.s.), Tergast, from Rotterdam and Ramsgate, for Batavia, put into Portsmouth, November 25, her crew refusing duty.

Correspondence.

BURGEVINE.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

Sir,—In your issue of the 11th inst. it is stated that I had contrived to entrap the American Burgevine.

It is sufficient for me to remark that I left China on the 29th April, that Burgevine was arrested on the 14th May, and that I never heard of his arrest until I had been some weeks in England.—Your obedient servant,

GEORGE HUGHES,
Commissioner of Customs, Amoy, China.

Palace Chambers, 88, St. James's-street,
London, Nov. 16, 1865.

[In extracting this statement from a Shanghai paper we regret that we overlooked this allusion to Mr. Hughes.]

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, Nov. 24

For weeks and months the Opposition have made much *tapage* about the supposition that the ministers should have influence upon the elections in Limberg, by writing letters, in which they promised that the Bill about the increasing of the ground tax (*impôs foncier*) there should not be laid before the members of the States General in this sitting. Several members of the Opposition interpealed the Cabinet about these letters, so that Mr. Thorbecke was obliged to state that he, for himself, wished that when one or more letters written by him should exist, they might be printed, and when they should appear in an obscenous journal he would insert them in the official paper. Such a statement was made in the sitting of Saturday last. The whole Liberal party cried victory and thought that these compromising rumours were smothered. In the sitting of Monday last, however—when the discussions about the Budget were to be continued—our Premier rose at once, and stated that he had heard since the last sitting that Mr. Betz, the Minister of the Financial Department, had written indeed a confidential letter to his friend and ex-colleagne, Mr. Van der Maesen de Sombreff, in which was spoken about the elections; that a wrong use was made of this letter, so that the contents had become now of such a compromising character that Mr. Betz had been obliged to tender his resignation. It is still uncertain whether the King will accept it, but it is generally thought that it is impossible that the King will reject the demand for dismission. I do not think that Mr. Betz dishonoured himself by writing this letter, although the Opposition says he did; but it is quite certain that he acted so imprudently that it is necessary that he should be discharged as Minister. Messrs. Bachiene, van Heukelom, and van Bosse are named as his successors; but a rumour circulates that the Minister of Justice will defend, *ad interim*, the Financial Budget.

It is said that Mr. van der Maesen de Sombreff will tender his resignation as Member of the Second Chamber. So much is certain, that he has lost confidence.

Except this *intermezzo*, the discussions about the Budgets proceed very calmly. Those for the Roman Catholic and Protestant services were passed respectively by 49 to 19 and 47 to 18 votes. The Budget for justice was passed by 55 to 6, and that for foreign affairs by 35 to 11 votes.

A little incident which took place at the discussion of the last-named Budget will give you the conviction that our Tories do all that is possible to thwart the measures of the Cabinet. Mr. Cremers wished for an increase of the salaries of some Dutch Ambassadors, and especially for the Minister accredited at the Court of Washington. The high prices of all that is wanted in that place obliged that respectful gentleman to hire a set of rooms above a hairdresser's shop. Our Tories, however, disapproved of the proposal of Mr. Cremers; they made a stand for retrenchment and economy, and obliged our Minister at Washington to remain dollarless and servantless. Our Opposition, whose cry always was and still is "The glory of the Court above all," seems to be of opinion that it does not shock the glory of the Court when diplomatists are turned into such ridicule that diplomacy must cease to form a portion of our policy.

Notwithstanding our Budget, voting was always a fearfully long process; it seems that this year the Budget will be voted quickly. Perhaps to-morrow that of Home affairs will be approve, and as to that of the Colonial department, I think that no discussions of much importance will take place. All the members are waiting for the Culture Bill, and they spare their forces. In the meantime, we can read a *deluge de brochures* about this Bill, which is sharper attacked than defended by the press; but, nevertheless, the general opinion is that the Liberal majority will give it its votum.

Dr. Pierson, once one of our most beloved pastors of this town, but who resigned some time ago, has addressed to his late parishioners a last adieu, which created here a great sensation. He resigned while his opinions upon religious matters did not permit him any longer to baptise, to pray, to fulfil the other duties of the priestly office—which he named "the official lies of the Church"—without being guilty of the grossest hypocrisy. He now has raised the flag of "humanity," and states that the principles of his philosophy are widely spread in the National Church. He criticises severely the preachers in general, and paints the position of these men, who "receive, amongst other things," the confession of faith, while they themselves entertain doubts as to invisible things—that is, maintenance of artifice and formalism." Dr. Réville, his former colleague, answered to this last adieu, by his writ "Nous Maintiendrons," which is a very eloquent speech, to demonstrate that the Church is a necessity, and that the faith in God and Christ is the bond which binds our society together. The profession of Dr. Pierson, he says, is one which will be received with cheers by the plebeians and social republicans. Drs. Pierson and Réville have their partisans, and it is not impossible that these two "open letters" will have great consequences.

Mr. Jz. J. Lion, the editor of the opposition organ, *Net Dagblad van Zuid Holland and 'S Gravenhage*, advertised that he will publish within a few days his *Testament Politique* (*Myn Politieke Loopbaan.*) This journalist was a liberal clerical, and belongs now to the ultra-tories. This book, without doubt, will be a remarkable one.

P.S.—It is still uncertain whether the King will grant the asked dismission of Mr. Betz as Minister of the Financial Department. Several Cabinet Councils were held yesterday and to-day. A rumour circulates in the Hague that the whole Cabinet will resign; I do not believe, however, that it is well founded. Much sensation is caused here by a telegram from Brussels, announcing that King Leopold is so very ill that it is thought impossible that he will recover. The States General (2nd Chamber) have voted 19,000,000 f. for the construction of State Railways in 1866. Mr. J. van Lennep published some days ago a comic grammar of the Dutch language, which created a *furore*. I regret for his reputation, as *homme de lettres*, that it is only an imitation of the "Comic English Grammar" (London, R. Bentley, 1851). Not only was the text imitation, but also our famous Verveer made use of the *cliches* of your most regretted J. Leech. Poor plagiarists!

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE—The Trading Company held its auction on the 22nd, and offered 116,900 b. Java, besides 5,200 b. Padang. The sales were very animated. The yellow qualities are paid ½ cent, the good ord. ¾ cent above the valuation. The last named quality cannot now be bought under 46c. The market is very firm.

TEA.—On the 17th a public sale was held at Amsterdam, in which were offered 2,130 ¼ and 100 ½ ch. Java, and 29 ¼ and 50 1-16 ch. China tea. The Java Boie was paid with 70c.; the Congou, 80 to 81c.; Souchong, 85 to 90c.; Pecco, 177 to 200c.; Thunkay, 69 to 90c.; Schin, 51 to 55c.; Hysant, 119 to 132c.; Uxim, 115 to 142c.; Joosjes, GB, 120 to 132c. The greater part was sold. For China fine Kaisou Congou was paid in auction 95c.; finest flowery Pecco, 95 to 100c.; extra Scented Orange Pecco, 175c.; fine Moning Congou, 109 to 110c.; Superfine Oopack Congou 123 to 125c. The greater part was sold. The market remains now in a firm condition.

RICE.—There are no transactions to report, for want of stock; cleaned sorts are paid dearer. Arracan 9¼ to ¾f.; Bassein and Rangoon 9¼ to ½f.; Voorloop, 11 to 13f.

SPICES.—Firm; but without an important demand. The nominal quotation is: Nutmegs No. 1, 84 to 85c.; No. 2, 74 to 75c.; No. 3, 54 to

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56c. ; No. 4, 35 to 38c. Mace, D 90c. ; E, 85 to 88c. ; Cloves, No. 2, 26 to 27c. Pimento with much inquiry. Pepper.—386 b., ex Caroline Agnes, were sold at 20½c. ; 2,300 b., ex Jan Daniel and Catharina Maria, were brought into the market at 21c.

Tobacco.—(Java Leaves.)—The several parcels offered in auction were sold as follows:—1,476 b., 117 b. B T from 74 to 141c., 451 b. B. Kedon from 10½ to 56c., 337 b. Kadoe W C from 21½ to 100c., 200 b. E-B G from 16 to 136c., 184 b. Blarcum from 12½ to 51½c., 107 b. Djetis from 31½ to 92c., 42 b. B en W from 24 to 64c., en 38 b. D M at 82½c., in average 46c., 2,174 b., 1,206 b. N. I. H. from 12 to 58c., in average 36½c., 968 b. P. A. I. V. from 15 to 66½, in average circa 35c., 1,880 b., 771 b. A. and L.-Penawangan from 11½ to 48½c., 42 b. A. L.-I. at 38c., 221 b. A. L. from 16½ to 40½c., 258 b. Soesoean from 16½ to 67c., 203 b. V-Bto from 26 to 86c., 205 b. V-X from 16½ to 87c., en 180 b. C L from 12½ to 42½c., in average 32½ c.

1,887 b., 1,423 b. Cuba, in average 41c., 287 Kebon Aroem, in average 69c., 92 b. K. A. G., in average 58½c., 64 b. K. A., in average 15c., en 21 b., G. W. T., in average 29c.

1,125 b., 143 b. Birit, in average circa 35c., 223 b. A. in average 23c., 22 b. V., in average 48c. en 737 b. Nicot, from 23 to 106c.

1,066 b., 338. b. M. D., from 25½ to 145c. ; 181 b. M. S., from 26 to 123c., 237 b. Sienggé Sen Cov., from 19½ to 79½c., en 311 b. B. from 13½ to 56c., in average 80½c.

The 1,074 b. offered by the Trading Company were sold at 11½ to 97½c., in average 40c. The 2,601 b. ex Nicot (private auction), at 11 to 91c., in average 30c. The market remains in a firm condition.

Cotton.—There is nothing to report; the market is very calm.

Hides.—There was a good business doing. By inscription were sold at secret prices—2,500 Buffalo ex Nederland; 24 do. ex Lammina Elizabeth; 476 do. ex do.; 486 E.I. ex Nederland; 139 do. ex do.; 234 Buffalo ex do. The Trading Company sold likewise by inscription—2,224 p. Java Buffalo, ex Wellington; 119 p. Padang, ex Stad Assen; 826 p. Java Reindeer, ex Laura and Adele; 2,000 p. do., ex Anglia; 300 p. do., Lamina Elizabeth; and 250 p. Buffalo, ex Caroline Agnes.

Silk.—The 347 b. raw Silk, which will be offered at auction by the Trading Company on the 30th, are valued as follows:—134 b. Japan, Mybash, 38 to 46f. ; 29 do. Sinchin, 38 to 47f. ; 28 do. Sodai, 35 to 41f. ; 15 do. Oshul, 32 to 41f. ; 8 do. Koshue, 36 to 41f. ; 21 do. Mashtah, 30 to 37f. ; 30 do. Hatchojee, 21 to 27f. ; 57 China Tsatlee, 35 to 42f. ; 25 do. Taysaam, 35 to 38f.

Indigo.—With a good demand, 60 chests of the last imports were sold at 20c. above the last auction prices. The market is firm.

Japan Copper.—The Trading Company offered 20,000 lbs. in bars and plates, which quantity was sold at 54 to f.55.75. The 100,000 lbs. in cakes, offered privately at inscription, were sold at 57 to 60 f. per 50 cwt. Holders decline to sell at these prices, in consequence of the harbours of Chili being blockaded.

Drugs.—Cassia Vera; fine quality, with much demand, but without stock. Gum Damar, unaltered; firm at 30c. Gum Elasticum very firm; at higher prices some parcels were sold. Borneo Sago; 100 ch. were sold at former prices; nothing can be bought now under 12f. Mother o'Pearl shells; the 20,000 lb. which will be offered by the Trading Company on the 27th inst. consist of 17,000 kilo. large size, and 3,000 kilo. middling and small size; this quantity was imported ex Sindbad from Macassar. The valuation is from 80 to 82c.

Sugar.—The 25,555 kranj. Java offered in auction by the Trading Company were sold as follows:—

	Price paid Sept. 20.	Nov. 23.
No. 13	F. 33¼	F. 35¾
„ 14	33¾	37
„ 15	34¼	36¾
„ 16	34¾	37
„ 17	35¼	37¼
„ 18	35¾	37½
„ 19	35¾	37½

The 1,334 mats Mauritius sugar likewise offered in this auction were sold at 35 to 36¼f. The market closes very firm.

P.S.—Coffee: The market has become still firmer. 1,300 b. Padang were sold at 46½ to 50c.; and 2,000 b. do., ex Maarten van Rossem, at 46c.; 624 b. Macassar were taken at different prices. Sugar: Since the auction 2,500 kr. Java were sold at f.2 to f.2½ above September prices. Hides: 1,360 p. Cheribon Buffalo, ex Jacob, were sold at secret prices. Indigo: 410 chests arrived per Paul Johan; they will soon be brought into the market. Cutch: market very animated, much higher; want of stock. Banca Tin: 1,950 slabs sold at f.57½; 1,450 slabs at f.57¾; market firm. Rice: 5,700 b. Sourabaya, ex Wave, were sold at f.6¾ to f.8. Mother o'Pearl Shells: 20,000 kilo. Macassar were sold by inscription; the prices were firm, but did not transpire. Cochin Cocoanut Oil, f.32 to f.32½. Tea: The Java tea offered in auction yesterday was sold as follows:—

Congou	118 ¼-chests	—	at	90 to 100	c.
Kempoey	234 „	20 ½-chests	„	115 „ 152	c.
Souchong	658 „	30 „	„	95 „ 149	c.
Pecco	374 „	— „	„	120 „ 222	c.
Orange Pecco ..	— „	12 „	„	300 „ —	c.
Uxim	— „	13 „	„	170 „ —	c.
Joosjes (f. b.) ..	— „	45 „	„	177 „ 178	c.

Money Market.—The market was somewhat more animated, and on the whole rather better, the future of the rate of discount being regarded more hopefully. Some sales of importance of Dutch funds took place, which resulted in a rise; but the market is just now so sensitive that a few good purchases must have a very material effect in improving it. The foreign market was generally steady. Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents., 60¼; Three per Cents., 70 15-16; Four per Cents., 94 3-16; Trading Company, 146; Central Railway Company, 32½; Shares, 124¾; Netherlands India Trading Bank, 82½; Rotterdam Bank, 87½. Money: There has been a fair demand for discount both at the Bank and in the general market, where very little was done under 6 per cent. The rate of Bank discount remains still unaltered.

'Change.—London: 3 months, f. 11.68; 2 months, f. 11.75; short, f. 11.87½. Paris, 3 months, f. 46.60; 2 months, f. 46.80; short, f. 47.25. Hambro': 3 months, f. 35.10; 2 months, f. 35.25; short, f. 35.60. Bremen: 3 months, f. 189.40. St. Petersburg: 3 months, f. 148. Italy, f. 46.35.

Shipping—Arrivals.—Nov. 18, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Wilhelmina, Paul Johan; 20, from do., Ocean Pearl; 25, at Texel, from Batavia, Nederland, Captain van Steenderen.

Ready to Sail.—At Texel, Quartet for Batavia, China for Japan; at Rotterdam, St. Jan for Batavia; Johannes Anthonius, do.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From Java, per Paul Johan, Mr. J. Bruns; per Wilhelmina, Mr. J. Dulken and family.

RUSSIA, GERMANY, &c.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Hamburg, November 23.

From the protocol of the last sitting of the Vienna Chamber of Commerce it appears that a resolution was passed to send a deputation to the new Minister for Trade, praying for the immediate establishment of an Austrian Consulate in Japan, for the protection of their commercial interests in that country. Although this shows that these gentlemen are alive to the importance of their petition, it shows a certain degree of ignorance on their part not to be aware that the relations of Austria with such a country as Japan are on a very different footing to those in Europe and other parts of the world, where, as a matter of courtesy, a consul would be received without any great difficulty, and allowed to protect the interests of his fellow-subjects. Austrian shipowners have sent in complaints to their Government that their vessels are not allowed to enter ports of Japan, but are turned back, and naturally enough seek for redress; but they appear to be quite unaware that this can only be done by the preliminary means of a treaty, in which such rights are specially stipulated. A dozen or two of Austrian vessels find employment in the China seas, and, no doubt, consider themselves very hardly treated at not being enabled to accept a charter to carry a cargo from a port of China to one in Japan, and thus compete with the Prussian and other treaty flags. It is true Austria has Consuls in China, without having concluded a treaty with the Celestial Empire; but, as they have no regular *exequatur*, they are themselves only there on sufferance, and recognised only by the local authorities out of courtesy. But, as I have indicated in a former letter, the new Minister, Baron Wüllerstorf, has already expressed his intention of taking the needful steps, and I have reason to believe that an expedition will be fitted out for that purpose, and sail in the spring for China and Japan.

The extensive silk merchant, Herr Siegfried, of Crefeld, in Rhenish Prussia, lately received 20,000 cartoons, each containing 45,000 silkworm eggs from Japan, whither he had sent some agents to make the needful purchases. His enterprise has been rewarded with the most perfect success, and sold so well in France and Italy as not only to pay all the expenses, but to leave a clear profit of 500,000 dollars. He has now again sent out six agents to Japan to make further purchases of silkworm eggs for him in that country.

In the last number of the Transactions of the Russian Imperial Geographical Society is a very interesting article containing a description of an excursion to Yehol, the summer residence of the Chinese Emperors. The writer states that he is the first ocular witness that has visited that locality since the embassy of Lord Macartney, in 1793. Another article in the same number gives an account of the vestiges of ancient glaciers in the western ramifications of the Tian-Chan.

COMMERCIAL.

Coffee.—Notwithstanding the high rate of discount and the scarcity of money, the opinion for this article continues favourable, and prices rule firm at the late advance, with an active export business. Sales of the week, 15,000 bgs.

Sugar.—Raw calm, with no alteration in value. Among the few sales are 300 kranjangs of Batavia and 1,000 bgs. E.I. Refined in no great demand, but prices well supported.

Rice.—Cleaned grain in great favour, and again higher. Of rough 5,000 bags of Rangoon and 4,000 of Java have been sold by importers at stiff prices.

Spices.—Ginger is in good demand. Pepper commands more attention. In Cassia no alteration.

Tea.—Higher prices are obtained for ordinary to middling Congou. Pecco is more inquired for. In Souchong no alteration. Of country Moyune green tea 446-8ths and 426-16ths of very superior quality have arrived from Shanghai per William Melhuish. There is no demand for Canton-made Imperial. A parcel of Canton-made Gunpowder has been taken for shipment to the North of Europe.

Spelter.—An improvement has taken place and the market is firm, with a rising tendency. The following sales have been made:—5,000 centners in loco and 4,000 for spring delivery at 14.6; 500 (crown mark) in loco at 14.10; 2,000 in loco at 14.12; 5,000 for spring delivery at 14.13; and 2,000 for do. at 14.14.

Shipping.—Sailed: Nov. 20 (from Cuxhaven), Garland, to Hong Kong; 23, Mauritius to Singapore. Arrived: Nov. 23, Boreas, from Singapore.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, TUESDAY, NOV 28, 1865.

HONG KONG FINANCES.

BY last mail we received minutes of two meetings of the Hong Kong Legislative Council, held respectively on the 12th and 23rd of September, for the purpose of discussing and passing the estimates for 1866. In comparing the proposed expenditure with the estimated revenue for the ensuing year, we regret to find an apparent deficit of something like $128,000, a state of affairs which contrasts very unfavourably with the financial prosperity lately enjoyed by the colony under the administration of Sir HERCULES ROBINSON. This retrograde movement may be attributed partly to the heavy contribution exacted by the Home Government towards the maintenance of a garrison on the island, and partly to the high estimate for the expenses of the new Mint, which are stated by the Colonial Treasurer to be far more than the colony can afford. These two items, with one of minor importance relative to the tolls proposed to be levied for the support of a lightship at the Basses Rocks, formed the salient points of interest discussed at the meetings above referred to.

With regard to the Mint, much dissatisfaction, as well as great diversity of opinion seemed to have prevailed. Notwithstanding the heavy expenses attending the establishment—amounting to $41,000 per annum, of which some $19,000 would be paid in salaries, and no less than $12,000 for coal—Captain KINDER calculates that if kept regularly occupied the Mint will yield a profit of £50,000 per annum. On the other hand, the Colonial Treasurer argues that, at the present price of bar silver, no profit can accrue, as the average price in London is 5s. 1½d. per oz.; freight and insurance cost three per cent., and adding to this the Mint charge of two per cent., it followed that a dollar of the same weight and touch as the current Mexican could not be produced under 4s. 8d. The expenditure of coal certainly seems to us enormous, and we think there must be a possibility of effecting some reduction in this item alone which will conduce to a more favourable result. It also appears to us that the anxiety of the Colonial Treasurer respecting the result of coining bar silver into dollars is quite misplaced. It was never intended that the Government should import bar silver into Hong Kong and there coin it as a speculation. The business of the Mint is merely to coin into dollars the silver sent in for that purpose by the merchants, making, we presume, the same charges as are customary at the Indian mints, namely, one per mille for melting and 2 per cent. seigniorage. If these terms give a profitable result in India—which is undoubtedly the case—we see no reason why they should not do the same in Hong Kong. Moreover, if it pays the merchant to buy the Mexican dollar at a premium which has of course paid seigniorage to the Mexican mint, besides an export duty, it must be equally remunerative to him to have his silver coined into Hong Kong dollars; the only difference being that the profit which formerly accrued to Mexico will then accrue to the Mint at Hong Kong. Until the present entirely exceptional state of exchange arose, the value of the Mexican dollar was never lower than the relative price of bar silver, but was on the contrary generally much higher, sometimes to the extent of 6d. per ounce; and there is every probability that the new Hong Kong dollar will now acquire a permanently higher value than that lately averaged by the Mexican. When once the Mint is in operation we are convinced that all doubts as to its remunerativeness will soon be dispelled. One thing is quite certain, that while the Mint is idle the consumption of coal and some other outlays will be in abeyance.

The growing prosperity of the colony during the past few years seems to have been too tempting a bait to be resisted by the Home Government, who snapped at the opportunity of imposing a tax of £20,000 per annum on its revenues for the support of the garrison. Sir HERCULES ROBINSON, shortly before his removal to Ceylon, wrote a despatch requesting that this heavy tax on the resources of the colony might be rescinded; and to this no reply had been received, and the amount, therefore, appears in the estimates as usual. There is, however, a possibility of a favourable answer, in which case a very large item will be removed—wholly or in part—from the debit side of the account.

With regard to the toll proposed to be levied on shipping, the Acting GOVERNOR very properly recommended the Council not to sanction the imposition of any direct tax, which would destroy the character of Hong Kong as a "free port." But inasmuch as it was impossible to ignore entirely the usefulness of the light on the Basses Rocks, the matter appears to have been compromised by voting a round sum of £500 towards its support. Mr. MERCER seems to have fallen into a most unaccountable error in laying this proposition before the Council; he first speaks of a lighthouse on the Basses, and afterwards says, "he has seen somewhere a statement that such "a lighthouse did not exist; but from the papers he has re-"ceived from the Home Government he can only infer that "there really *is* a light upon those rocks." Had His EXCELLENCY taken the trouble to refer carefully to the papers received from the Home Government — among which the QUEEN'S Order in Council must have been included—he would there have seen a distinct statement that a light-*ship*, not a lighthouse, had been established on the Basses. He would thus have avoided the amusing inconsistency of weighing the value of a vague "statement" which he had seen "somewhere" against that of an official document issued by the Home Government. The apparent discrepancy seems to have so puzzled His EXCELLENCY that, after an ineffectual attempt to reconcile the two conflicting ideas, he appears to have "given it up," like an obscure riddle.

DUTCH AGGRESSIONS IN SUMATRA.

FOR some time past the Dutch authorities in the Island of Sumatra, where they have possessions on the West coast, have been insidiously making encroachments on the independent native States on the East coast, evidently with the view of taking the whole island and its inhabitants under their control. At first they went to work in diplomatic fashion, and annexed in a suspiciously quiet, if not underhand manner, some six years ago, the important State of Siak, notwithstanding the Convention of 1824, between the British and Netherlands Governments, securing the independence of all the native States not ceded at that date. Up to the period of this annexation in 1859, an active trade was carried on between Siak and the Straits Settlements, in British manufactures and native produce, according to a liberal tariff arranged by treaty at the time Bencoolen was ceded to Holland by Great Britain, in exchange for Malacca. The consequence of the Dutch arbitrarily superseding the RAJAH in the government of Siak was that the merchandise sent by the traders of Singapore, and the products exported, were subjected to the odious system of double duties which prevails at Java, on all exports or imports other than Dutch. With a dereliction of duty which it is difficult to account for, the then Governor of Singapore, Penang, and the other Straits Settlements (Mr. BLUNDELL), took no notice of this infringement of the Convention; nor even alluded to a despatch of the late Lord PALMERSTON'S, remonstrating with the Dutch for establishing military stations at the ports on the East coast, which led to their withdrawal in 1843. This pusillanimous conduct on the part of the Straits authorities was further taken advantage of by the Dutch taking possession of Delhi, not more than two years ago.

Emboldened by these successes, they endeavoured to extend their encroachments into Assahan, a dependency of the ancient Kingdom of Acheen. However, the RAJAH of that State refused to enter into the arbitrary conditions offered to him, which would virtually deprive him of that independence provided by the Convention of 1824. Finding

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that he would not succumb to threats or promises, the Dutch Government recently fitted out an armed expedition at Rhio, which arrived at the port of Assahan, where the Dutch flag flies over the town; and we learn by the last advices from Singapore that "the RAJAH has been compelled to "fly from his capital and take refuge in the recesses of the "forests of Sumatra, accompanied by a few of his principal "adherents." Now, if this RAJAH and his Government were barbarous and contumacious in their relations with the Dutch or other foreigners desiring to introduce commerce and civilization amongst the people, the case would resolve itself into one of those inevitable encroachments where the world at large would benefit by substituting European for native rule, and, consequently, a better regulated system of trade. Such, however, is not the case. Here was an enlightened native Prince, who ruled with mild sway, and, though not recognising the principles of free trade, yet levied a tariff of duties that was of a more liberal character than any which the Dutch have at their own ports. Under these circumstances an unjustifiable aggression has been made by their aggrandizing neighbours, and a grievous wrong perpetrated on an unoffending and friendly native prince. We all know how easily it is for the stronger to pick a quarrel with the weaker State for the purpose of self-aggrandizement, and in this instance we have a most barefaced example without a shadow of excuse.

But the matter does not rest here. Our interests, if not our honour, is involved in the issue. On the one hand, the British Government is bound to see that the clauses of the Convention, providing for the independence of the native States, are not infringed by the Dutch; and, on the other, that the commerce of the Straits Settlements is not injured by the protective duties of that nation, as established at their own ports, exclusively for their own benefit. The *Penang Gazette* very appropriately remarks on these points, "whether we are to allow the Dutch "to continue their efforts, and annihilate our Sumatra trade, "and placidly leave some of our Penang merchants, who, *rely-*"*ing on British protection*, and treaties with Assahan, have in-"vested large sums of money there, to be returned in native "produce, to have themselves despoiled, or whether we shall "assert our rights, and insist on the withdrawal of the Dutch "forces from the East coast of Sumatra." To these remonstrances the local Government is apparently silent; and no active measures have been taken to protect British interests at the port of Assahan. Under these circumstances a meeting was held on the 29th September, convened by the sheriff, and attended by the most influential merchants of Penang, to take the subject into consideration. A set of resolutions were then passed, with a view to bring the question before the Home Government, that some decisive measures be taken to settle the question finally, viz., what right the Dutch have to control the States on the eastern coast of Sumatra. These resolutions, which we publish in the *London and China Telegraph*, are framed in the best possible spirit, and we trust they will have the desired effect in the proper quarter. We learn also that a memorial to the same effect, signed by the most influential merchants of Singapore, has been forwarded to the Foreign Office. Unfortunately, Parliament is not in session, otherwise the question could be ventilated in the House of Commons, and some explanation obtained from the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. Meanwhile, a deputation of those gentlemen now in England connected or interested in the prosperity of the Straits Settlements will in all probability wait upon Lord CLARENDON, and request his interference with the Netherlands Government in the matter. Irrespective of this, surely there is an impartial member of the Dutch Legislature sufficiently independent and friendly to this country to ask his administration for an explanation. In matters of finance and business we have the highest opinion of the honour and integrity of the Dutch nation, and we hope they will not sully their fair fame in acting in this dishonourable manner towards a weak State in the Far East. The day may come when some strong enemy may try to crush them, and how can they expect leniency in Europe when they give none at Sumatra?

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT OF THE PORT OF GALLE.

A PROJECT for constructing a breakwater at Point de Galle, enlarging its area, providing a graving dock, building wharves and storehouses, connecting the two extremities by tramway, and otherwise providing conveniences for shipping, has been submitted, together with detailed estimates of cost, to the Home Government, for the purpose of securing its assent to the plans so far as to recommend their adoption to the Colonial Government, and to guarantee a given interest on the outlay. That outlay is estimated at somewhat less than half-a-million pounds sterling; but whilst the execution of the entire project is desirable, it is pointed out that it admits of bring carried out progressively in detail, the most imperious requirement being the construction of the eastern breakwater, to protect the harbour from the south-west monsoon. This latter work would enlarge the anchorage ground from 56 to 240 acres, itself an important consideration. A minor feature in the scheme is the removal or levelling of the dangerous rocks that stud this port. Not only is the harbour unsafe and of insufficient area even for present requirements, but the arrangements necessitated for shipment, transhipment, and unloading involve the loss of time and money. So long as the port is in its present condition, the resort of vessels thither must be checked, and the development of Ceylon in various ways be checked. With all its want of safety and positive inconvenience, the tonnage of the harbour is yearly increasing. No less than four lines of steamers, including the Peninsular and Oriental and Messageries Imperiales put in here; steam transports, to and from Europe and the East unfailingly stop at Galle for supplies; and were that harbour provided with a graving dock, hundreds of vessels which now have to make their way to Bombay and Calcutta for repair, would annually enter for this purpose alone. The trade of China and Japan with Australia and the southern Indian Archipelago is increasing the demand for these facilities, which a judicious outlay of capital in improving the harbour accommodation would provide. It will be seen, from the particulars we shall proceed to give of this project, that it assumes a magnitude far beyond what individual enterprise could be expected to undertake, short of an Imperial guarantee, even with the concession of dock, wharfage, and water dues. Such a guarantee at once lays hold of the available capital in our market, and, as to its principle, reasons equally cogent with those that led the British Government to guarantee a percentage on the cost of constructing the great Indian railway lines, applies to this undertaking; which, in its completion, apart from its more general commercial advantages, would properly supplement those improvements in internal communications now being carried out in Ceylon. Although the construction of a tramway from Colombo to Galle is no part of the present project, it is evident that when vessels can be loaded and unloaded along the wharves, by a tramway on the level road between the two—a distance of 72 miles—produce could be brought down to Galle at far less expense than shipping at Colombo. We must premise that we are indebed for the project to Mr. J. J. GRINLINTON, of the civil service, and who, whilst in England, has associated with himself in the preparation of his plans and estimates two distinguished professional gentlemen. The scheme is entitled to the greater confidence from the fact that its author, by personal visits to the Portland breakwater, and consultation with the Government engineers, has availed himself of all the experience acquired in that work.

The proposed Ceylon breakwater consists of a centre at the Mata Mada Rocks, having a channel on each side, the western side of the breakwater running out towards these rocks from the south-eastern bastion of Galle Fort, 1,400 feet, with a wharf on its harbour face of 1,000 feet. The eastern wing would extend from Watering Point 2,400 feet towards the Mata Mada Rocks, with a wharf on its harbour face 1,500 feet in length. These wharves would be provided with a double tramway and sheds. The completed tramway, in circling the entire harbour, would cover a length of 3¼ miles. In examining the financial portion of the scheme we find the estimate for the eastern wing, exclusive of superintendence and supply of plant, with wharf on the harbour face, £194,000; for the western wing £75,000. The cost of the central portion, to include foundation for a lighthouse, will be but £18,500; to which, if we add the cost of a graving dock at Watering Point, £80,000, we reach a total of £337,500. The superintendence and supply of plant on the western side of the breakwater is placed at £23,000, and on the eastern side at £20,000; the blowing up of rocks, £20,000; storehouses on either side, £15,000, minor charges and cost of tramway bringing up the total to £466,950 The cost of material would be economised by the use of timber from Batticaloe for the harbour face and landing stage, and stone from the Crown lands on the eastern side of the harbour. Every accomodation for coaling is provided in the plans, whilst native water and cargo boats will be altogether dispensed with,

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vessels being supplied with water from the usual source by means of hose. The shipment of coal on board vessels will involve but a third of the present cost, thus affording a wide margin of profit. The calculation of returns, according to data provided in the official report of the shipping business of the harbour for the twelve months ending September, 1864, offers a return of nine per cent. on the sum required to carry out the material features of this scheme.

The plan, subject to such official modifications as may be suggested, involves the purchase by the Government of such private land as will be needed for the tramway and necessary stations, and its transfer to the company on payment of cost, with an extension of authorisation to the company to collect harbour and wharfage dues and railway tolls, and to appropriate the same to the benefit of shareholders. We regard the scheme as one which the Home Government would be disposed to regard favourably, even if entailing on it the payment of the guarantee; but we are satisfied that, on the strength of the considerations we have urged, individual capitalists will embark their money on the faith that that percentage will be largely exceeded by the immediate returns, and that the revenue derivable will augment from year to year. Without entering on more statistics, we may state generally that the business of the port of Galle is rapidly increasing; but with this increase, with this greater resort to the port and this enlarging trade, the existing inconveniences are more severely felt. On some occasions vessels have actually to cruise outside waiting for a berth in harbour. With the plan for the improvement of the harbour fully matured, with the money waiting, as it were, to be advanced, it is not fair that individual interests concerned in the Eastern shipping trade should be longer jeopardised, and one of our most prosperous colonies continue unprovided with a sufficient and safe anchorage at her most important outlet. We trust to hear soon that the Ceylon Government have agreed to favour this scheme by all means in its power. We presume that Sir HERCULES ROBINSON was waiting for the advices of the Home Government, or he would have noticed the matter in his address to the Legislative Council.

THE AMERICAN MINISTERS FOR CHINA AND JAPAN.

WE understand that both Mr. Burlinghame and General Pruyn, United States Ministers at the Courts of Peking and Yedo, are likely to return to their respective posts earlier than they originally intended, and, in fact, before the expiration of their leave of absence. Mr. Burlinghame is still in the United States, and General Pruyn is travelling with his family in Italy. Since the foregoing was in type it is announced from Washington that Mr. Chauncey M. Depew has been appointed Minister for Japan.

IN reference to the tax of 1d. per ton levied on vessels passing the light-ship stationed on the Little Basses Rock, Ceylon, we have ascertained that it is not the intention of Government to erect a permanent lighthouse.

Literature.

Peking and the Pekingese; by D. F. RENNIE, M.D., Staff-Surgeon. John Murray, Albermarle-street.*

To all interested in either the history of our relations with China, or the study of Chinese character, the publication of Dr. Rennie's valuable work on *Peking and the Pekingese* is the great literary event of the month. Written in good plain English, and in a lively, unaffected style; founded entirely on the personal experience and observations of the writer; replete with valuable information, and interspersed with incidents and anecdotes of the most amusing character, it must, of necessity, become one of the most popular books in China. Dr. Rennie's narrative takes the form of a daily journal, commencing with the establishment of the English and French Legations in Peking in March, 1861, and concluding with his departure for Shanghai in April, 1862; his regiment (the 31st) being thenceforward employed in the operations requisite to clear a "thirty-mile radius" round Shanghai from the Taipings. The work is a wholesome exception to the numerous book-*making* efforts lately indulged in by travellers in China and Japan. With regard to the latter country especially, a short visit, including a few weeks' stay at one or two of the Treaty Ports, and a trip through the Suwonada, has been deemed sufficient excuse for a bulky volume made up entirely of historical accounts which might be found in any cyclopædia, copious extracts from Thunberg and Kæmpfer, and glowing descriptions of scenery. Dr. Rennie's work is a daily journal of events that occurred during a most interesting period, carefully and conscientiously recorded in an easy, natural style, which in itself is sufficient corroboration of the author's statement that when he came to re-write the narrative for publication he found so few amendments necessary that he was enabled to transcribe almost the whole of it verbatim. Dr. Rennie's position in Peking, bringing him as it did in contact with all classes of natives, afforded more than ordinary opportunities of forming a just estimate of their character, in which he of course received great assistance from the accomplished sinologues connected with the Legations. The estimate thus formed he avows to be much more favourable than that usually entertained by foreigners. He says:—

> I have left the country with the conviction that the Chinese nation, as a whole, is a much less vicious one than, as a consequence of opinions formed from a limited and unfair field of observation, it has become customary to represent it; further, that the lower orders of the people generally are better conducted, more sober and industrious, and, taken altogether, intellectually superior to the corresponding classes of our own countrymen.

We must, however, take exception to the clause which describes the lower classes of Chinese as "intellectually superior" to the corresponding classes of English, although they may be more sober, seeing that the opium pipe in China takes the place of the alcoholic stimulants in use among ourselves. Neither can we endorse the following, which has reference to a dispute between Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, and Co. and the Custom-house authorities at Canton:—

> There are strong grounds for believing that in almost every dispute which arises between ourselves and the Chinese, we are in the first instance in the wrong; but, unfortunately, the Chinese equally invariably adopt the wrong method of putting matters right, and by the time the case becomes one for consular legislation, the original wrong committed by us is entirely lost sight of, and the accumulated errors of the Chinese alone made the subject of consideration; consequently, as a general rule, they get the worst of such appeals, and hence the indignation which Mr. Pedder's promptitude of action has occasioned.

Subsequent revelations have shown that in their differences with the Imperial Customs our merchants were by no means invariably in the wrong. Of the various Celestial magnates who came under Dr. Rennie's observation, Prince Kung was the chief. He is described as being gentleman-like and courteous in demeanour, cordial and friendly in ordinary intercourse, but naturally somewhat reserved in his diplomatic capacity. On one of his visits to the Legation we are told that:—

> Before Wang-se-ang arrived, the Prince took up a European map which they keep in the office, with the names entered in Chinese characters, and pointing to Russia, said, "that is a large country, but it is not enough for them; they came last year and took that from us," placing his fingers on the territory annexed by Russia beyond the Amoor, and when so doing displayed more character and feeling than Mr. Hart has ever noticed before—evidently regarding it as a great wrong which had been done them.

Of Hang-Ki, who was "Hoppo" or Commissioner of Customs at Canton during the *regime* of the allied Commissioners, we have also some interesting particulars:—

> Hang-Ki, one way or another, has had a rather troubled time of it since 1857. Amongst other events, about six months after the capture of Canton, he, along with Pih-kwei, the Governor, installed by the English and French in Yeh's place, were made prisoners, and kept in durance for three months. It was Mr. Parkes who got the affair up, and it was an odd instance of retributive justice that he should afterwards be visited in prison by Hang-Ki, and be in some measure indebted to him for his release. The facts of the case are the following:—"The Allied Commissioners thought that the local authorities (Pih-kwei and Hang-Ki) intended to bolt from Canton, and it was thought desirable to prevent this; at the same time it was considered equally undesirable to make a public seizure of them, as it might lead to a disturbance. Another course, therefore, was adopted. Hang-Ki and Pih-kwei were invited to the yamun of the Allied Commissioners, to discuss certain matters of business, and in the course of conversation they were led on to express the great admiration they had for the English character, and the difficult and dangerous position they had placed themselves in with the populace, by consenting to administer the government in concert with the Allies, and that they were consequently looked upon as traitors, and occasionally hooted in the streets. Having got them thus far, the information was broken to them, that with the view of relieving them from the difficult and painful position in which they appeared to be placed, and further, to relieve them from the suspicion of being traitors, it had been determined by the Allied Commissioners to detain them as prisoners, which they were to consider themselves. As a matter of course, they were horribly disgusted, and really, under the circumstances of their seizure, it was not to be wondered at; as the trick was just such a one as they themselves would play, and consequently, the more acutely felt by them. They were confined in a

* To be obtained of Messrs. Bowra and Co., Hong Kong.

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room in the yamun, and kept there for three months. Mr. Hart visited them the first morning of their imprisonment, and asked them how they had slept. Pih-kwei replied that he was not accustomed to sleep with men with iron-clad feet and clanking fire-arms walking about outside his door. They both professed to be so disgraced by the indignity to which they had been subjected, that they were clamorous to be led to immediate execution, preferring death to dishonour."

Further on, the author says:—

"Respecting Hang-ki, I got the following additional information:—"His salary, while he was Hoppo at Canton, was only two thousand four hundred taels, or eight hundred pounds sterling a-year, that being the salary attached to the office, while eight thousand taels monthly is not unfrequently expended in his yamun; it being customary that a Chinaman, when he gets a good berth, is followed by most of his relations, who live upon him during his tenure of office. Hang-Ki is believed to have made three hundred thousand taels during the time he was at Canton, and to have been squeezed out of one-third of the amount since his return to Peking. When Mr. Hart saw him at Canton, shortly before he left, he told him that he intended investing his money in pawnbroking associations, which are about the most profitable class of investments in China."

The following, which also has reference to Hang-Ki, is an apt illustration of the lamentably low standard of official morality which pervades their whole system:—

Mr. Hart says, that in the most unblushing manner both the Prince and Wan-se-ang declared, that from one of their red-buttoned mandarins down to a tinckchai, or orderly, there is hardly a person in the Government employment they can trust. They profess to be fully impressed with the good fortune which they now enjoy of having foreigners in their employment who speak the truth, and on whose reports they can with confidence act, from the assurance they feel of their being in accordance with facts. The Prince expressed an opinion that they should send a high official, like Wan-se-ang himself, to visit the ports where foreign trade is carried on; and on the latter saying, "Will Hang-Ki do? Shall we send him?' the Prince shook his head, and said, "No, no, he has been too long at Canton. His reports would be pretty sure to be drawn up in accordance with the principles which he took for his guidance when he was collector of customs there."

This, as well as the following extracts, show how completely this corruptness in the administration of the Government has subverted all order, and how philosophically even the most enlightened among the ruling classes resign themselves to the existing state of things:—

Mr. Wade had a visit from Tsun-how, who talked very rationally on public matters, and alluded to a passage in the classics, which says that, "When a system has been too long in operation, it becomes worn out, and requires modification to enable it to endure." "Now," he remarked, "our system is of that nature, and requires modification and change to enable it to continue,"—a very sensible and pertinent observation.

Many interesting details are given of the *coup d'etat*, by which the Council of Regency, appointed to govern during the present Emperor's minority, was overthrown, and Prince Kung installed as Prime Minister. The circumstances attending the execution of the Princes of I and Ching, or rather the act of suicide they were "permitted" to substitute for it, forcibly remind us of the custom of "Haru-kiri" prevailing in Japan. In each case by avoiding a public execution the property of the delinquent is saved from confiscation, and disgrace to his family averted, the difference being that in Japan the act is consummated by means of a short sword worn for the purpose; while in China a silken cord is sent, or supposed to be sent, to the victim by the Emperor.

The sending of the silken cord is a metaphorical expression. No cord is sent them, but immediately on receiving the order to commit suicide they descend to a chamber in the prison of the Imperial Clan Court, where arrangements are made for the purpose, and the machinery of death is kept in readiness. Having mounted on a stool, they request one of the attendants to adjust the noose, and, as soon as this is done, the stool is pulled from under them. In this way died the Princes of I and Ching. The advantage accruing from this mode of death is that it saves their property from confiscation, whereas public decapitation entails the loss of property.

Among much information of a solid and useful nature (though never heavy) these volumes contain numerous lively anecdotes illustrative of the more amusing side of Chinese character. Here is an example:—

Happening to mention to Mr. Hart that Madame de Bourboulon rode out yesterday on horseback, and that it was the first time a *Western female* had been seen on horseback in the streets of the Celestial capital, he mentioned to me an illustration of Chinese wit that lately occurred at Shanghai. A Chinaman from the country happened to come into the foreign settlement, and there, for the first time, saw a European female on horseback. He immediately asked a town friend what had become of her other leg, who, being a wag, replied that she was one of the female barbarian leaders, and that she had lost her leg at the taking of the Taku Forts.

In conclusion, we recommend the book not only to those specially interested in the country of which it treats, but also to the general reader. It is pleasingly illustrated by lithographs from original sketches made by Geo. Hugh Wyndham, Esq.

The Chinese and Japanese Repository for November rather exceeds the usual run of the periodical in the variety of its contents. The "Report of the Peking Hospital and Dispensary for 1864," and the continuation of the "Diary of a Member of the Japanese Embassy in 1862-63," are the papers that will probably be the first turned to by the general reader.

Mr. Stanford, of Charing-cross, has just published a map styled "Military Plan of the Ground around Shanghai, from Surveys made in 1862 to 1865, by Lieutenant-Colonel Gordon, Major Edwards, Lieutenants Sanford, Lyster and Maude, R.E., and Lieutenants Danyell and Bateman, 31st Regiment, Assistant Engineers." We understand that copies have been forwarded for sale to Shanghai.

THE CEYLON COFFEE CROP FOR 1864-5.

The reputation of Ceylon among investors will be increased by the fact that the last season has produced a maximum crop, accompanied by an enhancement, in her own special case, of the value of the berry as compared with last season's prices, and this with an actual decline in the consumption of coffee in England. The last crop amounts to no less than 876,097 cwt., the quantity shipped at last advices, comprising 607,734 cwt. of plantation and 268,363 cwt. of native.* In the distribution of this crop, Great Britain receives 821,086 cwt., France being the next largest customer to the amount of 25,135 cwt., followed by Australia and the United States; which latter country, owing mainly to the resumption of her China trade, takes a fourth less than in 1864, being credited for the year with but 9,939 cwt. The increase of the French demand, as shown by the direct exports, amounting to 25,135 cwt., an amount largely exceeding any shipment since the very exceptional one of 1861, and to which is to be added the supplies that cross the channel from this country, constitutes a most encouraging feature, as showing a compensatory influence at work for that decline in consumption which this country exhibits.

Although the deliveries of coffee from all quarters in the United States have largely increased the present year, the stock on hand in October was 5,000 tons below the average of the last five years, showing increased consumption. We may, therefore, look to America as well as the Continent for a reduction in the present European stock, amounting to 87,420 tons, being an excess of 19,726 over the amount on hand at the same date last year. Ceylon may be congratulated on having comparatively gained on the coffee product of Java the last year; that is to say, the excess which Java has to show is less than ever, having been for the past season but 395,000 cwt. The Java yield, it must be remembered, is likely to be shortly increased by the transfer to a Dutch company, for purposes of cultivation, of a large area of crown lands; and, indeed, the late increased yield is attributable not only to a favouring season, but the removal of certain restrictions. We find the coffee crop of Ceylon for the same periods 1864-5, one-third that of Brazil, a proportion of which Ceylon may be justly proud. Brazil has cultivated coffee on a large scale since 1821, and the Netherlands India from the middle of the last century; whilst Ceylon, which has made coffee a prime article for only 28 years, can already show a season's crop of 876,000 cwt. against 1,271,000 cwt. of Java, and 2,531,000 of Brazilian produce. The total annual supply of the three countries has thus been raised to 4,678,000 cwts. Allowing for the additional investments of capital, and the enlarged area of forest land brought under cultivation, we may place the yield of Ceylon next season at 950,000 cwt. The high prices commanded for choice samples of plantation Ceylon, and its increasing Continental estimation, together with the late advance from 6d. to 1s. on the finer and well-selected descriptions, afford an amount of encouragement that will certainly have its effect on investors, indicating, as it does, that any future tendency to a fall in prices from supply overtaking demand, will first be felt in the stocks of Java and Brazil, and that a portion even of the existing demand—owing to the displacement now going on—will be more and more largely filled up by Ceylon supplies. On the other hand, improved internal communications will cheapen the cost of delivery at Colombo, and those increased financial facilities which cannot be long delayed, added to improved skill in cultivation, will enable the producer to realise as profit a greater proportion of market value.

The coffee production of Ceylon must be immensely augmented with the opening up of the Lower Badulla Road, the extension of the railway to Gampolla, with a branch line to Nawalapettia, thence to Dickoya, with a tramway across Saffragram and Rackwane to the Gongalla and Mooroowa Korle districts. In this enlargement of enterprise, the coffee companies already formed and yet to be formed in London will no doubt take a prominent lead. For the present, and pending the carrying out those improvements to which we have referred, great attraction is offered to investors by the Matella Coffee Estates Company. Even without a railway to Matella, the advantages are very great. The estimated dividend, 12 per cent. of which is guaranteed, will be quite a prize in the money market when realised, whilst it is evident that when the projected railway is *un fait accompli* the value of the estates comprised in its operations must be much increased.

PIRACY IN CHINA.—The *Daily Telegraph* says:—We quite agree with the China houses, that an end must be put to these vermin of the sea. Their depredations are growing bolder and more cruel, for they never spare a prisoner. They gut a ship of all available cargo, scuttle or set fire to her, stave in the boats, and leave those of the crew whose throats they have overlooked to sink or be burned alive with the vessel. It seems to us that, instead of the desultory warfare which has been pursued against the wretches, a flying squadron of Her Majesty's vessels in the China waters ought to be detached to root them out. Of course it is difficult, but that is why the work should be done thoroughly; and the proper course would be simply to find the right man for an organised expedition along the coast. A really good officer, with small vessels, of his own selecting and arming, would know how to go about the business. He would soon have spies and

* Since the foregoing was written we have been advised of the further shipment from Colombo of 2,110 cwt. Plantation, and 5,884 cwt. Native in all, 7,994 cwt., bringing up the total of the shipments for 1864-65 to 884,091 cwt.

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agents at the coast ports; he would play all sort of tricks to bring the villains out, disguising his ships, or dropping past their stations in a well armed merchantman. He would ask for handy, light steam launches—such as the French build so well—to run up the creeks after the water rats. He would use shot and shell, the torch and the rope, without being bothered about responsibility, except to satisfy his own conscience that he made no mistake between honest men and knaves. It would be better if the thing were carried out, in the same way, as far as the Straits and around Borneo. It is an immense hunting field, we know, and the game is as thick as jackals, and as hard to get at; but a year or two of real earnest labour among these human pests would be a permanent blessing to the traders of the East, and a lasting caution to those leather-coloured buccaneers, who should, once for all, be taught a lesson in the superior safety of rice-growing, under a new course of tuition, with gunboats for for agricultural mentors.

THE TELEGRAPH TO INDIA, CHINA, AND AUSTRALIA.—At a meeting of the Institution of Civil Engineers held on the 14th inst., a paper was read "The Telegraph to India, and its Extension to Australia and China," by Sir Charles Tilston Bright, M.P., M. Inst. C.E. After referring to the previous attempts to establish telegraphic communication with India by the Red Sea, and alluding to the causes of the failure of that enterprise, the author proceeded to describe the steps taken by the Government to carry out the line through Mesopotamia and by the Persian Gulf to Kurrachee, which is now in daily operation, connecting England with Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, and all the principal towns of India, and extending as far to the eastward as Rangoon. The opening of the entire line between Europe and India was delayed until the end of February in the present year, when a telegram was received in London from Kurrachee in eight hours and a-half. This was speedily followed by numerous commercial messages to and fro, and a large remunerative traffic is now daily passing. The author, however, complained of the delays and errors arising upon the Turkish portion of the line, between Constantinople and Belgrade; the service on the portion of the line worked by the Indian Government, between India and the head of the Gulf, being performed rapidly and efficiently. The difficulties encountered by Major Champain, R.E., in the construction of the Persian telegraph, between Teheran, Ispahan, Shiraz, and Bushire, were described, and the loss of the late Colonel Patrick Stewart, R.E., and his devoted services, were feelingly alluded to. In considering the extension of telegraphic communication from Rangoon to China and Australia, the author entered upon a narration of the advantages and otherwise of the several plans proposed; and considered, although part of the line in the Malay Peninsula and elsewhere might be taken by land, that the speediest and most reliable means of carrying the object into effect would be found in the submergence of submarine cables, if properly constructed and laid. It was thought that a line might be carried, in a comparatively short time, from Rangoon to Singapore, thence to Batavia, joining the Dutch land lines there, and passing from the south-eastern extremity of Java to Timor, onwards to the Australian coast, whither the Australian land lines were rapidly advancing, and would be erected to meet the cable. From Singapare a line could be carried to China, touching at Saigon, or the Peninsula might be crossed at Mergni, and the sea line be carried thence across the Gulf of Siam.

JUDGE CHISHOLM ANSTEY.—A certain portion of the press in Bombay are pouring out "vials of wrath" on the devoted head of Mr. Anstey (late Attorney-General at Hong Kong), who has been practising for some years in Bombay as a barrister but now raised to the Bench. The fact is Mr. Anstey is too severe for the easy, greasy style of financial concocters and others with which Bombay has abounded. We are not at all surprised, therefore, to find that he is unpopular. Thoroughly honest people, as a rule, are not popular in India. The following is an extract from one of the Bombay papers:—"The events of the Criminal Sessions, which commenced on Monday the 25th of September and were brought to a close last Tuesday evening, will long be remembered in Bombay. If Mr. Justice Anstey betrayed in the Insolvent Court qualities unbecoming the dignity of the Bench to which he was so lately raised, he has afforded unmistakable proof during the late Sessions of total want of fitness to perform the functions of a Criminal Judge. A follower of the practices of the notorious Judge Jeffries is quite out of place on the Bench of a British court of justice in the nineteenth century, nevertheless the public of Bombay have certainly been listening to judgments of late which none but a Jeffries or an Anstey would have thought of delivering. A total absence of that discrimination which is one of the noblest characteristics of a wise dispenser of the law's awards has almost invariably marked the sentences adjudged during the late Criminal Session, and the true interests of society have suffered in consequence. The Indian penal code is certainly a formidable weapon, and the powers it confers may be most egregiously abused by a judge whose stock of patience is too small to allow him to temper his decisions adequately. If a blacksmith had only one standard of hardness for all the steel he worked, the majority of the tools he turned out of his hands would be useless. And a parallel case can be drawn with respect to a judge. If he dips his pen invariably into gall, and records the extreme penalty of the law indiscriminately in every case, his judgments will do grievous harm to the cause of justice. And we must say that Judge Anstey has erred excessively on the side of severity in a very large proportion of the cases in which he decreed the punishments of the late High Court trials."

COMMERCIAL IMPROVEMENT IN BOMBAY.—The sudden advance in the price of cotton has restored a good degree of animation to business in Bombay. When a fortnight ago the high prices in the Liverpool market were quoted here there was great excitement. Very large quantities of cotton changed hands, and in a few cases enormous gains were realised. There has recently been greater quietness, mainly because all the cotton available has been purchased, and little reliance could be placed on the quality of that to hand. The supplies from Dharwar, and the remoter districts of Berar, are only now beginning to arrive; it is said that the cotton from the former district is even finer in quality than ever before. The shares in all the better joint-stock undertakings have advanced; but there is little speculation, and there seems every prospect of a return of sound prosperity to Western India. The Financial Association of India and China—the first of similar institutions established in Bombay—has just declared the results of a special investigation into its affairs. There is disclosed thereby a loss of nearly 14 lacs (£140,000) during the last six months; for meeting which the whole of the reserve fund (£100,000) and two-thirds of the profit and loss balance have to be set aside. As, however, the capital of the company is shown to be still intact, confidence in it is fully restored, and the shares are quoted at a premium. Of the total assets of the company (£1,020,000) upwards of £900,000 stand as "loans, bills discounted," &c., but those items have been examined by reliable auditors. A great number of the more recently formed and smaller monetary companies are being wound up after a laborious and fitful manner.

ETHNOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AMONG INDIAN MOUNDS, BY DR. MACGOWAN.—Acting Surgeon Macgowan has just returned from the Great Council lately held in the Indian Territory, whither he was sent by Secretary Harlan, having been detailed by the Secretary of War at the request of the American Geographical Statistical Society to make certain ethnological observations. On his way back he visited, at the request of the American Ethnological Society, the Indian mounds at Newark, Ohio, to make inquiries concerning the alleged disinterment of effigies bearing Hebrew inscriptions. Without committing himself fully on the subject he reports that the evidence is strong as to the genuineness or authenticity of the effigies which were discovered several years ago, and that one of them appears to be of Chinese workmanship, while there is slight room for doubt as to those which have just been disinterred. The question of their antiquity requires further investigation. The mounds at Coshocton, Ohio, which contain bones, and have been described as belonging to an extinct race of Indians, prove to be merely the burial grounds of Moravian missionaries, who resided there about a century ago. At Newark there have been recently discovered traces of an extensive system of drainage, evidently of the period of the Mound Indians, and indicating larger population and higher civilisation than antiquaries have hitherto supposed.

MADAME DE BOURBOULON.—Intelligence has reached us of the death of Madame de Bourboulon, wife of M. de Bourboulon, formerly French Minister at Peking. The sad event took place on the 11th instant at Chateau Clairvaux, Loiret (near Orleans), where she was staying, with her husband, on a visit to a friend. The cause of death was an attack of pleurisy, which manifested itself suddenly on the 4th instant, and terminated fatally in exactly one week. Our readers in China will recollect that Madame de Bourboulon went out to China with her husband when he was first accredited to that country in 1852, and spent some years in Macao. In 1861 after Mr. Bruce and M. de Bourboulon had proceeded to Peking and established their respective Legations, Madame de Bourboulon speedily joined her husband there, being the first European lady who ever resided within the precincts of the Imperial City. Here she remained until her return with M. de Bourboulon in 1862, since which time she has resided in France. Madame de Bourboulon was a Scotchwoman by birth, her father being a gentleman of considerable landed property, Mr. Macleod, of Harris. She was married to M. de Bourboulon in Washington, where he was Secretary of Legation.

APPOINTMENTS.—The Queen has been pleased to approve of M. Gustave Schunoff as Consul at Capetown for his Majesty the King of Prussia; and M. P. H. Paul Auschitzky, as Consul at Akyab for His Majesty the King of the Belgians. The Queen has been pleased to approve Mr. James Whittall as Consul-General at Hong Kong for the King of the Hawaiian Islands. The Queen has been pleased to appoint the Right Hon. Henry Austin Bruce to be Second Church Estates Commissioner, in the room of the Right Hon. Edward Pleydell Bouverie, resigned. The Queen has been pleased to confer the honour of Knighthood upon Robert Lush, Esq., Serjeant-at-Law, one of the Justices of the Court of Queen's Bench; upon Edward Hildi tch, Esq., M.D., Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets; and upon John Campbell Lees, Esq., late Chief Justice of the Bahamas.

THE JAPANESE IN FRANSE.—(FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.)—The movements of the Japanese commissioners here are watched with so much interest that the old story of the three black crows seems to apply to them. They have been to Brest, and were recently at Nantes. At the former place they engaged about sixty engineers and masons to proceed to Japan with them; this fact was magnified into an engagement of from a thousand to twelve hundred *ouvriers* of all trades, and the three black crows thus created made the round of the French press before the exaggeration was corrected. The commissioners after their return to Paris are to visit Vichy and study the organisation of that Imperial pleasure village, with its hot and cold saline draughts, with a view to the creation of a similar establishment at Akama, where excellent thermal springs are said to exist.

THE SUEZ CANAL.—The financial arrangements connected with the Suez Canal scheme are threatened with further complications. It is rumoured that the Ottoman Government refuses to adhere to the judgment given by Napoleon III. "Nothing is more surprising," says one of our French contemporaries, "than that the Government of the Viceroy should have chosen the Emperor as arbitrator." It appears certain that France will not yield, for the French Minister of Foreign Affairs has declared that the Imperial judgment must serve as a base for all negotiations having reference to future engagements.

WRITERSHIPS IN CEYLON.—The Vice-Chancellor has informed the resident members of the University that Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies is about to nominate a limited number of candidates to compete for four writerships in Ceylon, and has invited the Vice-Chancellor to recommend to him any members of the University, not more than three, of deserving character, to be included in the list. A paper, explaining the nature of the appointments and the scheme of examination, will be sent to the head of each college, and also to the office of the Registrary of the University at the Pitt Press.

DEPARTURE OF TROOPS FOR CEYLON—CHATHAM, Nov. 16.—This morning a detachment of the 2nd battalion of the 25th (King's Own Borderers) Regiment, numbering 102 non-commissioned officers and men, together with drafts for the Ceylon Rifle regiment, and the Army Hospital corps, embarked at Gravesend on board the chartered troopship *Isabella*, for conveyance to Colombo, Ceylon, to reinforce the service companies of their respective corps. The following officers embarked with the detachments:—Lieutenant C. F. Barnardiston, and Lieutenant

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C. D. Swete and wife, 25th Regiment; Lieutenant H. R. Fenwick, and Lieutenant J. B. Pilkington and wife, Ceylon Rifles; and Staff-Assistant-Surgeon O'Farrell in medical charge.

REINFORCEMENTS FOR COCHIN-CHINA.—We noticed in our last that the steam transport *l'Ardeche* had sailed from Toulon. The men conveyed by her are to be transferred at Suez to the transport *Orne*, and consist of 800 marines, several brothers of the Christian schools, twenty operative artillerymen, and a number of civil servants.

THE American bishopric in China, which recently became vacant by the death of Bishop Boone, has been conferred on the Rev. William Channing Moore Williams, who has been for many years a missionary in China and Japan. The English Bishopric of Victoria (Hong Kong) has not yet been filled up.

SOME of the Satsuma students, under the care of Professor Williamson, have visited the several factories and workshops of the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, accompanied by the superintendents of the various departments.

Naval and Military.

Vice-Admiral Sir Horatio Austin's death will promote to the rank of Rear-Admiral on the active list Captain Thomas Fisher, and to the same rank on the retired list Captain Cospatrick Baillie Hamilton. The good service pension held by Captain Fisher will be at the disposal of the Duke of Somerset, who will very probably confer it on Captain William King Hall, C.B., an officer of distinguished merit, and to whom the country is still a heavy debtor for unrequited services in China and in the Baltic.

An exceedingly good portrait of Admiral Sir Michael Seymour has been published by Messrs. Griffin and Co., of Portsea.

Orontes, 2, Captain H. W. Hire, arrived at Ascension from England on the 20th of October, and left on the 21st for China.

An examination of the various iron plates submerged, upwards of twelve months since, in Chatham harbour, each coated with one of the numerous anti-fouling compositions, was instituted by the officials of the establishment, when, with a single exception of a pair of plates coated with Gisborne's anti-fouling mercurial mixture, the whole were more or less thickly coated with shellfish and seaweed, while on the plates treated with mercurial mixture scarcely a mussel was to be seen, excepting in place where the paint had been rubbed off. As many as eight different compositions were tested.

With reference to a list of vessels authorised to wear the blue ensign, it will be remembered that the Navy now uses the white ensign exclusively and that the change was made soon after the claims of the Naval Reserve officers to carry the blue were favourably listened to at the Admiralty.

New kettledrums have been presented to the 17th Lancers by Mr. G. Brudenell-Bruce and Lady Evelyn Bruce. The drums and standards or bannerets are of silver; the bannerets bear the motto of the regiment, composed of a "death's head and cross bones" in silver, encircled by a garter on which are inscribed the words "Death or glory."

Her Majesty's ship Vestal has been successfully launched at Pembroke Dockyard. The christening was performed by Mrs. Loring, wife of Capt. Loring, the superintendent of the yard. The Vestal is intended as a despatch vessel.

The Salamis, paddle despatch-vessel, 835 tons, 250-horse power, Commander Francis G. Suttie, now at Portsmouth, is ordered to be paid out of commission and recommissioned on the same day by her present commander for service in the China and Japanese seas. The Salamis is a vessel of great speed, and will prove a most efficient addition to the fleets of China and Japan.

The launch of Her Majesty's screw steam frigate Endymion took place on Saturday at Deptford, under the superintendence of Mr. Ladd, master shipwright of the establishment. Ample arrangements had previously been made in anticipation of a large number of visitors, of whom it was calculated there were 10,000 present.

At Deptford-green Dockyard—which has become a branch of the Millwall Ironworks—Mr. Charles Lungley launched the iron-cased, twin-screw gunboat Vixen, for Her Majesty's navy. She is an interesting experiment of the combination-of-wood-and-iron principle.

The Duke of Somerset has conferred the captain's good service pension rendered vacant by the promotion of Rear-Admiral Thomas Fisher, on Captain E. A. Inglefield. Vice-Admiral Sir Sydney C. Dacres has been ordered to Portsmouth, where the Edgar will be put out of commission, and the Admiral's flag will be struck immediately in consequence of his promotion. Rear-Admiral Frederick, whose flag is flying at Queenstown, will have temporary command of the Channel squadron, until a successor has been nominated to Vice-Admiral Sir. S. C. Dacres.

Mr. John S. Harper has been appointed Naval and Victualling Store-keeper and Accountant at Trincomalee, vice Astley Paston Cooper, to Chatham.

Major-General Sir C. Van Straubenzee, who has been acting Commander-in-Chief in Bombay, returns home on the arrival out of Sir Robert Napier. His divisional command will, in all probability, be filled by Brigadier-General Frank Adams, C.B., now commanding a brigade at Aldershot. Brigadier Adams had formerly commanded a brigade in the Bombay Presidency, which he gave up last spring, on the return of his regiment, the 28th, to England.

WAR-OFFICE, Nov. 10.—10th Foot: Ensign Nicholas Edward Carr to be Lieutenant, without purchase, vice Chaigneaux Colville Parkinson, deceased, September 16; Ensign Edward George Green to be Lieutenant, by purchase, vice J. J. Kennedy, whose promotion on October 20 has been cancelled; Ensign Thomas Orton to be Lieutenant, by purchase, vice Richard Stephen Burgess, who retires; Ensign William Cooke, from the 16th Foot, to be Ensign, vice Carr; Augustus George Bridge, Gent., to be Ensign, by purchase, vice Orton. 11th Foot: Lieutenant Christopher Garcia, from the 89th Foot, to be Lieutenant, vice E. H. Vaughton, who exchanges; Staff Assistant Surgeon Denis Joseph Canny to be Assistant Surgeon, vice R. T. Scott, appointed to the Staff. 25th Foot: Hamlet Wade Thompson, Gent., to be Ensign, by purchase, vice Edward Law Durand, transferred to the 96th Foot. 96th Foot: Ensign Edward Law Durand, from the 25th Foot, to be Ensign, vice Paul H. Caradoc Bettridge, who retires. 99th Foot: Major Charles Blamire to Lieutenant-Colonel, without purchase, vice Brevet Colonel G. M. Reeves, C.B., promoted Major-General; Captain and Brevet Major Patrick Johnston to be Maior without purchase, viee Blamire, Oct. 24; Sergeant Major Joseph Short to be Quartermaster, vice John Johnston, deceased. Medical Department: Assistant Surgeon Robert Thomas Scott, from the 11th Foot, to be Staff Assistant Surgeon, vice D. J. Canny, appointed to the 11th Foot.

BREVET.—The undermentioned promotions to take place in succession to Lieutenant-General Sir John Bennett Hearsey, K.C.B., Colonel, 21st Hussars, who died on October 23:—

Major-General William Frederick Forster, Military Secretary to the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief, and Colonel of the 81st Foot, to be Lieutenant-General, October 24.

Brevet Colonel Richard Chetwode, Captain, half pay, 3rd Dragoon Guards, to have the rank of Major-General, October 24.

Brevet Colonel John Parson Westropp, Captain, half-pay, Unattached, to have the rank of Major-General, October 24.

Brevet Colonel George Marmaduke Reeves, C.B., from Lieutenant-Colonel, 99th Foot, to be Major-General, October 24.

ADMIRALTY, Nov. 23.—The following flag promotions, dated the 17th instant, consequent on the death, on the 16th inst., of Vice-Admiral Sir Horatio Thomas Austin, K.C.B., have this day taken place:—Rear-Admiral Sir Sydney Colpoys Dacres, K.C.B., to be vice-admiral; Captain Cospatrick B. Hamilton to be rear-admiral on the Reserved List; Captain Thomas Fisher to be rear-admiral; Retired Captain William Louis Sheringham to be retired rear-admiral, under the provisions of the Orders in Council of August 1, 1860, and July 9, 1864.

CEYLON RIFLES.—Lieutenants Fenwick and Pilkington have sailed for Ceylon to join head-quarters.

25TH REGIMENT.—Ensign Alfred James, 2nd battalion, was accidentally drowned at Colombo, on the 14th ult., in endeavouring to save the life of a native. The deceased, who was in his 21st year, was third son of the late General J. P. James, H.M. Indian Army, and entered the service 8th July, 1862. Lieutenants Barnardiston and Swete, of the 2nd Battalion, have sailed for Ceylon to join head-quarters.

Monetary and Commercial.

By the last mail from Bombay the Bank of Hindustan shares are quoted at £5 premium. It appears that all sound banking and other shares are gradually rising from the late low quotations produced by the collapse of the cotton mania. It would now pay very well to purchase shares at the London quotation of £6 discount for sale in India, where the real working of the concern is more easily known than in London. The quotation of the Commercial Bank has steadily risen to £6 premium.

The directors of the P. and O. Steam Company have decided to recommend, at the annual meeting on the 5th of December, a dividend for the half-year of 3½ per cent., and a distribution from the underwriting account of 3 per cent., making, with the half-yearly dividend of 3½ per cent. paid in June, a total of 10 per cent. for the year.

The following account of the cause of delay in the transmission of messages by the Persian Gulf leaves nothing to be wondered at in regard to the irregularities so often complained of. We understand that our Government has made urgent representations to the Porte to rectify such avoidable delay:—

The section of the line from Constantinople to Bagdad consists of only two wires, one of which is almost always out of order. The Government itself occupies the other for fifteen hours out of the twenty-four, so that al that remains to Europe, official and commercial, is the use of one wire for nine hours a day. An effort was made recently to put up a third wire, but the operators forgot the insulators, and nailed the wire to the posts, making it, of course, quite useless. At the same time, the Turkish Government is most jealous of European interference with the wire, and will not in any case surrender its exclusive right of control. The only chance is to convince the Vizier that he is losing revenue by the mismanagement of the line, and even then he will have to contend with the passive resistance of subordinates who cannot understand why the people in round hats should be always in such a hurry.

The Messageries Imperiales Company has made an issue of 10,000 bonds, being half the number authorised in 1861. They are to be of 500f. each, and half of the amount is to be paid on subscribing. They are to bear 6 per cent., and to be reimbursed at par in 1880. Shareholders are to be admitted to subscribe in preference to the public, at the rate of one bond for ten shares. The Company also announces the payment of 20f. per share on account of dividend for 1865.

The biddings for £350,000 in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were:—To Calcutta, £263,800; to Madras, £1,500; and to Bombay, £100,000. The *minimum* price was, as before, 1s. 11½d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11¾d. on Bombay. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 2s. will receive in full, and on Bombay at 2s. 0¼d. about 20 per cent. Above these prices in full. These terms show an increase in the demand for means of remittance to the East.

The share list of the Matella Coffee Estates Company (Limited), will be closed to-morrow the 29th inst.

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The following notice has been published at Paris :—

"The Minister of Commerce informs French silkworm breeders and merchants, that, in order to prevent frauds in the trade in the grain of silkworms coming from Japan, it has been decided that the Minister of France in that country shall impose a special stamp, varying every year, and bearing the date of the year, on the cocoons of grain of silkworks destined for France, for which that guarantee may be demanded. By the imposition of this stamp the Government does not mean to guarantee the quality or source of the said grain, but only to certify that the boards on which it is deposited have been purchased in Japan."

Messrs. Walsh and Co., of Japan, announce through their agent in Paris that they will import, in December and January a quantity of silkworm seed.

The proposition alluded to in a late issue in reference to the regular transmission—by a special company—of telegrams via Kiachta to China, has been postponed indefinitely. Until the line from St. Petersburg to Kiachta is secured against the present delays it is practically useless. No result has transpired as to the negotiations between Russia and China for a line across Mongolia to Peking.

It is notified that Mr. J. Mackrill Smith, of the firm of Mackrill, Smith and Co., of Old Broad-street, has joined the board of the London and Provincial Marine Insurance Company.

We are informed that the accounts of the Blakely Ordnance Company have just been examined by Messrs. Chatteris and Nichols, the accountants, and that they show a profit of £56,982. 11s. 9d. for the year ending June 30 last.

The Bombay Chamber of Commerce had a special meeting on the rights of banks to hold shipping documents on the amount of the bill being tendered, as recently illustrated by the Asiatic and Central Banks in a case with Messrs. Dadabhai Naoriji and Co. After some discussion the following resolution was adopted unanimously :—

"Resolved, that in the opinion of the Chamber the course adopted by the Asiatic Banking Corporation and the Central Bank of Western India in refusing to receive payment of bills from any of the parties to the same, and to deliver up shipping documents hypothecated to those banks as collateral security therefore, is contrary to mercantile usage, and tends to obstruct business and interfere with mercantile confidence. That the Chamber leave the committee to take whatever steps they may consider necessary for the protection of its members and the public."

The Messageries Imperiales steamer, from Marseilles on the 19th, took 104 passengers, and £366,520 in specie, for India and China; and 68 passengers and £13,480 in specie for Alexandria.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Tanjore*, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was :—In gold, to Madras, £1,325. In silver, to Hong Kong, £3,000; to Shanghai, £1,454; to Hobson's Bay, £1,000. Total, in gold, £1,325; in silver, £5,454.

BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices Nov. 10.
£20	Asiatic Bank Corporation, new shares	£5	19 to 21 xd.	18 to 20xd.
50	Agra and Masterman's	25	56 to 57	56 to 58
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	23½ to 24½	23½ to 24½
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	48 to 50	48 to 50
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	30½ to 31½	30 to 31
20	Eastern Exchange	5	1⅛ to ⅛ dis.	1⅛ to ⅛ dis.
50	London Joint Stock	15	50 to 51	50 to 51
100	London and Westminster	20	97 to 99	98 to 100
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	50 to 52	48 to 50
50	Union of London	15	53 to 54	53 to 54
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	18 to 20	18 to 20
100	Do. Issued at 2 pm.	25	17 to 19	18 to 20
100	Do. New	25	17 to 19	18 to 20
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	4½ to 3½ dis.	4 to 3 dis.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	30 to 31	30 to 32
100	Bank of London	50	139½ to 142½	139 to 142
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	⅛ to ⅜ pm.xd.	⅛ to ⅜ pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3½ to 4½	3½ to 4½
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	72 to 74	73 to 75
50	Do. New	35	16 to 18 pm.	16 to 18pm.
20	China Steamship & Labuan Coal Co.	5	—	—
5	Bombay Gas	All	5½ to 6	5⅞ to 6½
10	Hong Kong Gas	All	1½ to 2½ pm.	1½ to 2⅝ pm.
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	12	4 to 3 dis.	4 to 3 dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company	1½	¼ dis. to par	¼ dis. to pa
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	18½ to 19½	18 to 19
5	Oriental Gas	All	5⅛ to 6	5⅛ to 6
10	O. Inland Steam	All	1 to 2	1 to 2
100	West India Steam Company	60	113 to 116	115 to 117
20	Ceylon Company	7	3½ to 3¾ pm.	3½ to 3¾ pm.
20	Do. A shares	2	½ to 1 pm.	½ to 1 pm.
20	International Finance Society	5	1 to 1½ pm.	1 to 1½ pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	2½ to 2¾ pm.	2½ to 2¾ pm.
50	London Financial Association	15	6⅞ to 7 pm.	6¾ to 7¼ pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	1 to ¼ dis.	1⅛ to ¼ dis.
20	Société Financière d'Egypte	10	5 to 4 dis.	5 to 4 dis.
20	Hudson's Bay Company	All	15¾ to 16¼	15 to 15½
10	Upper Assam Tea	4⅛	1½ to 2½ pm.	2 to 3 pm.
10	Do.	All	13 to 15	14 to 17

Advices from New York state that a vessel had arrived at San Francisco with 320 cases of Japanese eggs destined for the French market. The estimated value of this consignment is 400,000 francs, or £16,000.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—A large amount of business has been done both in old and new season's Teas at fully previous prices for almost all descriptions, the trade being the chief buyers, although several chops of fine Moning have been taken for export to Russia. The first-class and some of the second-class Kaisows, per Lauderdale, leave a profit of 8d. to importers. Broken-leaf and dusty kinds of Congou have been in fair request; a few parcels recently to hand have sold at from 9d. to 11d. per lb. Fair to good common have been firmly maintained. The fair to good flavory kinds of old import have have been readily saleable at the full advance last quoted. Further supplies of medium to fine Kaisows have arrived; a large proportion have been sold at prices which show an advance of ½d. to 1d. per lb., those up to 2s. 4d. per lb. being the dearest. Common to fair blackish-leaf of old import remain as before, with a moderate demand; the medium kinds have been sold freely at very full prices, especially the better Chops. In new Monings and Wopaks a large business has been done, and prices have been fully maintained. New-make Canton have been in request, and prices have advanced about 1d. per lb. Oolongs have been wanted, at fully former rates. In Souchongs there has been a fair amount of business; some fine, recently arrived, have realised about 3s. per lb. Flowery Pekoes continue difficult of sale. Scented Capers have been rather more in demand at the reduced rates last quoted. In Orange Pekoes there has been a fair business done at previous prices. Uncoloured Japans maintain their position, the supply on offer being limited. Indian Teas have sold at Public Sale with great spirit at an advance of 2d. to 3d. Further sales are advertised for the 28th instant. In Green Teas there has been a fair amount of business done, there having been some heavy arrivals, amounting to about 900,000 lbs. Prices for some kinds have given way, but a fair amount of sales have been made at the reduction, which may be quoted 1d. to 2d. per lb. on Young Hysons, Imperials, and Gunpowders. Hysons have also sold about 1d. to 2d. per lb. lower, especially for the commoner kinds. There has been a large business done in Canton Gunpowders at an advance of 2d. to 3d. per lb., partly owing to speculative purchases. Young Hysons have also advanced 1d. to 2d. per lb.; fine are very scarce.

SILK.—We have had a fair amount of business in China silk since last mail, and prices have continued to improve; in one instance 31s. 6d. has been paid for classic No. 3 Tsatlee, but this can hardly be considered the current market value. Japan silk has been in good demand, and for Mibash of really superior quality, importers ask very high rates. Deliveries from 1st to 24th inclusive: China, 2,869 bales; Japan, 686 do.; total, 3,555 bales. Quotations: Tsatlee No. 1, 32s. 6d. to 33s.; No. 2, 31s. 6d. to 32s.; No. 3, 30s. 6d. to 31s. 6d. Mibash and Sinchew No. 1, 34s. 6d. to 36s.; No. 2, 33s. to 34s.; No. 3, 32s. to 33s.; 4 and inferior, 30s. to 31s. 6d.

COTTON.—There was an improved demand in the London market on the 18th, especially for cotton afloat, and ¼d. to ½d. per lb. advance was obtained; but the American news received on the 20th depressed the market, and prices have fallen 1d. per lb., so that although the reduction of the Bank rate to 6 per cent. caused a firmer feeling, the present quotations for cotton on the spot are about ½d. below those of the 17th. Of Tinnivelly 40 bales were sold during the week at 16d. for fair, and 150 bales Japan fair at 17d. The Percy Douglas has arrived in the Thames from Tuticorin with 3,102 bales. The stock in London on the 23rd was, of China and Japan, 2,330 bales, against 22,472 last year; and the total stock of all kinds 40,720 bales, against 113,079 in 1864. Of cotton afloat to Europe on the 24th there were 14,827 bales of Ceylon and Tuticorin, against 34,474 last year. The week's report of the Liverpool Market is as follows:—Total sales of the week, 51,080 bales, including 6,880 on speculation, and 10,850 declared for export, actual export, 11,689 bales. Trade, 33,350 bales. Import and received, 120,728 bales. Stock increased 75,680 bales. Total estimated stock, 369,819 bales; same date last year, 466,120 bales. Quotations: Middling Upland, 19½d., fair Egyptian, 21d.; fair Dhollerah, 16½d.; Mobile, 19¼d.; Orleans, 20d.; Bengal, 11½d.; China, 15½d.

SUGAR.—The flatness prevailing at the close of the week ending the 18th continued unabated in the early part of that just passed, and only trifling sales were effected at a reduction of about 6d. per cwt.; but there was a firmer tone at the close of the week, and business has been done at rather better prices than obtainable on the 18th. 456 bags Penang grainy yellow sold at 35s. to 36s. per cwt.

COFFEE.—The demand for colonial descriptions continues good. During the past week 1,400 casks. 1,270 barrels and bags Plantation Ceylon, at public sale, were all sold at fully former rates—fine ordinary to low middling, 77s. to 83s.; middling to good middling, colory, 84s. to 90s.; and 1,450 bags Native went rather dearer; good ordinary, 69s.; fine ordinary, 70s. to 72s. 6d. Several small quantities of East India have been offered by auction, which found free buyers, including 146 bags of good and fine ordinary Mysore at 71s. 6d. to 73s., and 112 bags of Singapore, fair Campar, 57s. 6d. Privately, 700 bags of Cochin were disposed of at 74s., and small lots of other good qualities at extreme rates.

RICE.—The return of dulness noticed in our last has been followed by a week of almost general stagnation, and only about 3,000 bags of soft grain are reported sold at prices fully 3d. per cwt. under the recent highest point.

CARDAMOMS.—Remain steady: 58 cases Malabar at auction sold at 5s. 3d. to 5s. 6d. per lb. for middling; and 4 bags Madras at 1s. 3d. very low lean.

CAMPHOR.—Market quiet, with moderate business privately in both Japan and China, within our quotations of £4. 10s. to £4. 17s. 6d.; no auctions.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—No auctions held; limited business accomplished privately upon former terms. Buds: Again rather cheaper; and 87 boxes

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at auction sold at £10 to £10. 5s. per cwt. for good, and £9. 17s. 6d. mouldy.

CINNAMON (CEYLON).—We quote 1st sort 2s. 2d. to 3s. 0d. per lb.; 2nd sort 1s. 11d. to 2s. 10d.; 3rd sort 1s. 10d. to 2s. 6d.; and 4th and Jungle 1s. 5d. to 1s. 10d.; moderate business at about the par of the late quarterly sales.

COCOA-NUT OIL.—This market has been very firm, with good demand, and large transactions, including sales for arrival; and prices are 10s. to 20s. per ton higher for the fortnight; 545 casks Cochin, 167 Ceylon, 154 Sydney, and 92 Madras at auction.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Nothing doing. Dragon's Blood: Firm; of 25 cases at auction, two-thirds sold at £9. 10s. to £9. 17s. 6d. per cwt. for good lump, and £3. 15s. to £3. 17s. 6d. low. Galangal Root: A recent arrival, 196 bags, sold readily at auction at 13s. 6d. to 14s. 6d. per cwt. for fair; 75 bags indirect retired. Rhubarb: Firmer; former extreme value barely maintained; and of 66 chests at auction, four-fifths sold at 2s. 9d. to 2s. 10d. per lb. for inferior.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Firm: of 16 cases Siam at auction three-fourths sold: seconds at £40 to £41 per cwt., thirds, £27 to £33. 15s., dark gum £27. 5s., and seed, &c., in block, £19. 5s. to £24. 10s.; of 204 case Sumatra one-third sold at £5 to £7. 2s. 6d. middling to fair third quality. Damar: Scarce, and again dearer; of 50 cases at auction half sold at 58s. per cwt. for good picked. Gamboge: Firm; and of 21 cases at auction half sold at £10. 12s. 6d. to £11. 10s. per cwt. for middling to good pipe.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Remains quiet, but firm, with some inquiry, bu nothing of importance doing yet.

HEMP (MANILA).—This market remains very firm, but quiet, with little business doing; 1,560 bales brought to auction, but all retired.

INDIA RUBBER.—Large business done since our last, at rapidly advancing prices, up to 1s. 10d. per lb. for fine Java, at which rate there are now no sellers. Auctions unimportant.

JAPAN WAX.—Fine saucers rather dearer; 788 boxes at auction sold at 83s. to 88s. 6d. per cwt. for fine saucers, and 61s. 6d. to 74s. ordinary.

OILS.—Annisced: Cheaper, and very quiet at the reduction, with most limited business. Cajaputa: At auction, 13 cases were all retired at 3d. per oz. Cassia: Very little business doing upon former terms. Cinnamon: Of 3 cases at auction, 2 sold at 2s. 7d. to 2s. 9d. per oz. for middlings. 5 cases Cinnamon Leaf sold at 5½d. to 9½d. Mace and Nutmegs: One case Oil Nutmegs at auction retired.

PEPPER.—Black: Is the turn dearer, and of 7,190 bgs. Singapore at auction, one-third sold at 3¼d. to 3⅝d. per lb.; of 4,770 bgs. Penang, half sold at 3⅛d. to 3¼d., with Trang at the same price; 370 bgs. Tellicherry retired. Good business privately upon fully corresponding terms. White: Also higher, with good private trade; of 881 bgs. Singapore, and 114 bgs. Penang at auction, one-fourth sold at 5½d. to 6d. per lb.

SPICES.—Cloves: Penang steady; Zanzibar firm; at auction 19 cases of the former sold at 11½d. to 1s. per lb. for fair, and 500 bags of the latter sold at 3¼d. to 3½d. for fair, and good business done privately at the same figures. Mace: Holders are firm; 53 cases Penang, 16 cases Singapore, and 9 cases Cochin offered at auction, and two-thirds sold at 2s. 1d. to 2s. 9d. per lb. for ordinary to middling pale; and 1s. 4d. to 2s. red and reddish. Nutmegs: Steady; 87 cases Penang and 29 cases Singapore at auction, nearly all sold at 2s. 11d. to 3s. 5d. per lb. for middling to good bold; and 1s. 1d. to 2s. ordinary small to fine medium.

SAGO.—Firm; large grain rather dearer; of 3,357 boxes and bags at auction, half sold at 19s. 6d. to 21s. per cwt. for middling to good small, 21s. 6d. to 23s. 6d. fair to very good large, and 28s. 6d. extra bold. Flour: Good business done privately upon former terms; 973 bags at auction retired.

TAPIOCA.—In public sale 175 barrels of good White Rio were realised at 5d., which is steady. Flour: 91 bags were sold at 1¾d. to 2d. per lb.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Good quality much dearer; 3,224 bags of recent arrival sold at auction at 26s. to 29s. per cwt. for very good Pegue; 807 bags old sold at 22s. to 24s., middling mixed. Good business done privately upon corresponding terms. Gambier: Demand active for arrival as well as on the spot; and large business done within our quotations; of 3,416 bales at auction, very few sold at 21s. per cwt. for excellent quality.

TIN.—This market has again been very animated, and further extremely large transactions have taken place in Straits up to £97. 10s. per ton, three months prompt; £96 cash; and £98 for arrival. Sales also made of Banca.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Blacklead: Firm; of 820 barrels at auction, half sold at 16s. to 21s. 6d. per cwt. for good to fine lump; 13s. 6d. bold siftings; and 10s. to 10s. 6d. dust. Galls: China and Japan had been flat, but appear to have become rather more active; of 365 boxes China at auction, half sold at 62s. 6d. to 67s. 6d. per cwt.; and 188 boxes Japan sold at 61s. to 65s. Ebony Wood: Held very firmly; of 91 tons Ceylon at auction, only one-fourth quitted at £6. 17s. 6d. to £10. 15s. per ton. Musk: Of 87 caddies Tonquin at auction, more than half sold at 39s. to 41s. per oz. for fine picked, being dearer; 24s. to 26s. 6d. middling rough; and 17s. to 17s. 6d. pickings: 10 tins Grain retired. Rattans: Cheaper; and 10,638 bundles Singapore, and 13,904 bundles Penang sold at auction at 2s. 4d. to 6s. 8d. per 100. Sapan Wood: Has become very flat: 19 tons Siam, and 73 tons Manila at auction, all retired. Mother o'Pearl Shells: Of 122 cases Manila at auction, a few only sold at £5. 12s. 6d. per cwt.; 97 cases Singapore retired. Soy: Rather cheaper: 40 casks sold at auction at 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. per gallon. Star Anniseeds: Very scarce: 12 boxes at auction retired at £10. 10s. per cwt. Sticklac (Siam): Quiet: 250 boxes ordinary at auction all retired, but fine would command high prices. Tortoise Shell: Auctions have comprised the following: viz., 5 cases Sydney sold at 14s. to 17s. 6d. per lb.; 1 case fine Manila at 22s. 6d.; 1 case Mauritius 15s.; and 2 cases Singapore retired. Vermilion: Scarce, and nothing doing.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7 to £7. 5s.; nail rod, £8. 10s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10; sheets, single, £10. 10s. to £10. 15s.; Staffordshire bars, £8. 10s. to £9. 10s.; rails, £7 to £7. 5s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £16.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £121 to £123 per ton; yellow metal, 10¼d. to 10⅜d. per lb.

TIN.—100s. for block; 101s. for common bars. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 32s. to 32s. 6d.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, W.B., £22; shot, patent, £24; sheet, £22; spelter, £21. 10s. to £22; zinc, English sheet, £27; quicksilver, £8.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£172,082
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£5,500
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£2,881,059
Singapore	£3,007	£272,160
Penang	—	£20,110
Yokohama	—	£54,280

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£37,866
Penang	—	£1,508
Hong Kong	—	£61,000
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£40,751
Yokohama	—	£13,178

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£176	£87,640
To Saigon	—	£115,010
To Batavia	£3,966	£3,760
To Hong Kong	—	£115,312
To Shanghai	£80	£154,991
To Yokhama	—	£4,604

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4
Silver in Bars	0 5 1½
Mexican Dollars	0 5 0

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

The Manchester prices are flatter. We quote: 7 lbs. Grey Shirtings at 14s. to 14s. 6d.; 8¼ lbs. 17s. 3d. to 17s. 6d.; Cotton Yarn, Nos. 16-24, at 2s. 1d. to 2s. 2d.; Maddapollams, 5s. 10½d.; Long Cloths, 16s.; T-Cloths, 10s. 6d.; White Spot Shirtings, 18s.; Brocade ditto, 18s.; Damasks, 33s.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Oct.—	New York	Singapore	Energie	
—	Do.	Penang	Triton	
—	Do.	Shanghai	Andreas	
Nov.10	Scilly	Do.	Beatrice	Martin.
— 15	Deal	China	Guinevere	
— 15	Falmouth	Maulmain	Europa	Reid.
— 15	Liverpool	Singapore	Ophir	
— 16	Off Falmouth	Bassein	George and Johan	Jordan.
— 16	Cowes	Singapore & Batavia	Boreas	Steffen.
Oct. 10	Callao	Hong Kong	Orthona	Holmes.
Nov.16	Off Scilly	China	Highflyer	Hitchins.
— 17	Liverpool	Rangoon	N. and E. Gardner	
—	Deal	China	Lauderdale	
— 19	London	Singapore	Fortitude	Booth.
— 19	Do.	Colombo	Sir G. Pollock	Cartmer.
— 19	Deal	China	Ethiopian	Edwards.
— 18	Falmouth	Bassein	Addison	Sloan.
— 19	Do.	Maulmain	Rising Sun	Matthias.
— 17	Havre	Colombo	Ville de Lille	Landrew.
— 21	Deal	Do.	Ealing Grove	
— 21	Do.	China (?)	Egmont	
— 20	Falmouth	Maulmain	Statesman	Pendleton.
— 18	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Wilhelmina	Kirkhoff.
— 18	Do.	Do.	Paul Johan	Kooy.
— 20	Falmouth	Do.	Westburn	Gillan.
— 20	Brouwershaven	Do.	Ocean Pearl	Newcomb.
— 22	London	Colombo, &c.	Percy Douglas	Hamon.
—	Queenstown	Akyab	Elisa Barabino	
— 22	Falmouth	Maulmain	Tempest	Cariolan.
— 23	London	Akyab	Castle Eden	Alsop.
— 23	Do.	Galle	Lady Ebrington	Pile.
— 23	Do.	Colombo	Jane Perdew	M'Gregor.
— 8	Boston	Manila	Fearless	Drew.
— 21	Deal	Foo-chow-Foo	Japanese	Boyd.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Nov.—	Amsterdam	Batavia	Yaanstroom	Driest.
— 8	Plymouth	Do.	Sunda (s.s.)	v.d. Bolck.
— 9	London	Newport & Singapore	Beucleuch	Thomsou.
— 10	Do.	Do. & Galle	Codan	Kirschstein.
— 10	Ramsgate	Amoor	Lochalva	Sydney.
— 9	Cardiff	Manila	Benjamin Bangs	Noreross.
— 11	London	Yokohama & Nagasaki	Conference	Reid.
— 11	Do.	Singapore	Belle of Southesk	Mackenzie.
— 10	Cardiff	Manila	Sailor Prince	Sadler.
— 13	London	Neport & H. Kong	Red Rose	Reed.
— 11	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Western Chief	Hill.
—	Bremen	Singapore	Daniel Marcy	Ross.
— 14	London	Colombo	Aoa	Young.
— 13	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Amber Witch	Langlois.
— 14	Liverpool	Yokohama	Eclipse	Chevalier.
— 15	London	Sunderland & Galle	St. Albans	Pille.

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DEPARTURES—*continued.*

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Nov. 16	London	Yokohama	Eliza Shaw	Steele.
— 16	Sunderland	Shanghai	Neptune	Parkin.
— 15	Do.	Hong Kong	Deerfoot	Carlin.
— 16	Do.	Galle	Ida	Tulloch.
Oct. 2	Callao	Macao	Dolores Ugarte	
— 14	Rio Janeiro	Ceylon	Ludwig	Haesloop.
Nov 17	London	Shanghai	Flying Spur	Ryrie.
Sept 26	Buenos Ayres	Singapore	Skjold	Jensen.
Oct. 4	Do.	Galle	Ville de Metz	Machet.
Nov. 16	Sunderland	Singapore	Alice Ball	Ross.
— 18	Do.	Do.	British Crown	Murray.
— 20	London	Hong Kong & Canton	Belted Will	Locke,
— 20	Do.	Shanghai	Taeping	McKinnon.
— 18	Exmouth	China	Fury	Kobbe.
— 20	Liverpool	Batavia	Harkaway	Simkins.
—	Cronstadt	River Amoor	Avondale	Ogilvy.
— 17	Broomielaw	Manila	Bella Gallega	Omeande.
— 22	London	Colombo	Palestine	Park.
— 23	Do.	Manila	Loyola	Yriberri.
— 20	Ramsgate	Sourabaya	W. Cores de Vrils (s.s.)	Tergust.

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Eliza Shaw, Challenger. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Broadwater. For Shanghai: Guinevere, Lauderdale. For Hong Kong and Canton: Black Prince, Northfleet, Punjaub. For Singapore: Dovercourt, Queen of May. For Galle: Colombo Dora. For Colombo and Cochin: Abdul Medjid. For Colombo: Frances Milly, Boyne, John Bright.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Vanda. For Shanghai: Illimani, Tewkesbury, Chalgrove. For Singapore and Penang: Singapore. For Batavia and Pekalongan: Edith Haviland. For Java: Peter Landberg. For Manila: Alavesa, Eulalia, Espana.

At GLASGOW.—For Manila: Union. For Batavia and Singapore: Helen Baird. For Batavia, Samarang and Sourabaya: County of Argyle.

SPOKEN.

SIR BEVOIS, Colombo to London, Oct. 16, 24 S., 1 E.
ALMELO, Batavia to Amsterdam, Sept. 30, 35 S, 23 E.
META, Batavia to Rotterdam, Oct. 1, 24 S., 4 E.
OCEANIL (Dutch ship), Cardiff to Singapore, Sept. 24, 7 N., 24 W.
JOHN BUNYAN, Cardiff to Shanghai, Oct. 3, on the line, 27 W.
ROBERTUS HENDRIKUS, Rotterdam to Batavia, Sept. 11, 15 N., 26 W.
LOCHNAGARR (?), ship, Liverpool to Hong Kong, Sept. 17, 9 N., 27 W.
BOY BENDIXEN (Danish), Macao to Hamburg, Oct. 5, 27 S., 48 E.
SHIRLEY, Manila to New York, Oct. 7, 25 S, 53 E.
MARIA CATHARINA, Batavia to Amsterdam, Sept. 13, 31 S., 36 E.
FRANCIS, the Tyne to Hong Kong, Aug. 12, 36 S., 17 W.
DUC (French barque), Bordeaux to Saigon, Aug. 16, 33 S., 6 W.
THAMES, London to Ceylon, Sept. 1, 32 N., 21 W.
WINGED ARROW, Singapore to London, Sept. 2, 35 S., 19 E.
MARY GODDARD, Rotterdam to Singapore, Oct. 17, 8 N., 24 W.
LADY ELRINGTON, Ceylon to London, Oct. 9, off Ascension.
TIVERTON, London to Shanghai, Oct. 15, 4 N., 23 W.
ATLAS (American), Batavia to New York, Sept. 24, 24 S., 4 E.
NELLY (barque), for Shanghai, Oct. 14, 6 N, 26 W.
GLASGOW (ship), Cardiff to Shanghai, Oct. 10, 7 N., 30 W.
HAMPDEN, Cardiff to Bankok, Oct. 13, 7 N., 24 W.
META (?), Batavia to Rotterdam, Oct. 1, 24 S., 4 E.
BOSPHORUS, from Shanghai (?), Sept. 10, 17 S., 4 W.
DEVANA (ship), Sept. 4, clear of the China Sea.
ERIMANTHE (?), Foo-chow to London, July 19, 1 S., 129 E.
CATHERINE (Dut. barque), Bat. to Amsterdam, Sept. 13, 31 S., 35 E.
EALING GROVE, Colombo to London, Aug. 24, 33 N., 39 W.
FORTITUDE, Singapore to London, Nov. 5, 48 N., 7 W.
GOSSAMER, Shanghai to London, Sept. 30, 36 S., 19 E.
ZWAAN, Amsterdam to Japan, Oct. 4, 8 N., 36 W.
HUGO GROTIUS, Rotterdam to Batavia, Oct. 5, 14 N., 26 W.
D'ELMINA, Rotterdam to Batavia, Oct. 16, 10 N., 25 W.
MARIA MAGDALENE, Batavia to Rotterdam, Sept. 20, 22 S., 5 E.
OCEAN PEARL, Batavia to London, Sept. 23, 20 S., 1 E.
CHARLOTTE ANN, London to Colombo, Oct. 10, 8 N., 26 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

All the berths for ports in China are now fairly supplied with shipping, and although a good many arrivals are shortly looked for, it is not expected that outward freights will be easier than they are at present. Some slight improvement is noticeable in homeward charters, a fair number of ships having been placed at Manilla for the United Kingdom at 60s. sugar, and 70s. hemp.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 25s. to 30s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 25s. 6d. to 30s. meast. To Singapore: 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 20s. measurement.

The current quotations for coal, &c., are as follows:—From Wear or Tyne per Keel. For Batavia: £30. For Hong Kong: £42. For Galle: £27. For Singapore, £32. For Shanghai: £50. From Newport, Cardiff or Swansea per ton. For Batavia: £1. 7s. For Hong Kong: £2. For Manila: £1. 12s. to £1. 15s. For Galle: £1. 6s. For Singapore: £1. 9s. For Shanghai, £2. 7s.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 45 tons naval stores and 36 small spars to Trincomale, and have accepted the Punjaub for 200 tons naval stores to Hong Kong, both from the River Thames.

CASUALTIES.

The Dordrecht, Loos, from Rotterdam for Batavia, which put into Portsmouth on the 30th Oct. leaky, has been lightened and taken into dry dock for repairs.

The Amber Witch, from Cardiff for Hong Kong, put back Nov. — with part of crew refractory.

The Atlas (American ship), from Batavia for New York, which was spoken with 24th Sept., in lat. 24 S., lon. 4 E., reported that her master (Conley), died 8 days after leaving Batavia.

The Westburn, Gillan, from Batavia, whilst anchoring at Falmouth, Nov. 20, got in collision with the Janet Ferguson, and sustained loss of mizen mast, with other damage.

A fire broke out on the evening of the 22nd of November on board the Palestine, Park, bound from London for Colombo, just as she was on the point of sailing. The fire was extinguished in about two hours; her cabins were burnt, but her cargo sustained no damage.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At ST. HELENA.—Oct. 4, from Galle, Lady Ebrington, Pill, and sailed for London; 5, from Manila, Bavaria, Higgings, and sailed for New York; 7, from Sourabaya, Brewster, Beebe, and sailed, 11, for New Bedford; from Samarang, Andromeda, Dannberg, and sailed, 9, for Rotterdam; 8, from Batavia, Maria Catharina, Bos, and sailed, 9, for Amsterdam; from Singapore, Unicorn, Horn, and sailed, 11, for London; 9, from Penang, Helene, Guerin, and sailed, 10, for Bordeaux; from Manila, Concepcion, Tuton, and sailed, 10, for Cadiz; from Macao, Jacob Levy, Molinsen, and sailed for Hamburg; 11, from China, Highflyer, Shotton, and sailed for London; 13, from Batavia, Australie, Lucus, and sailed for Amsterdam; 16, from Hong Kong, Johanne Marie, Petersen, and sailed for London; 19, from Canton, Thorkild, Andersen, and sailed for New York; 20, from Shanghai, Isles of the South, Davidson, and sailed, 21, for London; 21, Caprera, Henderson; 22, Weymouth, Norris; from Batavia: Haamstede, Marsch.

At ASCENSION.—Oct. 2, from England, Siam, Bragg, and sailed 10, for Siam, having been supplied with a new mainmast.

At TABLE BAY.—Oct. 4, from Foo-Chow-Foo, Japanese, Boyd, and sailed 5 for London; 14, from Manila, Zealandia, Foster.

At MAURITIUS.—Oct. 12, from Singapore, Bristow, Justice; 8, Borneo, Basset, sailed for Batavia; 16, Jeanne Meyer, Loessewitz, sailed for Singapore.

SHIP LAUNCHES.

There was launched on the 18th, from the building-yard of Messrs. A. Hall and Co., Aberdeen, a fine clipper-ship of 680 tons N.M., named Ada, classed A 1 13 years. The vessel is intended for the China trade, and is commanded by Captain Jones, late of the Ziba. She will be despatched to Hong Kong by Messrs. Robertson and Co., and will convey the steam ferry, built for Hong Kong.

At Havre, on Monday, a steamer in the form of a cigar, built by Messrs. Nillus and Sons, was launched. It is constructed on the plans of Mr. Winans, of Philadelphia, is 22 metres long, and 2 metres 75 centremetres in diameter in the middle (the metre is about 3 feet 3¼ inches). It has eight screws, of which six are entirely under water, and two partially so, and is of about 25-horse power. The interior is divided into compartments. The vessel has been constructed by way of experiment. A similar vessel has been built in London.

On Tuesday Messrs. William Denny and Brothers launched, from their south building yard, Dumbarton, an iron screw steamship, named A. Lopez, of 2 000 tons register, and 400-horse power (nominal). The ship is for the Cadiz and Havana mail service.

Messrs. D. Hutcheson and Co. have contracted with Messrs. Thomson, of Glasgow, for the construction of three saloon steamers (similar to the Iona, but of smaller dimensions), to be added to their already large fleet on the Clyde, Caledonian Canal, and west coast trades. By this addition a daily communication will be kept up between Inverness and Glasgow during the summer and autumn months by passenger steamers, and twice a week by goods boats. The sailings from Oban to Skye, as well as to Staffa, Iona, and Glencoe, will also be considerably increased. The Llama, paddle, has made a satisfactory trial trip, although it was made in a stiff gale of wind, with a heavy sea. Messrs. Burns at once took the steamer over from her builders, Messrs. Caird and Co. The Llama, which will be commanded by Captain M'Pherson, will be shortly put on the Glasgow and Belfast station, in connection with the Buffalo and Wolf.

The Kinsale, screw, lately launched by Messrs. Henderson, Coulborn, and Co., attained on her trial trip, between the Clock and Cumbrae Lights, an average speed of 12½ miles per hour. The Kinsale is owned by the Clyde Shipping Company, and was built for the Cork and Waterford trade.

The Turkish screw steam ram Abdul Aziz, 4,200 tons burden, and 900-horse power, recently built and engined by Messrs. Napier and Son, Glasgow, for the Turkish Government, has sailed from the Tail of the Bank for Constantinople.

The Russians are rapidly covering their seas and large rivers with steam vessels, mostly built in this country. Messrs. C. Mitchell and Co., of Low Walker, on the Tyne, have just received an order to build two screw steamers of 500 tons each, for the navigation of the Caspian Sea, to which sea these vessels will sail direct from this country. The same firm are also about to build two more powerful steamships for the Russian Steam Navigation Company, and intended for their fleet on the Black Sea trading with the Crimea. They will be fitted up to carry a large number of passengers, and they will be supplied with engines by Messrs. Penn and Son, of London, with all the modern improvements for the economy of fuel.

The Pampero will no doubt be familiar to our readers, in consequence of the proceedings which the Government deemed it necessary to take in connection with the ship while she was being fitted out at Glasgow during the late American war. The ship's name has now been changed. On Tuesday she passed over to the Gareloch for the first time, for the purpose of having her compasses adjusted, under the name of Tornado. The appearance of this handsome craft excited general admiration as she proceeded past our harbours—her symmetry and smart appearance calling forth general praise. She was built on the composite principle by Messrs. J. and G. Thomsom, Glasgow. Her future destination is at present unknown.—Another screw steamer, named the Cyclone (late Wisconsin), built by Messrs. William Denny and Son, Dumbarton, and engined by the Greenock Foundry Company a few weeks ago, will likewise accompany the Tornado. It is rumoured that they will run the blockade at Chili.

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INDIA AND CHINA.

ROBERTSON and CO. will despatch the following first-class VESSELS to their respective destinations. They are well adapted for their several trades, and are confidently recommended to their friends:—

Destination.	Ships.	Docks.	To Sail.
Shanghai	Gossamer ...	W.I.D.	With des.
H. Kong & Whampoa	Black Prince	W.I.D.	With des.
Kanagawa & Nagasaki	Broadwater .	W.I.D.	Dec. 1.

Apply at 5, Newman's-court, Cornhill, London; or York Chambers, 55, King-street, Manchester.

FROM LIVERPOOL.

Destination.	Ships.	Tons.	Class.	To Sail.
Shanghai ...	Chalgrove ...	509	A 1 13 yrs.	Imm.
Hong Kong & Whampoa ...	Everest ...	571	—	"
Batavia & Pekalongan ...	Edith Haviland ...	249	A 1 7 yrs.	"

For terms of Freight or Passage apply to McDIARMID, GREENSHIELDS, and Co., Liverpool.

FOR SINGAPORE.—R. VAUGHAN TIDMAN and CO. will despatch the following first-class VESSELS:—

Ships.	Class.	Tons.	Dock.	To sail.
Dovercourt ...	A1 10 yr.	531	W.I.D.	In a few days.
Eastern Star (new).	A1 12 yr.	400	W.I.D.	To follow.
A Ship (new) ...	A1 15 yr.	550	W.I.D.	To follow.

No. 2, Great St. Helen's, London, E.C.

HONG KONG and WHAMPOA.—The well-known China clipper ship NORTHFLEET, A 1 fourteen years, 895 tons register, W. SYMINGTON, Commander; loading in the East India Docks. This splendid river-built ship has made some of the fastest passages on record in the China trade. Has beautiful cabin accommodation.

For Freight or Passage apply to GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL, 27, Leadenhall-street.

Regular Line of Packet Ship.

FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA, the well-known clipper DUNMAIL, A 1 fourteen years, 771 tons register, — BIRKETT, Commander; will load in the London Docks. Has excellent accommodation for passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to PHILLIPS, SHAW, and LOWTHER, 2, Royal Exchange-buildings, E.C.

HONG KONG and WHAMPOA (under engagement to H.M.'s Government), the splendid clipper-built ship PUNJAUB, A 1 twelve years, 883 tons register, E. SHREWSBURY, Commander; will receive cargo in the West India Docks till the 15th December. This fine ship has made some of the fastest passages on record, and has unusually large cabins for passengers.

HOLMES, KNEVITT, and HOLMES, Sun-court, Cornhill.

Last Shipping Day, 15th December.

FOR SHANGHAI Direct, the magnificent river-built clipper ship, LAUDERDALE, A 1 thirteen years, owned by Messrs. John Willis and Son, 851 tons register, W. H. HUTCHINS, Commander, East India Docks. This ship has good accommodation for passengers.

For freight or passage apply to KILLICK, MARTIN, and Co., 28, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, E.C.

With quick despatch.

FOR KANAGAWA (YOKOHAMA), JAPAN, Direct, the well-known clipper ship CHALLENGER, A 1, 12 years (built by Messrs. R. and H. Green), 692 tons register, H. W. BROWNE, Commander, East India Docks. This ship has good accommodation for passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to KILLICK, MARTIN, and Co., 28, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, E.C.

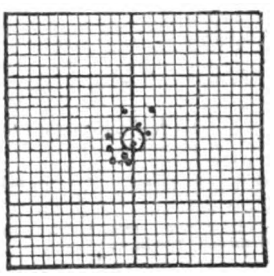
COLOMBO and COCHIN.—Notice to Passengers.—The splendid clipper ABDUL MEDJID, AA 1, 402 tons register, will embark her passengers at Gravesend on the 1st December. Has two cabins still disengaged, for which early application should be made to the owners, Messrs. VANNER, PREST, and LITH, 32, Great St. Helen's; or to JOHN C. CAMPBELL, 22, Great St. Helen's.

COLOMBO Direct (has only room for light measurement goods), the new clipper ship BOYNE, AA 1 at Lloyd's, C. P. JONES, Commander, 617 tons register; loading in the West India Docks. This splendid vessel, built expressly for the trade, has a full poop and accommodations of the first order for the comfort and convenience of passengers.

For Passage apply to the owner, W. H. TINDALL, 5, Tokenhouse-house-yard; and for Freight or Passage apply to F. TALLACK, 23, Birchin-lane, Cornhill, E.C.

LANCASTER-GATE, Hyde-park.—To Gentlemen from Abroad.—Thomas Fox and Co. are instructed to LET, unfurnished (or furnished for a short period), ONE of the most handsomely fitted medium-sized RESIDENCES in this choice locality, and close to the opening into Kensington-gardens. The drawing-rooms are furnished in crimson and gold, the dining-room, library, and boudoir are also suitably arranged. There are 11 upper rooms, with bath room and closets. The house is fitted with speaking tubes, gas in every room, dinner lift, &c.; indeed, every available contrivance has been adopted to render it suitable to the requirements of a modern town establishment. Full particulars o Thomas Fox and Co., Upholsterers, No. 77, Bishopsgate-street Within, E.C.

AMMUNITION.



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"Black Buck Shells," for 10, 12, and 16 Bore Breech Loaders.

The "Metford" Shel Bullet, for Enfield and Whitwort, Bore Rifles.

Bullets of uniform eight made by compression from Soft Refined Lead.

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CONTAINING Treaties, Tariffs Regulations, Tables, &c., useful in the trade of China and Eastern Asia, with an Appendix of Sailing Directions for those Seas and Coasts, by S. WELLS WILLIAMS, LL.D Fifth Edition.

Hong Kong, SHORTREDE and Co.; London Agent, F. ALGAR, 11, Clement's-lane, E.C. Price Two Guineas.

DYSENTERY, CHOLERA, FEVER, AGUE, ETC.

CHLORODYNE.

CAUTION.—*Vice-Chancellor Wood affirmed in Court that Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE was undoubtedly the Discoverer of Chlorodyne; that the statements of the Defendant Freeman were deliberately untrue, and he regretted to say they had been sworn to (see "The Times" of July 13, 1864); all others must be spurious.*

Earl Russell has graciously favoured J. T. Davenport with the following extract of a despatch from Mr. Webb, H.B.M.'s Consul at Manila, dated Sept. 17, 1864:—"The remedy most efficacious in its effects (in Epidemic Cholera) has been found to be CHLORODYNE, and with a small quantity given to me by Dr. Burke I have saved several lives." Earl Russell communicated to the College of Physicians that he had received a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Manila, to the effect that Cholera had been raging fearfully, and that the ONLY remedy of any service was CHLORODYNE.—See *Lancet*, December 31, 1864. No home should be without it.

Eminent Hospital Physicians of London stated on oath that they prescribe CHLORODYNE largely, and mean no other than Dr. Browne's.

The General Board of Health, London, state as to its efficacy in Cholera and Dysentery:—"So strongly are we convinced of the efficacy of this remedy, that we cannot too forcibly urge the necessity of adopting it in all cases."

From A. Montgomery, Esq., late Inspector of Hospitals, Bombay:—"Chlorodyne is a most valuable remedy in Neuralgia, Asthma, and Dysentery. To it I fairly owe my restoration to health, after eighteen months' severe suffering, and when all other medicine had failed."

From W. Vesalius Pettigrew, M.D.:—"I have no hesitation in stating that I have never met with any medicine so efficacious as an antispasmodic and sedative. I have used it in Consumption, Asthma, Diarrhœa, and other diseases, and am most perfectly satisfied with the results."

Dr. M'Grigor Croft, late Army Staff, says:—"It is a most valuable medicine."

Dr. Gibson, Army Medical Staff, Calcutta:—"Two doses completely cured me of Diarrhœa"

Government supply both the Army and Navy with it. A Sheet of Medical Testimonials accompanies each Bottle.

Sold in Bottles, 2s. 9d. and 4s. 6d., by all Chemists. None genuine without the words

"DR. J. COLLIS BROWNE'S CHLORODYNE" on the stamp.

SOLE MANUFACTURER:—

J. T. DAVENPORT, 33, GREAT RUSSELL-STREET, LONDON, W.C.

Be not misled by the statements of unscrupulous persons, as the Defendant was termed by the Vice-Chancellor

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THE HOUSEHOLD PATENTS COMPANY (Limited).

To be Incorporated under "The Companies' Act, 1862," by which the Liability is Limited to the extent of Shares taken.

Capital, £100,000, in 50,000 Shares of £2 each.
First Issue, 25,000 Shares.

5s. to be paid on Application, 5s. on Allotment; no Call will exceed 5s., nor will any Calls be made at less intervals than Three Months.

Fully Paid-up Shares will be Issued to those who prefer them.

Should no Allotment be Made, the Deposit will be Returned in Full.

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Colonel Onseley, Gloucester-place, Hyde-park.
George Wartiner, Esq., Little Ilford, Essex; late Inspector of Culinary Arrangements to the Army.
Robert S. Craig, Esq., 8, Austin-friars; Director of the Financial Discount Company.
Captain C. M. Layton, Glasbury-house, Hereford; Director of the Brecon and Merthyr Tydfil Railway Company.
Marshall Hall, Esq., 3, Cleveland-terrace, Hyde-park, Barrister-at-Law.
(With power to add to their number.)

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The Union Bank of London, Princes-street.

SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Mercer and Mercer, Mincing-lane.

CONSULTING ARCHITECT.

John Ellis, Esq., Austin-friars.

AUDITORS.

Messrs. Johnstone, Cooper, Wintle, & Evans, 3, Coleman-street-buildings.

SECRETARY (pro tem.).

G. S. Ullathorne, Esq.

TEMPORARY OFFICES.

9, Mincing-lane, London.

PROSPECTUS.

This Company is established for the manufacture and sale of articles chiefly of domestic use, and mostly protected by Patents, and will comprise within its operations —Improvements in the construction of dwellings, and in their lighting, ventilation, and drainage; the preparation of all descriptions of food; the manufacture and economical use of fuel; and the most recent improvements in kitchen and other household furniture.

The Company will also assist inventors, by procuring patents for them—by purchasing the right of selling their inventions—or by selling the inventions and paying the patentees a royalty—and in other ways generally promote their interests, and develope ingenuity, which in many instances is hidden from the want of means to make it known.

The Directors have already secured the nucleus of a business which promises to be very profitable, having provisionally purchased the exclusive right to a new system of preparing American and Australian beef and mutton, so that it becomes as easily cooked and as palatable as fresh meat; also to a newly-invented Portable Roasting Oven, which will economise half the fuel now used; to an Improved Portable Romford Boiler, adapted for the army, navy, and private use; and to a newly-invented Stone Stewpan, and a Cooking Range.

Besides the above there are several valuable patents offered to the Company, and as soon as it is formed, the merits of these will be duly considered, and if found desirable will be acquired by the Company. In the meantime those already acquired will produce immediate returns.

To show the value of the first of these patents, the Directors need hardly allude to the disease in cattle, and consequent dearness of meat, which is likely to cause much distress among the poor this winter, and for some time to come; the Company will shortly be enabled to sell at a low rate, still leaving a very large profit to the Company, 28 lb. boxes of beef and mutton prepared as a wholesome and palatable food without bone; and as each piece of meat will be carefully and separately examined, there will be no risk of bad meat being sold. It is a preparation invented by Mr. Warriner, who, as instructor of Cookery to the Army, has had full means of testing its value, which is 15C per cent. more than ordinary English Beef.

The Directors deem it most advisable for the present not to manufacture all the various articles, but to contract with manufacturers to supply those which they deem inexpedient to make themselves.

The Memorandum and Articles of Association, which comprise all the intended operations of the Company, can be seen at the Solicitors' and the Offices of the Company.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR ORDINARY SHARES.

To the Directors of the Household Patents Company (Limited).

Gentlemen,—Having paid to your Bankers the sum of £ , being a deposit of 5s. per Share on Shares in the above Company, I hereby request you to allot me that number, and I hereby agree to accept such Shares, or any less number you may allot to me, and to pay a further sum of 5s. per Share on every Share which may be allotted to me within fourteen days from the date of allotment, together with all future calls thereon; and I authorise you to place my name on the Register of Members for the number of Shares so allotted to me; and I agree to sign the Articles of Association of the Company when required. I further authorise you to forward by post to my address as below the certificate for any Shares which may be allotted to me.

Usual Signature .....
Name in full.....
Residence .....
Profession or Occupation.....
Date .....1865.

HOUSEHOLD PATENTS COMPANY, (Limited).

The Directors are now prepared to Treat with Inventors for the Purchase of Working or their Inventions.—9, Mincing-lane, London, London, E.C.

HOUSEHOLD PATENTS COMPANY (Limited).

The Directors are now prepared to receive Applications from respectable Persons desirous of being Agents to the Company.—9, Mincing-lane, E.C.

PORT OF AMOY.

SHIPOWNERS, AGENTS and COMMANDERS are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING and SPARRING VESSELS, and for CLEANING and PAINTING Iron and Steam Ships.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, is in complete working order, and at average spring tides can take vessels drawing 16 to 17 feet water. The Dock is fitted with a Caisson Gate and with a Centrifugal Steam Pump of great power ensuring despatch in all states o the tide. An ample stock is kept on hand of Timber, Oregon Spars, Sheathing Copper and Yellow Metal, and of every description of material for Dockyard use.

The premises comprise an Engineer's Workshop, Brass Foundry, a large Smithy and Carpenter's Workshops, and the works are superintended by Resident Europeans, viz., a Shipwright, an Engineer, and a Blacksmith. Dry Godowns for the reception of vessel's stores, &c., when requiring to discharge them.

Amoy, March, 1865.

ASIATIC BANKING CORPORATION.—

Incorporated by Royal Charter. Authorised Capital, £2,000,000. Paid-up Capital, £500,000.

Head Office—No. 4, Lombard-street.

Agencies and Branches are established at Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Melbourne.

The Corporation grant drafts and negotiate bills o exchange payable at the above places, issue letters of credit, and conduct every description of banking business connected with the East. They effect the purchase and sale of Indian securities, the receipt of dividends, &c., and undertake the safe custody of securities. They also receive deposits, bearing interest, for fixed periods. Rates of interest and exchange may be ascertained at the Head Office.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA and JAPAN (Limited).

1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, London.

Capital, £4,000,000.

Paid and to be called up, £1,000,000.

BANKERS.

The Bank of England.

The National Bank | The Alliance Bank (Limited)

Branches and Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo Kandy, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Yokohama, Singapore, Point de Galle, Manila, Foochow, Ningpo, Hankow, Nagasaki, and Kiu-kiang.

Deposits received at ten days' notice, on the usual terms and for fixed period, at rates subject to special agreement.

Drafts issued and Bills negotiated payable in India China, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable throughout Europe, are also issued for the convenience of travellers per overland route.

The purchase and sale of Indian and other securities, and the safe custody of the same undertaken. Dividends, pay, pensions, interest, or other moneys realised, and the registry of Indian Government loan notes effected so that the interest may be paid in England. Every other description of Banking and Agency business in connection with India China, &c., conducted on the most favourable terms.

J. OUSELEY, General Manager.

THE CHINA TRADERS' MARINE INSURANCE SOCIETY OF HONG KONG (Limited).

CAPITAL, 1,000,000 dols.

In 200 Shares of 5,000 dols. each. 1,000 dols. per Share Paid up.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

William Neilson, Esq. (Messrs. Olyphant and Co.)
J. W. Maclellan, Esq. (Manager Commercial Bank Corporation.
Richard Deacon, Esq. (Messrs. John Burd and Co.)

GENERAL AGENTS.

Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co.

The Allotment of Shares will take place on the 3rd day of October next, and further Applications for Shares will be received until the 3rd of October next.

Application to be made in the form given below, and addressed to the General Agents, from whom any information can be obtained.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To the General Agents of the China Traders' Marine Insurance Society of Hong Kong (Limited).

Gentlemen,—I hereby request that the Committee will allot to me shares in the above Company, and I agree to accept such shares, or any less number which may be allotted to me, and to pay the first call of One thousand Dollars per Share, and further calls to such amount and at such times and in such manner as may be authorised by the Articles of Association of the said Company, and to subscribe the Articles of Association when called on to do so.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obdient Servant.

Hong Kong, Sept. 7, 1865.

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MANUFACTURERS OF PATENT GALVANISED IRON, in Sheets, Tiles, Iron Roofs Sheds, Cisterns, Pails, Gutters, Wire for Fencing, &c.

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Merchants' orders executed with despatch.

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Incorporated by Royal Charter.

Paid-up capital, £750,000. Reserve Fund, £250,000.

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Bombay.	Colombo.	Penang.	Hong Kong.	Yokohama
Calcutta.	Kandy.		Shanghai.	
Madras.	Galle.	Singapore.	Hankow.	Mauritiu

The Bank negotiates and collects bills and grants draf payable at the places above mentioned, issues letters o credit and circular notes for the use of travellers by the Overland Route, terms for which can be ascertained at the Head Office in London.

The Bank will effect the purchase or sale of Indian securities, undertakes the safe custody of same, and the receipt of interest, dividends, pay, pensions, and other moneys, for remittance through the Bank or otherwise.

The Bank receives money on deposit, on which interest will be allowed according to the length of time deposited. Particulars as to rates can be ascertained at the Head Office, 52, Threadneedle-street, London.

Office hours from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

No. 52, Threadneedle-street, London, E.C.

THE NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY.

(ESTABLISHED 1st JANUARY, 1863.)

CAPITAL, TAELS 1,250,000, IN 250 SHARES OF TAELS 5,000 EACH.

Paid up Capital, Tacls 1,000 per Share.

DIRECTORS.

L. G. DUNLOP, Esq. (Messrs. Birley, Worthington, and Co.), Chairman.

E. H. Lavers, Esq. (Messrs. Gilman and Co.).

Sol. D. Sassoon, Esq. (Messrs. David Sassoon, Sons, and Co.).

H. Howe Wiggins, Esq. (Manager Commercial Bank Corporation of India and the East).

David Reid, Esq. (Messrs. Reid and Co.)

The Company being about to be reorganised for a further term of three years, from 1st January, 1866, application for Shares will be received by the undersigned until 31st October current.

A certain number of Shares have been allotted to London, but further applications from there will be received until 30th November.

Application for Shares, from persons not resident in Shanghai, must be accompanied by Power of Attorney to heir Agents, to sign the Deed of Settlement on their behalf, and generally to represent them in all matters connected with the Company.

By order of the Directors,
J. S. MACKINTOSH, Secretary.

Shanghai, July 12, 1865.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

No.

TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE COMPANY.

Gentlemen,— hereby request you will allot to Shares in the above Company, and agree to accept such Shares, or any less number you may allot to and agree to pay the first call of Tls. 1,000 per Share and all subsequent calls, and to subscribe the Deed of Settlement whenever required to do so.

Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant.

Application for the Shares allotted to London must be made to—

ASHTON AND CO.,
AGENTS,
HATTON-COURT, THREADNEEDLE-STREET.

Keating's Cough Lozenges.

JUDGED BY THE IMMENSE DEMAND this Universal Remedy now stands the first in public favour and confidence: this result has been acquired by the test of fifty years' experience. These Lozenges may be found on sale in every British colony, and throughout India and China. They have been esteemed wherever introduced. For COUGHS, ASTHMA, and all affections of the Throat and Chest, they are the most agreeable and efficacious remedy.

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N.B.—To prevent spurious imitations, please to observe that the words "KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES" are engraven on the Government Stamp of each Box without which none are genuine.

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IMMEDIATELY OPPOSITE THE RAILWAY TERMINUS AND DOCKS

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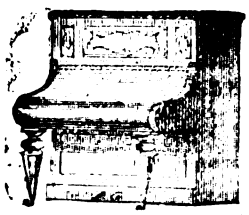
Mr. R. employs no touters or paid agents, but his Porters are always in attendance to meet passengers on arrival, with carriages, &c., as usual. Rooms may be engaged by letter from Malta.

TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND INDIA.



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PURE GLYCERINE SOAP.

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PERFUMERY and POMATUMS of every description made expressly for Foreign Climates.

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NOTHING IS MORE REFRESHING THAN
RIMMEL'S

EXTRACT OF LIME JUICE AND GLYCERINE,
Which cleanses and cools the head, and gives the hair a beautiful gloss without greasing it. Price 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., 5s.

RIMMEL'S TOILET VINEGAR
Will also be found a perfect luxury as an adjunct to the Toilet and Bath and a reviving Perfume. Price 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s.

RIMMEL'S NEW PERFUMES,
The Titiens, Indian, and Chinese Bouquet, all of delightful fragrance, from 2s. 6d.

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For producing an Ambrosial dew. Reduced to 6d.

RIMMEL'S PERFUME FOUNTAIN,
An elegant ornament for the Drawing-Room, Ball-Room, Dining Table, &c Price from £1. 10s.

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THE most durable and beautiful paint known, is cheaper than White Lead, and is proved to be superior for all purposes than the pernicious Lead Paint, and equally adapted for all climates.

Its whiteness is unaffected by bilge water, boiling sugar, or noxious gases.

It is free from any poisonous ingredient, and suited in all respects to the use of the painter.

Each Cask of Pure White Zinc is Stamped "HUBBUCK, LONDON PATENT."

Inferior Zinc Paint, so marked, having been sold in Foreign Markets, the Patentees offer a Reward of FIFTY POUNDS for information which will lead to the conviction, in an English or Colonial Court, of those who have pirated their Mark. Both Exporters and Retailers are liable for its sale.

THOMAS HUBBUCK AND SON,
WHITE LEAD, OIL, PAINT, AND VARNISH WORKS,
24, LIME-STREET, LONDON.

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Are very durable, and the most valuable protection to Iron Roofs, Bridges, Piers, Ships and Buildings, exposed to stormy weather and scorching sun; they soon become extremely hard, and do not blister.

They are made of Stone, Slate, Copper, White, Blue, Green, or any other Colour that is desired.

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For Coating Iron and Wood Ships' Bottoms; a preservative against fouling and corrosion. This Composition is ready for immediate use, and obviates the waste of carrying unmixed Paints, Oils, Driers, &c. It is also applicable to all the purposes of other Paints.

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Has less colour than Raw Linseed Oil, is a quick, hard and certain drier for White and Light Coloured Paints.

PAINTS AND OILS PROPERLY PACKED FOR EXPORTATION.

BOYVEAU LAFFECTEUR'S ROB.

The only one authorised and adopted in France, Belgium, Austria and Russia.

THIS Vegetable Syrup, prepared and guaranteed genuine by the signature of Dr. GIRAUDEAU DE ST. GERVAIS, is very superior to the purifying syrups. It effects a radical cure, without mercury, in all affections of the skin, scurf, scrofula, &c., and symptoms arising from the acrid state of the humours. The Rob is especially valuable in diseases which have resisted the effect of mercury or iodide of potash. The general entrepot of 12, RUE RICHER, PARIS.

Sold Retail.—London: Joreau, Hannay. New York: Fougera, Gaudelet, Milhau. Gibraltar: Patron and Danilowich Malta: Dr. Pirotti, Bugeja, Magri, and Rolando, Esperanza. Alexandria: Bellamore, Galette, Perinie, Bombay: Franjee Nesserwanjee and Co. Singapore: Martin and Little Batavia: L. Platon and Co. Macao J.D. Freati.

R. L. SOUTHERN AND Co.
MERCHANTS AND AGENTS,
6, MINCING-LANE, LONDON, E.C.

Bottled Ales and Wines, &c.

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Price 7½d. per doz. Bottlers contracting for large quantities effect so great a saving in labour, &c., that they can supply them at one-fourth less in price to Shippers, who will find it most profitable to order their goods to be so packed in future. In use by all the leading London houses.—T. WHITEHEAD, 37, EASTCHEAP, E.C. Sole Manufacturer.

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Close to the Landing Place. Depot of
EUROPEAN, CHINA, AND INDIAN WORK.

WINE, BEER, CHAMPAGNE, and SPIRITS of the best quality. Bombay-made Soda Water and Lemonade. Perfumery, Confectionery, Oilman's Stores, and Stationery of every description. Solar Topees and Canvas Shoes, &c., &c., &c.

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Drawing and Reading-room free to Passengers.

THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS" ON SALE

UMBRELLAS and SUNSHADES suitable for all Foreign Markets and the Colonies are supplied to Shippers on the most favourable terms by JOHN MORLAND and SONS, Wholesale Manufacturers 50, Eastcheap, London-bridge, City. Silk, Alpaca, Gingham Steel Frames, Canes, Fittings and all kinds of Materia for the Trade. Oiled and japanned silks and cambrics.

CAUTION.

THE GROSS FRAUDS which continue to be practised by obscure manufacturers, more particularly in Germany, by imitating the Labels attached to JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s PERFUMERY, render it imperative upon the Proprietors to Caution the public against such nefarious proceedings, and to request their friends and patrons to purchase only of respectable dealers, who import direct from JOHN GOSNELL and Co., and invite special attention to the address, 12, THREE KING-COURT, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s SELECT PERFUMES.—Ess Bouquet, Royal Yacht Club Bouquet, Jockey Club Perfume, Essence of Wood Violet, Victoria Bouquet, Garibaldi Bouquet, Frangipanni, Military Bouquet, The Bride's Bouquet, Tea Rose, Russian Leather Perfume.

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JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Prince of Wales Perfumes.

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JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Pomade.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Soap.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Real Old Brown Windsor Soap.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Golden Oil—Moelline—Macassar Oil, Bear's Grease, &c., for the Hair.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Extra Highly Scented Toilet and Nursery Powder.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Stereodesmic or Dentists' Tooth Brushes and Trichosaron Hair Brushes, warranted to purchasers.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Instantaneous Hair Dye.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Cherry Tooth Paste is greatly superior to any tooth powder, gives the teeth a pearl-like whiteness, protects the enamel from decay, and imparts a pleasing fragrance to the breath.

NOTHING IMPOSSIBLE.—The Greatest and most Useful Invention of the day, AGUA AMARELLA.—Messrs. JOHN GOSNELL and CO., 12, Three King-court, Lombard-street, London, Perfumers to Her Majesty, respectfully offer to the public this truly marvellous fluid, which gradually restores the human hair to its pristine hue—no matter at what age. The Agua Amarella has none of the properties of dyes; it, on the contrary, is beneficial to the system, and when the hair is once restored one application per month will keep it in perfect colour. Price One Guinea per bottle; half bottles, 10s. 6d.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co., Perfumers to Her Majesty and by Special Appointment to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, London.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—RHEUMATIC PAINS.—Many thousands of martyrs from rheumatism have found human life but one long disease, and, after consulting all the most eminent medical men in vain, and trying all sorts of supposed remedies without relief, have grown weary of existence, and have ceased to hope for comfort on this side of the grave, until some lucky accident has called their attention to Holloway's Pills and Ointment. These are genuine remedies indeed. Persons bedridden for months with rheumatic pains and swellings, after the Ointment has been well rubbed into the affected parts, and the blood purified by the course of these Pills, have found themselves restored in an incredibly short time to perfect health.

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THE MATELLA COFFEE ESTATES COMPANY OF CEYLON, LIMITED.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE COMPANIES' ACT, 1862, BY WHICH THE LIABILITY OF EACH SHAREHOLDER IS LIMITED TO THE AMOUNT UNPAID ON HIS SHARES.

CAPITAL £60,000, IN 6,000 SHARES OF £10 EACH.

POWER IS RESERVED FOR THE COMPANY BY SPECIAL RESOLUTION TO INCREASE THE CAPITAL.

The Directors and their friends Subscribe for 4,000 *Shares, leaving* 2,000 *to be offered to the public.*

£1 PER SHARE PAYABLE ON APPLICATION, AND £1. 10s. ON ALLOTMENT.

THE REMAINING £7. 10s. BY CALLS NOT EXCEEDING £2. 10s. PER SHARE, AT INTERVALS OF NOT LESS THAN THREE MONTHS.

The Vendor Guarantees and Secures, to the satisfaction of the Directors, Dividends upon the Paid-up Capital of £12 per cent. per annum by half-yearly payments, during the three years next after the Allotment.
The Guarantee may be inspected at the Solicitors' Office.

The Vendor bears all Preliminary Expenses.

Directors.

CHAIRMAN—A. K. DYER, Esq., late General Manager in Ceylon of the Asiatic Banking Corporation.
JOHN RANDON WORCESTER, Esq., Director of the Ceylon Coffee Estates Company.
H. H. POTTS, Esq., Director of the Hunasgeria Coffee Company.
RICHARD COURTENAY, Esq., Director of the Ouvah Coffee Company.
W. D. GRAY, Esq., late of Ceylon, Director of the Ceylon Coffee Estates Company.

Bankers.

THE AGRA and MASTERMAN'S BANK, Nicholas Lane, Lombard Street.

Broker.

JOHN INCHBALD, Esq., 2, Copthall Court and Stock Exchange, London.

Solicitors.

Messrs. COURTENAY & CROOME, 9, Gracechurch Street, London.

Agents in Ceylon.

Messrs. LEE, HEDGES, and CO.

Auditor.

JOSEPH SAWYER, Esq., Fenchurch Street, London, Accountant.

Secretary.

C. E. BANKS, Esq.

Offices—70, Cannon Street West, London.

The objects of this Company are the acquisition and working of Coffee Estates in Ceylon, and the selling of their produce.

The Directors have purchased three valuable coffee estates, situated in the Matella district; the contract may be seen at the Solicitors' office. These estates are known as the Beredewelle, Delagahoya, and Oodasgeria Estates, and contain about 1,010 acres—825 of which are freehold and 185 leasehold, at a nominal rent, held for the unexpired term of forty-six years. The Directors are making arrangements for an extension of the term to ninety-six years. 614 acres are planted, 552 are in full bearing, and the remainder will be so next year; fifty-five acres are in guinea grass, for cattle. 200 acres of very fine forest land are to be planted this year, which will leave about 140 acres to be brought into cultivation at a later period.

The crop for 1864-5 (when the full-bearing coffee was only 455 acres) amounted to about 4,000 cwts., which, after deducting the merchant's commission of about £420, being 2½ per cent. on gross proceeds, will give a net profit of about £6,000. The Company will sell without the intervention of the merchant, and thus save the above commission.

The crop for the year 1865-6, and which is now partly picked, is estimated at between 5,000 and 5,500 cwts., and as the vendor bears all expenses of up keep to the 30th June last, 5,000 cwt. should give a net profit available for dividend and reserve fund of more than £10,000.

When the whole acreage, exclusive of the 140 acres, is in full bearing, the estimated profit available for dividend would at present prices amount to about £12,000, or at the rate of £20 per cent. per annum on the entire capital.

The Directors consider that the present price will certainly be maintained, if not exceeded; seeing that the demand for coffee is greatly on the increase, whilst the Brazil and Java crops are annually decreasing, and that the reopening of the Southern ports of America cannot fail still further to stimulate the trade, and that there is little good land now procurable in Ceylon to be brought under coffee cultivation.

The before-mentioned estates have advantages which few properties in Ceylon can command; they are within a few miles of Matella Town, the great depot for labour and draft cattle; the Government road from the coast, by which most of the coolies travel, is the eastern boundary of the Beredewelle estate; this estate has a contract with Government for cleansing the town of Matella, by which much valuable manure is obtained at a trifling cost; and being situated on the high road from Colombo, the owners of these estates, instead of incurring a heavy loss (as many proprietors do) on the rice which they supply to coolies at fixed prices, have in most seasons actually derived a profit upon it; and whilst the cost of transit of coffee to the port of loading from many estates ranges between 5s. and 12s 6d. per cwt., the cost from these estates averages about 3s. 6d. per cwt.

The railway from Colombo to Kandy is now partly open, and the contemplated extension to Matella will bring it within two miles of the Beredewelle estate. This will greatly reduce the expense of transit.

All the buildings are substantial and in good repair; there is an ample supply of water, cattle, carts, and machinery driven by water-wheels, and all necessary appliances for taking in and pulping the crops.

It is proposed to retain the present manager, who has had upwards of ten years' experience in the district.

The Directors and their friends take 4,000 shares, leaving 2,000 for the public.

During the period of the guarantee, the Directors will place to a reserve fund all profits beyond £12 per cent. per annum on the paid-up capital. At the expiration of that period this fund will be distributed pro rata amongst the then holders of shares to which the guarantee extends.

The Ceylon Coffee Estates Company's success shows what large profits are derivable from coffee cultivation. The Directors of that Company, which has a capital of £60,000, out of the profits on their first year's operations paid a dividend of £10 per cent., and carried to the reserve fund £4,757. 5s., equal to about £8 per cent. more.

Prospectuses and forms of application for shares may be obtained at the Offices of the Company, and of the Bankers, Brokers, and Solicitors, where the Contract for purchase may be seen.

Copies of the Memorandum and Articles of Association can be had at the Offices of the Solicitors, or at the Temporary Offices of the Company. Copies will be forwarded by post without charge, on application to the Secretary.

APPLICATION FOR SHARES TO BE MADE IN THE ACCOMPANYING FORM.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

TO BE RETAINED BY THE BANKERS.

To the Directors of the MATELLA COFFEE ESTATES COMPANY OF CEYLON (Limited).

GENTLEMEN,—Having paid to your Bankers the sum of £ , being a deposit of £1 per Share on Shares in the above Company, I hereby request that you will allot me that number, and I agree to accept such Shares or any less number you may allot to me, and to become a Member of the Company in respect thereof, and I authorise you to insert my name on the Register of Members for the Shares allotted to me.

Usual Signature .....
Name in full.....
Residence.....
Profession.....
Date .....

THE MATELLA COFFEE ESTATES COMPANY OF CEYLON, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the SHARE LIST of this Company will be CLOSED on WEDNESDAY NEXT, November 29th.

By order, C. E. BANKS, Secretary.

Printed for the Proprietors by WOODFALL and KINDER, Milford-lane, Strand; and published by JOHN ELLISON at the Office of the LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH, No. 13, George-yard, Lombard-street, in the Parish of St. Edmund the King, in the City London.—Tuesday, Nov. 28, 1865.

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PER FRENCH MAIL.]

The London and China 新聞紙 Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS," A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 193.] LONDON, THURSDAY, DEC. 7, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama			Oct. 14
Nagasaki			„ 17
Hakodadi			„ 6
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			„ 12
Chefoo			„ 11
New-chwang			
Hankow			„ 15
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	Aug. 26	Oct. 14	„ 21
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 24
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Aug. 26	Oct. 7	„ 28
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila			
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			Nov. 3
SIAM— Bangkok			Oct. 26
BORNEO—			
Labuan			
Sarawak			
JAVA—			
Batavia			
MALACCA STRAITS—			
Singapore			Nov. 5
Penang			

Telegrams of the P. and O. mail due on 13th with dates from Hong Kong to Nov. 1, have been received from Suez, dated the 4th inst., and they may be expected in London on the 14th.

The value of the French mail is illustrated on this occasion, as owing to the neaping of the P. and O. Company's steamer at Calcutta the next mail by that line, due on the 13th inst., will probably not arrive until the 18th or 20th.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Pera, from Southampton, Dec. 4.—To Shanghai: Mr. H. Richardson, Miss M. A. Russell. To Singapore: Mr. S. Shortridge. To Hong Kong: Mr. W. Dalrymple, Mrs. Cairns, Capt. Gordon, Assist.-Surg. Purefoy, Mr. J. Lloyd. To Ceylon: Rev. J. and Miss Scott, Miss Bois, Mr. R. Robinson, Mr. D. D. Graham, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Kent, Staff Surgeon and Mrs. Meadows. From Marseilles, Dec. 12.—To Hong Kong: Mr. Jerdein, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Lambert, Mr. E. Behre, Mr. Reginald Smith, Mr. W. D. Paterson, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Burrows, jun., Mr. Menzies, Mr. A. A. Hayes, jun. To Shanghai: Mr. W. Pardun, Mr. Innes, Mr. A. Downie. To Ceylon: Mr. L. P. Thomas.

Per P. and O. steamer Nyanza, from Southampton, Dec. 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Evans and infant. To Hong Kong: Major Peebles. To Ceylon: Mr. Macan, Lieut. B. S. and Mrs. du Jardin, and Miss Hugo, Mr. Harper. From Marseilles, Dec. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mrs. Hunter, two Misses Hunter, Miss Hutton.

Per P. and O. steamer from Marseilles, Jan. 4, 1866.—To Shanghai via Bombay: Mr. W. H. Carter.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Jan. 4, 1866.—To Ceylon: Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Carver. To Hong Kong: Lieut. Scott, Mr. Steel.

From Marseilles, Jan. 12.—To Hong Kong: Rev. F. S. Turner. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Grant Gordon. To Singapore: Mr. G. J. Buchanan. To Ceylon: Mr. J. T. Molison.

From Suez, Jan. 19.—To Hong Kong: Sir Richard and Lady MacDonnell.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Our political news is of a very meagre nature, but although there is at present a lack of stirring intelligence, the horizon is not altogether cloudless. Many and frequent are the enquiries made regarding the Tycoon, whose movements and doings are veiled in mystery; according to Japanese accounts (which, by the way, are not always reliable) he is still at Kioto, the guest of the Mikado. The expedition against Chosiu appears to have miscarried entirely, a rather formidable host of supporters having appeared at the back of the refractory Daimio, who were quite ready to come to the front if the integrity of that Prince's territory were endangered. The Mikado is said to have acted the part of mediator between the Tycoon and Chosiu, and should this be true, the quarrel, after a few preliminary *harukiris*, or official rippings-up, will probably be amicably adjusted. This will doubtless be a great disappointment to those who have always accepted the Tycoon, and who would see no wrong in him, nor any extenuation for the conduct of the Daimio; but to an impartial observer, who looks ever so little below the surface of things, there has been nothing in the course lately pursued by the Tycoon calculated either to claim respect or excite sympathy. Whether Prince Nagato was or was not acting in accordance with instructions from the Mikado or the Tycoon is a point which perhaps will ever remain doubtful—a case in fact of hard swearing between Tycoon and Prince; but it is difficult to believe that the latter would have taken the initiative without some substantial promise or prospect of support. But let us glance at the course pursued by the Tycoon's Government subsequent to Chosiu's aggressive acts. Were any active measures taken against the Prince to prevent a repetition of them? Was he declared a rebel? Nothing of the sort. Protestations and promises of redress came from Yedo, but nothing more. Then followed the combined and successful attack on Simonoseki, which taught such a startling lesson to the whole of Japan. The Government, although in some measure prepared for an adverse result, were terrified at the severity of the blow struck, and fearing the charge of being implicated with Nagato, took immediate measures to set themselves right with foreigners at his expense. The Prince's residences at Yedo and Nagasaki were razed to the ground, his territory declared confiscated, and a large army commanded by the Tycoon in person marched from Yedo, for the ostensible purpose of reducing the rebel Daimio to submission.

It would appear from native reports that the Tycoon has already essayed to return to Yedo, but that while staying at the residence of a Prince he again so narrowly escaped a trap laid for his assassination, that he deemed it expedient to return for a time to Miako. Possibly, however, there may be better reasons for prolonging his visit at the Spiritual Court; Yedo is henceforth to be not only nominally but actually the residence of foreign ministers, and Sir Harry Parkes has given an earnest of his intentions by demanding a concession for the British Legation, and has very wisely selected a spot which possesses the double advantage of having a water frontage and affording no umbrageous hiding-places for Ronins. Sir Harry is, moreover, evidently determined not to let the matter rest for an instant until his intentions are fully carried out; the ground has already been measured and the preliminaries of the contract arranged.

The British community have certainly cause for congratulation on the choice of a minister made by our Government, and Sir Harry's qualifications, both diplomatic and social, are likely

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to meet with full appreciation. His Excellency is not likely to confine his movements to the immediate limits of the Treaty ports, but will probably take full advantage of that clause in our treaty which very properly gives the British. representative a right to travel through any part of the Empire, Sir Harry is not only anxious to see Japan for himself, but is willing to forward the wishes of his fellow countrymen in this respect also. Until his arrival it was a most difficult matter for any member of the British Community to get permission to visit Yedo. As the guest of a foreign representative he might be fortunate enough to obtain leave from the Minister, but otherwise his application was nearly always refused although members of other nationalities were not under the same ban, and could go as frequently as they chose to apply, provided they were decent and respectable people. Since Sir Harry Parkes' arrival numerous British residents in Yokohama who, not happening to have official friends at Yedo, have been debarred from the privilege of visiting that city, have at length had their wishes gratified. Hitherto we have done our best to assist the Japanese in maintaining the exclusiveness they seek after, but the opposite course will, I think, be found more politic in the end. The American Minister has continued to reside at Yedo ever since his arrival, and without being inconvenienced by any unpleasant demonstration, although no guard has protected his residence. The Consul-general of Holland also is a frequent visitor there, and is endeavouring to overcome the prejudices of the natives by the introduction of a carriage and pair on the Tokaido. By this road Yedo is within a convenient distance for driving; and its straight course, uniform width, and level character, bring it into not unfavourable comparison with the high roads leading to our own metropolis. I am by no means sure that the Japanese Government find reason to congratulate themselves on the change of Ministers. Much as the Gorogio may have disapproved of Sir Rutherford Alcock, they would probably, if they had their choice now, prefer a continuation of his *regime*. Sir Harry's reputation has preceded him here as one who can "read off" a diplomatic Mandarin like a book, and could even fathom the recesses of the Imperial mind itself—a faculty quite sufficient to be alarming to Japanese diplomatists. Without for one moment drawing unfavourable comparisons, there is no denying that Sir Harry Parkes is eminently qualified for his present post.

The Japanese are loth to give up their traditions; they still cling with fondness to the Japan of old, and will not persuade themselves that the foreigner is a permanent institution. And the Government is evidently disinclined to believe in the necessity of Yokohama being permanently garrisoned by British troops, for they made a proposition the other day to the effect that "As the two countries (England and Japan) had now a perfectly good understanding with one another, there was surely no longer any need for detaining such fine troops as the 20th in that distant corner of the earth." I am not aware that any official reply has been vouchsafed to this gentle hint, but if so I fear it was not quite satisfactory to the recipients. Yokohama has proved such an excellent sanitarium for the troops that it is not very surprising if some reluctance is felt in withdrawing from the station.

The *Adventure* has brought from Hong Kong a portion of the 11th Regiment with some fifty women (wives of men in the 20th) and seventy children. Why these poor women should have been kept away from their husbands for a year, when within a few days' sail of them, exposed to the risks attending the enervating climate of Hong Kong and all the evils which beset women under such circumstances, is one of those curious problems that can only be solved by official intelligence.

It was quite a melancholy sight to see the 150 men of the 11th landing at the jetty. They were supposed to represent the effective portion of the battalion; it must have been a grim joke to call them so, for in sober truth there were not six sound men amongst them. If these men were the only ones fit for duty, what could be the state of the remainder? It must be bad indeed, for 300 had been ordered home immediately. This, then, represented the strength of the 2nd battalion—the 150 worn pallid creatures, who could scarcely totter up the steps from the landing place. Though the band of the 20th came down to welcome their comrades to Japan, their cheery strains produced but little visible effect on the fever-stricken forms before them. Few of the men could ascend the steps without assistance, and many had to be carried on shore and put in the ranks like log figures.

NAGASAKI.

From a letter we learn that the vessel reported to have been wrecked off the north end of Cape Gotto was the Dutch barque *W. Kemptner*. Out of the entire crew only one was saved. The crew consisted almost exclusively of married men, whose wives and families are thus deprived of their natural protectors. The Dutch consul, Mr. Bauduin, has, with the most praiseworthy energy, set on foot a subscription in behalf of those left destitute by this sad calamity, and already a very considerable amount has been subscribed.

On the evening of the 16th Oct., in the foreign settlement, three officers from H.M.S. *Rattler* were fiercely menaced by a Japanese, supposed to be a retainer of the Prince of Satzuma, armed with a rifle, which he subsequently fired at one of the party. The officers, being unarmed, were to a certain extent in his power, and made no attempt at resistance. Fortunately, however, Mr. French, an American resident, arrived on the scene of action, and fired at the native twice with his revolver. Both shots took effect, and there is little chance of the man's recovery. An official inquiry into the matter was to have been instituted at both the English and American Consulates at the date of our advices.

HAKODADI.

On the 30th of Sept. the brig *William Cundall*, Captain Semple, arrived from Nagasaki, with fourteen persons belonging to the Russian barque *Hamilla Mitchell*, Captain Barfred, who were picked up in an open boat at the northern extremity of the Corea Strait. The *Hamilla Mitchell*—originally a British vessel of 520 tons register—was *en route* from Nicolaievsk, Amoor River, to Chefoo, and about the 8th Sept. ran ashore on the Corean coast in foggy and rainy weather, where she became a total wreck. All hands got ashore and remained there for some days, until they were ordered off by the people, a sampan, some rice, water, &c., being provided for them. They took also the ship's long-boat, with baggage and provisions. Heavy weather coming on most of them were obliged to get into the long-boat, leaving three men in the sampan, which has not since been heard of. The captain's wife was delivered of a child in the open boat. They were discovered at sea and picked up by the brig on the 18th. The sampan, with their baggage, having gone astray, they were in a destitute condition.

SHIPPING.—ARRIVALS.—6th Oct., H.M.'s ship Princess Royal, and Jacobus Martenus.

DEPARTURES.—Tae-chang for Tientsin, La Vierge for Shanghai, Elizabeth for Yokohama, Caton and Kaffir Chief for Shanghai.

IN PORT.—Fusiyama, William Cundal, Jeanne et Joseph, Omer et Juliet, Jacobus Martenus, and Gilyak.

There is no freight offering, and trade is generally dull. Some silkworm contracts are likely to fail. A good many cards of eggs have, however, already been shipped.

CHINA.

TIENTSIN.

We have received the following communication regarding the trade of Tientsin, from Messrs. Platt and Co., of that port:—

Tientsin is situated on the Peiho, about 30 miles by land and 70 miles by water from the Taku Forts (which are placed at the entrance of the river), and 100 miles from Peking, the capital of China. The Grand Canal, which joins the Peiho at Tientsin, goes west about 50 miles, then south, joining the Hoang-Ho, or Yellow River, after which it continues its course until it reaches the Yang-tze, opposite Chinkiang, thus opening an inland water communication with Shanghai of upwards of 1,000 miles in extent, together with the navigation of the Yellow River, which extends an immense distance into the interior to the west. The trade of this port is large, as will be seen from the perusal of the list of imports, and is conducted by foreign as well as native merchants, and has hitherto derived its supply from the surplus stock of Shanghai and Hong Kong. Native merchants from the province of Shansee do the major part of the business of the west and north-west of China. Goods from this port find their way in many instances into Upper Thibet, on the borders of India, from which place and Mongolia they get camel's hair and wool in return. Large fairs, such as those of Leipsic and Novgorod, are held at stated periods, and draw their supplies from this port.

Exports consist principally of medicines for Chinese use, together with wool, camel's hair, and cotton. All merchandise sold here is paid for either in sycee or gold bars, the premium upon the former being about 5 per cent. over Shanghai in favour of Tientsin.

Steamers run from Shanghai in about four days direct to the foreign settlement (in the suburbs of the city) during the season, which is from the early part of March until about the 10th of December, after which the navigation is frozen up, and all business closed, except small parcels for local consumption.

	Imports. 1861. Pieces.	Imports. 1862. Pieces.	Imports. 1863. Pieces.	Imports. 1864. Pieces.
Grey Shirtings	891,468	465,887	86,151	164,359
White „	199,762	119,902	30,257	72,135
Dyed „	5,797	8,230	364	14,948
T-Cloths..	160,596	169,277	21,599	36,520
Domestics and L-Cloths.	2,888	4,583	5,280	—

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White Spots	60,433	53,104	3,947	13,139
Dyed „	15,566	25,636	—	—
White Brocades	42,732	55,242	950	—
Dyed „	19,039	36,485	600	—
„ Damasks	7,440	17,894	703	2,760
Turkey Red Cloths ..	2,899	7,525	18,000	6,860
Handkerchiefs	4,617	5,060	1,130	4,560
Chintz	—	82,793	6,830	20,959
„ Japan	26,256	2,992	980	920
Velvets	1,540	921	1,136	4,137
Velveteens	1,057	222	1,680	302
American Drills	92,615	59,678	3,705	3,487
„ Jeans	19,109	33,401	398	1,580
„ Sheetings ..	26,645	16,722	80	—
Camlets	2,975	4,326	7,042	4,661
„ Imitation ..	—	—	—	990
Long Ells	2,907	3,210	3,486	1,345
Lastings	4,472	717	797	2,382
„ Imitation ..	—	—	142	10,185
Spanish Stripes	1,725	3,043	1,328	6,910
Figured Orleans	—	—	1,462	—
Lustres	—	—	2,860	—
Mixtures, worsted & cotton	5,306	1,146	172	3,898
	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.
Lead, in pigs .. piculs	226	36	1,736	5,801
Tin Plates .. boxes	385	184	715	983
Steel .. .. piculs	1,531	1,879	451	3,713
Copper .. .. „	—	—	2,101	3,897
Quicksilver .. „	133	343	—	221
Windsor Glass	7,964	1,000	5,412	16,995
Opium, M wa .. chests	1,482	3,389	3,571	2,673
„ othair kinds „	—	308	177	208
Betel Nutse .. piculs	1,722	1,652	1,093	3,299
Cloves .. .. „	101	10	365	415
Gall Nut .. „	277	1,129	767	316
Pepper, black .. „	1,680	623	1,025	2,426
„ white .. „	—	—	84	17
Rattans .. i	534	295	644	332
Sandalwood .. piculs	1,045	225	415	306
Sapanwood .. „	559	614	1,824	5,156
Seaweed .. .. „	8,360	11,472	14,380	10,464
Sugar, white .. „	19,806	4,417	19,822	65,153
„ brown .. „	—	14,008	21,967	94,548
Port opened		Mar. 10	Mar. 6	Mar. 9
Port closed	Dec. 10	Dec. 15	Dec. 12	Dec. 8

The following list shows the imports for the month of August, 1865, and quotes 8lb. 4oz. grey shirtings at taels 3·60 for good makes, which is equal, with exchange at 6s. 3d. per tael, to 23s. 7½d. per piece:—

Imports.	Pieces.	Imports.	Pieces.
7lb. to 7lb. 2oz. gy. shtgs. } 8lb. to 8lb. 4oz. „ }	100,149	Turkey-red cloths	2,220
		Handkerchiefs (dozens) ..	1,644
54 to 56 reed white „ } 60 to 64 „ „ „ }	21,449	Chintzs (pieces)	5,060
		Velvets	120
Dyed shirtings	800	English drills	1,020
6lb. T-cloths .. } 7lb. „ .. }	11,850	Dimities	300
		Camlets	1,090
White spots	400	Long ells	40
Dyed „	950	Lastings	365
White brocades	none	Spanish stripes	1,256
Dyed „	none	Figured Orleans	3,700
Dyed damasks	1,240	Lustres	3,740

Parcels of grey shirtings, T-cloths, white and dyed spots, figured Orleans, and lustres are frequently inquired for, and no difficulty would be found in placing them at paying rates.

SHANGHAI.

Dates are to the 21st October. The mails of 26th August arrived out on the 14th October. The following items are from the *North China Herald*.

During the past week the weather has continued dry but cool and bracing, and sickness has almost disappeared from the settlements. Our European dates extend to the 13th ult., the English mail of August 26 having arrived this morning, per P. and O. Co.'s steamer *Singapore*. The French mail steamer *Labourdonnais* arrived on the 9th inst., with telegrams to September 2nd, but her news had been anticipated some forty-four hours by the *Suwonada*. On the 12th the *Oriflamme* arrived with dates to the 9th ult.

Within Shanghai public attention has been concentrated on the issue of a misunderstanding between the French Consul-General and the Municipal Council of the "French Concession." We abstain from all comment on the subject as the facts will be found fully detailed in the documents reprinted in another column. Our readers will, of course, form their own conclusions, but, whichever side is believed to be in the right, all must deplore the present quarrel. Yet of this evil good will, we doubt not, spring, inasmuch as the status of the Council and the French settlement must now be, once for all, definitely settled. Full details with regard to Burgevine will be found in the *Daily News* of the 9th Oct. His coffin has been brought to Shanghai and opened, and the evidence goes to prove the genuineness of the corpse. There is little or no reason to believe that his fate and that of his companions was other than the result of unforeseen accident. Rumours have prevailed for the last few days to the effect that the Siamese ship *Shooting Star*, which left this port on the 9th inst., and the British steamer *Waratah*, which left on the 27th ultimo, had been taken or attacked by pirates. Anxiety as to the fate of the latter vessel has happily been set at rest, but the evidence which has been laid before us appears to afford a strong corroboration of the worst fears with regard to the *Shooting Star*. On the 9th inst. the North-China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society held its regular monthly meeting, when an interesting paper bearing on the information with regard to Western nations gleaned by the Japanese from foreign authorities, and a valuable sketch of the Fauna of Formosa, were read and discussed. The monthly meeting of the Municipal Council was held on the 10th inst., the reports submitted to which have been published. From the South we learn that the embargo on rice has been removed by the Siamese Government, the removal to take effect from August 22nd.

From Hankow we hear that a destructive fire occurred there during the night of the 7th. No foreign property was injured. Two men, named Stevens and Gerard, have been arrested on suspicion of having murdered one Macdonald, keeper of a low tavern. Their trial was proceeding at the date of our latest advices.

From Chefoo we have received an account of the damage caused by the recent torrents of rain. At the city of Tungchow several portions of the wall were washed away, and at one spot 165 yards of solid masonry slipped from its position, and fell on a row of houses, of course burying them.

Our Hakodadi correspondent reports severe gales on that coast, which have resulted in the loss of an enormous number of junks.

A correspondent writes:—"The whole of the Che-kiang Province is in ruins. Soochow and Hangchow are a mass of rubbish; it is only at the gates that the Chinese have commenced to build. Splendid granite bridges have everywhere been demolished. Colonel Sykes ought to be transported to this neighbourhood for a few months, prior to commencing his new Parliamentary career; he could then understand the real state of the case."

The coffin containing Takee's body was carried in state through the foreign settlements. The procession was headed by the police band, assisted by a number of native musicians on horseback, who brayed in the most discordant manner. The coffin was subsequently conveyed on board the *Kiangse*, by which vessel it will be sent to Ningpo. Our readers are doubtless aware that Takee was the head of the Ningpo guild in Shanghai.

A meeting of the Municipal Council was held on the 10th Oct., at which it was decided, amongst other matters, to instruct Mr. Myburgh to take immediate action in the Supreme Court against the trustees of the estate of the late Charles Wills, the said estate being indebted to the municipality at this date in the sum of 2,851.27 tls., while probably no property in Shanghai has more largely benefited by municipal control.

One thousand taels standing in the Municipal books since April, 1862, as due by J. P. Tate, Esq., and alluded to by your committee in their report of the 7th July last, as unaccounted for by Mr. Pickwood, and again by a letter of Mr. Chaloner Alabaster, published with the Council minutes of the 7th of August last, your committee determined, if possible, to discover this sum, and have traced it up through every available record. The result has been that your committee find no just reason why the late Council placed this sum as due by Mr. Tate, it appearing that the Municipal Council compradore received the amount from the Chinese Defence Committee in two bankers' orders of 500 taels each; that he cashed the same, and placed the money to his own account, and that the money was, therefore, never in the hands of Mr. Tate, the treasurer of the Council, or of Mr. Pickwoad, the secretary. The compradore is dead, and so is his security, and your committee would suggest, therefore, that this disputed sum of 1,000 taels be written off the books of the Council. Your committee would remark that such a loss could not have arisen had the books of the Municipality in 1862 been kept in an intelligible manner, or on such a system as now.

The *North China Herald* of 21st Octber gives a detailed account of the case Regina v. E. A. Reynolds and A. Holtz, tried before Sir E. Hornby at the Supreme Court, Shanghai. Counsel for the prosecution Mr. Myburgh, and Mr. Robinson for the defence. The charges against the defendants were, that

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they were causing the diversion of the accustomed channel of the river Wangpoo, and otherwise interfering with it, to the impediment and damage of the free navigation of the river and against the rights and interests of the Emperor of China. In correspondence between themselves and H.B.M. Consul, they admitted having imbedded casks in the mud on the river bank and had bunded in the frontage of the river, and that the jetty in course of construction was their work. But they claimed to have a right to place and erect these obstructions.

The case of the defendants appeared to be, that as the owners of twenty mow of land which by title-deed was stated to be bounded on one side by the river, they have become entitled to the land formed between their property and the river by natural deposit and otherwise, and amounting to about 75 mow. The defendants denied that the law of China gave rights to the Crown co-extensive with that given by English law. The question of right involved the consideration of the *lex loci rei citæ*, which would give a landholder no more than the quantity of land in the title-deed, and, in the case of land situated on the water-side, to give to the Emperor of China all alluvial deposit, however formed, and all land between high and low water marks. The Taotai, in a letter on the subject to H.B.M. Consul, states, having received a despatch from H.B.M. Consul, saying that Messrs. Dent and Co. had inquired whether or not foreign merchants who had rented ground on the Putung side, if afterwards other ground rises up, can take in such land and use it as part of their ground rented; and if such can be done, what are the limits of measurement. They request the Consul to inquire into this. The Consul, in reply, has stated that he has examined into the case, and finds that no despatch has been received from the Taotai, and he has, therefore, no grounds to decide upon. The Consul then requests an examination of the case and a reply. On receipt of this the Taotai wrote, "I have not received any despatch from the Consul about this application from Messrs. Dent and Co. But formerly in reference to encroachments injurious to the river made by Reynolds, of the Fuh-lee hong, I have received orders from the Tsung-li yamen to the effect that they have communicated with the British Minister, and that he has issued orders to the former Consul, Markham, strictly prohibiting the above. Now, if the land mentioned by Messrs. Dent and Co. is the same as that referred to by the Tsung-li board, it should be treated in accordance with the prohibition. If it is another piece of land, we should wait till the officers deputed have examined and decided as to whether it has had any bad effect upon the course of the river, and we shall act accordingly. At the same time, I deputed the Shanghai magistrate and the Wei-yuan Chen to examine and report, and I inform you that I have done so. Now, according to the report of the Shanghai magistrate Wang and the Wei-yuan Chen, they went, on the 3rd day of the 7th moon, with Mr. Interpreter Carroll, and a person who was requested to come from Messrs. Dent and Co.'s to examine the ground. The person from Messrs. Dent and Co. having arrived on the spot, stated that Messrs. Dent and Co. had no land at Putung, and had not requested a commission to extend their limits. They then asked these two Chinese how it was that this did not agree with the Consul's first statement, to the effect that Messrs. Dent and Co.'s application was produced by damage to the river caused by the land jutting out at Mr. Reynolds' property.

With reference to this, Wang, magistrate of Shanghai, said: I am acquainted with the laws of China. According to those laws, land bought or rented is specified as to extent in the title-deeds, and cannot be added to. If any increase be made it belongs to the Crown. It is punishable to deposit anything in a river between high and low water marks.

Mr. Hockley, R.N., Harbour-Master, in being examined stated:—The point is not now in the same state as when I assumed office. It has been increased by the placing of barrels in the vicinity of the point. Those barrels were placed by Mr. Reynolds. When first placed on an average they were 50 feet from low water mark, and 80 feet from high water mark, ordinary tides. They were at first put on the top of the mud, and stones put in them to keep them in position. The placing of these tubs tended to increase the deposit, by the tidal stream being checked, and the water being thus prevented from going over the smooth surface of the bank where it would have left a natural deposit on the top. The tubs caused a deposit to fall outside. The continuance of these tubs increased the point 154 feet in one year. Other witnesses were called and gave lengthened statements.

Sir E. Hornby, in giving judgment at great length, stated it was clear the defendants have failed in their attempt to justify their acts. It is clear that the land on which the mole is built is not their land. It is equally clear that the mole itself is what the law considers an obstruction, in other words, a nuisance. He was not, however, disposed to do more in the present case than order a verdict to be entered against them, and to restrain them from continuing their works, leaving them to apply for permission to the civil authorities, through the Consul, to rear such a jetty as the authorities may think will not be productive of inconvenience, either present or future, to the navigation of the river. The local authorities will, doubtless, be satisfied with this, and will be inclined to meet the defendants half way, to allow them to continue from a point to be fixed on the present mole, the erection of an open-work jetty—the defendants paying an increased rent to the Government for every mow they claim to retain beyond the quantity originally purchased by them. The verdict of the court will therefore be against the defendants—the question of the removal of the mole to remain in suspense, to see if any arrangement can be made with the local authorities, the works to be stopped until the permission of the Taotai be obtained to continue them; and the costs of this summons to be paid by the defendants.

CHIN-KIANG.

On the 23rd August a meeting of the supporters of the Chinese Hospital at Chin-kiang was held, and numerously attended. The report, which has been circulated amongst the foreign community here, shows a very satisfactory state of things, and proves that Dr. Gentle has spared no pains to extend his sphere of usefulness amongst the Chinese. The dispensary was opened in April 1864, when the only place available was the junk in which Dr. Gentle at the time resided. Within a few months, however, the sum of $221 was subscribed, and a more suitable consulting room opened on shore. Besides the contributions of the foreign residents, a fee of fifty cash is taken from patients able to pay it, and from this apparently trifling source $259.70 was collected during the year. The funds, therefore, now show a balance in favour of the dispensary of $111.70, the expenditure for the year, exclusive of the first cost of building, amounting to no more than $157. Yet with this slight outlay 4,264 patients were treated, of whom 790 were too poor to pay anything. We have hitherto learned, from Chinese hospital reports, that the majority of cases submitted to treatment are surgical. Chin-kiang, however, offers an exception to this rule, as the surgical cases bear but a small ratio to the entire number brought under treatment. Patients suffering from skin diseases have frequently sought aid, and no less than between thirty and forty cases of leprosy were treated. Sixty-seven operations, all of considerable importance, were performed, and the relief thus obtained, together with the satisfactory results of minor operations on the eye, have tended to gain the implicit confidence of the natives. Opium-smokers have also claimed assistance, at least ten of whom, out of a gross number of about 140, were cured of the habit. Lastly, the patients frequenting the hospital and dispensary have been brought as far as possible under religious instruction; but the short time which each sufferer remains under treatment would appear to have prevented the manifestation of any good results. The London Mission are about to appoint a catechist at Chin-kiang, whose services will be made available for the dispensary, and through him the truths of religion will be brought prominently before the patients during their stay.

FOOCHOW.

Messrs. Fussell and Co.'s Circular of October 24 reports the following vessels cleared with tea for London:—Merse, 877,700 lbs.; Canaan, 1,085,100 lbs.; St. Dunstan, 547,000 lbs. For Falmouth, for orders: Asia, 381,890 lbs.; Florentine, 352,130 lbs.; Bertha, 127,700 lbs. For United States: Jeannie, 525,600 lbs. Loading: Banian (full), Carractacus, Alexandrina, Lord Macaulay (full), Esperanza (full).

On the tea market they state:—Our last report was dated 9th October, since when a large amount of business has been transacted.

Congous.—In the early part of the interval which has elapsed there were but few buyers, and with increased stocks rates for medium kinds further declined one tael, but immediately on the arrival of the mail of 26th of August, with improved accounts of the English and Australian markets, several eager buyers entered the market, and a large business has resulted, settlements amounting for the fortnight to about 44,800 chests; owing, however, to continued large receipts from the country, rates have not advanced, the market closing firmly at our last quotations.

Souchong.—We have no change to notice in these kinds, the stock of which is much reduced.

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OOLONG.—Paucity of supplies has prevented an extended business, and the few settlements made have been at full rates.

SCENTED TEAS have been in more demand, and latest settlements show an advance of 1 to 2 taels per picul.

FLOWERY PEKOES have been in request for India at about previous quotations.

AMOY.

Advices from Amoy are to the 12th Oct. They speak of a slight visitation of cholera and dysentery, several fatal cases having occurred of both diseases. The death of Mr. Freeman had caused considerable regret, from the general esteem with which that gentleman was regarded by the residents. Flags were half-mast, and other signs served to show the sorrow felt at the loss sustained by the removal of a respected resident. The *China Mail* says: —

The subject, however, which engrossed, and will doubtless continue to engross, the largest share of attention at Amoy—and there need be little wonder if it does—is the growing hardihood and daring exploits of the pirates in the neighbouring waters. So effectually are those sea-robbers establishing a reign of terror over the legitimate commerce of the coast, that the residents at that port are becoming really alarmed. Unfortunately, this anxiety does not appear to have a corresponding effect upon our Consular authorities there. In the absence of such official interest, a meeting had been held of the principal merchants in the settlement, to take into serious consideration what steps should be taken under the present threatening aspects of affairs; and a deputation, we understand, waited on H.B.M.'s Consul to request him to take some action in the matter. What particular line that action may take is not easy to guess at. It is, however, plain enough that no steps have been as yet taken by the senior naval officer, the official whose action would probably be the most effective.

As we have already hinted, it is difficult to arrive at conclusions regarding the action, if any, likely to be taken at the present juncture. It is as plain as noonday, to all who wish to see, that piracy is outgrowing us, outwitting us, undermining the security of our trade, and, if unchecked, may seriously embarrass our commercial as well as our political relations with this Empire. It is sufficiently clear also that it is incumbent upon every nation, worthy the status of a nation with treaty relations, to clear its coasts, creeks, and harbours, and keep them clear, of its own robbers. This admitted, it may be seen at a glance that a government which is unable or unwilling to do this for itself must either pay for such duty being done by others, or forfeit the rights secured by treaty with the other governments concerned. A line of action embracing these principles is said to have been whispered in official circles; and we simply await the issue of said whisperings, in the hope that it may be fraught with better hopes and livelier results than have hitherto been forthcoming.

HONG KONG.

Dates are up to the morning of the 28th Oct., owing to the non-arrival of the steamer from Shanghai. We take the following items from the *Evening Mail*:—

His Excellency the Governor of Macao has at length wakened up to a sense of the iniquity of the coolie trade, which has so long been carried on without hindrance or restraint in the Holy City itself and on the neighbouring islands. He has instituted an inquiry into the whole of the circumstances attendant on this infamous traffic, and has expressed a resolution to put an end to it for ever. We have been informed that this action on his part is mainly attributable to some very excellent articles that have appeared in the columns of our contemporary, the *Echo do Povo*. We cannot but think, however, that our repeated denunciations have not been without their effect.

The following report of the *Suwondna's* passage from Shanghai will serve to show that the predictions regarding her swiftness were tolerably correct. The American steamer *Suwonada*, Captain Jayne, left her mooring off the Shanghae dock at 5 A.M., on the morning of the 12th, passed Woosung at 6 A.M., Light Ship at 8.20 A.M., discharged pilot at 8.50 A.M., passed the Tai-chow Islands at 10 P.M., and arrived in this harbour at 11.45 P.M., on Sunday, the 14th, having made the passage in 66¾ hours.

The returns for September of the several banks are thus stated in the *Gazette*:—

Chartered Mercantile Bank	$667.361
Shanghai Banking Company	648,538
Oriental Bank Corporation	605,718
Chartered Bank of India	446,546
Agra and Masterman's Bank	329,140¼

We are glad to say that, in the article of bread, we are now fairly out of Chinese hands. The Wanchi Bakery is one of the most convenient establishments we can point to in the colony; and, as we presume that every European here availed himself of its advantages, we need not point them out. It deserves every success, and appears to be generally supported.

The British steamer *Shaftesbury*, from Yokohama bound to Suez, arrived on 24th Oct., having left on the 14th. She is the first vessel despatched to try the expediency of a direct line of communication between Japan and Suez, and has only called at this port to coal.

We have been kindly furnished with the following minutes of the meeting of the subscribers and donors to the City Hall, held to inspect the designs sent in for the new building:—

A numerously attended meeting of subscribers and donors to the City Hall Fund was held at the club, for the purpose of inspecting the designs for the new building, and appointing a committee to award the premium. Amongst those present were observed—Messrs. Baldwin, Bapoorjee, Bosman, Davidson, R. Deacon, H. B. Gibb, Hazeland, A. Heard, Kaiser, Kaye, Kresser, Kingsmill, Lapraik, W. Lemann, Maclean, McDouall, A. M. Moore, Nissen, Palanjee Framjee, Pollard, Rowett, Rennie, Ryrie, Rodger, G. Sharp, F. T. Smith, Storey, Studd, Turing, Vaucher, and others.

The Honourable W. H. Rennie having been requested to take the chair, stated the objects for which the meeting had been called, and said that, preparatory to proceeding to the election of the Committee of Selection, he thought it well to inform the meeting that the funds were in as satisfactory a state as could be expected; for, after deducting all liability to the Government for the cost of removal of harbour-master's department and construction of the new building, the committee, taking into account, not only the actual cash in their hands, but also the funds considered available from other sources, estimated there would be about $91,000 to apply to the construction of the City Hall, being about the amount stated in the advertisement for plans.

Mr. Pollard then proposed that the committee of selection should consist of the present committee, viz.:—Messrs. McDouall, Pollard, Rennie, Ryrie, Turing, and Wilson, with the addition of Colonel Lovell, Messrs. Whittall, Heard, Palanjee Framjee, Gibb, and Nissen.

Mr. Ryrie seconded the proposition, and it was carried unanimously.

It was then proposed by Mr. Hazeland, and seconded by Mr. Bosman, that Messrs. McDouall and Ryrie be appointed trustees of City Hall funds, in room of the late Mr. Owen and the late Mr. Noble—carried unanimously.

The Chairman then stated that the objects of the meeting had been accomplished, but before separating he would wish to state that the new harbour-master's office was progressing rapidly, and would be ready for occupation about January or February. The site would then be clear for laying the foundations of the City Hall, and the building would be at once commenced. However, another meeting would be called after the premium had been awarded, and the design intended to be carried out decided on.

In reply to Mr. G. Sharp, the Chairman said that the possibility of the extension of the praya in front of the City Hall site had been duly considered by the committee, but it appeared that if the commencement of the City Hall were to be delayed until that question was finally settled, the project might be considered as indefinitely postponed.

A vote of thanks to the chairman having been carried, the meeting separated. (Signed) W. H. RENNIE, Chairman.

A correspondent of the *Mail* calls attention to the frauds practised by importers of goods at an auction:—There were sold, two pianofortes, blazoned forth, in advertisement and catalogue, as Collard and Collard's, made expressly for this climate. They had Collard and Collard over the key boards, and would easily have imposed upon the uninitiated; but any person the least conversant with pianofortes would at once have discovered the imposition. The owner of the two instruments knew they had never been in England, much less in Collard and Collard's factory, he knew well enough that they came from Hamburg.

The Hong Kong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company (Limited) have issued the following notice:—

"The company has been registered, with limited liability, under 'The Companies' Ordinance, 1865.' Six hundred and seventy thousand dollars of the capital of the company have been allotted by the directors in the first issue of shares. The second issue will consist of the remainimg eight hundred shares of the capital, and further applications will be received for them until the 31st of October, on which day the share list will be closed. The articles of association can be seen at the office of the undersigned.

"AUGUSTINE HEARD and Co., General Agents."

The following circular has been issued by Mr. Lechler, agent of the Evangelical Missionary Society of Basel, in Switzerland:—

"The Evangelical Missionary Society of Basel in Switzerland sent its first agents to China in the year 1847. Their instruction was to the effect that they should not settle down in any of the open ports, but try to get a footing in the country, and endeavour to gather a congregation, which being effected, permanent stations should then be established. There are now three stations in connection with the Basel Mission. Hong Kong, Lilong, about fifty miles north of this, and Chonglok, more than 200 miles distant, in the north-east of this province. The number of communicants at the different stations is—fifty in Hong Kong, sixty in Lilong, and eighty in Chonglok. The number of missionaries having been in-

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creased in course of time, there have been six at the three stations at the beginning of this year, and though the number has been reduced for a short time, there will be six again at the close of the year.

"The branches of instruction given in the school are, reading and writing the Chinese character as well as the Roman alphabet (but no English), religion, singing, geography, and arithmetic. Female work in all its branches forms the occupation of the afternoon hours, and the general endeavour is to give the pupils of this school such an education as will fit them, in their usual sphere of life, to conduct themselves as Christians and to exemplify the Christian religion in family life. Twenty-four of the girls are boarders in the house. The expense is partly borne by the parents or relations of the girls. The missionaries have never failed to impress their converts with the duty of taking their own share of the expenses incurred for their benefit. Thus there is a chapel in Saukiwan, an outstation of Hong Kong, which has been built chiefly by the Chinese themselves, the mission having contributed only one hundred dollars towards its erection. At Lilong the Christians volunteered their labour, without receiving payment, to the building of a chapel and school some twelve years ago, so that the moderate sum of three hundred and fifty dollars from the mission fund was sufficient to defray the expenses of that edifice. At Chonglok the Christians bought a large three storied house, which was formerly owned by a wealthy family; that family having by some misfortune been reduced to poverty. The fortune-tellers contended that the unlucky situation of the house was the reason of the misfortune, and consequently no one would buy it. The Christians subscribed among themselves forty dollars, and purchased the house, which now serves as a residence for the missionaries, and is, besides, spacious enough to accommodate the congregation when assembling for worship.

"Here in Hong Kong the mission is a great deal more limited in space, and it has been with great difficulty and inconvenience that all the girls could be accommodated in the precincts of the Basel Mission House. An enlargement of the premises is most urgently required. Thanks to the liberality of the Local Government, the piece of ground on which the Mission-house stands is a free grant. The adjoining land is being built upon with Chinese houses. The too close neighbourhood of such would be a serious nuisance, and a great obstacle to the school. The portion of ground adjoining is obtainable, measuring forty feet by one hundred and fifty, for which the price of 1,800 dollars is asked, requiring about 200 dollars for levelling. The intention of the missionaries is to purchase this piece, and to build a school on it, which would cost an additional 2,000 dollars. The board at home not being in a position to supply the necessary funds, the missionaries venture to apply to this community to assist them in raising the 4,000 dollars required, and trust that they will not meet with a refusal. Our missionaries in India receive the fifth part of their expenditure from friends on the spot. Should we doubt that there are not as warm and sympathising friends of the mission here in China? We are confident that such is the case, and that this our appeal will meet with a cordial response."

The following article on steam versus sailing vessels is from the *Daily Press*:—

It appears to us that the days of sailing vessels on the coasts of China and Japan are almost numbered. Steam has made such rapid progress in this part of the world, that its results have rather tended to take the natives by storm than to effect any alteration in the organisation of society. Steam has, however, become a fixed, a settled institution, which has obtained a permanent footing, and which is being more and more appreciated daily. It may appear strange that with the increased facilities and communication which steam has afforded, that the Mandarins should have allowed matters to fall into their present sad state; but the progress of steam in China must not be judged of by this result. The real question at issue is, in what state would the Empire have been but for the introduction of steam?

It is not twenty years yet since steam was first introduced into commerce in China. Steamers ran for some years on the Canton river before the Chinese would avail of them. In fact, it was not until 1854, when the rebels pressed hard on Canton, that the Chinese really commenced to travel in steamers. This they did from compulsion, not from choice; for if the refugees from Canton had attempted to travel in native boats, the rebels would have captured them. This circumstance may appear incredible, but it is nevertheless true; and the fact affords scope for reflection as displaying the Chinese character in a remarkable light. For years, we say, they preferred their own slow, uncomfortable, unsafe craft to the rapidity and superior accommodation of steamers. But having resorted to steamers from compulsion, they so far appreciate the advantages to be derived from travelling in them, that they adopt them permanently, after the necessity for employing them has ceased.

Thus it came to pass that steam drove lorchas, schooners, and fast boats entirely off the Canton river, and simultaneously with this achievement square rigged vessels pressed the native junks out of employment on the coast trade. But steam could not rest satisfied with this advantage, and appeared to allow sailing vessels on the coast to be its pioneers in breaking through the Chinese prejudice against innovation. In a short time the whole coast was crowded with foreign vessels, and the occupation of the lumbering native junk was gone.

The next step in advance on the part of steam was to embrace the Southern ports of Swatow, Amoy, and Foochow. The advantage of steam over canvas was made so manifest in this attempt that the further struggle was merely a question of time; a sailing vessel would usually take from a week to ten days in reaching Swatow in the north-east monsoon, and about half the time in the south-west. A steamer can make the passage in from eighteen to twenty hours. To fetch Amoy or Foochow, a sailing vessel in the north-east monsoon has to go round Formosa, whilst a steamer makes a direct course and makes the passage in one fourth of the time. Six steamers now run regularly between Hong Kong and these ports, and as these take all the freight going, sailing vessels are completely run off the road.

As for the ports north of Foochow—say Shanghai and Ningpo—we make it out that the steamers running regularly between them and Hong Kong have the capacity to carry 12,000 tons dead weight. In brisk times these steamers can easily make three voyages in two months, so that the capacity available per month is 18,000 tons, or 300,000 piculs. As these figures represent fully the entire trade, it follows that sailing ships are driven out of it, because the formation of the China coast and the direction of the monsoons, with the calms prevailing, combine to give such an advantage to steamers that sailing ships cannot compete with them. If a steamer can be filled quickly a lower rate will pay her than will maintain a sailing vessel on this coast.

The carrying trade between Shanghai and Tientsin is nearly all in the hands of steamers, whilst the steamers running between Shanghai and Japan are more than sufficient to do all the work on that line.

Therefore we have laid it down that steam first drove canvas off the Canton river, and then off the coast as far as Foochow, then to Shanghai, whence it carried the day to Tientsin and Japan. There remain only then, for sailing vessels, as far as the coast of China is concerned, the Formosa and the Newchwang trades. The coast of Formosa is singularly defective in harbours, the anchorages being all shallow and dangerous. The port of Newchwang has a bar at its mouth, and has, besides, dangers in its river, which we fancy must make it anything but a good risk for underwriters. Consequently, both Formosa and Newchwang are peculiarly adapted for steam, to which these dangers apply in a far less degree; and we shall find in a short time that steam will carry them.

What is to become of the shipping interest in China we do not know. The Indian trade is claimed by steam, and except when large shipments of rice shall be made from Calcutta, will be carried by it. The carrying trades to the Atlantic and to Australia are available for canvas, and will continue to be so until steam shall make its next grand stride. The rice and coal trades remain—these, especially the former, are unsteady. A vessel cannot wait all the year for the chance of a rice charter, as upwards of two hundred appear to be waiting in these waters at present. Sailing vessels will gradually diminish in number from China, and when rice vessels are wanted the supply must be obtained from some channel not yet laid down. Probably, all the shipping from Australia to India may call here *en route* during the north-east monsoon; or the tea ships may make a rice voyage, as little tea is shipped in the rice season.

SIAM.

BANGKOK.

The ceremonies of the cremation of their Majesty's Royal half-sister, whose decease took place in August last, were celebrated at Wat Sakes on the 28th, 29th, and 30th of September. The usual Royal bounty was distributed.

His Majesty the second King is slowly recovering. His Majesty's eldest son, Prince Krom Mu'n Bowara Wichi Chan, who has been very ill, is improving.

The 61st birthday of his Majesty the Supreme King of Siam occurred on the 18th of October. The usual dinner to the Consuls of the Treaty Powers was given at the Royal Palace on that evening. His Majesty holds his age remarkably well. The congratulations of his Majesty's subjects and European and American friends on the return of another birthday was most cordial and sincere.

We have received files of the *Siam Times* up to the 28th September, from which we gather the following items:—

The semi-annual ceremony of drinking the water of allegiance occurred at the Royal Palace on the 18th September. According to former custom, the payment of the annual salaries commences immediately after. The amount paid to each Government officer is very small, but the number receiving it is so great that the amount paid out of the Royal Treasury is very large. The greatest sum paid to the highest officers of State is thirty catties, say £300, or about $1,440. It is their office with its perquisites, and not their salary, which enables them to maintain the honour and dignity of their position. The income of some officers is very large, and, if rightly appropriated, would enable them to live in great splendour. Others are obliged to eke out a miserable existence on the pittance received, without perquisites or anything else to support themselves or maintain their position. As the country improves it is hoped these inequalities and its evils will be remedied.

Gratifying reports continue to come in from the country of the encouraging prospects of the growing rice crops. The water in some places is already from a foot to a foot and a half higher than last year.

James M. Hood, Esq., U.S. Consul, had an audience with his Majesty the First King, on the 22nd September, to be presented with his Exequatur. The arrangements were very complete, and it was gratifying to see that everything was done on the part of his Majesty and the Court to make the interview pleasant.

Great difficulty is experienced in obtaining servants in Bankkok, owing to the almost raving propensity of the people to gamble. The hope of winning a large sum, or enough to procure their rice and curry without labour, keeps the numerous gambling-houses full, the people in idleness, the prisons crowded with criminals, and Europeans and others in want of servants at fair rates. Some definite understanding among foreigners on this subject would probably remedy a part of the evils connected with servants and their rate of wages.

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STRAITS OF MALACCA.

SINGAPORE.

We have no files of papers or correspondence by this mail.

We have seen a copy of a memorandum, printed in Singapore for private circulation, containing an account of the conduct of M. Aubaret, late French Consul at Bangkok. Having already recorded the facts of the case, and commented on them in our issue of the 4th ult., it is unnecessary to recapitulate the circumstances here. We doubt, moreover, whether the King of Siam's well-wishers in Singapore have acted wisely in giving publicity to this memorandum. M. Aubaret, having left the country, and being very unlikely to be reinstated in his former position, it would have been better to let the matter sink into oblivion as speedily as possible. Much as we may deplore and condemn the misconduct of M. Aubaret, we think it unwise to take any steps likely to perpetuate the irritation naturally felt by the Siamese, and which, though aroused by insults on the part of this one person only, may militate against the maintenance of cordial and friendly intercourse with the representatives of foreign countries generally.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

CRAWFORD—On the 19th Oct., at 5, Pechili-terrace, Elgin-street, Hong Kong, Mrs. D. R. Crawford, of a son.

DA COSTA—On the 17th Oct., at Bangkok, Siam, the wife of J. M. F. Da Costa, Esq., of a son.

HARRIS—On the 18th Oct., at Hong Kong, the wife of Capt. A. D. Harris, steamer Armenian, of a daughter.

JENNES—On the 17th Oct., at Hong Kong, the wife of Colonel Jennes, 11th Regt., of a daughter, stillborn.

MOLLER—On the 30th Oct., at her father's house, Notting ham, the wife of Nils Moller, Esq., Shanghai, of a daughter.

THOMSETT—On the 15th Oct., at Hong Kong, the wife of Henry George Thomsett, R.N., of a daughter.

VOLKMANN—On the 23rd Oct., at Hong Kong, at her residence, 37 and 38, Praya, Mrs. L. Volkmann, of a daughter.

WRIGHT—On the 6th Oct., at Shanghai, China, the wife of James Hanson Wright, Esq., of a son.

DEATHS.

ANDREWS—On the 13th Oct., on board the transport ship Gresham, Thomas Andrews, Private 2nd Batt. 11th Regt, aged 25 years.

BALL—On the 12th Oct., at Macao, deeply regretted, Sophia Mary, the beloved wife of the Hon. Henry John Ball.

DE COUTO—On the 15th Oct., at Hong Kong, after a few hours' arrival, per Suwonada, Jose Maria de Couto, of Messrs. Olyphant and Co., Shanghai.

FEEEMAN—On the 11th Oct., at Amoy, J. R. Freeman, of H. D. Brown and Co., of chronic dysentery.

FURSDEN—On the 18th Oct., at Hong Kong, Lieut. Fursden, 2nd Batt., 9th Regt.

GRAY—On the 16th Oct., on board the barque Tae Wan, William C. Gray, second mate, aged 25 years.

JENCKES—On the 11th Oct., at Ningpo, Joseph S. Jenckes, of the Imperial Maritime Customs, Chinhae Station, a native of New Bedford, U.S.A.

NEILSON—On the 10th Oct., at sea, on board the P. and O. steamer Aden, from Shanghai to Hong Kong, Edward Noel Neilson, aged 25 years, of Messrs. Olyphant and Co.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Yokohama	6 months sight.	4s. 6d.	4s. 7d. to 4s. 8d.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 ditto	6s. 3d.	6s. 3d. to 6s. 4d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto		4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.
At Singapore	6 ditto	4s. 6d.	
At Manila	6 ditto		

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 296 to 298 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 218 to 219 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 9⅛ per cent. prem. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 73 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 26 to 27 discount. Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, 6 per cent. prem.; Gas Company, £4 prem.; Hong Kong and Whampoa Docks, 40 per cent. prem., and Union Docks nominal at 1 premium.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1865-66.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865	1217120	25639296	27636600	747284	5827918	61068218	40091
Corresponding period last season	320600	31551498	28170885	213087	5178130	68433201	14121

SAILED SINCE.

	Ship.	From.		
Sept. 6 ...	Manfred ...	...	Foochow ...	765,100

TO UNITED STATES.

	Piculs.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865	1403638 1913
Corresponding period last season	4617022 ...

SINCE SAILED.

Oct. 2 ...	Douglas Castle ...	Foochow ...	692,660
— 4 ...	Glen Aros ...	Do. ...	864,000

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Bales.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865	88 ...
Corresponding period last season	... ...

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Tea pkgs	Boxes.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865	17436	394
Corresponding period last season	9252	...

SHIPMENTS SINCE.

Oct. 4 ...	Chetah ...	Hong Kong ...	137	8

TO AUSTRALIA.

From June 1st to Sept. 30, 1865	4,449,490
Corresponding period last year	4,583,510

SAILED SINCE.

Oct. 4 ...	Spec ...	Hong Kong ...	105,600

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865	...	...	...	2375	133	...

SAILED SINCE.

None.

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865	5800	...	...	...	...	4000

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865	36425	16123	900	3030	...	...

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865	43	5383	71732	1100	330	161300

SHIPMENTS SINCE.

Oct. 4 ...	Chetah ...	Hong Kong	...	14,013	...	600	...	—	...	4,000
„ 8 ..	Bengairn ...	„	...	3,192	...	—	...	—	...	—
„ 15 ...	Libelle ...	„	...	5,628	...	—	...	300	...	—

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	...

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents, and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At SHANGHAI.—From London: Oct. 19, Juanpore. From Hamburg: Oct. 8, Elsabea.

At HONG KONG.—From New York: Oct. 17, Benefactress.

At SINGAPORE.—No report.

DEPARTURES.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Oct. 21, Dartmouth.

From FOOCHOW.—For London: Merse, Canaan, St. Dunstan. For Falmouth: Asia, Bertha, Florentin (*via* Hong Kong). For United States: Jeannie.

From HONG KONG.—For London: Oct. 24, John Lidgett; 17th, Bengal. For Falmouth: 19th, Asia.

From SINGAPORE.—No report.

Freights at Foochow have advanced to £2.

COMMERCIAL and SHIPPING REPORTS are given more at length in our issues by the P. and O. Mail.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Dec. 6, at Deal, from China, Weymouth, Elizabeth Nicholson; 3, at Texel, from Batavia, Maria Catharina; 3, Gezusters, Australie; 7, at Deal, from China, Devana, Pegasus, Valdivia; from Ceylon Cresswell.

DEPARTURES.—Dec. 1, from Liverpool, for Manila, Alavesa; 5, for Anjer, Patrtot Queen.

Anjer, Patriot Queen.

SPOKEN.—Wm. Simpson, London to Batavia, Sept. 13, 36 S., 7 E.; Weymouth, Shanghai to London, Nov. 17, 25 N., 34 W.; Admiral Lyons, Liverpool to Hong Kong, 41 S., 47 E.; China, Hamburg to Hong Kong, Sept. 15, 39 S., 13 E.

MISCELLANEOUS.—At Mauritius: Oct. 23, from Singapore, Olympia, Gardyne; 24, from Batavia, India, Eckdahl; Nov. 4, from Singapore, Visir, Bregeon; 6, Ranger, Ovendon.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

A REGISTER is kept of the addresses of all persons connected with the FAR EAST and reference can be made to the same by personal application at the office or by letter.

Any information required by Subscribers, in reference to Commercial or General matters in CHINA, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, *and other parts of the* FAR EAST, *will be supplied on application at the Office, where files may be seen of the Journals published in those countries.*

THE LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS.

PUBLISHED on the departure of the Mails *via* Marseilles on the 10th, 17th, and 26th, contains a Summary of European, American, and General News; Commercial and Shipping Reports, and Special notices of Trade with the FAR EAST.

Subscription 54s. per annum. including Postage. Export Supplement 12s. extra.

The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, THURSDAY, DEC 7, 1865.

THE CHINA TRADE IN 1864.

WE have now before us the official "Report on Trade at the Nine Treaty Ports during the Year 1864," published by order of the INSPECTOR-GENERAL of CUSTOMS. Having already given a *resume* of the most noticeable features contained in Mr. NOETZLI'S "Analysis of Chinese Commerce" during this and the preceding year, it is unnecessary to recapitulate any of the general statistics; we avail ourselves, however, of the opportunity to place on record some interesting facts not then touched upon. Almost the first thing that attracts attention is the unfavourable nature of the report from Canton. We have gradually become familiarised with the idea of an inevitable decrease in the amount of foreign trade at this port; and have come to admit, quite as a matter of course, that Canton will never be again what it was in the "old times." Yet, when the actual figures are placed before us in a tabular form, the extent of the falling off is quite startling. In Mr. GLOVER'S own words, "The value of foreign trade for last year was about two-"thirds of what it was in 1860, and the amount of duties "received is less than one-half of what it was five years ago." The two chief causes of this are stated to be, firstly, the opening of Hankow, to which port is now diverted a large proportion of the tea formerly shipped from Canton; and, secondly, the entire cessation of the cotton trade since the commencement of the American war. In former years the importation of raw cotton from India was carried on by Parsees and others to an enormous extent; and as the proceeds were returned to India in various descriptions of Chinese merchandise, two important branches of commerce have thus been entirely lost. Mr. MACPHERSON, Commissioner of Customs at Hankow, thus alludes to the direct influence exercised on trade at Canton by the opening of the former port:—"So long as Canton is de-"clining, the export trade of Hankow will doubtless advance; "but the advance is, I think, certain to cease, for a time at "least, when Canton has fallen as low as it will fall." We are inclined to believe that this stage has now almost been reached; that the tea shipments from Canton will not fall much below their present quantity; and that, inasmuch as the recent development of cotton cultivation in India will soon enable that country to resume the shipment of supplies to its old customers in the East, besides rendering the mother-country independent of the American market for this staple, the cotton trade at Canton may yet return to its normal condition, bringing with it other elements of renewed prosperity. It is worthy of remark that, notwithstanding the rapid growth of trade at Hankow, the return from that port for 1864 (its most prosperous year) is still considerably lower than that from Canton in 1860, the year before Hankow was opened.

THE RUSSO-AMERICAN TELEGRAPHIC LINE.

THE feasibility of establishing telegraphic communication between the opposite shores of the Pacific by the northern route—a scheme originally projected by the Russian Government as an extension of its Siberian line—has all along been regarded by those entitled to a judgment on the matter as merely a question of available capital and judiciously applied science. Political, no less than commercial and monetary considerations, conspire to promote the enterprise; and when the American Union Telegraph Company appeared in the field, with an exclusive concession from the Russian Government to connect with its Asiatic termini at the Amoor, and a right to 40 per cent. of nett receipts for all through messages either way by the joint lines, the required capital of $10,000,000 (£2,000,000), in $100 (£20) shares was promptly subscribed; and, with $10 per share paid up, these are at a premium of 30 per cent. The Russian Government finds its account in the increase of business and in the saving to be effected by obtaining uninterrupted communication, by the outlay of foreign capital, with its American possessions. In addition, there is the more speedy connection effected by this arrangement, for the Russo-American line will be completed far within the contract time of five years; whilst the Russian-Siberian line, from the commercial emporium on Lake Baikal to Irkutsk, and thence to the Amoor—a line that has hitherto progressed at the rate of 1,000 miles per annum—will be continued with increased speed. The work of construction from Kiachta is being vigorously pushed, and, at the date of our latest advices from the Amoor, no less than 800 miles had been completed inland from the mouth of that river. The American undertaking is certainly not wanting in grandeur of conception, and, we might add, in a romantic interest which its purely mechanical and utilitarian character cannot wholly destroy. In the five expeditionary corps now out, exploring ocean inlets, trending along river beds, penetrating mountain canons, or traversing desolate steppes, we see invoked again the pioneer spirit of an earlier day.

To satisfy general inquiry, we proceed to give a connected view of the progress of survey and construction on information of an authoritative character, derived from private and official sources, thus disposing of several conjectural and partially conflicting statements that have lately appeared in the public press. The route we trace is that which, with some unessential modifications, will be adhered to. On the American side, it involves the adoption of that great river system extending from the mouth of the Fraser river to the Arctic circle, where the Kvichpak, in divided streams, forming a delta not unlike that of the Nile, empties itself into Norton Sound. Its head waters have been traced to a higher latitude, where it has its volume swelled by a channel of the Youcan, the larger branch of which flows south-eastward connecting with the lakes reached by the Fraser valley. A surveying expedition under Major KENNETT has ascended the Kvichpak, in a small steamer, the *Lizzie Homer*, only 35 feet long. No communication has been had with him since he left Fort St. Michaels. As soon as stopped by ice, the Major and his party would take to sledges, following the line of the Youcan, on his way to meet Major POPE, who left Vacouver in the early spring. These explorers are followed more slowly by their working staffs, but the line has already been extended from New Westminster to Point St. James, by the construction party under Captain CONWAY, and, by the end of December, Cariboo will be *en rapport* with Victoria. The next extension will be from Fort George to Fort Conolly, and thence to St. Frances' Lake and Fort Pelly Banks, a lake connected by the Pelly with the Youcan. At Lake Babine, *bateaux*, constructed under the superintendence of Captain CARLIN, are available for crossing supplies. The exploring and engineering parties have a military organisation, and are well armed, so as to be prepared to encounter any hostilities from roving tribes. From the mouth of the Kvichpak a cable will be extended to St. Lawrence Island, and thence to the Asiatic side, emerging in the vicinity of Cape Choukotskoi. The remaining route lies across the Peninsula of Tchuktches to the north of the Bay of Anadyr, where a cable will be submerged, a land line connecting it with Penshinsk, at the head of the gulf of the same name, thus altogether avoiding the detour by Kamsckatka. Crossing the River Penshina, and rounding the eastern side of the gulf, Fort Ghyiginsk will be the next point attained, from which the line will be carried to Yamsk, and thence northward of the Sea of Okhotsk, through Ova, Tomsk, and the Valley of the Kova to Okhotsk; whence, striking off in a south-westerly direction, to the east of the Stannovoi Mountains, the land route by the Sea of Okhotsk will be continued until Nicolajevsk, the new Russian settlement at the mouth of the Amoor, and the termini of the Russo-American line, is gained. Whilst we have indicated but a few points, we may state that the Asiatic route is dotted with towns and villages, constituting so many *points d'appui*. The route has been traced by two exploring parties, one descending southward from the Bay of Anadyr, the other ascending from the Amoor. From both points the work of construction is being proceeded with. Of the

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former expedition Colonel BULKELEY is chief, and Mr. ABASA of the latter. A striking feature of this scheme is the almost complete abandonment it involves of what we may term the shore cable route, a route which the present condition of marine telegraphy does not favour. Another point is the foregoing direct connection both with Sitka, the capital of Russian America, and with Petropaulousk, in Kamschatka; but preparations are already undertaken to connect Sitka with the main line, and Petropaulousk must ultimately be brought in connection. The American company merely undertakes to reach the Amoor by the least expensive and most practicable route. The steamer despatched in July last by the Western Union Telegraph Company, from San Francisco, reached Sitka in the middle of August, subsequently sailing for the Kvichpak, where Major KENNETT and party disembarked, and then conveying Colonel BULKELEY to Behring Straits. The exploration of the Behring Straits was commenced in September. The soundings across the Straits proved highly favourable for telegraphic purposes; the bottom being of mud and the water shallow. The island of St. Lawrence, half-way across, will afford most material aid in the laying of the cable from Grandby harbour to St. Lawrence Bay. Signs of a severe winter had already set in. The land on the American side of Behring Straits is somewhat mountainous; on the opposite shores are visible only limitless *plateaux* destitute of vegetation.

The *materiel* and engineering appliances which left San Francisco in three sailing vessels some time since, have been distributed at the various points in the northern Pacific, where the work of construction is going on. Shipments are being unceasingly made both from this country and the United States. The Behring Straits cable, now being manufactured here, will, it is anticipated, be ready in the course of next summer. No less than 7,700 miles of wire have already been despatched for the Russo-American line by way of New York, and 5,000 miles are now being shipped in the London Docks for Sitka. Both the Behring Straits cable and the wire is being manufactured by Messrs. HENLEY of Co., of this city. Captain GERHARD, too, is at present in London, seeing to the manufacture of a large quantity of wire, for the Russo-Siberian line. The Russian Government has so far failed in obtaining permission to place the frontier town of Kiachta in telegraphic communication with Peking, the Chinese Government persistently avoiding any definitive reply to the applications and representations on the subject. That a concession will ultimately be secured there can be no little doubt, but other leading European Powers will certainly not consent to an exclusive monopoly of the right to connect China telegraphically with the exterior world. As to the financial position of the Russo-American undertaking, we may state that it is anticipated that the Russo-American line will cost less than the nominal capital. The value and efficiency of the line will be greatly augmented by the construction of a line already commenced by the United States Pacific Telegraph Company, extending from San Francisco to Fort Kearney, and thence diverging in two branches to St. Louis and Chicago—a total length of 3,270 miles, consisting of double wires on single poles. It is gratifying to know that the undertaking will not be wanting in artistic illustration, the Behring Straits party being accompanied by the well-known English artist, Mr. F. WHYMPER.

GROWTH OF TEA IN THE NEILGHERRIES.

To those interested in the introduction of the tea plant into the Neilgherries the quality of the first samples of tea received from the plantations there has afforded some cause for congratulation. They are described as bearing a general resemblance to Kaisows in the colour and shape of the leaf, and in flavour seem to partake of the qualities of both China and Assam teas, being somewhat stronger than the former but not so strong as the latter. The prices they would command in this market, estimated at from 1s. 10d. to 3s. 6d. per pound, would doubtless be remunerative; and yet we have very strong doubts as to the probability of these teas ever coming into favourable competition with either China or Assam kinds. The capability of the land in the Neilgherries for producing tea is to a certain extent proved, but whether it will ever do so in sufficient quantity to make the experiment one of any commercial importance is quite another question, the solution of which will entirely depend on the elevation of the hills where the tea plantations have been formed. From the little we know of the locality we are inclined to suspect that however promising the experimental growth may appear, operations on an extended scale, such as are carried on in Assam, will prove a failure; and this opinion is deduced from the results of experiments which have been tried on the Himalayas at Darjeeling. There, the results, superficially viewed, appeared at first so promising as to induce extensive speculation in the purchase of land and formation of numerous large plantations; but afterwards the fact became apparent, that although the plant grows readily enough, the elevation is too great to allow of that luxuriant growth of leaves which alone can render the product remunerative. Money has, no doubt, been made in connection with tea speculation in that part of the Himilayas, but it has been made chiefly, almost entirely we may say, by land jobbing. Experience has shown that notwithstanding the possibility of growing the tea plant at great elevations—for it will grow readily enough at a height of even 5,000 feet—yet, to secure growth of commercially remunerative character, the formation of plantations must not be attempted at a greater height than from one to two thousand feet. And the success of the Neilgherry experiment must necessarily depend upon the possibility of adhering to this rule.

THE RAILWAY FROM RANGOON TO WESTERN CHINA.

We are glad to find from advices by last mail that there is some probability of a survey being ordered by the Government of India at the request of the authorities here. For some months we have left this important question unnoticed, but we find that Captain Sprye has not been idle in the meantime. Our readers may remember that when we last noticed the subject Sir Charles Wood had finally decided against entertaining the subject. It appears that, owing to subsequent pressure, he has been induced to send out instructions to the Indian Government. The publication of a report by Captain Williams, inspector of public works in the Rangoon district, has added very materially to our information on this subject. Captain Williams says in one part of his report:—

The direct land route from Rangoon to Kiang-Hung is the one which must, owing to its directness, be the best; and there is no doubt, from the same cause, it would be the cheapest to construct. The cost of transport of plant and stock to the long river journey, pertaining to the other routes, would also be saved; for as the line would be constructed on the telescopic principle, the plant and railway material would be forwarded along the line as laid down, and each stage as completed be brought into immediate use. Another and most important consideration would be that a full half of the entire railway would be within British territory, and the rest through the Shan States, which have always shown a very friendly disposition towards our Government, and a strong desire for such a commercial highroad to the British sea-board as is now under notice. They offer to pass our merchandise duty free, and would guarantee the safety of the works and rolling-stock on their soil; no mean advantage this, in the possible event of a rupture with the Burman Court, to which, though tributary to it, they cherish hostile feelings.

It appears that one of the chief causes of obstruction has been the report made by Sir Frederick Bruce from Peking. Now, at the time that Sir Frederick was asked to obtain the views of the Chinese Government, they were in dire trouble with the rebellion and the Osborn-Lay fleet, and not likely to be in a mood to give a favourable reply. Since then matters have settled down, and our friendship begins to assume, even in Chinese eyes, a form that is appreciated. We may, therefore, expect that Sir Rutherford Alcock will have broached the matter, and that in due course we shall have more favourable accounts. We find the following in the *Bengal Hurkaru*:—

"It may be of interest to those who look forward to the time when the South-Western Provinces of China shall be in ready and easy communin cation with the Bay of Bengal by the valleys of the Salween and Irrawaddy to know that of late large numbers of the traders of Yunan are the independent hill tribes of the country east of British Burmah are beginning to regularly frequent the port of Moulmein. They formerly found their way to Ava on the one side and Bangkok on the other. Their advent at Moulmein has had the effect of giving a great impetus to trade of all kinds, with a corresponding benefit to the public revenue. It would be good policy to encourage these hardy adventurers by every means in the power of Government, and to establish marts at some point in British Burmah and Moulmein where they might carry on their mércantile operations with ease aed facility. An effort might also be made to induce some of the Yunan men to settle permanently in British territories."

DOMINION IN CHINA AND THE SUPPLY OF TEA.

(TRAVERS' CIRCULAR.)

Official returns about the year 1812 estimated the population of China at 362,000,000—a third part of the entire human race. Exaggerated as this statement may at first sight appear to us, we have no reason to dispute its accuracy, on comparing the condition of China with that of the two most populous countries of Europe—England and Belgium. Reckoning the Chinese empire as comprised within an area of 1,300,000 square miles, we get a ratio of 280 inhabitants to the square mile, a proportion below the average of England, which reckons 335, and considerably lower than Belgium, which has, for every square mile, 383 inhabitants. And yet, so far

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as the battle of life and the progress of civilisation is concerned, the Chinese empire exercises as little influence on the destinies of nations as the imaginary realms of Brobdignag and Laputa. The French Revolution, in a comparatively brief period of eleven years, made its effects felt in the most distant parts of the world, convulsed the whole framework of society, and "with fear of change perplexed affrighted monarchs;" but the almost perpetual warfare prevailing in the Chinese dominions (for war there may be said to be chronic) is, so far as the rest of the human race is concerned, as powerless in its issues as it is obscure in its origin. And when we abandon the high grounds of politics, and descend to the humbler but not less important regions of commerce, we find that this result is equally evident. Whether rebels or imperialists, the Chinese, however they may differ in their views respecting their government, are unanimous on the subject of trade, and outvie each other in their readiness to supply the wants of the European merchant, but are wanting in that foresight and intelligence which would create any permanent increase of wealth through commerce. It is simple necessity which urges the Chinese to cultivate to the highest possible point their staple article of produce, and which is far more imperative with them, than is our desire to receive it from them. Supposing such a contingency as the entire failure of their tea crop were possible, the inconvenience that European nations would suffer would, undoubtedly, be considerable; but to the Chinese such an event would be attended with disastrous results, in proportion to the extent to which tea is used in this vast empire. For although the district is said to be limited in which tea is grown, it is universally used; thus, in supposing the failure of the crop, we should have to compete for the supply on hand at the time of loss with a nation, numerically so infinitely greater than not only our own, but other nations that use tea, that the greater individual consumption in Europe and America would possibly be outweighed by numbers. It is, however, not certain that, although luxury and riches are more common in the West, the consumption of tea per head is greater: and on this point, of course, no reliable information is to be obtained from China. The gist of our remarks amount simply to a reflection that a material reduction in the Chinese supply, without supposing an entire failure, must ultimately re-act upon European markets, when contending in their purchases for a limited supply with a nation so large as that of China. Chinese industry, however, in the tea districts would, of course, suffer by a diminution of the crops most severely; but, on the other hand, we might have to pay, in a year at any season, much higher prices than hitherto. Therefore, although great confidence may be felt in steadily-increasing cultivation and consumption, the risks of weather to the crops will always be a source of additional anxiety, as that cause will operate generally. The colossal dimensions of China, numerical and territorial, fail to impress us with any ideas of grandeur, serving rather to remind us of the homely figure of a card-built house, which, overthrown by a single touch, suggests the best illustration of an overgrown empire, ready to fall to pieces at the first rude touch of European civilisation. In the event of a dissolution of the Empire—and such an issue, though, perhaps, not immediate, is by no means improbable—there would seem to be three alternatives; either the rebels will take possession of the different provinces, and raise them into independent kingdoms; or the treaty ports will, by a gradual extension of their influence, absorb them; or the whole empire will become the easy prey of more civilised nations. It is not likely that England, with her costly experience of India, will desire to add to her dominions in the East; nor is it probable that France, notwithstanding the Emperor's views as to the future predominance of the Latin race, would wish to engage in the task; distant expeditions, such as would be required in such an event, have never been popular with the French nation at large. But it requires no great effort of political sagacity to see that such a plan of territorial aggrandisement would be in every way most congenial to the habits and inclinations of Russia; for years past the encroachments of the Russians, especially on the river Amoor, have assumed a most systematic form, and there seems every reason to expect that a course of territorial annexation, so craftily commenced, and so determinedly pursued, will be successfully accomplished, so long as ambitious designs are allowed to proceed unchecked, and the utilitarian theory of non-intervention is so carefully followed by other Governments, less grasping in practice, and more conscientious in principle. History, we know, repeats itself; and the lesson afforded by the example of the Romans, who at the time of the decline of their Empire, invited the aid of barbarians as a protection against other barbarians, may possibly be adopted by the Chinese. They may summon to their assistance the strong arm of the European in their need. The partial employment of Europeans in some of the Chinese warehouses and customs offices has already been the means of augmenting the revenue derived from taxation, and also of showing the valuable qualities of the Western civilisation, as distinct from their own; the results of such an intercourse, slowly but gradually extending, would soon be shown in the assimilation of Chinese thoughts and ideas to our own, and in the abandonment of some of their most degrading and disgusting vices.

Literature.

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Etudes sur la Circulation Monetaire la Banque et le Credit; by M. P. J. COULLET. Paris. 8vo.

This volume, by M. Coullet, the director of the Messageries Imperiales, whose *brochure* on the clearing system we noticed not long since, has for its object the exposition and discussion of the principles of circulation, the ramification of the causes which influence the rates of discount, and the explanation of the systems of the Banks of France and England. At the present time, when these questions are rife in the minds of all financiers, and when the subject is expected to occupy the attention of the House of Commons, such a comparative examination, by a man like M. Coullet—who is intimately acquainted with England and America as well as with France—cannot fail to be welcome.

In addition to the matters already alluded to, M. Coullet gives a large amount of tabulated and other information relative to the growth of the commerce of France and England from the commencement of the century to the present day, and statements relative to the exports of the precious metals and other matters from Europe to the East. Amongst other things, he successfully combats the absurd but oft-repeated notion that the rate of exchange must necessarily be in favour of the country which sends more goods than it receives from its neighbour, as in the case of France and England, for example. He shows clearly that so much of the dealings between these countries is indirect, and by way of transit merely, that any such deduction must be grossly erroneous. An excellent example of the effect of indirect and collateral causes on commerce and exchange is given in the relation of what has occurred with respect to China and other parts of the East, in consequence of the late war in America. With respect to the much vexed question of the regulation of the Bank rates of discount, M. Coullet says:—"For our part we go further, and affirm, with the most eminent authorities of England and France in such matters, that the raising of the rate of discount, opportunely and sufficiently, is a benefit in itself, and prevents the gravest difficulties." Of the growth of the business of the Stock Exchange of London and the Bourse of Paris he gives a remarkable account. Sixty years since, he says, nothing was negotiated on the Bourse but Government stock and Bank shares, forming together a gross total of something like forty millions sterling; at the present day there are about a thousand different kinds of stock and shares negotiated at the Bourse, making up a total equal to twenty times the sum just named. As regards the Stock Exchange, M. Coullet estimates the various kinds of shares at more than fifteen hundred, and adds:—"When we reflect that these include a considerable proportion of the stock of the loans of the whole world and a large part of that of the railways, navigation, banking, industrial and commercial companies of the universe, we must suppose that the capital represented at the Stock Exchange is far more considerable than that which is dealt with on the Bourse of Paris. We will not attempt to estimate an amount upon insufficient data, but no one can question the enormity of the capital operated upon." By way of showing how the demands of commerce rule the rates of discount, M. Coullet reviews, amongst other things, the growth of the trade with China. England imported from the East in 1849 five million pounds of silk, twelve millions of pounds in 1857, and ten millions in 1863. In 1854 England sent to China merchandise to the extent of one million sterling, and imported nine times that amount; in 1863 she sent four millions and received fourteen. In 1854 the exports from England to India were of the value of nine and a-half millions, and the import equal to ten and a-half millions; but in 1863 the proportions were, respectively, seventeen and a-half and forty-eight and a-half millions sterling. As regards France, she imported from China a little over 2,000 tons of silk in 1849, 7,534 tons in 1863, and 6,208 tons in 1864. When we see such figures as these, we should not be surprised that the rate of discount cannot be constantly kept at four or five per cent. Another proof of the vast growth of trade and commerce is to be found in the returns of the circulation of the Bank of France; in 1800 it was 12 millions of francs, in ten years it had grown to 100 millions; from 1824 to 1846 it ranged between 200 and 300 millions; in 1848 it was 373 millions; in 1860 it was 750 millions; and on the 26th January in the present year it was 808 millions. The notes in circulation in the whole of the United Kingdom, including those of private banks of issue, amount to about 900 millions of francs; but M. Coullet explains that, in consequence of the completeness of the deposit and cheque system in England, an immense majority of transactions escape the necessity for employing bank-notes. M. Coullet compares the condition of the Banks of France and England at the commencement of the present year, and explains clearly the causes of some of the peculiarities which mark the respective systems of the two establishments; and it would be well for those who may have to take part in legislative discussions on the subject to read what is here written by a practical Frenchman, thoroughly informed on the systems of the two countries. It may be added that M. Coullet is not a partisan of what is sometimes called free trade in banking, and that he is favourable to the issue of notes of small value, as low, in the case of France, as twenty francs. Fifty-franc notes, it may here be observed, have been in circulation for some time.

In an appendix M. Coullet gives some carefully arranged tables and documents illustrating his arguments respecting banking and commerce, and they contain much excellent matter. In the first place, we have tables of the condition both of the Banks of France and England, showing the amount of bullion, its proportion to the liabilities; rates of discount, discount accounts, advances and deposits—on the one hand; and notes in circulation, and liabilities of every kind, on the other hand, given for every quarter of the year from 1843 to 1856, at different periods of 1857, when the rates of discount were unusually high; for each month of 1863 and 1864, and for each week of the present year.

There is no part of the work, however, of more interest at the present moment than that which exhibits the comparative progress of commerce in England and France, about which so many strangely erroneous ideas are afloat in the public mind. France has certainly made immense progress in material matters during the last few years, and there are not wanting persons who see in every step in advance made by our neighbours an injury to ourselves, while even others who are not jealously disposed seem to have arrived at the conclusion that the commercial ascendancy of England has ceased, and perhaps even that we must be content to glide gradually into a secondary position. Let us see how much support M. Coullet's facts and comparisons give to any such doubts and fears. Previous to 1826 the accounts of the French *douane* do not furnish details of the commerce of the country, and therefore the estimates for the first quarter of the century can only be looked upon as approximative. M. Coullet gives them, as follows, for what they are worth. The figures represent millions of francs, but for comparison one denomination is as good as another:—

Average of	Import.	Export.	Total.
FRANCE.			
1801—1810 ..	405½ ..	35 ½ ..	764¼
1811—1820 ..	333 ..	462 ..	795
1821—1826 ..	653 ..	597 ..	1,250
ENGLAND.			
1801—1810 ..	740¼ ..	1,245½ ..	1,986
1811—1820 ..	772 ..	1,331½ ..	2,103¼
1821—1826 ..	902 ..	1,149¼ ..	2,051¼

Since the year 1826 the general imports of France grew from 667 millions of francs to 3,236 millions, and the exports from 698 millions to

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3,526 millions. But there are two tables in the appendix alluded to which give at a glance the state of the case as regards the two countries, both with respect to the actual amounts of business done with the rest of the world, and the relation of that amount with the number of the inhabitants in the two countries. Taking the column of general exports as the most convenient in every way, we obtain the following from a comparison of the average for the period between 1827 and 1836 with the year 1863:—

EXPORTS.

			Millions of francs.	Excess in favour of England.
1827 to 1836	England	..	1,277 8-10ths	579½
.. „	France..	..	698 3-10	
1863 ..	England	..	4.899	1,373
„ ..	France	..	3,526	

Showing that the excess in amount of English general exports over those of France has considerably more than doubled during the period in question.

Turning to the column of Special Exports, in another table, for the past four years we find, however, a somewhat different result, the figures being as follows:—

			Difference in favour of England.
1861 ..	England ..	3,127 8-10ths	1,201½
.. ..	France ..	1,926 3-10	
1862 ..	England ..	3,103 5-10	860 8-10
.. ..	France ..	2,242 7-10	
1863 ..	England ..	3,662 3-10	1,019 7-10
.. ..	France ..	2,642 6-10	
1864 ..	England ..	4,010 9-10	1,101 4-10
„ ..	France ..	2,909 5-10	

So that the excess of the Special Exports of England as compared with those of France is almost as great as ever, and amount to more than 25 per cent. of our own total and to about 35 on that of France.

But a comparison of totals only tells a portion of the tale, and M. Coullet has very properly given comparative tables of the proportion which the commerce of each country bears to its population. In 1827-1836 the exports of England amounted to 52½ francs per head per annum, while those of France reached but 21¼ francs—showing an excess in favour of the former of 31 francs and upwards per head. In 1863 the exports of the former were 166 francs, and of the latter 93 francs per head; so that, in spite of the rate having been more than quadrupled in France, the excess on the side of England has increased to 73 francs, or more than twice what it was in 1836. When we consider how far ahead England was at the former period, and consequently how much more margin for improvement existed in France, it is really marvellous that the latter should have maintained, and, still more, doubled that excess.

If there be people existing who imagine that the progress of France in commercial matters can injure England even while her own trade grows so rapidly, they must be beyond the reach of facts and arguments; and those who only look at the changes that have taken place with respect to these two countries, taken apart from their dealings with other parts of the world, they should learn to regard the commerce of the universe as a total, as M. Coullet does, and cease to dwell upon isolated facts and draw false conclusions from incomplete data. It is good for all that the productiveness of each nation should increase, and it is especially good for England, who has relations everywhere, and who consequently profits, instead of losing, by the growing prosperity of France and of all other countries. This is a truism, though all the world does not recognise it.

Correspondence.

SILKWORMS AND MOTHS.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

SIR,—The enclosed extract from Sir J. Emerson Tennent's "Ceylon," Vol. I., chap. VI., page 265, will show you that this gifted author has been somewhat in advance of even the French savans, &c., in having early pointed out to commerce the probable hidden value of certain races of wild silkworms and moths—notably those which had attracted his attention in the island of Ceylon. It appears that about two hundred years ago the Dutch (who were then in possession) made an attempt to introduce the culture of the "Bombyx Mori"—the true silkworm—but that after the island fell into the hands of the English, little more was heard on the subject. In point of fact, there is scarcely room for wonder that our countrymen attempted nothing further, seeing that the well-directed and skilful efforts so successful in perfecting the ruling of Surdah silk in the neighbouring continent of India, for very many years, met with no encouragement save at the hands of the home silk trade. Up to as late as the year 1840 all attempts to introduce the beautifully-reeled Surdah raw silk to the notice of continental manufacturers were fruitless. Secure in the possession of excellent silk crops at home, anything which the English were introducing from Asia was not then worth consideration. The raw silks for which to-day the French, Germans, and Swiss are scrambling all over the East, only twenty short years ago they would scarcely deign to look at! The writer hereof tested them thoroughly as far back as 1845 and 1846. Feeling assured that China and Bengal silks were well adapted for some of the goods made at Lyons, Elberfeldt, and Basle, he waited upon the chief manufacturers of those opulent seats of silk manufacture, and pointed out the advantage in comparative cheapness enjoyed by Asiatic over European silk. These efforts were entirely thrown away upon them, and in many instances the narrator was listened to with an impatience and an indifference mortifying in the extreme. How different is the case now! It is almost ludicrous to see the vast change which has been forced upon those incredulous men, when I along with other Englishmen established in the Far East seem almost in danger of being jostled out of the trade by the agents of the very men who only a few years ago would have nothing to do with either us or our silk! Their own silk crops being almost annihilated, the English merchants who have hitherto conducted the silk trade of India, China, and Japan are coolly told by these people (only arrived as it were yesterday) that they must get out of their way now that France, the Zollverein, and Switzerland want the silk. However unpleasant this may be, still it is the new order of things, which for the time being has to be submitted to at Calcutta, Shanghai, and Yokohama.—I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

KIOTO.

Macclesfield, Nov. 23, 1865.

EXTRACTED FROM TENNENT'S "CEYLON," VOLUME I., CHAP. VI., PAGE 265.

Moths.—Among the strictly nocturnal "Lepidoptera" are some gigantic species. Of these the cinnamon-eating "Atlas" often attains the dimensions of nearly a foot in the stretch of its superior wings. It is common in the gardens about Colombo, and its size, and the transparent talc-like spots in its wings cannot fail to strike even the most careless saunterer. But little inferior to it in size is the famed "Tusseh Silk Moth" (Antheræa mylitta), which feeds on the country almond (Terminalia catappa), and the Palma Christi, or castor-oil plant: it is easily distinguishable from the Atlas, which has a triangular wing, whilst it is falcated, and the transparent spots are covered with a curious thread-like division drawn across them. Towards the northern portion of the island this valuable species entirely displaces the other, owing to the fact that the almond and "Palma Christi" abound there. The latter plant springs up spontaneously in every manure heap or neglected spot of ground; and might be cultivated, as in India, with great advantage, the leaf to be used as food for the caterpillar, the stalk as fodder for cattle, and the seed for the expression of castor-oil. The Dutch took advantage of this facility, and gave every encouragement to the cultivation of silk at Jaffna. (*Note.* The Portuguese had made the attempt prior to the arrival of the Dutch, and a strip of land on the banks of the Kalany river, near Colombo, still bears the name of "Orta Seda," the Silk Garden.) The attempt of the Dutch to introduce the true silkworm, the "Bombyx Mori," took place under the governorship of Ryklof van Goens, who on handing over the administration to his successor in 1663 A.D., thus apprises him of the initiation of the experiment:—"At Jaffna Palace a trial has been undertaken to feed silkworms, and to ascertain whether silk may be reared at that station. I have planted a quantity of mulberry trees, which grow well there, and they ought to be planted in other directions.—Valentyn, Chap. XIII." The growth of mulberry trees is noticed the year after in a report to the Governor-General of India (but the subject afterwards ceased to be attended to), but it never attained such a development as to become an article of commercial importance. Ceylon now cultivates no silkworm whatever, notwithstanding this abundance of the favourite food of one species; and the rich silken robes sometimes worn by the Buddhist priesthood are still imported from China and the continent of India. In addition to the "Atlas" moth and the "Mylitta," there are many other "Bombycidæ" in Ceylon; and though the silk of some of them, was it susceptible of being unwound from the cocoon, would not bear a comparison with that of the "Bombyx Mori," or even of the "Tusseh Moth," it might still prove to be valuable when carded and spun. If the European residents in the colony would rear the larvæ of these "Lepidoptera," and make drawings of their various changes, they would render a possible service to commerce, and a certain one to entomological knowledge.—*A true Extract, by Edward Clarke.*

PIRATES IN THE CHINA WATERS.

(To the Editor of the *London and China Telegraph.*)

Sir,—Allow me to suggest, through your columns, that a meeting of the London houses interested in the China trade be convened, for the purpose of endorsing the protest that has gone forth from merchants in China as to the inadequacy of protection to the Merchant Navy in the China Seas. Such a meeting would have its influence with the Government, and do much to conciliate public opinion in England in favour of the measure. I fully concur with the opinion you have so often expressed, that the Chinese Government should be called upon to contribute a portion of the outlay to be thus incurred; that it is not properly our business to establish a sea and river police for a government bound by specific articles of treaty no less than by international law, to afford efficient protection to foreign trade. But allowing for the exceptional circumstances in which China is placed, and taking into account our own large trading interests, a compromise should be entered into by which the Peking Government should furnish a given annual sum towards the equipment and maintenance of gunboats, say one half; the other half to be divided over England, the United States, France, Prussia, and other maritime Powers who have commercial interests in the Far East.—Yours faithfully,

ANGLO-CHINESE.

Nov. 30, 1865.

BANKS AND COMPANIES CONNECTED WITH THE FAR EAST.

Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, 122, Leadenhall-street.

Messageries Imperiales, Head office in Paris, R. W. and H. Horne, agents, 4, Moorgate-street.

China Steamship and Labuan Coal Company, Ethelburga House, 70, Bishopsgate street.

Netherlands India Steam Navigation Company, 12, Leadenhall-street.

Hong Kong and China Gas Company, 11, Old Jewry Chambers, J. H. Walduck, secretary.

Singapore Gas Company, 25, Poultry, Robert King, secretary.

Pacific Saw Mills, Hakodadi, Armistead and Co., agents, 21, Old Broad-street.

Amoy Dock Company, Zulueta and Co., agents, 22, Moorgate-street.

Shanghai Wharf Company, D. and G. Latimer and Co., agents, St. Swithin's-lane.

Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock, Morrison and Co., agents, Crown-court, Philpot-lane.

North China Insurance Company, Ashton and Co., agents, Hatton-court, Threadneedle-street.

Canton Insurance Company, Matheson and Co., agents, 3, Lombard st.

Union Insurance Company of Canton, Dent, Palmer and Co., agents, King's Arms Yard, Moorgate-street.

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Hong Kong Insurance Company, Gledstanes and Co., agents, 26, Austin Friars.
China Fire Insurance Company, T. A. Gibb and Co., agents, 72, Old Broad-street.
Hong Kong Marine Insurance Company, Farbridge, Holliday and Co., agents, Manchester.
Ceylon Company, 7, East India Avenue, J. Anderson, secretary.
Borneo Company, 7, Mincing-lane, R. Harvey, manager.
Matella Coffee Company, 70 Cannon-street.
Ouvah Coffee Company, do.
Ceylon Coffee Estates, do.
Hungaserian Coffee Company, do.

BANKS.

Asiatic Bank Company, 4, Lombard-street, F. Lawrence, manager.
Agra and Masterman's Bank, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, Mackintosh Balfour, general manager.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, 21, Threadneedle-street, G. N. Adam, manager.
Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China, 52, Threadneedle-street, D. T. Robertson, general manager.
Commercial Bank Corporation of India and the East, 64, Mcorgate-street, Robert Angus, chief manager.
Central Bank of Western India, 22, Old Broad-street, R. Davidson, agent.
Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris, Union Bank of London, agents.
Hindustan, China, and Japan, 1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, J. Ouseley, general manager.
Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Company, W. H. Vacher, agent, Gresham House, Old Broad-street.
Oriental Bank Corporation, Threadneedle-street, C. J. F. Stuart, chief manager.
Royal Bank of India, 13, Leadenhall-street, B. H. MacCulloch, agent.

*** Companies omitted in the above list will be included if the particulars are forwarded.

BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS.

The Board of Trade Returns for the month and ten months ended the 31st October again present very favourable results, and indicate a steady improvement in trade in nearly all branches. The total declared value of exports for the tenth month of the present year was £15,547,225, against £12,871,491 in 1864, and £15,082,332 in 1863, exhibiting an increase as compared with the former period of £2,675,734, and with the latter of £464,893. For the ten months of the present year the total was £135,264,602, for 1864 it was £136,275,652, and for 1863, £119,377,045, which shows a decrease of £1,011,050 when contrasted with 1864, but an increase of no less than £15,887,557 compared with 1863. All our great staples have participated in this movement of activity; save that in the export of silk manufactures there has been a decrease of about 10 per cent. Looking at the document as a whole, a decided probability exists that when the figures for the entire year can be made up the twelve months of 1865 will show the largest amount of trade ever yet attained by the United Kingdom; so far as distinctively specified in these returns, our commerce with the Far East is represented by the following figures:—

EXPORTS TO CHINA AND HONG KONG.

	1863.	1864.	1865.
For the Month ended 31st October.			
Cotton yarn	218,020	40,000	4,000 lbs.
Cotton manufactures	5,624,602	2,504,781	11,035,749 yds.
Worsted stuffs	1,003,000	599,225	1,125,570 ,,
Woollen and worsted cloths	61,570	109,565	71,571 ,,
Lead	651	391	161 tons.
For the Ten Months ended 31st October.			
Cotton yarn	1,624,710	1,762 893	921,178 lbs.
Cotton manufactures	39,849,042	57,626,503	98,354,228 yds.
Worsted stuffs	7,401,161	11,883,246	13,522,332 ,,
Woollen and worsted cloths	1,428,325	1,505,488	1,382,802 ,,
Lead	12,007	6,639	1,702 tons.
Value for the Ten Months ended 31st October.			
Cotton yarn	£170,075	£218,660	£87,966
Cotton manufactures	969,071	1,626,207	2,142,340
Worsted stuffs	523,613	786,701	1,004,020
Woollen and worsted cloths	268,350	260,291	229,700
Lead	256,933	145,340	36,182

The Cotton Manufactures exported to other ports and countries of the Far East were, in quantity for the month, and in value for the ten months, as follows:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity for the Month ended 31st October.			
Ceylon	2,661,282	1,068,919	2,343,715 yds.
Singapore	1,019,825	463,145	2,736,803 ,,
Java	1,873,415	957,833	2,769,518 ,,
Philippine Islands	1,959,891	3,126,223	3,188,519 ,,
Value for the Ten Months ended 31st October.			
Ceylon	£348.627	£371,983	£286,437
Singapore	502,515	558,331	769,403
Java	299,790	484,882	554,234
Philippine Islands	317,204	546,257	618,162

Of Cotton Yarn, the quantity forwarded to Singapore during the month of October was 47,100 lbs., and 1,074.400 lbs. during the ten months; the value for that period being £100,864, against £92,167 in the ten months of 1864, and £183,274 in the preceding year. To Ceylon 37,700 lbs. of cotton yarn were exported in October, and 267,200 lbs. in the ten months; the value being £23,451, against £26,081 in the ten months of 1864, and £53,619 in 1863.

IMPORTS.

Raw Cotton exhibits a decline as regards British India and China, more especially if we look to the more distant region of the two:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity for the Month ended 31st October.			
British India	446,833	675,607	544,496 cwts.
China	2,696	37,804	7,506 ,,
All parts	555,519	823,585	855,495 ,,
Quantity for the Ten Months ended 31st October			
British India	2,611,985	3,355,747	3,125,905 cwts.
China	211,562	609,136	309,031 ,,
All parts	4,226,127	6,146,796	6,315,565 ,,
Value for the Nine Months ended 30th September.			
British India	£17,358,230	£24,862,133	£14,181,006
China	1,520,670	4,945.209	1,149,687
All parts	31,662,331	56,334,266	36,187,355

Of Unrefined Sugar there appears to have been no importation from Java and the Philippine Islands during the month of October, while in the same month of 1864 the import was 27,350 cwt. The quantity for the ten months and the value for the nine months is given as follows:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity for the Ten Months ended 31st October.			
Of all qualities (cwts.)	692,753	210,617	528,367
Value for the Nine Months ended 30th September.			
Of all qualities	£625,923	£231,257	£521,793

Of Hemp the import from the Philippine Islands during the month of October was 13,931 cwt., while the total for the whole year is represented by the following figures:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity to 31st Oct. (cwts.)	245,383	134,002	179,688
Value to 30th Sept.	£311,405	£215,928	£249,639

Of Raw Coffee the quantity delivered from Ceylon during the month of October was 5,186,283 lbs., and the total deliveries in this and the two preceding years have been thus:—

	1863.	1864.	1865.
Quantity to 31st Oct. (lbs.)	61,204,868	59,511,661	67,956,617
Value to 30th Sept.	£1,917,565	£1,919,621	£2,158,944

The present Returns furnish the Declared Value both of the exports and imports from and to the United Kingdom during the three quarters ending the 30th September. The exports, it must be recollected, refer only to British and Irish Produce and Manufactures, and do not comprise the value of foreign produce re-exported. The portions of these returns relating to the ports and countries of the Far East exhibit the figures annexed:—

To	1863.	1864.	1865.
Exports for the Nine Months ended 30th Sept.			
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)	£1,771,873	£2,308,522	£2,572,302
Hong Kong	1,041,046	1,347,773	1,168,639
Singapore and Eastern Straits	1,034,379	970.756	1,103,897
Ceylon	654,677	627,288	449,467
Netherlands India (Java, &c.)	412.541	640,055	639,219
Philippine Islands	436,312	616.739	741,155
Siam	11,958	15,129	22,365
Japan	73,526	431,821	986,107
From			
Imports for the Nine Months ended 30th Sept			
China (exclusive of Hong Kong)	£9,163,528	£8,235,986	£6,186,809
Hong Kong	816,729	2,366,519	569,926
Singapore and Eastern Straits	1,137,275	1,340,577	1,322,281
Ceylon	2,511,920	2,399,851	2,494,917
Netherlands India (Java, &c.)	12.591	16,736	—
Philippine Islands	1,024.399	492.216	1,063.498
Siam	20,746	14,522	9 372
Borneo	39,591	20,208	26,306
Japan	976,134	1,185,037	489,997

Shipping Intelligence.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Nov. 25	London	Cardiff & Yokohama	Helena	Hedges.
— 27	Do.	Colombo	Palestine	Park.
—	Shields	Shanghai	Princess of Wales	Barron.
— 28	London	Singapore	Queen of May	McGrevy.
— 28	Do.	Hong Kong & Canton	Black Prince	Ingas.
—	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Deerfoot	
— 27	Do.	Galle	Ida	
Oct. 24	Callao	Hong Kong	Christina	
Nov. 26	Sunderland	Shanghai	Neptune	
— 26	Do.	Singapore	Alice Ball	
Dec. 1	London	Colombo and Cochin	Abdul Medjid	Paton.
— 1	Liverpool	Shanghai	Illimani	Dimond.
Nov. 6	Rio Janeiro	Galle	Quinten Matsys	Claeys.
Dec. 1	Liverpool	Java	Peter Landberg	Townsend.
— 3	Newport	Singapore	Daniel Marcy	Ross.
Nov. 30	Cardiff	Do.	Bengal	Patterson.
Dec. 2	Do.	Do.	Robert Lowe (s.s)	Frost.
— 3	Do.	Hayti and China	Minerve	Prenot.
— 5	London	Shanghai	Guinevere	McLean.

(See Commercial Postscript.)

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ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Nov.24	Plymouth	Bassein	Rapide	Bockelmann.
— 13	New York	Hong Kong	Benefactor	Berry.
— 22	Cuxhaven	Batavia	Boreas	Stufen.
— 25	London	Penang	Hanover	Piening.
— 26	Do.	Hong Kong	Salvia	Reynolds.
— 27	Deal	Colombo	Cruiser	
— 26	Falmouth	Batavia	Loopuyt	v. der Hidde
— 26	Liverpool	Singapore	Early Dawn	
— 25	Texel	Batavia	Nederland	Steenderen.
— 19	Cadiz	Manila	Nuestra Conception	Tuton.
— 24	Marseilles	Sumatra	Julie	Genouillat.
— 28	Deal	Colombo	Orthe	Walker.
— 28	London	Canton, &c.	Johannes Marie	Petersen.
— 28	Do.	Colombo	Wm. Nairby	Burkett.
— 28	Portsmouth	Batavia	Sophia Kon. d. Nedrld.	Klein.
— 28	Liverpool	Bassein	Eddystone	Dyer.
Oct. 14	Callao	Macao	Cesar	Nissen.
— 14	Do.	Do.	R. Pratolongo	Profumo.
— 16	Do.	Ceylon	Henry Coke	Morgan.
Nov.26	Hamburg	Penang	Undine	Ofterdinger.
— 26	Do.	Macao	Jacob Levy	Mohnsen.
Oct. 18	Callao	Do.	Don Jose	Gervasoni.
— 26	Do.	Hong Kong	New Grenada	Hartmann.
Nov.26	Brouwershaven	Batavia	Jacoba	Schaap.
— 22	Marseilles	Sumatra	Rattler	Deleberti.
—	London	Shanghai	Gossamer	Murphy.
— 29	Off Dungeness	Java	Andromeda	Dannberg.
— 9	Havana	Macao	Louis	Legaster.
— 16	New York	Batavia	Atlas	Carey.
— 30	Off Dungeness	Do.	Maria Magdalena	Willenbrink.
Oct. 12	Buenos Ayres	Canton	Magdalena	Schmidt
Nov.—	New York	Manila	Bavaria	
—	Do.	Shanghai	Hesperia	
Dec. 2	London	Manila	Westbourne	Gillen.
— 2	Bristol	Singapore	Monitor	Stjernberg.
— 2	Gironde	Do.	Helene	Guerin.
— 6	Deal	Hankow	Hoang Ho	Carrington.

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: Eliza Shaw, Challenger, James Longton. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Broadwater. For Nagasaki: Eagle. For Shanghai: Lauderdale, Westminster, Gossamer. For Hong Kong and Canton: Northfleet, Punjaub. For Singapore: Dovercourt. For Singapore and Penang: Oribe. For Galle: Colombo Dora. For Colombo: Frances Milly, Boyne, John Bright.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Vanda. For Shanghai: Tewkesbury, Chalgrove. For Singapore and Penang: Singapore. For Batavia and Pekalongan: Edith Haviland. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Dagmar. For Manila: Eulalia, Espana.

At GLASGOW.—For Manila: Union. For Batavia and Singapore: Helen Baird. For Batavia, Samarang and Sourabaya: County of Argyle.

SPOKEN.

JUANPORE, London to Shanghai, Sept. 25, 24 N., 119 E.
ADOLF MICHEL, Hong Kong to London, Sept. 25, 31 S., 10 E.
AURELIANA, Liverpool to Manila, Oct. 18, 2 N., 24 W.
SCINDIA, London to Japan, Sept. 4, 32 S., 28 W.
VISCOUNT HARDINGE, Ameland to Batavia, 49 days out, 4 S., 26 W.
ZATIHAM (?) (barq.), London to Colombo, Nov. 13, 37 N., 17 W.
LAURA DAY (?), Foo-chow to Lon., 86 days out, Sept. 23, 24 S., 4 E.
EUROPA (Dut. ship), Cardiff to Bat., Oct. 18, 2 N., 21 W.
ADOLPH MICHELS, H. Kong to Lon., in sight of St. Helena, Oct. 6.
GRENADIER, London to Japan, Oct. 26, 9 N., 24 W.
TONIA, Newcastle to Singapore, Oct. 20, 6 N., 22 W.
JAVA, Singapore to Bordeaux, Oct. 31, off the Cape de Verd.
MEMNON, Manila to New York, Sept. 15, 20 S., lon. 65.
WILLIAM AND CLARA, for Batavia, Oct. 14, 5 S., 27 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

A marked improvement is noticeable in outward freights, all ships recently arrived having been well placed for the outward voyage, and rates for Shanghai and Hong Kong may be quoted fully 5s. per ton higher than those given in our last quotations. Coal freights continue firm, and for Shanghai show an upward tendency.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 30s. to 35s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 30s. meast. To Singapore: 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 20s. measurement.

The current quotations for coal, &c., are as follows:—From Wear or Tyne per Keel. For Batavia: £30. For Hong Kong: £42. For Galle: £27. For Singapore, £32. For Shanghai: £52. From Newport, Cardiff or Swansea per ton. For Batavia: £1. 7s. For Hong Kong: £2. For Manila: £1. 12s. to £1. 15s. For Galle: £1. 6s. For Singapore: £1. 9s. For Shanghai, £2. 7s.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 3 tons medical stores from the river Thames to Colombo.

Messrs. Stringer, Pembroke, and Co.'s Circular states:—There has been considerable animation the last fortnight in coal freights to the East, and a good deal of business has been done. There is now a little slackness in the inquiry, but we can still place tonnage at our quotations, which, it will be seen, show much improvement. Berth freights to India from hence have not advanced in proportion, but ships are in good request. We can place a high-classed vessel for Australia, with quick dispatch in loading, at 65s. per register ton. Homeward business is quiet; the rice charterers have about filled their requirements, and we cannot now do better than 67s. 6d. to United Kingdom or Continent. We can place a vessel from Manila at 60s. sugar, 65s. hemp, in connection with 30s. to 31s. per ton coal out from Cardiff.

CASUALTIES.

The Amber Witch, Langlois, from Cardiff for Hong Kong, put into Falmouth, Nov. 27, with loss of gear of foresail-yard, and making a little water.

The Sophia Kon d. Nederlanden, Klein, from Batavia, arrived at Portsmouth, Nov. 28, with loss of sails.

The Crouch Brothers, from London for Colombo, arrived off Gibraltar, Nov. 28, with loss of three topmasts, jib-boom, mainmast head, yards, and sails.

The Eclipse, Chevalier, from Liverpool for Yokohama, which was assisted into Cardiff, Nov. 27, for repairs, reports that, during the gales on Nov. 21, she started her mast coats fore and aft, foretopmast stays, &c., carried away her bulwarks, and commenced making much water. On the 22nd a heavy sea carried away her wheel, steering apparatus, stanchions, &c., and on the following day a leak was discovered under her stern. On the 24th she anchored in Penarth Roads, but, finding she was drifting on shore and among the shipping, she signalled a tug, and was taken in tow. She has since discharged part of her cargo.

The Quinten Matsys, Claeys, from Shields for Ceylon, put into Rio Janeiro, Oct. 26, with her master ill, and sailed for her destination on the 6th November.

The Mauritius, Holst, from Hamburg for Singapore, put into Cowes, Dec. 2, with cargo shifted.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Off ST. HELENA.—Oct. 15, from Hong Kong, Maria, for London.

The steamer Annette, which has twice landed tea in China, and accomplished the voyage in a longer time than sailing vessels, has been sold for £7,500.

LAUNCHES, &c.

THE STEAMER "DOUGLAS."—On the 30th Nov. Messrs. Hull, Russell, and Co. launched from their yard, at Aberdeen, the screw steamer Douglas. The ceremony of christening was performed by Miss Baker. The description of the Douglas is as follows:—Barque rigged, and fitted with engines of 160 horse-power, nominal; length, 250 ft.; beam, 29 ft. 6 in., and 21 ft. 6 in. depth; register tonnage, 873 tons, and 900 builders'. The launch was very successfully accomplished, and the appearance of the Douglas in the water, with her beautiful lines, is very fine. She has been built to the order of Messrs. James Morrison, and Co., London, and is owned by Douglas Lapraik, Esq., and others. The Douglas will be commanded by Captain Baker, who has had great experience on the coast of China, where the vessel is intended to be employed. The fitting up of the vessel is very superior; the cabin accommodation ample, and the furnishing all in the most tasteful and elegant style. In the construction of both ship and machinery, all the most modern improvements have been included. Several gentlemen from China were present at the launch, and expressed themselves very favourably as to her capabilities and adaptation to the China trade. The launch of the Douglas is an event of unusual interest, as being the first launch of an iron vessel at Aberdeen for fully twenty years.

DYSENTERY, CHOLERA, FEVER, AGUE, ETC.

CHLORODYNE.

CAUTION.—*Vice-Chancellor Wood affirmed in Court that Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE was undoubtedly the Discoverer of Chlorodyne; that the statements of the Defendant Freeman were deliberately untrue, and he regretted to say they had been sworn to (see "The Times" of July 13, 1864); all others must be spurious.*

Earl Russell has graciously favoured J. T. Davenport with the following extract of a despatch from Mr. Webb, H.B.M.'s Consul at Manila, dated Sept. 17, 1864:—"The remedy most efficacious in its effects (in Epidemic Cholera) has been found to be CHLORODYNE, and with a small quantity given to me by Dr. Burke I have saved several lives." Earl Russell communicated to the College of Physicians that he had received a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Manila, to the effect that Cholera had been raging fearfully, and that the ONLY remedy of any service was CHLORODYNE.—See *Lancet*, December 31, 1864. No home should be without it.

Eminent Hospital Physicians of London stated on oath that they prescribe CHLORODYNE largely, and mean no other than Dr. Browne's.

The General Board of Health, London, state as to its efficacy in Cholera and Dysentery:—"So strongly are we convinced of the efficacy of this remedy, that we cannot too forcibly urge the necessity of adopting it in all cases."

From A. Montgomery, Esq., late Inspector of Hospitals, Bombay:—"Chlorodyne is a most valuable remedy in Neuralgia, Asthma, and Dysentery. To it I fairly owe my restoration to health, after eighteen months' severe suffering, and when all other medicine had failed."

From W. Vesalius Pettigrew, M.D.:—"I have no hesitation in stating that I have never met with any medicine so efficacious as an antispasmodic and sedative. I have used it in Consumption, Asthma, Diarrhœa, and other diseases, and am most perfectly satisfied with the results."

Dr. M'Grigor Croft, late Army Staff, says:—"It is a most valuable medicine."

Dr. Gibson, Army Medical Staff, Calcutta:—"Two doses completely cured me of Diarrhœa"

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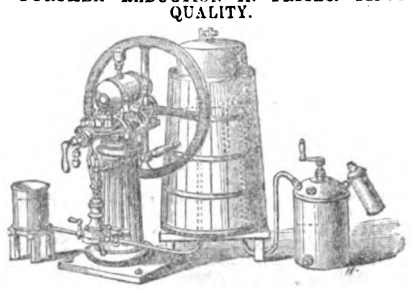

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IMMEDIATELY OPPOSITE THE RAILWAY TERMINUS AND DOCKS

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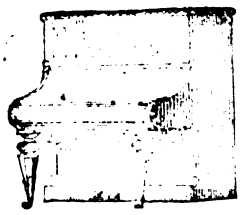
Mr. R. employs no touters or paid agents, but his Porters are always in attendance to meet passengers on arrival, with carriages, &c., as usual. Rooms may be engaged by letter from Malta.

TO RESIDENTS IN CHINA AND INDIA.



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PIANOFORTES, WITH ALL THE LATEST IMPROVEMENTS EXPRESSLY FOR EXPORTATION.

13, STORE-STREET, TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD, W.

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PURE GLYCERINE SOAP.

ELDERFLOWER, HONEY, ALMOND, BROWN WINDSOR, &c.; also their celebrated ESS BOUQUET, JOCKEY-CLUB BOUQUET, EXTRACT of VIOLET, and other perfumes for the Handker chief. Manufacturers of HAIR, TOOTH, and NAIL BRUSHES.

PERFUMERY and POMATUMS of every description made expressly for Foreign Climates.

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NOTHING IS MORE REFRESHING THAN

RIMMEL'S

EXTRACT OF LIME JUICE AND GLYCERINE,

Which cleanses and cools the head, and gives the hair a beautiful gloss without greasing it. Price 1s. 6d., 2s. 6d., 5s.

RIMMEL'S TOILET VINEGAR

Will also be found a perfect luxury as an adjunct to the Toilet and Bath and a reviving Perfume. Price 1s., 2s. 6d., 5s.

RIMMEL'S NEW PERFUMES,

The Titiens, Indian, and Chinese Bouquet, all of delightful fragrance, from 2s. 6d.

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For producing an Ambrosial dew. Reduced to 6d.

RIMMEL'S PERFUME FOUNTAIN,

An elegant ornament for the Drawing-Room, Ball-Room, Dining Table, &c Price from £1. 10s.

EUGENE RIMMEL, Perfumer by Appointment to H.R.H. the Princess of Wales,

96, STRAND, 128, REGENT-STREET, and 24, CORNHILL, LONDON.

HUBBUCK'S PATENT WHITE ZINC PAINT.

THE most durable and beautiful paint known, is cheaper than White Lead, and is proved to be superior for all purposes than the pernicious Lead Paint, and equally adapted for all climates.

Its whiteness is unaffected by bilge water, boiling sugar, or noxious gases.

It is free from any poisonous ingredient, and suited in all respects to the use of the painter.

Each Cask of Pure White Zinc is Stamped "HUBBUCK, LONDON PATENT."

Inferior Zinc Paint, so marked, having been sold in Foreign Markets, the Patentees offer a Reward of FIFTY POUNDS for information which will lead to the conviction, in an English or Colonial Court, of those who have pirated their Mark. Both Exporters and Retailers are liable for its sale.

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WHITE LEAD, OIL, PAINT, AND VARNISH WORKS,

24, LIME-STREET, LONDON.

HUBBUCK'S ANTI-CORROSIVE PAINTS

Are very durable, and the most valuable protection to Iron Roofs, Bridges, Piers, Ships and Buildings, exposed to stormy weather and scorching sun; they soon become extremely hard, and do not blister.

They are made of Stone, Slate, Copper, White, Blue, Green, or any other Colour that is desired.

HUBBUCK'S ANTI-OXIDATION COMPOSITION,

For Coating Iron and Wood Ships' Bottoms; a preservative against fouling and corrosion. This Composition is ready for immediate use, and obviates the waste of carrying unmixed Paints, Oils, Driers, &c. It is also applicable to all the purposes of other Paints.

HUBBUCK'S PALE BOILED OIL

Has less colour than Raw Linseed Oil, is a quick, hard and certain drier for White and Light Coloured Paints.

PAINTS AND OILS PROPERLY PACKED FOR EXPORTATION.

BOYVEAU LAFFECTEUR'S ROB.

The only one authorised and adopted in France, Belgium, Austria and Russia.

THIS Vegetable Syrup, prepared and guaranteed genuine by the signature of Dr. GIRAUDEAU DE ST. GERVAIS, is very superior to the purifying syrups. It effects a radical cure, without mercury, in all affections of the skin, scurf, scrofula, &c., and symptoms arising from the acrid state of the humours. The Rob is especially valuable in diseases which have resisted the effect of mercury or iodide of potash. The general entrepot of 12, RUE RICHER, PARIS.

Sold Retail.—London: Jozeau, Hannay. New York: Fougera, Gaudelet, Milhau. Gibraltar: Patron and Danilowich Malta: Dr. Pirotti, Bugeja, Magri, and Rolando, Esperanza. Alexandria: Bellamore, Galette, Perinie, Bombay: Franjee Nesserwanjee and Co. Singapore: Martin and Little Batavia: L. Platon and Co. Macao J. D. Freati.

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Bottled Ales and Wines, &c.

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Price 7½d. per doz. Bottlers contracting for large quantities effect so great a saving in labour, &c., that they can supply them at one-fourth less in price to Shippers, who will find it most profitable to order their goods to be so packed in future. In use by all the leading London houses.—T. WHITEHEAD, 37, EASTCHEAP, E.C. Sole Manufacturer.

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Close to the Landing Place. Depot of

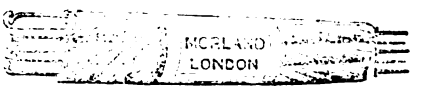
EUROPEAN, CHINA, AND INDIAN WORK.

WINE, BEER, CHAMPAGNE, and SPIRITS of the best quality. Bombay-made Sod Water and Lemonade. Perfumery, Confectionery, Oilman's Stores, and Stationery of every description. Sola Topees and Canvas Shoes, &c., &c.

STEAMER POINT, ADEN.

Drawing and Reading-room free to Passengers.

THE "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS" ON SALE



UMBRELLAS and SUNSHADES suitable for all Foreign Markets and the Colonies are supplied to Shippers on the most favourable terms by JOHN MORLAND and SONS, Wholesale Manufacturers 50, Eastcheap, London-bridge, City. Silk, Alpaca, Gingham Steel Frames, Canes, Fittings and all kinds of Materia for the Trade. Oiled and japanned silks and cambrics.

CAUTION.

THE GROSS FRAUDS which continue to be practised by obscure manufacturers, more particularly in Germany, by imitating the Labels attached to JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s PERFUMERY, render it imperative upon the Proprietors to Caution the public against such nefarious proceedings, and to request their friends and patrons to purchase only of respectable dealers, who import direct from JOHN GOSNELL and Co., and invite special attention to the address, 12, THREE KING-COURT, LOMBARD-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s SELECT PERFUMES.—Ess Bouquet, Royal Yacht Club Bouquet, Jockey Club Perfume, Essence of Wood Violet, Victoria Bouquet, Garibaldi Bouquet, Frangipanni, Military Bouquet, The Bride's Bouquet, Tea Rose, Russian Leather Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Toilet Vinegar, Inexhaustible Salts, Aromatic Vinegar, Aromatic Eau de Cologne.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Prince of Wales Perfumes

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Princess Alexandra Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Perfume.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Pomade.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s La Noblesse Soap.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Real Old Brown Windsor Soap.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Golden Oil—Moelline—Macassar Oil, Bear's Grease, &c., for the Hair.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Extra Highly Scented Toilet and Nursery Powder.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Stereodesmic or Dentists, Tooth Brushes and Trichosaron Hair Brushes, warranted to purchasers.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Instantaneous Hair Dye.

JOHN GOSNELL and Co.'s Cherry Tooth Paste is greatly superior to any tooth powder, gives the teeth a pearl-like whiteness, protects the enamel from decay, and imparts a pleasing fragrance to the breath.

NOTHING IMPOSSIBLE.—The Greatest and most Useful Invention of the day, AGUA AMARELLA.—Messrs. JOHN GOSNELL and CO., 12, Three King-court, Lombard-street, London, Perfumers to Her Majesty, respectfully offer to the public this truly marvellous fluid, which gradually restores the human hair to its pristine hue—no matter at what age. The Agua Amarella has none of the properties of dyes; it, on the contrary, is beneficial to the system, and when the hair is once restored one application per month will keep it in perfect colour. Price One Guinea per bottle; half bottles, 10s. 6d.

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HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—There is no question whatever that rheumatism, neuralgia, and such like painful maladies, are more rife this season than for some years past. The number of testimonials of cures effected by Holloway's remedies is unprecedented and should be enforced on the attention of all sufferers from these complaints. The parts in pain should be fomented for some minutes with warm brine, dried, and immediately well rubbed with the Ointment. It will pass into the pores of the skin and give the greatest relief. Many valuable lives are annually lost which might be saved, if early recourse in illness were made to these remarkable remedies, which must necessarily prove beneficial and cannot do harm.

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COMMUNICATION by STEAM to INDIA, AUSTRALIA, &c., *via* EGYPT.—The PENINSULAR and ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY book Passengers and receive Cargo and Parcels at their London Offices for Gibraltar, Malta, Egypt, Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, the Straits, and China, by their steamers leaving Southampton on the 4th and 20th of every month. For Gibraltar Malta, Egypt, Aden, and Bombay by those of the 12th and 27th of each month; and for Mauritius, King George's Sound, Melbourne, and Sydney, by the steamers leaving Southampton on the 10th of every month.

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FRENCH MAIL STEAM PACKETS.

The 19th of every Month, at 2 P.M. for—

MESSINA, ALEXANDRIA, ADEN, POINT DE GALLE (Ceylon), PONDICHERRY MADRAS, CALCUTTA, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, SAIGON, HONG KONG, SHANGHAI, and JAPAN.

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For passage, freight, and information apply to B. W. and H. HORNE, 4, Moorgate-street, London; G. H. FLETCHER and Co., Liverpool; at the offices of the Services Maritimes des Messageries Imperiales in Paris, Lyons, Bordeaux, and Marseilles; or to SMITH and Co., Rotterdam.

*** Passengers eastward of Suez securing their berths in London are entitled to the conveyance of their luggage free to Marseilles.

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PARCELS, PACKAGES, and MERCHANDISE forwarded, and PASSAGES engaged to all parts of the world. Baggage collected and shipped, Insurances effected, &c.

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INDIA, CHINA, and AUSTRALIA—Via Cape of Good Hope, Clipper Ships, weekly.

Prospectuses, with through rate to 500 places, free on application.

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STEAM COMMUNICATION between SINGAPORE and MANILA.—The steamer REYNA, under the Spanish flag, now runs regularly between the above Ports, taking Freight and Passengers

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Messrs. PATERSON, SIMONS, and CO.
AGENTS IN MANILA.
PHILLIPS, MOORE, and CO.

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ROBERTSON and CO. will despatch the following first-class VESSELS to their respective destinations. They are well adapted for their several trades, and are confidently recommended to their friends:—

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Shanghai	Gossamer ...	W.I.D.	With des.
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Kanagawa	Ellen Rodger	W.I.D	With des.
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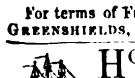
Apply at 5, Newman's-court, Cornhill, London; or York Chambers, 55, King-street, Manchester.

FROM LIVERPOOL.

Destination.	Ships.	Tons	Class.	To Sail.
Shanghai ...	Chalgrove ...	509	A 1 13 yrs.	Imm.
Hong Kong & Whampoa ...	Everest ...	571	—	,,
Batavia & Pekalongun ...	Edith Haviland ...	249	A 1 7 yrs.	,,

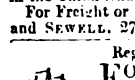
For terms of Freight or Passage apply to McDIARMID, GREENSHIELDS, and Co., Liverpool.



HONG KONG and WHAMPOA.—The well-known China clipper ship NORTHFLEET, A 1 fourteen years, 895 tons register, W. SYMINGTON, Commander; loading in the East India Docks. This splendid river-built ship has made some of the fastest passages on record in the China trade. Has beautiful cabin accommodation.

For Freight or Passage apply to GELLATLY, HANKEY, and SEWELL, 27, Leadenhall street.

Regular Line of Packet Ship.



FOR HONG KONG and WHAMPOA. the well-known clipper DUNMAIL, A 1 fourteen years, 771 tons register, — BIRKETT, Commander; will load in the London Docks. Has excellent accommodation for passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to PHILLIPS, SHAW, and LOWTHER, 2, Royal Exchange-buildings, E.C.

HONG KONG and WHAMPOA (under engagement to H.M.'s Government), the splendid clipper-built ship PUNJAUB, A 1 twelve years, 883 tons register, E. SHREWSBURY, Commander; will receive cargo in the West India Docks till the 15th December. This fine ship has made some of the fastest passages on record, and has unusually large cabins for passengers.

HOLMES, KNEVITT, and HOLMES, Sun-court, Cornhill.

Last Shipping Day, 15th December.

FOR SHANGHAI Direct, the magnificent river-built clipper ship, LAUDERDALE, A 1 thirteen years, owned by Messrs. John Willis and Son, 851 tons register, W. H. HUTCHINS, Commander; East India Docks. This ship has good accommodation for passengers.

For freight or passage apply to KILLICK, MARTIN, and Co., 28, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, E.C.

FOR SHANGHAI direct (to sail on the 30th of December), the well-known clipper WESTMINSTER, A 1 thirteen years, 731 tons register, ROBERT BOVEY, Commander; lying in the East India Docks. This ship has excellent accommodation for passengers; is celebrated for her rapid passages. Has just come out of dry dock, having been nearly re-built, and is quite equal to any new ship. For freight or passage apply to PHILLIPPS, SHAW, and LOWTHER, No. 2, Royal Exchange-buildings, E.C.

With quick despatch.

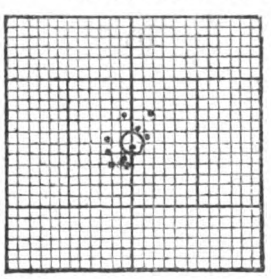
FOR KANAGAWA (YOKOHAMA), JAPAN, Direct, the well-known clipper ship CHALLENGER, A 1, 12 years (built by Messrs. R. and H. Green), 699 tons register, H. W. BROWNE, Commander, East India Docks. This ship has good accommodation for passengers.

For Freight or Passage apply to KILLICK, MARTIN, and Co., 28, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, E.C.

COLOMBO Direct (has only room for light measurement goods), the new clipper ship BOYNE, AA 1 at Lloyd's, C. P. JONES, Commander, 617 tons register; loading in the West India Docks. This splendid vessel, built expressly for the trade, has a full poop and accommodations of the first order for the comfort and convenience of passengers.

For Passage apply to the owner, W. H. TINDALL, 5, Tokenhouse-house-yard; and for Freight or Passage apply to F. TALLACK, 23, Birchin-lane, Cornhill, E.C.

AMMUNITION.



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12 FEET SQUARE

Represents average shooting at 500 yards with

ELEY'S BEST ENFIELD CARTRIDGES

ELEY'S AMMUNITION

OF EVERY DESCRIPTION FOR

SPORTING OR MILITARY PURPOSES.

Double Waterproof Central Fire Caps, Felt Waddings, to prevent the leading of Guns, Wire Cartridges, for Killing Game, &c., at long distances, Breech-Loading Cartridge Cases of superior quality, for Shot Guns and Rifles.

Jacob's Rifle Shell Tubes, Cartridges and Caps for Colt's, Adams', Deane's, Tranter's, and other Revolvers.

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For Enfield, Whitworth, and Henry Rifles; also for Westley Richards', Terry's, Wilson's, Prince's, Deane's and other Breech Loaders.

"Black Buck Shells," for 10, 12, and 16 Bore Breech Loaders.

The "Metford" Shel Bullet, for Enfield and Whitwort, Bore Rifles.

Bullets of uniform eight made by compression from Soft Refined Lead.

ELEY BROTHERS, GRAY'S-INN-ROAD, LONDON, W.C or of Messrs. SMITH, ELDER, and CO., and their Agents.

Wholesale Only.

THE CHINESE COMMERCIAL GUIDE.

CONTAINING Treaties, Tariffs Regulations, Tables, &c., useful in the trade of China and Eastern Asia, with an Appendix of Sailing Directions for those Seas and Coasts, by S. WELLS WILLIAMS, LL.D Fifth Edition.

Hong Kong, SHORTREDE and Co.; London Agent, F. ALGAR, 11, Clement's-lane, E.C. Price Two Guineas.

TUPPER AND COMPANY.

MANUFACTURERS OF PATENT GALVANISED IRON, in Sheets, Tiles, Iron Roofs Sheds, Cisterns, Pails, Gutters, Wire for Fencing, &c.

WORKS AT BIRMINGHAM AND LONDON.

OFFICES: 61A, MOORGATE STREET, LONDON.

Merchants' orders executed with despatch.

PORT OF AMOY.

SHIPOWNERS, AGENTS and COMMANDERS are informed that the Dock Company's Establishments at the above Port afford every facility for REPAIRING and SPARRING VESSELS, and for CLEANING and PAINTING Iron and Steam Ships.

Their large Granite Dock, 286 feet long on the blocks, is in complete working order, and at average spring tides can take vessels drawing 16 to 17 feet water. The Dock is fitted with a Caisson Gate and with a Centrifugal Steam Pump of great power ensuring despatch in all states o the tide. An ample stock is kept on hand of Timber, Oregon Spars, Sheathing Copper and Yellow Metal, and of every description of material for Dockyard use.

The premises comprise an Engineer's Workshop, Brass Foundry, a large Smithy and Carpenter's Workshops, and the works are superintended by Resident Europeans, viz., a Shipwright, an Engineer, and a Blacksmith. Dry Godowns for the reception of vessel's stores, &c., when requiring to discharge them.

Amoy, March, 1865.

THE BANGKOK DOCK COMPANY'S NEW DOCK.

This magnificent Dock is now ready to receive Vessels of any burthen, and the attention of Shipowners, Agents, and Masters is respectfully solicited to the advantages for REPAIRING and SPARRING VESSELS, which no other Dock in the East can offer.

The following description of the Premises is submitted for the information of the public. The dimensions and depth of water being:—

Length	300 feet.
(To be extended.)	
Breadth	100 ,,
Depth of water	15 ,,

The Dock is fitted with a Caisson, has a splendid entrance of 120 feet from the River, with a spacious Jetty on each side, where vessels of any size may lay at any state of the tides, to lift Masts, Boilers, &c., with powerful Lifting Shears, which are now in the course of construction.

The Dock is fitted with Steam Pumps of great power, insuring despatch in all states of the tides.

WORKSHOPS.

The Workshops comprise the different departments of Shipwrights, Mast and Block Makers, Blacksmiths, Engineers, Foundry, &c.

The whole being superintended by Europeans, who have had many years' experience in the different branches.

The workmen are the best picked men from Hong Kong and Whampoa.

The Company draws particular attention to the great advantages this Dock offers, being in a Port where the best Teak and other Timber can be had at the cheapest cost.

A Steam Saw Mill is also in connection with the Dock, to insure despatch in work.

The Keel Blocks are four feet in height, and can be taken out or shifted without cutting or causing any expense to ships having to get them removed.

The Company is also prepared to give estimates or enter into Contracts for the Repairs of Wooden or Iron Ships, the Building of New Ships, Steamboats, &c., or any kind of work connected with shipping.

All Material supplied at Market price. Vessels for Docking may lay at the Company's Buoys or Wharf free of charge, until ordered to remove by the Superintendent.

Captains of vessels before leaving the Dock must approve and sign their Dockage Bills.

All communications respecting the docking to be addressed, until further notice, to the undersigned, by whom all Bills will be signed and collected.

JOHN BUSH, Managing Director.

Bangkok, 18th Sept., 1865.
Hong Kong, 20th Oct., 1865.

THE CHINA TRADERS' MARINE INSURANCE SOCIETY OF HONG KONG (Limited).

CAPITAL, 1,000,000 dols.
In 200 Shares of 5,000 dols. each. 1,000 dols. per Share Paid up.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

William Neilson, Esq. (Messrs. ...yphant and Co.)
J. W. Maclellan, Esq. (Manag... ...ommercial Bank Corporation.
Richard Deacon, Esq. (Messrs. John Burd and Co.)

GENERAL AGENTS.

Messrs. Augustine Heard and Co.

The Allotment of Shares will take place on the 3rd day of October next, and further Applications for Shares will be received until the 3rd of October next.

Application to be made in the form given below, and addressed to the General Agents, from whom any information can be obtained.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To the General Agents of the China Traders' Marine Insurance Society of Hong Kong (Limited).

Gentlemen,—I hereby request that the Committee will allot to me shares in the above Company; and I agree to accept such shares, or any less number which may be allotted to me, and to pay the first call of One thousand Dollars per Share, and further calls to such amount and at such times and in such manner as may be authorised by the Articles of Association of the said Company, and to subscribe the Articles of Association when called on to do so.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obdient Servant.

Hong Kong, Sept. 7, 1865.

Printed for the Proprietors by WOODFALL and KINDER Milford-lane, Strand, W.C., and published by JOHN ELLISON, at the Office of the "LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH," 12, George-yard, Lombard-street, E.C., in the parish of St. Edmund the King—Thursday, Dec. 7, 1865.

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 194.] LONDON, MONDAY, DEC. 18, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Aug. 17	Oct. 15	Oct. 18
Nagasaki			,, 17
Hakodadi			,, 6
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			,, 18
Chefoo			,, 11
New-chwang			10
Hankow			,, 19
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	Aug. 26	Oct. 14	,, 26
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			,, 26
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Sept. 17	Oct. 31	Nov. 1
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	Aug. 26	,, 11	Oct. 24
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			Nov. 3
SIAM— Bangkok			Oct. 26
BORNEO—			
Labuan			,, 23
Sarawak			,, 19
JAVA—			
Batavia			
MALACCA STRAITS—			Nov. 2
Singapore	Sept. 26	Nov. 2	,, 9
Penang	,, 26	Oct. 31	,, 11

Telegrams from Hong Kong to Nov. 15 have been received via Galle, as follows:—"The gunboats have successfully attacked the pirates in the neighbourhood of Amoy. Advices from Japan state that the foreign ministers had gone on an expedition to open Osseolivywn (not to be deciphered) to foreign trade. The other murderers of Major Baldwin and Lieutenant Bird have been arrested at Yedo. They confessed their crime, and were executed."

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail per P. and O. Company's steamer Tanjore, arrived at Marseilles Dec 15.—From Yokohama: Mr. and Mrs. Wilgoss, infant, and native female servant, Mr. J Berlander, Mr. V. Amonin, Mr. T. H. Lascher. From Shanghai: One second-class passenger. From Hong Kong: Mr. R. T. Brand, Colonel Sankey, Mr. R. Thomas. From Singapore: Mr. H. Frollick, Mr. Silverlock, Mr. and Mrs. Cramer, and European female servant.

Per Massilia, expected to arrive at Southampton Dec. 22.—From Hong Kong: Mr. Robinson, Lieutenant Hunt, R.N., Mr. Gandell, Mr. Moore, Mr. Lyon, four second-class and one deck passenger.

Per French mail steamer Said, arrived at Marseilles Dec. 5—From Yokohama: Mr. Kunzi. From Shanghai: Mr. W. Whillon. From Hong Kong: Mr. W. Kemptner, Mrs. Mawbry. From Singapore: Mr. and Mrs. Mantel.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per French mail steamer Said, from Marseilles, Dec. 19.—To Shanghai: Mr. A. J. Little, Mr. Remi de Montigny.

Per P. and O. steamer Nyanza, from Southampton, Dec. 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Evans and infant. To Hong Kong: Major Peebles, Mr. W. R. Browne. To Ceylon: Mr. Macan, Lieut. B. S. and Mrs. du Jardin, and Miss Hugo, Mr. Harper, Mr. C. Murray, Mr. and Mrs. Trotter and five children.

From Marseilles, Dec. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mrs. Hunter, two Misses Hunter, Miss Hutton, Capt. J. L. Phelps.

Per P. and O. steamer from Marseilles, Jan. 4, 1866.—To Shanghai via Bombay: Mr. W. H. Carter.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Jan. 4, 1866.—To Singapore: Rev. C. A. Kock, Mr. H. C. Prinsep. To Ceylon: Surgeon W. S. Roche, R.N. To Hong Kong: Lieut. Stewart, A.D.C. to the Governor of Hong Kong, Dr. A. Cochrane. To Shanghai: Mr. E. McKean, Mr. A. Harvey, Mr. F. R. Porter, Mr. Steel, Mr. Jerdein, Mr. Cunningham.

From Marseilles, Jan. 12.—To Hong Kong: Rev. P. S. Turner, Mr. A. W. Glenie, Mr. F. J. Greene. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Grant Gordon, Mr. R. S. Gundry, Mr. E. Pickwood. To Singapore: Mr. E. L. Hedden, Mr. G. J. Buchanan. To Ceylon: Mr. J. T. Molison, Mr. McLachlan.

From Suez, Jan. 19.—To Hong Kong: Sir Richard and Lady MacDonnell.

JAPAN.

YOKOHAMA.

From Yokohama we have files of the *Japan Herald* to the 17th of October. The London mails of 26th July and 11th August arrived together on the 4th October, and the French mail of the 17th August on the 15th October. There was a dearth of political news, the British Minister having departed for Hakodadi in H.M.S. *Princess Royal*.

A controversy was going on in the local papers regarding the condition of the troops recently landed from the *Adventure*. Major-General Guy, C.B., commanding Her Majesty's forces in China and Japan had departed for Hong Kong, after thoroughly inspecting the garrison.

Robberies seem to increase in the settlement, rather than the reverse. The house of Mr. Eusden, a Secretary of Legation, was attempted, but owing to the pluck and activity of Mr. Von Siebold, a gentleman connected with the Legation as Student Interpreter, the actual robbery was prevented, and it is believed, all the thieves were caught. Mr. Von Siebold had been left in charge of the house, whilst Mr. Eusden paid an official visit to Yedo.

A rifle match, under the auspices of the Swiss Rifle Club, took place on the 9th October, and proved highly successful.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

There is still a lack of excitement here, and were it not for an occasional passage of arms between our rival editors and the usual quarrels peculiar to a Yokohama community, we should have quite an epidemic of *ennui*. The *Japan Times* is a late addition to our local literature, and so far promises well. The editor was formerly connected with the Bombay *Saturday Review*, and is a terse, clear writer—perhaps a little too much given to the forging of thunderbolts which hit people hard in a small community; but, after all, in the Far East we require something more *piquant* than the plain mutton of the *Morning Chronicle* or the roast beef of *The Times*. Our animal and literary digestions both get impaired, and we must have curries and incentives of some sort to stimulate both the one and the other.

Our trade still suffers from a plethora of imports, Japan being still made use of as the chief vent to relieve the overstocked markets of China; and this year, owing to many heavy failures, we have had large quantities of goods thrown on the market that must be sold. Metals, at the present moment, can be bought at lower prices than in England, and there are very few manufactured goods that are paying the importer anything. The native dealers have it all their own way with imports, and to a great extent also with exports. The competition among foreign buyers of silk is unprecedented, or rather has been, for the dizzy height that prices have now attained is sufficient to make the boldest speculators a little cautious. These children of the rising sun have quickly learnt the value of combination in trade as opposed to competition, and avail themselves of its advantages to the full. Our stocks of silk are kept within moderate limits; as purchases are made, so the market is fed. It is a curious fact that many parcels of the coarser grades have been returned to the interior for native consumption, the Japanese looms being capable of working up the coarse silk to a wonderful degree of excellence, and thus common qualities always bear a much higher relative value in this country than in Europe.

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It is at present impossible to say what will be the yield of Japan silk this season, but from all appearances it is not likely to exceed last year's export.

The *furor* for silkworms' eggs seems to have ceased for the present, and the native merchants are at length finding out to their cost that a foreign demand *can* be satisfied. The green eggs, however, are still sought after, the worms of this species spinning only once a year, and consequently producing a fuller cocoon, besides being more hardy. The supply of these being comparatively small, Japanese ingenuity suggested an expedient to satisfy the demand, and a quantity of cards were soon offered surfaced with eggs of various shades of green, from rich dark olive to bright emerald. A few greenhorns were at first victimised by the spurious seed, but the knavery was soon discovered and exposed. The present P. and O. mail steamer takes some 500,000 sheets of seed, all originally intended for the Messageries Imperiales, but, owing to the steamer *Dupleix* not arriving true to her time, the French company lose the whole of this rich freight—say, $50,000. Shippers of eggs have generally a preference for the French steamers; firstly, because they are mostly conected with French houses; secondly, because the French steamers are better adapted for the stowage of such cargo; and, thirdly, because they have special support from the Imperial Government—orders having been given that, should they meet with any accident, the French ships of war are to assist in conveying the precious cargo to its destination. At present the two companies work in harmony; but the P. and O. Company must look to it, or they will soon find their French competitors dangerous rivals. They have had all their own way for a long time, and have sometimes been too ready to make the public feel their power; and they need not now be surprised if the said public takes advantage of the existing competition to reassert its independence.

Our Municipal Council, after breaking its shins a good deal over the rough road of nationalities, has at length struggled into something like permanent existence. Each nationality is represented in proportion to the quantity of ground it holds. One of the chief difficulties is of course to define where the orders of the Council clash with the authority of the Consuls; but as the latter evince a general desire to smooth the way and make their yoke as lightly felt as possible, there is a fair prospect of our having a cohesive and permanent governing body. At present the workings of the Council have been chiefly directed to the muzzling of rabid dogs, the creation of a police force, and the suppression of a few crying nuisances. But at all events municipalities, like other mundane institutions, must have a beginning; one of the great evils, however, that exists, and must always exist in an international municipality, is that its very existence depends on the concurrence and unanimity of the several Consuls from whom its powers are in great measure derived.

NAGASAKI.

The *Bogatyr* and other Russian men-of-war were leaving Nagasaki. Six Japanese officers leave for Russia in the *Bogatyr*. The Dutch barque, *W. Kemptner*, has been wrecked off Cape Gotto. She was lost during the severe gale on the 9th September, and out of the whole crew only one man was saved. He contrived to take hold of a piece of timber, by the aid of which he was enabled to reach the land. He subsequently arrived at Nagasaki in H.M. gunboat *Bustard*. The bodies of captain, mate and two men were washed ashore, and buried by Captain Adams, of the *Bustard*. When the news of the sad occurrence reached Nagasaki, Mr. Bauduin, Netherlands Consul, immediately raised a subscription for the relief of the relations of those who were drowned, most of whom had wives and families. A large sum was subscribed by the foreign residents and masters of vessels in harbour, and Mr. Bauduin himself headed the list with a handsome donation.

In the action against Messrs. Alt and Co., referred to in our last issue, the plaintiff was Mr. J. H. Saunders, formerly bookkeeper to that firm. The case was tried before Mr. Consul Gower, and judgment given for the defendants, with costs. The plaintiff has appealed to the Supreme Court.

The present mail brings further particulars of the affray between foreigners and natives noticed in our last issue. On 16th October, Lieut. Douglas and two other officers of H.M.S. *Rattler* were walking through the town, followed accidentally, but most fortunately, by Mr. A. D. W. French. A two-sworded man made a blow at one of the officers, but missed him. Mr. French seeing the assault hurried up and was received by the Japanese with a cut, which he was lucky enough to escape. Mr. French immediately fired his revolver at his assailant, who, although wounded, made a second lunge, which proved also without effect. Mr. French then fired a second shot, and brought the ruffian down. The Japanese received one ball in his abdomen and the other in his lower jaw, and will no doubt die. The native officials have made a disturbance about the case, asserting that the assailant was not to blame. Had he, however, wounded or killed one of the unoffending men whom he attacked, and subsequently made his escape, the officials would have denied all knowledge of the affair, and would have taken no steps to bring the offender to justice. Mr. Mangum, United States Consul, is about to investigate the circumstances, and it is to be hoped that he will insist on the right of foreiners to defend themselves in cases of emergency. A series of races and athletic games was held on the 14th October and created much interest. Messrs. Glover and Co.'s verandah was formed into a temporary grand stand, and upon it the ladies of the settlement congregated. During the intervals between the races several trials of strength and agility were got up for the blue-jackets and the soldiers of the 20th Regiment, who had arrived in the *Perseus*.

CHINA.

SHANGHAI.

The mail of August 26 arrived out on October 14. The dates are now down to tke morning of the 26th.

It is stated that the French Government have obtained a concession in the tonnage dues of vessels trading to Japan and Saigon, which are to be considered on a par with coasting voyages. Of course English trade will have the same privilege accorded.

The following on Burgevine is from the *North China Herald*:—"As to the reports about the United States being revenged on the Chinese authorities, we do not believe any such action will be directed from Washington, seeing that Burgevine was a Southerner of rebel doctrines. We trust this notice will be the last of Burgevine.

The officers appointed to visit Lan-chi-hsien for the purpose of investigating the circumstances which attended the death of Burgevine, have returned to Shanghai. So far as we can learn, the result of their inquiries is as follows:—Mr. Lewis, U.S. Deputy Consul-General, Mr. Allen, who acted as interpreter, and Chen, magistrate of the mixed court in Shanghai, having started from Ningpo, arrived safely at Lan-chi-hsien a town of the third order, situated on the borders of the Kiangse, and Chekiang provinces, and about 300 miles distant from Ningpo. Here they were received courteously by the chief magistrate, who sent to assist in their inquiries a Wei-yuan attached to the Futai's yamen in Hangchow, the deputy magistrate of Lan-chi, and a man who, it was asserted, had been in the boat at the time of the accident. While at Lan-chi and while visiting the country round every opportunity was seized of testing the truth of the statements made relative to the height of the water in the creeks and rivers at the period in question. All the evidence derived from the appearance of the outside of houses, the interior of temples and other public buildings, and the injuries sustained by idols which had been standing on or near the floor in joss-houses, went clearly to prove that at some time within the last few weeks the water had stood at least fifty feet higher than it stands at present. The coffins, six in number, were found under a mat shed of apparently recent erection, on the further side of, but close to the most outside the North gate of Lan-chi. They were arranged as follows:—Burgevine, with his feet towards the north; on the east of his coffin two coffins said to contain the bodies of Chinese; on the west a coffin said to contain the body of a Portuguese, and two coffins also said to contain Chinese. The coffins were arranged parallel one to the other, lying as nearly as could be ascertained due north and south. The seventh body recovered was that of Green, which was, as we have before stated, forwarded to Ningpo for medical examination. None of the coffins were opened, as nothing was likely to be gained by exposing the contents. The Portuguese (?) was a Manila-man employed by Burgevine as a servant. The Chinese corpses were contained in ordinary Chinese coffins, but that of Burgevine had been placed in an exceedingly large and handsome double coffin richly lacquered and ornamented with gold. At the head were the five characters—*Yang jen Pi chi wen*, "The foreigner Burgevine." The coffin of the so-called Portuguese was of smaller dimensions, but double, and covered with varni-h. We understand that Mr. Lewis obtained a document written in Chinese, purporting to be a full record of all the occurrences, which now awaits translation and minute examination. Assuming the truth of the statements made by the man who professed to have been on board at the time of the overset, it would appear that the boat with the three foreigners and their guard had arrived at a part of the river where navigation is impeded by shoals and rapids, and where it was than rendered most dangerous by the enormous quantity of water pouring down from the mountains. From these rapids a strong current sets to a rock about fifty feet in height, which stands on the high bank. Washing the base of this rock, the current crosses the stream again, and meets a mountain torrent rushing into the main river on the opposite bank. At the point of junction there is always an eddy, and at the time of the occurrence, this had probably become a whirlpool. The boat, caught by the current, was borne on to the rock, and having barely escaped collision with it, the sailors lost com-

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mand of the yulos, and allowed themselves to drift into the midst of the whirlpool. Here, at a point about twenty-five *li* below Lan-chi, and between that town and Ningpo, the boat was wrecked, and nine only out of an entire crew of twenty-two were saved. About a mile and a half nearer to Lan-chi a number of shallows block up the course of the stream, and there the bodies were subsequently found. The boat was capsized on the fourth day of the intercalary fifth moon (June 26th); on the fifth day (June 27th) the bodies of Green and the Portuguese were found, and on the sixth day (June 28th) Burgevine was picked up on almost the same spot. His coffin has since been brought to Shanghai and opened. The body has been fully identified, but the official report of the examination has not yet been published.

Two men named Stevens and Gerard have been found guilty of the wilful murder of one McDonald, late keeper of the International Hotel at Hankow. McDonald was found lying dead on the bund, his body being covered with wounds. The hotel, of which up to a short time before his death he had been proprietor, was a well known resort of the rowdy captains of junks and lorchas, and to this class it is supposed the ruffians who murdered the deceased belong. The prisoners will be sent to Shanghai for trial before the Supreme Court.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Since the departure of the last mail an excellent opportunity has been afforded foreigners for witnessing the peculiar forms and ceremony of a Chinese lying-in-state and grand funeral obsequies, by the death of the wealthy mandarin banker, Takee, with whose name many of your readers may probably be familiar. On the evening of the second day of what might be termed the lying-in-state, accompanied by a couple of friends, I went to Takee's house. On arrival there we found a large number of Celestials crowding and staring round the entrance, which was illuminated by lanterns, and over which a curious lofty structure had been reared, composed of small panes of window-glass set in a framing of white cotton cloth, puckered and arranged by bows, rosettes, &c., into a regular pattern and panels. A number of candles and lamps were placed behind the panels of window-glass, on which figures of flowers and leaves had been roughly painted, the whole forming a light and rather elegant screen for a native orchestra, but who, no doubt, tired with their day's exertions, did not mar the pleasure of our sight-seeing by making the night hideous with their music.

Pushing our way through the good-tempered but odorous crowd we came face to face with a Municipal Council policeman, stationed at the wide-opened doors, whose business was to allow all foreigners to enter, but only such natives as bore tickets of admission or were friends of the deceased. Passing this amiable though stern-looking Cerberus and along a short passage or hall, in which we noticed a scarlet umbrella and several red wooden tablets, marks of the dead man's rank, we entered a suite of rooms brilliantly lighted by hanging glass lanterns and some overgrown candles. The rooms were divided from each other by screens or walls of open lattice-work, cleverly and very neatly contrived by curious twillings and puckerings of white cotton cloth; the knowing ones said, "white shirtings." On two of these screens, forming a central room, we noticed two eight-sided medallions with grotesque representations of a deer and a crane, which must have required no small ingenuity to compose, considering the nature and extraordinary puckered form of the material employed.

From the ceiling of this room was hanging a large mysterious-looking ornament fashioned from the same stuff, adorned with tassels and streamers, whose use or object it was impossible to divine. On the walls of the rooms, and on the screens separating the rooms from each other,—or what seemed to me dividing a very large room indeed into several smaller ones—hung strips of variously-coloured satin, inscribed with quotations from the Chinese classics in gilt and silvered lettering—votive tablets from the deceased's friends. These tablets were about twelve or eighteen inches in breadth and some six or eight feet high or long. Their more general hue was a rich dark blue or white; the former with gilt letters, the latter with silvered or gilt, but there were some of very delicate tints of other colours—pink, lavender, lemon, &c. From the top of each on either side hung a long thin silken tassel, probably for securing the tablet when rolled up into a scroll. The effect was really very elegant. These rooms were furnished with mirrors, tables and chairs, many of the latter being covered with richly-embroidered pieces of blue silk or satin. Several cheval-glasses presented an odd dressing-roomish appearance, and with some French gilt clocks, which did not go, looked quaintly out of place with their surroundings. When we arrived these rooms were filled with numbers of Chinese, either seated round the tables closely engaged with piled up dishes of their mysterious eatables, resolutely determined on the enjoyment of no ordinary chow-chow, or by others gently walking about, smoking an occasional whiff, or in the arms of a comfortable chair, taking their ease with the beaming, cordial smile and loving look of well-filled, appreciative stomachs.

The rattling of cups and dishes, the hurrying to and fro of food-laden attendants and pipe-bearers, the fumes of the viands, the smoke of tobacco, the bustle, merriment, and chatter, the brilliantly lighted and decorated rooms, the cheerful glow and jovial gaiety of all, betokened a state of festivity rather than the presence of death. At the end of the central room, however, and in view of all, was a white lattice-screened portal, on the white doors of which was written, in large blue characters, "Ling Mung"—"Gate of the Soul."

Admitted through this portal we found ourselves in a sort of chapel. Along the walls hung votive tablets on blue and white satin strips, as in the rooms we had just left, and along the sides were ranged chairs, in which the female servants of the deceased were sitting as mourners. At the head of this chamber there was a kind of altar, with sacred vessels and Gargantuan candles burning, behind which stood a raised board covered with a number of dishes, heaped up with all kinds of sweetmeats, fruit, and strange confectionery. Hanging lamps shed a brilliant light here also. Lifting a narrow white curtain on either side of this chow-chow laden board, we saw a second table on a level with it crowded with more dishes or bowls of meat, fish, fowl, and vegetables, above which rested, somewhat after the fashion of an altar-piece, a portrait of Takee, and at his feet, placed on a miniature chair, rested the Sacred Book of his belief—the "Tau-tih-King," or "Bible of the Taouists."

On one side below the picture, and with his back to it, a figure of a Chinaman, about three feet high, standing on a tea-chest, offered a pipe with one hand, and invited with the other to the good things laid out on the table before him; on the other side stood a second inviting figure, handing a cup of tea. From rude unpainted wooden racks on each wall funereal garments of some coarse fabric, ill-made and rough, were suspended—fitting vestments for mourners in "sackcloth and ashes." The coffin of Takee was deposited immediately behind this portrait, in a small, dim, bare chamber. It was richly lacquered, about seven feet in length, two wide, and about three feet high, covered with a closely-fitting crimson-wadded quilt or pall, and was placed on a slightly-raised bier; a coarse mourning robe and cap were carelessly thrown on it, for the use of his adopted son at the funeral ceremony. In answer to a stranger's inquiry as to what it was—namely, the strange-looking cap—I heard an intensely practical, I will not say irreverent, foreigner reply, "Spanish stripes," by which I infer he alluded to the material of the quilted pall. No priests were officiating on the first night of our visit, though we saw several in their white robes and skull caps moving about. Returning two evenings after, we were greeted by three loud explosions outside the entrance door, which we discovered were produced by a servant firing some gunpowder, as the signal of the commencement of a kind of mass or prayer, and during our stay this firing was repeated as often as the priests resumed prayers, after a break in them.

We entered with as little difficulty as on the previous visit. The rooms were as full and as brilliantly lighted as before, but there was no chow-chowing, and, as a consequence, I suppose, the Chinamen looked rather bored and tired with the thing than otherwise. Though they seemed pleased with the visits of foreigners, and flattered with the curiosity displayed by them, taking every opportunity to enlighten the "barbarians'" ignorance.

Passing through the portal of the "Gate of the Soul," we added to the large number of strangers who were collected in the inner chamber, or chapel, witnessing the Taouist ceremonial that was proceeding. There were nearly a dozen white-vestured and capped priests officiating. One read slowly aloud a sentence, at each word of which six or seven others, who were kneeling, bowed their foreheads to the ground. Then the chief priest, standing before the shrine or altar, and facing the portrait of Takee, receiving from a kneeling bonze on his right hand a small cup or bowl of food, sweetmeat, or confectionery, and after repeating the word of the first priest, elevated and lowered the dish of food; he then handed it to a kneeling bonze on his left, by whom it was also elevated and lowered, and delivered to a third to be carried away. The number of dishes seemed interminable, and the same proceeding appeared to me to be pursued with them throughout. At length the last dish was disposed of for that "go." The chief priest then read a paper, which I was given to understand was laudatory of the deceased's

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virtues, and having placed it on a brazier of burning charcoal, and thrown a handful of silver-paper imitation sycee on it, one of the Takee's wives or widows, of whom I hear he has left a goodly number, rushed in holding the adopted son, a child, by the hand. The paper and imitation sycee flamed up and were destroyed, to the howling, banging, musical uproar, which introduces the gnome fiends and monstrous devils of a Christmas pantomime; the wife, or widow, and son rushed off as hastily as they had rushed on, and the service for a time ended. Refreshment in the form of tea and substantial "board and lodging" soup was brought in to the smiling merry-looking priests, who seemed to have arrived at the end of a service that had restrained them to a serious comportment, with immense relief, and to hail the advent of the "prog" with unbounded satisfaction and many a lively joke.

Takee having been at the head of the Ningpo Guild in Shanghai, and a Ningpo man, was taken to that port for burial after lying in state five days. The steamer *Kiangse's* cabin was entirely appropriated for conveying his body at a cost of a thousand taels (more than £300), and a funeral cortege of extraordinary munificence and extent left his house on the morning of the 16th inst. to carry the coffin down to the steamer, on which it was placed amidst the firing of many big guns. Owing to a misconception as to the time of the departure of the procession, I was, unfortunately, prevented attending it, and take the following description from the columns of the *Shanghai Recorder*:—

As an out-door spectacle, it is reported to have been superior in splendour to any in the recollection of the oldest resident. Its commencement is stated to have been paltry. A paper figure, like an elaborate scarecrow of a Guy Fawkes, called the "Kan-loo," or Road Spirit, also the "Devil Seer," preceded the procession as herald of the dead. Next came a trophy of great value—the "Tsing," or plumed standard, granted Takee by the Emperor; then a crowd, scattering imitation sycee with lavish hand to divert the malignity of evil spirits by exciting and then disappointing their cupidity. The municipal police band followed; then a long line of ancestral tablets and the Taoutai's retinue; next, borne by four men, the "Tsi-ty-yung," or Imperial Scales—another token of the favour of the Court of Peking. Then came the "splendid" portion of the spectacle. Taouist priests by twos, gorgeously robed in amber satin vestments, stiff with brocade and gold embroidery; to glean some idea of whose "shape and sheen," says the *Recorder*, you must examine the pall of Ambroise of Milan, in Vandyke's well-known picture.

After this glittering group a scarcely less gorgeous band of Bhuddist priests came, clad in scarlet, then a troup of by no means clean children—rather dirty little beggars, in fact. After whom, in the deceased's chair, veiled in red crape, the Shin-tsu-Ba, a mysterious tablet considered the seat of the human soul, now in happiness, and closely veiled lest it be perturbed by beholding the sorrow of those he loved. More Bhuddist priests of second rank followed in profusely embroidered green robes; then a closely clustered mass of tall narrow silk and satin banners inscribed with sentences recommending the soul of the departed to the genii, and recording his good acts in this life to insure him a kind reception in the next. Then another instance of Chinese contradiction—the "Djur Lan," or mourning lantern, hung before the dead man's face to enable him to recognise his friends in the next world.

The friends of the deceased then followed with his adopted son, clad in the coarse grass-cloth garments I have before mentioned; the coffin from Lintin, now covered with green instead of crimson, and surmounted by a paper representation of the "Seen-Hok," or Fairy Stork. This long cortege was closed by thirty-nine chairs, containing the wives in mourning garments, and their friends crowned with chaplets of white china-asters. With such pomp and circumstance (writes the *Recorder*) was Takee borne to the Joss-house near the Maloo, then through the streets to the river side, where, amidst salvoes of cannon, his body was placed on board the steamer *Kiangse*, which was to convey it to the last resting-place at Ningpo.

Takee's wealth is reputed to be one million taels (about a third of a million sterling), and we were told by a mandarin, at the lying-in-state, that the cost of it—the chow-chowing, priests, pageant, and other outlay, till the coffin was deposited in the grave at Ningpo, would amount to 50,000 taels (fifty thousand taels), which statement we took *cum grano salis*, but we were more inclined to believe this buttoned grandee when he said that four hundred candles were nightly consumed in lighting the house.

Takee's death brings me to that of Burgevine, with whom he once had a serious quarrel here. You will have heard before this all about his capture and fate, and that his life was reported by the Chinese authorities to have been accidentally lost by the wreck of the vessel that was conveying him to Ningpo, in consequence of the swollen and dangerous state of the river. From investigations that have since been made, there appears reason to believe this statement is true. His body, placed by the Chinese in a handsomely lacquered double coffin, inscribed "Yang-jen Pi-chi-wen," the foreigner Burgevine, was brought up here on the 11th instant by the steamer *Kiangse*, from Ningpo.

An important question affecting river frontage property has been decided by Sir Edmund Hornby, in the new Supreme Court. The Queen, on behalf of the Emperor of China, and E. A. Reynolds and A. Holtz for committing a nuisance by building a jetty at Pootung Point on land they had reclaimed from the river Wangpoo, thereby obstructing its navigation. The prosecution, conducted by Mr. Myburgh, pointed out that the original title deeds were for 40 mow of land, that by placing casks in the mud along low water mark the alluvial deposit has been increased, and a large recovery, to the extent of 35 mow of land from the river been made; that the building of a jetty would cause further deposit and encroachment on the river; that its stream was narrowed, and its eddies and chow-chow water greatly increased and endangering navigation; denying Messrs. Reynolds and Holtz's right to the redeemed land, the property of the Emperor of China, and urging that the building of the jetty should be stayed and the mole removed.

The trial lasted several days; a large number of witnesses were called both for the prosecution and for the defendants, for whom Mr Robinson pleaded *bonâ fide* belief of right to the land reclaimed; that the prosecution was bad as the Queen *v.* his clients, and other points of law; that the jetty was no impediment; that the growth of the land was from natural causes; that no one's rights or privileges were infringed by the acts of the defendants; and that other reclaimed property of this kind had not been interfered with by the Chinese authorities. The evidence was of a very contradictory nature as regards the obstruction to the river—some witnesses stating that the eddies and chow-chow water were produced by the Pootung Point and stream from the Soochow Creek; others declaring that the eddies and chow-chow waters were the causes which influenced the growth of the Point itself; some showing that the eddies had increased of late years; others again that they had grown less. In delivering judgment, Sir Edmund Hornby distinctly enunciated the law, that land between low and high water mark, unless held by special tenure, was here, as in England and elsewhere, a Crown right; that it would be absurd to suppose that the Emperor of China was to be brought as a suitor into a foreign Court sitting in his own Empire, and that the prosecution, as the Queen *v.* Defendants, was good; Sir Edmund having decided that the obstruction complained of was sufficient to be considered legally a nuisance, gave a verdict against Messrs. Reynolds and Holtz; the question of removal of the mole to remain in suspense to allow an arrangement being made with the Chinese authorities; and the works to be stopped till permission be obtained from the Taoutai to continue them; but leaving it open to the authorities to apply for an injunction on the defendants to remove the mole on evidence of a more complete and satisfactory character that it caused a real practical impediment to the navigation of the river.

Apropos of reclaiming mud flats, that in front of the British Consulate is to be forthwith converted into the long-proposed recreation ground; there is to be no bunding, but the frontage to the river will be protected by metalling in the same manner as in the Nanking Road Jetty. On the roads and public works of this settlement gangs of Chinese prisoners are now being employed as in Hong Kong.

The Gas Company have been supplying a kind of gas to a few outlying houses, but the heart of the settlement is as yet not so favoured, and many, grown weary with "hope-deferred," doubt if ever it will be. One or two native shops in the Maloo have had a sickly jet or two burning for some evenings past. It was reported that ten candles were required to make the jets perceivable; the wonder of the Chinese was strongly roused, and sundry hints were thrown out that the blue, queer-looking, small flickering flame was an infernal production—the "Devil'

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ight," in fact. A few sanguine foreigners have the boldness to prophecy that we shall soon be blessed with this illuminating element. I mean gas, not Devil's light. At a late auction about twenty shares in the gas company sold at from 60 to 65 tls. each. A few ditto in the Shanghai Brick and Saw Mill Company for 25 tls. each; and some land near the old hospital, past the Ningpo joss-house, measuring 15 mow, at 65 tls. per mow.

The Autumn Regatta came off on the 19th and 20th inst. It was looked forward to with unusual interest, as two English eighths were entered for the first time in Shanghai. The opposing crews were from the residents north of Haugchow-road against those south, and were fairly matched. The race was a mile and a half one; from half-a-mile above Mr. Markham's farm to the club boat-house, by the stone bridge. It was well contested, but Mr. Stout's crew, putting on a magnificent spurt when within a quarter of a mile of home, took the south's water and came in easy winners. Owing to several fouls, which were acknowledged, after a very lively discussion, by both crews, the race is to be pulled over again. The regatta afforded good sport, several of the races being very exciting and close ones; the double sculls being won by W. Stout and H. Dent from Major and R. Dent by half a length; and the senior sculls by W. Stout by a short length, after a gallant struggle with Major.

The Autumn Races commence on the 2nd November. The weather has been for a long period warm and dry, but during the past two or three days rain has come down, and if it lasts only a day or so longer the course will be in excellent order. The betting is far from as spirited as of yore, and the "books," I should say, of very moderate proportions. The lotteries commenced a few nights since; the highest price given was $110 for "Early Purl" in the Oriental Cup, and $85 for "Sir William" in the Cosmopolitan. In pony races $60 for "Bog Trotter" in the Maloo Plate, and the same price for "Ozone" in the Celestial. The well-known "Loafer" is dead, from inflammation produced by forcing a medicine ball down his throat with a bamboo.

A new club, to be styled the "Concordia," is being organised and established here by the Teutonic dollar-grinders, its members being almost solely composed of German, Danes, &c. Its object is social and recreative.

Ting Taoutai has been appointed Acting Salt Commissioner at the departmental city of Yang-chow, on the Grand Canal. Yung will act here in Ting's absence.

HONG KONG.

The mail of 11th September arrived out on the 25th October, and the mail of 16th September on the 31st October. The dates are now down to the 1st November.

The following article on Sir Richard MacDonnell is from the *China Mail*:—

"It will be matter of some interest among our readers to ascertain the line of policy about to be pursued by our new Governor, Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell. He comes to govern a colony which has just been registered as one of Her Majesty's first-class settlements. The chief burden of his administration will be to dispose of a very handsome revenue in the most effective way possible; and it must be admitted that the amount of money raised in Hong Kong by taxation, and of course for public purposes, is really considerable. Beyond exercising a care over the public funds, we are not aware that any governor of Hong Kong has much more to do. For mere form sake, and to comply with the fashion of the age, he may give fancy balls from time to time, but his real business is to economise the revenue, either by saving expenditure, or by seeing that all money laid out is properly applied. The people of Hong Kong are all of a thoroughly practical sort, and are very apt to fret when they see public funds frittered away.

"We believe that Sir Richard will arrive here between this and Christmas; and, as we have no desire to lecture him upon the nature of his prospective duties, we simply take this opportunity of pointing out what those simple duties really are. It is worthy of observation that the public expenditure of this colony has risen enormously of late; and it is also equally true that there is very little to show for it. Suppose we take the roads, bridges (by the way, where are there any bridges?), and streets—what do we find? Nothing more than a miserable specimen of engineering talent, which by no means represents in any adequate degree the amount of money which has been voted in the annual estimates. Any visitor to Macao can notice wihhout the least effort the admirable condition of the public roads in that ancient Portuguese city. We cannot say what expenses are incurred in the matter of public works at Macao; but we should fancy that a place where a colonel's salary is set down at sixty-five dollars a month would not be liable to very heavy expenditure in the making of roads, streets or bridges.

"It is therefore to be hoped that Sir R. G. MacDonnell will exercise a tender care over the revenue and expenditure of the colony he comes out to govern, as well as an effective supervision in all matters connected with the public works. He will also find his hands perfectly full in looking after the Police Department, which has never been anything like efficient since the days of those two competent officers—Messrs. May and Caldwell. We do not blame the present superintendents of police, for we cannot forget that their duties are much harder than those of any other public officers in this island; but the intelligence of Mr. May, coupled with the expertness of Mr. Caldwell, produced results which we do not see at the present time—though some symptoms of revival seem to appear. We are rather afraid the new Governor's mind will be a little taxed in regard to the Mint affair. We have consulted numerous good arithmeticians—we may also add several algebraists—and none of them can succeed in proving that the Mint will be a profitable concern."

The following items are from the *Daily Press*:—

"Sir Rutherford Alcock, the newly appointed British Minister to the Court of Peking, passed this colony a few days ago *en route* to his post. A deputation of merchants waited on him here, and called his attention to the subject of railways. His Excellency expressed himself fully alive to the desirability of such works, but he feared that the Chinese Government had not made that progress in enlightenment which would induce the required concessions and encouragement.

"There is likely to be a little trouble between the Manderins and the United States authorities relative to the death of the filibuster Burgevine.

"The mortality of the 2nd battalion of the 11th Regiment has continued to provoke much discussion during the fortnight, the military authorities being universally blamed. When the battalion arrived in Hong Kong it was about 500 strong. About 50 have died, and about 350 invalided. Two officers died, and two were sent home invalided. There is a great responsibility resting somewhere.

"The sad evil of piracy is still on the increase. It never was half so bad as it is now, as far as square-rigged vessels are concerned. The port of Amoy is almost blockaded by pirates. The stationary senior naval officer in Hong Kong does his best to suppress the evil, and does indeed good service. But his gunboats are rotten and unseaworthy, and he seems put to some shift to make one of these craft fit to keep the sea for a week.

The following items are from the *China Mail*:—

"Clearer, cooler, and more bracing weather than we have expe-perienced for some time, the only thing which could be reasonably wished is that the thermometer might be just a little lower at midday. The former sickliness in garrison and in harbour may be said to be at an end; and the hospital accommodation, which we observe now advertised for, will arrive all too late for the preservation of the many gallant fellows who now crowd the Happy Valley.—A meeting of the subscribers and donors to the new City Hall has been held, at which a committee was appointed to decide the competition for designs, and a very satisfactory statement was made regarding the progress of the scheme. As the new Harbour Master's office is rapidly approaching completion, the building of the hall may be commenced early next year.—The establishment of the Canton and Macao Steamboat Company, and the proposed formation of a Public and Family Hotel Company speak well for the healthy enterprise existing in the colony.

A curious accident occurred in Macao a few days ago. Two or three guns in one of the forts, used to fire a salute, were found to have been loaded with ball. Some damage was done to several buildings, but fortunately no lives were lost. Several arrests have been made amongst the soldiers of the fort. A much more pleasant item of news is that which informs us of the Governor of Macao's resolve to inquire into and entirely suppress the iniquitous coolie trade, which we have so repeatedly denounced in these columns.

SIAM.

BANGKOK.

Our latest dates are to 26th Oct. The weather was favourable for the rice crops, and exporting was expected to begin about the middle of December.

JAVA.

BATAVIA.

Two heavy shocks of earthquake have again been felt at Salatiga and Ambarawa. On the 24th Oct. an eruption of the Merapi (Java) took place; stones were thrown out and a slight rain of ashes fell.

A tremendous fire has broken out at Sumbawa, destroying

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2,500 houses, the palace of the Sultan, all the property of the inhabitants, the entire crop of paddy just gathered, all the poultry, &c., nothing has been saved. The heat was so intense that the metal cannons, standing before the Sultan's palace, melted. The fire took place during the day, so that only two lives were lost.

On 12th October, the barque *Roland* (from Bremen), Wieg-,commander, was wrecked on the rocks between the islands Raas and Toendo (east of Madura). Crew and inventory were saved. The ship had a valuable cargo, consisting of sugar, tin, rattans, hides and arrack, for Amsterdam.

The cultivation of cotton in Soekadana (Borneo) promises to turn out very well; the pods are now being gathered.

The war-steamers *Djambi*, *Ardjoeno*, and *Amsterdam* h ve returned to Batavia from the expedition to Assahan. A small garrison has been left at Assahan.

A revolt has broken out at Ceram. The Governor of the of the Molukkos had gone to Kaybobo, the capital of Ceram, on board the war-steamer *Metalen Kruis*, when, on the 9th, the commander going on shore unarmed, was treacherously attacked, but happily only slightly wounded. The *Metalen Kruis* immediately cannonaded the place, and on the 12th an expedition was to leave, under the orders of the commander of the land forces in the Molukkos.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

The mail of Sept. 26 arrived out on the 2nd Nov. Dates are down to the 9th. The *Straits Times* says :—

No public events of importance have transpired during the fortnight, and the public journals are principally occupied with the discussions arising out of the late proceedings of the Dutch in Sumatra, and of the local reform recommended in the last presentment of the Grand Jury, namely, the re-introduction of a gambling farm. With regard to the first of these questions,—that relating to the spread of Dutch influence and territory on the North-East Coast of Sumatra,—it is difficult not to sympathise with the outcry raised at Penang, and which is to a great extent echoed here. If we are to have honest sympathy at all, it must be with the people of those provinces, who have their institutions and government changed against their will, and not with any body of foreign merchants whose pockets only are affected. On the other hand, too, if we can justify our own policy throughout the East, and admit the advantages of civilized government, it would be difficult, on philanthropic grounds, reasonably to object to the extension of Dutch influence in Sumatra. We have found in our own experience that a people, careless and indolent under native misrule, gradually become ambitious and enterprising when they have the justice and security extended to them which a European government affords. What the English merchants in the Straits should aim to secure is, not the arrest of Dutch progress in Sumatra but a full and equable participation in all the commercial privileges which the Netherlands Government may obtain for their own subjects in their newly acquired territories. To this they are entitled to by the same treaty (that of 1824) which, in our reading, precludes any effective interference with whatever extension of territory the Dutch may, upon any reasonable pretext, seek to establish in Sumatra.

The past fortnight has been rendered somewhat gay by the Autumn Races, which were held on the 31st October and the 2nd and 4th November. To-morrow will be observed as a public holiday by all the banks and merchants, in celebration of the Prince of Wales' birthday, which, owing to the departure of the mail, could not be held to-day. The weather has been cool and pleasant during the fortnight; in fact, we are about entering the only season which may here be said to be cool.

It is announced that an American, said to be a commissioner from the United States, has obtained a concession from the Sultan of Bruni to monopolise the trade of his dominions for $10,000 per annum.

H.M.S. *Conqueror* arrived at Singapore from Hong Kong with Marines, &c., *en route* to England.

PENANG.

We have a copy of the *Penang Gazette* of 28th Oct., but there is nothing of interest to extract. The later issues will turn up *via* Southampton. we suppose. Dates are down to the 11th or 12th Nov.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for Subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

ANGIER—On the 10th Dec., at China-lodge, Forest-hill, the wife of F. J. Angier, of the "London and China Telegraph," of a son.

COHEN—On the 30th Nov., at Sunnyside, Edgbaston, the wife of Philip Cohen, Esq., of a son.

DENT—On the 21st Nov., at Great Yarmouth, the wife of Captain Charles Dent, R.N., of a daughter.

DICKINSON—On the 8th Dec., at Farleigh House, Kingston-on-Thames, the wife of Geo. F. Dickinson, Esq., of a son.

HOGAN—On the 16th Nov., at Edgecomb, Penang, Mrs. Jonathan Hogan, of a daughter

JENNER—On the 17th Oct., at Hong Kong, the wife of Colonel Jenner, 11th Regiment, of a daughter, stillborn.

MARTIN—On the 29th Oct., at Grange Bungalow, Singapore, the wife of Alexander M. Martin, Esq., of a son.

MOLLER—On the 30th Oct., at her father's house, Nottingham, the wife of Nils Moller, Esq., Shanghai, of a daughter.

PAGE—On the 8th inst., at Broxbourne, Herts, the wife of F.M. Page, of a son.

PERCIVAL—On the 11th Dec., at Temple House, county Sligo, the wife of Alexander Percival, Esq., of a son.

SWINHOE—On the 2nd Oct., at Takow, Formosa, the wife of Robert Swinhoe, H.M.'s Consul at Taiwan, of a son.

TARRANT—On the 29th Nov., at 9A, Westbourne-park, W., the wife of H. J. Tarrant, of the Middle Temple, barrister-at-law, of a daughter.

THOMSETT—On the 15th Oct., at Hong Kong, the wife of Henry George Thomsett, R.N., of a daughter.

VACHER—On the 15th Dec., at Belmont House, Lee, the wife of W. H. Vacher, Esq., Agent Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, of a son.

VOLKMANN—On the 3rd of Oct., at her residence, 37 and 38, Praya, Mrs. L. Volkmann, of a daughter.

WRIGHT—On the 6th Oct., at Shanghai, China, the wife of James Hanson Wright, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BOYD—ALLDEN.—On the 7th Oct., at Yokohama, W. D. Boyd, to Miss E. M. Allden, of Colchester.

LODGE—SCRIMGEOUR.—On the 12th Dec., at St. Michael's Church, Highgate, by the Rev. Samuel Lodge, assisted by the Rev. C. B. Dalton, incumbent, Oliver, second son of Robert John Lodge, Esq., of The Grove, Highgate, to Margaret, third daughter of William Wilson Scrimgeour, Esq., of the same place.

MACDONNELL—GERNON.—On the 28th Nov., in the Church of St. Andrew, Westland-row, Dublin, by the Most Rev. Dr. Nulty, Coadjutor Bishop of Meath, assisted by the Rev. Robert Gradwell, uncle of the bride, and the Revs. Messrs. Byrne, P.P., and Barry, C.C., Francis E. MacDonnell, Esq., J.P., Dunfierth, county Kildare, eldest surviving son of the late Sir Francis MacDonnell, of Dunfierth, to Georgina, only surviving daughter of James Gernon, Esq., J.P., Athcarne Castle, county Meath.

OSBORN—WILLIAMS.—On the 26th Oct., at St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong, by the Rev. John Wilson, Acting Colonial Chaplain, Christopher George Osborn, to Emma, Jane Williams.

TORRANCE—LADD.—On the 26th Oct., at St. Andrew's Church, Singapore, Robert B. Torrance, Esq., of Batavia, Java, to Sarah C. Ladd, youngest daughter of the late William Ladd, Esq., Boston, U.S.

DEATHS.

FAERNER—On the 23rd Oct., at Ningpo, Captain H. Faerner, of the Hamburg barque Aldebaran, aged 37 years and 9 months.

GRAY—On the 16th Oct., on board the barque Tae Wan, William C. Gray, 2nd Mate, aged 25 years.

COOKE—On the 20th Nov., at Claremont, Penang, Miss Jesse Henrietta Cooke.

WATSON—On the 29th Nov., at Brompton, Alexander S. Watson, Esq., late of Hong Kong, aged 28.

WESTON—On the 2nd Nov., at sea, on board the P. and O. Company's ship Bengal, on his return to England, after four years' service in the China fleet, dearly beloved and deeply lamented by his sorrowing family and friends, Lieut. Spencer M. Weston, R.N., H.M.S. Rattler, of phthisis, brought on from a cold caught while assisting to extinguish a fire on board the P. and O. Company's ship Cadiz, second son of John Weston, Esq., of Paris, and The Cedars, Putney.

WIGGINS—On the 27th Oct., at Shanghai, H. Howe Wiggins, Manager of the Commercial Bank Corporation of India and the East.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1865-66.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865	1217120	25639296	27686600	747284	5827918	61068318	40094
Corresponding period last season	320600	34551498	28170885	312087	5178130	68433201	14121

SAILED SINCE.

		Ship.	From.		SILK.
Sept. 6	...	Manfred	Foochow	705,100	
— 10	...	Seringapatam	Kanagawa	193,333	
— 15	...	Baroda (mail str.) ...	Shanghai, &c.... ...	—	3,213
— 21	...	Dartmouth	Do.	1,180,300	171
— 21	...	Glencairn...	Do.	1,117,343	
— 21	...	St. Andrew's Castle ...	Hankow	868,421	
— 21	...	Merse	Foochow	877,700	
— 21	...	St. Dunstan	Do.	547,000	
— 23	...	Yaratilda...	Canton	1,026,400	
— —	...	Canaan	Foochow	1,085,100	
— 24	...	Polmaise	Shanghai	1,031,376	169
— 26	...	Tamerlane	Canton	915,555	
— —	...	Camboge (Fr. mail str.).	Shanghai, &c.	—	736

TO UNITED STATES.

		Piculs.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865	1403638	1913
Corresponding period last season	4647029	...

SINCE SAILED.

Oct. 2	...	Douglas Castle ...	Foochow	692,600	
— 4	...	Glen Aros	Do.	804,000	
— 10	...	Jeanie	Do.	525,700	
— 16	...	Powhattan	Canton	32,280	15
— 20	...	Sea Serpent	Do.	355,279	
— 24	...	Podesta	Shanghai	385,413	

TO THE CONTINENT.

		Bales.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865	88	...
Corresponding period last season	...	...

SAILED SINCE.

Oct. 5	...	Hydra	Foochow	493,200	
— 9	...	Asia	Do.	361,900	
— 20	...	Florentine	Do.	352,100	
— 21	...	Lord Clyde	Shanghai	627,552	
— 23	...	Bertha	Foochow...	127,700	

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TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Tea pkgs	Boxes.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865 ...	17435	394
Corresponding period last season ...	9252	...

SHIPMENTS SINCE.

Oct. 4 ... Chetah	Hong Kong	137	8
— 21 ... Ceres	Do.	23	8

TO AUSTRALIA.

From June 1st to Sept. 30, 1865	4,449,490
Corresponding period last year	4,582,510

SAILED SINCE.

Oct. 4 ... Spec	Hong Kong	105,800	
— 21 ... Nil Desperandum ...	Do.	25,645	

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844	51,022,660	...
,, 1845 to 1846	57,334,800	18,604
,, 1850 to 1851	63,972,000	22,143
,, 1853 to 1854	77,327,800	61,280
,, 1855 to 1856	92,240,300	50,480
,, 1857 to 1858	76,990,255	68,311
,, 1858 to 1859	65,789,792	83,136
,, 1859 to 1860	85,560,452	64,163
,, 1860 to 1861	90,066,160	70,644
,, 1861 to 1862	109,854,040	79,199
,, 1862 to 1863	121,275,380	72,848
,, 1863 to 1864	117,463,586	46,605
,, 1864 to 1865	121,236,870	32317

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865. .	...	...	...	2375	133	...

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865. .	5800	...	...	...	...	4000

TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865. .	36125	16123	900	3030	...	...

SAILED SINCE.

Oct. 16 ... Powhattan	5,600	2,802	—	283	—	—
— 20 ... Sea Serpent	16,750	3,662	1,617	200	—	—

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865. .	43	5383	71732	1100	330	161300

SHIPMENTS SINCE.

Oct. 4 ... Chetah	...	...	14,013	...	600	...	—	...	4,000
,, 8 ... Bengairn	...	...	3,192	...	—	...	—	...	—
,, 15 ... Libelle	...	...	5,628	...	—	...	300	...	—
,, — ... Ida D. Rogers ...	...	...	6,436	...	—	...	—	...	—

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared ... Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865. .	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oct. 4 ... Spec ...	...	415	1,302	...	...	...

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Yokohama . . .	6 months sight.	4s. 5½d.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.
At Shanghai . .	6 ditto	6s. 1d. to 6s. 2d.	6s. 2d. to 6s. 3d.
(per Tael.)			
At Canton . .	6 ditto	4s. 5¾d.	4s. 6d. to 4s. 7d.
At Hong Kong . .			
At Macao . . .			
At Singapore . . .	6 ditto	4s. 6¼d.	4s. 7d. to 4s. 7¼d.
At Manila	6 ditto	4s. 2d.	4s. 2d. to 4s. 3d.

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 297 to 298 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 217 to 218 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 10½ per cent. prem. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 72 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 27 to 27½ discount. Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, 6 per cent. prem.; Gas Company, £4 prem.; Hong Kong and Whampoa Docks, 40 per cent. prem., and Union Docks nominal at 1 premium.

Telegrams from Shanghai, Nov. 9, quote exchange at 6s. 2⅛d.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—A large business has been transacted during the fortnight, and notwithstanding the restricted selection, rates have advanced.

CANTON.—Country Greens:—No sales, with the exception of 80 half-chests Hyson for Bombay, have taken place, and our stock remains as before. Canton Greens continue to be neglected, and only 100 boxes gunpowder at 18½ tls., and 500 half-chests Hyson at 20 to 22 tls. have been settled.

FOOCHOW.—The market for Congous remained dull until the arrival of the 26th August mail on the 15th Oct., bringing improved accounts from England. A large business has since been done at very full rates. Teas at 22 taels and upwards are probably worse value, but we do not quote any actual change in prices. Arrivals have come in freely, and our stock is still nearly 100,000 chests. Oolongs: There has not been so much doing in these teas; as the kinds at present on offer are not desirable, and the later fourth crop teas are expected to offer a better assortment for selection. Scented: A large business has been done in these kinds; at reasonable prices, if the export were not double last year's, and if the late period of the year had not caused a deficiency of aroma in the jasmine flowers with which they are scented.

SHANGHAI.—Black:—Considerable activity has prevailed in thi market during the past fortnight, and a large business has been daily transacted, settlements reaching a total of 66 chops. Prices have ruled irregularly, but our last lower quotations were current until the arrival of the 26th August mail, since when buyers have paid 1 to 1.5 tls. advance. Supplies arrive somewhat freely from Kiukiang, although slowly from Hankow; our stock, however, is still considerable. We quote second and third crop Opacks, 22.5 to 28 tls.; second and third crop Ningchows, 21 to 28.5 tls.; second and third crop Oonahms, 18 to 24 tls.; second and third crop Hohows, 17 to 18.5 tls. In greens there has also been an increasing business on American account, and prices for Moyune descriptions have advanced 2 tls. Pingsueys have attracted more attention, and 8 chops have been placed.

HANKOW.—Up to the arrival of the English mail of 26th August, the market had been quiet with a generally easier feeling, but the improved, advices at once encouraged holders to be firm. The majority of the teas in stock are under advances to the banks, and teamen, conscious, too, that the yield will be some 5,000,000 lbs. under last year's, are by no means anxious to realise. Settlements reached 35 chops, nearly all common teas. The St. Andrew's Castle had sailed for London, and there was no vessel on the berth. Quotations were, Oopacks and Oonams, common to fair, 12 to 20 tls.

KIUKIANG.—Black Teas: The quality of the teas offered was so low that very little had been done by buyers, though upwards of 11,000 packages had been shipped to Shanghai on active account. Prices might be quoted a little lower. The stock consisted of 6,900 packages, all common teas. Quotations were:—Ningchows, common to fair, 14 to 20 tls.; Hohows, common, 12 tls.

YOKOHAMA.—A fair amount of business has been transacted in Tea since the date of our last; purchases being still small for England: the principal shipments are to San Francisco and New York. Stocks are very much reduced, and in the absence of any large quantities coming forward from the interior, the Teamen have advanced 10 cents for medium qualities. Settlements for the fortnight are estimated at 4,200 piculs. Stocks are reduced to about 1,800 piculs. Quotations are:—Common, $17 to 19; good common, $21 to 22; medium, $23.50 to 24.50; good medium, $25.50 to 26.50; fine, $27 to 28; finest, none. Shipments for the season to Europe 1865-66 485,275 lbs. Same time, 1864-65 780,176 lbs.

RAW SILK.—The new feature in the trade is the export from Japan of Silkworm's eggs. The supply appears unlimited, and as the climate of Japan is pretty severe in the winter, the worm must be of a hardier nature than the sort hitherto bred in Europe. In this view of the case, this new feature in the silk export, may create an entirely new development of the trade, for there is no saying how far to the North of Europe it may extend. Of raw silk the French steamer took 735 bales—the present conveyance takes about 1,700 bales.

SHANGHAI.—There has been less activity in this market throughout the fortnight, caused by the extreme quotations now demanded by the dealers, the settlements having barely amounted to 1,000 bales, the bulk of which are Tsatlees. Prices show an advance of Tls. 15 to 25 per picul, and, although there are very few buyers, the Chinamen appear firm, influenced by the unprecedentedly high rates now ruling in the producing districts. The arrivals from the interior are estimated at 1,000 bales, and from Ningpo 29 bales, so that unsold stock shows no alteration. The transactions of the fortnight are estimated at 1,000 bales, against 3,000 do. corresponding fortnight last season, and 2,250 do. the season before. The total settlements this season to date amount to 26,500 bales, against 16,500 corresponding period last season, and 17,500 the season before. The present unsold stock is 2,000 bales, against 4,000 same time last year, and 11,000 the year before. Quotations:—Tsatlees, No. 1, Tls. 610 to 615 per picul; Taysaams, No. 1, Tls. 520 to 530 per picul.

YOKOHAMA.—Our market has advanced fully 30 dols. per picul with still an upward tendency. A few bales of good Maibash have been taken at 820 dols. per picul; which at present exchange we make to lay down in London at 33s. 6d. Regarding the expected yield for the season, no reliable information can be obtained, but it is now said that the total export is not likely to exceed 15,000 bales. Thus putting the total export from China at 55,000 to 60,000 bales (of which 42,000 has already gone forward) we shall have a total export from the East of 70,000 to 75,000 bales; not including Canton, Bengal, or Persian silk. The settlements of the fortnight amount to 583 bales, making the total settlements of the season to date 4,493 bales, against 2,749 corresponding period last season. The present unsold stock on the market is estimated at 1,700 bales. The present mail conveys about 2,000 boxes of silkworm's eggs. Eight French gentlemen are in charge of them.

CAMPHOR.—(Hong Kong.)—We are still without any arrivals, and consequently have no stock. Nominal quotation is $20 packed.

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CHINA IMPORTS.

HONG KONG.—Cotton Yarn: Fully maintains the quotations given under date of last report, and the article is now in very small stock. The settlements of the past fortnight are estimated at 350 bales, more than one-half of which consists of re-sales effected on the part of Chinese speculators. Grey Shirtings: Prior to the arrival of the Benares the market for these goods in this colony was extremely dull, and somewhat lower prices than those current at the date of the departure of the last mail steamer would have been accepted; since, then, however, the advices of the rise in cotton manufactures in Manchester have materially strengthened the hands of holders, and an advance of fully 10 to 15 cents has been established. The sales comprise 11,000 pieces, together with 20,000 pieces reported as purchased "to arrive" by a foreign firm at $4.60 per piece for lbs. 8.4 goods. Two thousand pieces of damaged goods have also been moved off by auction. White Shirtings: The bulk of the business transacted in these goods during the fortnight consists of sales by Chinese; 1,600 pieces have been sold by importers, and 1,900 pieces have changed hands from second buyers. T-Cloths: Are in extremely small stock and the sales of the past fortnight are limited to 3,500 pieces from first hands. 5,000 pieces have been sold by Chinese. American Drills: The market continues bare of these manufactures. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades White and Coloured: There are not any sales to report of these good. Damasks and Chintzes: 500 pieces of the latter have found buyers during the fortnight.

COALS.—Hong Kong: A paucity of supplies has again to be reported, only one arrival having taken place during the fortnight, consisting of a small cargo of Australian, which sold at $9.50 from alongside. Since then, however, sales of this description have taken place at $8 to arrive. No transactions are reported in English or Welsh, which are quoted $11.50 and 12.50 respectively. Shanghai: The market has been more quiet during the past fortnight in consequence of the advancing rate, for cargoes in godown and afloat, having prevented purchasers from buying so freely. English Steam Coals from godown, which have been selling at tls. 9 to 10 per ton, according to quality, are now at tls. 9.5 to 10.5 per ton; Cardiffs are at tls. 10.5 to 11 per ton. American coals have been sold at tls. 10.5 to 11 per ton from godown. Sydney coals are in fair stock afloat. The rate is for "Bulli" and "Osborne Wallsend," tls. 8 per ton, at which half the arrivals have been closed. "Warratah" coals to arrive were sold a fortnight ago at tls. 7.9 per ton.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Dec. 17, off the Start, from Singapore, Blue Jacket; at Deal, from China, Dunmail; at London, from Colombo, Princess; from Singapore, Caldew.

DEPARTURES.—Dec. —, from Amsterdam for Batavia, Sourabaya Packet; from Bremen for Hong Kong, Congress; 5, from Aberdeen for Hong Kong, Ada.

CASUALTIES.—The Ada (ship), Jones, from Aberdeen for Hong Kong, whilst getting out of harbour, took the ground on passing the lower jetty, but got off next tide, all well, and proceeded.

SPOKEN.—Shantung, from Penang, 32 N., 33 W.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At SHANGHAI.—From Shields, Oct. 23, Adeline; Oct. 24, Mathilda.

At YOKOHAMA.—From Liverpool: Oct. 8, Brilliant. From Amsterdam: Oct. 5, Cherpeon.

At SINGAPORE.—From Liverpool: Oct. 31, Bintang. From London: Nov. 7, May Queen. From Sunderland: Oct. 23. Jacoba Cornelis. From Cardiff: Oct. 25, President Plate. From Hamburg: Oct. 19, Charlot; Oct. 30th, Tek Li; Nov. 5, Fontenoy. From Rotterdam: Oct. 23, Nederland Vlag.

At PENANG.—Southern Cross (*via* Madras).

DEPARTURES.

From HONG KONG.—For London: Oct. 27, Chrysolite.

From HANKOW.—For London: Oct. 10, St. Andrew's Castle.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Oct. 21, Glencairn and Lord Clyde; Oct. 24, Polmaise.

From YOKOHAMA.—For London: Oct. 10, Seringapatam. For Suez: Oct. 14, Shaftesbury.

From MANILA.—For Boston: Oct. 16, Cutwater.

From NAGASAKI.—For London: Sept. 13, Atlantic.

From BANGKOK.—For London: Oct. 19, Hampton Court.

From SINGAPORE.—For London: Nov. 1, Xantippe; 7, Maggie. For New York: Nov. 4, Azalia. For Bordeaux: Nov. 6, Maria.

From PENANG.—For London: Nov. 7, Balnaguith.

VESSELS LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Senior Hobley, Cleveland.

At SHANGHAI.—For London: Glencoe, Helen Nicholson, Wild Deer, City of Quebec, Ensign, Horsa, Prince Albert, Queen of the Ocean, Robin Hood, Invincible, Whitehall. For Liverpool: Patna. For New York: Finzel, George Becker, Podesta.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Alexandrina, Esperanza, Banian (full), Lord Macaulay (full).

At KIUKIANG.—For London: Emperor.

At WHAMPOA.—For London: Annie Archbell, Arab Steed, Lanton, Stirling-hire, Spanker.

At MACAO.—For Hamburg: Pathfinder.

At MANILA.—For London: Lottie Warren, Monsoon. For Liverpool: Labrador.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Wenterthur. For Liverpool and Glasgow: Lochleven Castle. For the Channel: G. H. Wappans. Falmouth for orders: Forerunner, and Herruelm. To New York: Caroline Elizabeth, and Attila.

At PENANG.—For London: Nyassa. For Boston: Magnet.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

At YOKOHAMA.—To London: Cotton and Tea, £2 to £2. 10s.; silk, £4 to £4. 10s. per ton.

At SHANGHAI.—To London: £1. 5s. to £1. 10s. per ton.

At HONG KONG.—No improvement had taken place in coast charters, but a revival was expected in a month, when the rice season would commence. There was, however, an increased demand for tonnage for Europe, principally to load at the Burmah rice ports. Several vessels had been taken up to load at the rice ports for the United Kingdom at £2. 15s. per ton.

At MANILA.—For England: £1. 15s. to £2.

At BATAVIA.—To Holland, £1. 10s. to £1. 15s.; to United States, £2. About 20,000 tons of shipping disengaged.

At SINGAPORE.—For England: £1 for dead weight, £1. 10s. for measurement. From Akyab, &c.: £2. 15s. to £3. 2s. 6d. To United States: £1. 10s. to £2.

At PENANG.—Great scarcity of cargo. To London: £2.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—Oct. 16, Red Deer and Lochiel, London for Shanghai; 17, Anglo-Saxon, London for Shanghai; 19, Admiral Lyons, Liverpool for Hong Kong; 21, Sydney Dacres, London for Singapore; 22, Medoc, Bordeaux for Hong Kong; 23, Amalia, Rotterdam for Singapore; 24, Denis, Bordeaux to Saigon.

From UNITED STATES to CHINA, &c.—None.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—Oct. 11, Foochow, Shanghai to London, and Schwinge, Batavia for Rotterdam; 14, Ellen Roger, Shanghai to London, and Queen Bee, from Foochow for London; 15, Heville, Shanghai to London; 17, Allendale, Hong Kong for London, Dunkeld, Shanghai for London; 20, Etheldreda, Samarang for Falmouth; 21, Kelso, Shanghai for London; 24, Statesman, Shanghai for London; 25, Yeavering Bell, Foochow for Comes; Art Union, Shanghai for London; 26, Berwickshire, Foochow for London; 27 Veronica, Macao for Liverpool; 28, Fory, Foochow for London; Florence Nightingale, Amoy for London; Rowena, Singapore for London; Northern Crown, Nagasaki for London; 30, Caldbeck, Singapore for London.

From CHINA to NEW YORK, &c.—Oct. 20, Surprise, Yokohama for New York; 25, Panama, Canton for New York; 30, Glen Aros, Foochow for New York.—16, Kate Carnie, Hong Kong for Buenos Ayres.

BANKING IN FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

(FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.)

In consequence of the great attention lately drawn to the various systems in operation in England, France, and elsewhere in connection with national banks, the Minister of Commerce has caused an inquiry to be set on foot in Paris on the subject, and several eminent financiers and bankers have been examined before the commission appointed for the purpose. The relation of M. Adolphe Fould to the able Minister of Finance, and the experience of the family to which both belong, give special interest to the opinions of that gentleman. M. Fould blames the directors of the Bank of France for having lost sight of the principle of national banking in giving too general a scope to the operations of that establishment, and especially, to quote his own words, for "having applied its circulation to matters which do not circulate, that is to say, to loans on shares." If the Bank had confined its operations to the discounting of commercial paper, M. Fould thinks, not that the variations in the rate of discount would have been avoided, but that they would have created less sensation in the country; he would confine the discount operations of national banks strictly to the cashing of commercial paper having at the utmost three months to run. As regards the security of the Bank itself, he is not of opinion that the rest should be used for discounting purposes; for although commercial paper is good security the public funds are better, and the amount realised would confer little benefit on commerce, and would in the case of a crisis be no more than a drop in the ocean. M. Fould is specially opposed to the discounting by the Bank of France of foreign paper; for, he says, in difficult times the Bank would have to go to London for gold, and that would cause the Bank of England immediately to raise its rate of discount, and this, reacting on France, would give rise to exchanges which would completely annul the value of the operations of the Paris Bank in foreign securities. He regards all speculative operations as utterly opposed to the object of a national bank, whose duty is to maintain a proper proportion between its metallic stock and its issues, which it can always do, he argues, without having recourse to dealing in the precious metals, or, in other words, without buying ingots as some persons recommend. With respect to the elevation of the rate of discount M. Fould puts his opinion in the plainest language, he says:—"It is better to raise the rate of discount than to refuse a certain quantity of paper. In cases in which credit and commercial honour are engaged, the merchant will always prefer paying a high rate to not having the money. A distinction may always be made with regard to the paper presented for discount; that which is created simply for the purposes of speculation with the money of the Bank should always be refused. Such distinction should be made not only in times of crises but also when the market is calm."

M. Fould thinks the mechanism of the Bank of England, which sets a fixed barrier around its circulation, inferior to that of the Bank of France, in which the matter is left to the prudence of its directors. In the latter the emission of notes may amount to a third of the metallic stock, and even more if the circulation is represented by good commercial paper of not more than three months' date. If, he adds, this circulation be represented by other securities, even the proportion of one-third may be a reasonable cause for uneasiness.

M. Henry Cernuschi, an economist, examined before the commission, placed the question of recent fluctuations in the following broad and true light:—"Crises become more frequent in proportion as commerce becomes more extended. There is also another cause which may augment the crises, namely, the refinements of banking systems. In England the use of economic modes of payment is largely developed. A colossal business is done there with a very restricted metallic stock. The stock,

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when thus reduced, is more sensible than it would otherwise be to importations and exportations of the metals. The arrival of a ship charged with gold formerly, let us say, produced an abundance in the proportion of *one;* to-day the arrival of a like quantity may have an effect say to the extent of *two*. On the other hand, the export of a certain quantity of gold from England exercises now a days more than it did in times when it worked with metallic reserves relatively much larger and under a less perfect system of payments." The same witness adds, which no political ceonomist should require, but which contains a truism often overlooked :— "It is believed pretty generally in France that establishments may be founded to give things cheap, that is to say, at rates lower than their value. It is utterly impossible to create a fixed tariff for rates of interest. If you fix the value of money you must fix the price of all other commodities. All prices form an equation. You cannot change one of the terms without changing all the rest."

A telegram from Shanghai, dated 26th October, informs us that "Chief Justice Adams is dead." Considering that the death of Mr. Adams took place in this country between three and four months ago, the news is somewhat stale, and we shall not be surprised if a telegram shortly announces the demise of Queen Anne.

Trubner's American and Oriental Literary Record says :—Two new volumes of the Transactions of the Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences (Verhandelingen van Het Bataviaasch Genootschap van Kunsten en Wetenschapen—Vols. 30 and 31, 4to.; Batavia, 1863, 1864) have been received in Europe. The contents are (Vol. 30) 1. Verslaag omtrent et eiland Nias en deszelfs bewoners (Report on the island of Nias and its inhabitants), with plates and map. By T. T. Nieuwenhuisen and H. C. B. von Rosenberg. 2. Lajang Damar Woelan. Javanese. This is a Javanese prose translation (by Mr. J. L. A. Winter) of an epic poem in the same language on the exploits of the Princess Prabu Kenya, of Majapahit. 3. Geregtelijke Geneeskunda (medical jurisprudence), translated from the Chinese by C. F. M. de Grijs. The Constitutio Criminalis Carolino, published in 1553, ordains, among other things, that in cases of poisoning, child-murder, wounding, &c., where the judge may be in doubt, a regular physician should be called in; and this work must, therefore, be looked upon as the first European handbook of medical jurisprudence. It appears that similar regulations have existed from time immemorial in China, and that they were first printed in the work of which the above purports to be a translation, and which appeared first in China between 1241 and 1253, and which has since been printed in many editions, with annotations by native Chinese scholars. This translation, taken in conjunction with the interesting paper "On the Medicine and Medical Practice of the Chinese," by James Henderson, M.D. (Journal of the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, New Series, No. 1.) referred to in No. 6 of the *Record* (p. 112), throws much light on Chinese medical science, and will therefore be welcome to European savants.—(Vol. 31). 1. De Formveranderingen der Maleische Taal (the formative changes of the Malay language), by H. Von Dewall. This paper treats fully and ably the important question of Malay derivation, derivation being the whole pith and marrow of Malay grammar. 2. De Munten van Nederlandsch Indie (the coins of Dutch India) described and designed by E. Netscher and S. A. van der Chijs.

THE Chinese Government is said to have commissioned a French officer to establish a mint at Peking, at which Chinese coins are to be made after the model of those in France.

MORTALITY OF TROOPS AT HONG KONG.

(THE TIMES.)

At Hong Kong there was stationed, at the beginning of the present year, a force of Europeans, comprising, in the whole, 1,204 souls. The chief strength of this garrison consisted of the 2nd battalion of the 9th Regiment, but a detachment of the 11th Regiment was also quartered on the island, and a small contingent was likewise contributed by the Royal Artillery and Engineers. In the month of June the 2nd battalion of the 11th Regiment arrived from the Cape of Good Hope, and brought the total numbers of the garrison up to 2,079; but is must be understood that these figures include not only officers and men of all ranks, but women and children too. What we are now going to state will scarcely be believed, but it is the simple truth that, before eight months of the year were over, very nearly one-fourth of these men, women, and children were either dead or dying. The exact returns are as follow :— Of officers, four died and five were invalided; of men, 95 died and 202 were invalided; of women, 9 died and 38 were invalided. The poor little children furnish the worst tale of all. Of these helpless creatures there perished on the spot no fewer than 88, while 45 resisted long enough to be registered as "invalids." Altogether, in a little community of some 2,000, 196 died and 290 were invalided, not in a single year, but in two-thirds of that time. The returns of a whole year at the same rates of death and sickness would give 750 casualties. In less than three years the entire force would have disappeared.

This terrible report, though it might be matched by the returns from certain Indian stations in certain years, far surpasses even that alarming average of Indian mortality which so startled the public a short time ago. It is probable, too, that the mere records of "invaliding" will fail to convey any adequate idea of the facts expressed. The sick were at death's door. Sometimes they could not be moved to the hospital-ships waiting to carry them off; indeed, we gave a picture of the reality a few days since in the description of a certain scene in Japan. It was from Hong Kong and from this prostrate and perishing garrison that the "invalids" were brought who landed at Yokohama in the autumn. Those miserable men and women who dropped down helplessly on reaching the shore were the men and women who had not quite died at Hong Kong. Nor was the condition of those left behind much better. There must have been much sickness falling somewhat short of "invaliding," for the 11th Regiment, which had landed upwards of 700 strong, could only muster one hundred men actually fit for duty a few weeks after its arrival. Of course this sickness increased the severity of the duty, and so aggravated the evil. The few who could carry arms were called upon for excessive work, and were thus sent by fatigue and exposure to join their comrades in the hospital.

We hope these facts will not pass without immediate inquiry. It is fair to state that the season must have been unhealthy, for the mortality was great even among the families of civilians well quartered and provided for. But it must also be stated that in the opinion of those on the spot the fearful ravages of disease were mainly due to bad lodging defective accommodation, and general mismanagement. The 11th Regiment found nothing ready for its reception in China, and even less, if that were possible, in Japan. The troops arriving from the salubrious climate of the Cape were exposed without any protection to the malaria of their new station, and when, as was natural, they sickened by hundreds, there were none of the requisite appliances for treating or relieving them. The hospitals, indifferent enough in themselves, were soon overcrowded, and the men had to take their chance in their own wretched quarters. The medical staff, as we remarked the other day, was represented for a great part of the time by a single surgeon; and no misfortune, indeed, seems to have been wanting to complete the fatality of the visitation.

It is probable that Hong Kong could never be made a healthy station. It is but too likely that no other spot in the immediate vicinity would be much better than Hong Kong. But, if our troops are to be quartered in such places, we may at least mitigate the risk of the service by all the precautions available. At least, we may establish commodious barracks with all suitable accommodation, and take care that when troops are expected all due preparation shall have been made for their reception. There was nothing that we know of in our relations with China to create any sudden or extraordinary demand for a military force. As far as can be seen, the garrison at Hong Kong must have been upon its ordinary footing, and any detachment arriving there ought to have found either regular quarters or accommodation prepared. In the emergencies of war such privations as we have been describing enter into the risks and conditions of military service, but no such excuse can be given when, in time of peace and in the absence of pressure, our soldiers are exposed to such sufferings and perils as have now fallen upon the unfortunate garrison of Hong Kong.

Literature.

Mr. Murray, of Albemarle-street, has now published the *Chinese Miscellanies*, by Sir J. F. DAVIS, Bart., K.C.B., which we announced some time ago as nearly ready. Most of these "collectanea," as Sir John modestly styles the contents of the little volume, have already been laid before the public in the Quarterly Reviews or in the proceedings of various learned Societies. That being the case, the value of the book is precisely that stated in the motto—the convenience of having in one collection a number of things selected from sources not likely perhaps to be found together in an individual library. Altogether, the volume is a necessary one to all who take an interest in China. The writer is one of the highest European authorities on the subject, and his determination to reprint these papers is a sufficient proof of the value set on them by the public in their separate form, which will be much increased by the certainty that they have now been revised, and, if needful, corrected by the author. We trust, however, soon to see another original work on China from Sir John's pen.

Messrs. James Griffin and Co., of Portsea, have published a very fine steel engraving of Admiral Sir Michael Seymour Commander-in-Chief at Portsmouth. Sir Michael will shortly be relieved from his post, and it is a good proof of his popularity that a publisher has undertaken the expense of this portrait. We can answer for all old residents in China fully appreciating this feeling.

The *British Army and Navy Review* for December merits very high praise for the papers that form its contents, while the "Mess Room Companion" that accompanies it ought to ensure its being found at every such place of assemblage, whether in barracks or on board ship. The "Companion" is a handsomely and very clearly printed register of the distribution of the Army and Navy, so managed that it can be framed and hung up for the easier general reference.—The *Revue de l'Orient* (Paris, Duprat) for last quarter has among its pages some very interesting "Fragments of the General History of Japan, from 1598 to 1616," by M. Leon Pagès, principally in reference to the labours and martyrdom of the early Catholic missionaries.

Continental Intelligence.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, DEC. 7.

As I anticipated in my last, his Majesty accepted the resignation of Mr. G. H. Betz as Minister of the Financial Department, and Mr. Olivier, Minister of Justice, is appointed in his place *ad interim*. The resignation of Mr. Betz is generally regretted. During the four years that he was at the head of that important department he carried through many valuable measures,

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such as the abolition of the taxes upon fuel, the commercial treaty with France, the treaty about the sugar duties with England, France and Belgium, the regulation of our excise upon sugar, the abolition of the commercial excise duties, the new tariff of customs duties, etc. The balance of the debit and credit of his acts as Minister is certainly much in his favour. Opposed to all these important laws and measures can only be reckoned a private letter, which was addressed to an incautious friend, who abused its tenor and compromised its author, and brought on him the charge of having used his influence upon the elections for the States General in Limburg. The letter in question—which was written in the spring of 1864—would never have been put to a party use if the Minister had not felt himself obliged to lay before the members of the States General a Bill for increasing the *impot foncier* in Limburg, which province had paid 300,000fl. per annum too little. The Opposition immediately took hold of this affair, hoping that not only Mr. Betz, but the whole Cabinet would be obliged to resign. The *comfreres* of the *Dagblad* said that not only had Mr. Betz written a letter, but that our Premier also, Mr. Thorbecke, wrote to his friends. Nothing, however, has been produced from his hands, and the Cabinet stands as firm as ever. I do not come to this conclusion because all the Budgets have been voted by a great majority; on the contrary—that for the colonies has not been debated, because the members reserve their forces and arguments for the discussion on the Culture Bill; and, secondly, the Budget of the Financial Department has not been discussed at all, as Mr. Olivier only asks a credit of the Chamber till the successor of Mr. Betz is appointed.

The strength of the Cabinet is proved rather by the fact that the motion of Count van Zuylen (from Arnhem) for an inquiry into the letter-writing and intrigues of the Cabinet, and which, if agreed to, would have been tantamount to a vote of want of confidence, was repudiated by the majority in the sections. I think now Mr. Van Zuylen will be wise enough to spare himself a further check, which he will certainly experience if he brings his motion forward for debate.

Another member of the Opposition brought forward a motion proposing to bring on discussion on the Bill for increasing the land-tax in Limburg. Mr. Olivier objected; but as the motion was backed by a majority—though a small one—the minister will be obliged to act according to its wishes. There exists no doubt that the Bill will be passed, which will be a great triumph for Mr. Betz.

Mr. van der Maesen de Sombreff, the unlucky friend of Mr. Betz, has resigned his seat, but is again a candidate for Maastricht, where the election will come off on the 12th July. The Bill about the cultures on Java is now to be examined in the sections, and will soon be debated. The reporters appointed are—Rochussen, Blusse, Myer, van Bosse, and van Huckelom. The party-fight will be a pitched battle, because the Colonial Question will be discussed in its entirety, and will, doubtless, be decided in a liberal sense.

Baron van Hall, ex-Minister of Finance, is seriously ill, and it is generally thought that he will not recover.

The First Chamber of the States General will meet on the 12th inst., for the discussion of the Budgets.

An election for a member of the Second Chamber of the States General took place at Leeuwarden on the 1st inst. Mr. J. Andrea—a Liberal, but not a Ministerialist—obtained the majority, having 820 votes.

Mr. Herman van Sonsbeck, ex-Minister of Foreign Affairs, died on the last day of November, 69 years old.

The rinderpest spreads itself more and more, notwithstanding the measures of the Government. Three provinces outside the *cordon sanitaire* have been attacked. Since the outbreak of the plague 9,950 p. of cattle have been attacked, of which number 3,006 p. died, 2,678 p. were slaughtered, and 2,791 recovered.

Prince Frederic left the Hague to-day for Berlin, to assist at the marriage of Princess Alexandrine, daughter of our Princess Marianne, divorced wife of Prince Albert of Prussia, with the Prince of Mecklenburg. The mother presents the bride with one million thalers and a seat in Silesia.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The market remains in a firm condition, and there was a good inquiry from the out-ports. Not less than 95,000 bgs. were delivered during the month of November, against 89,983 bgs. in 1864, and 14,971 in 1863 in the same month. Stock of the Trading Company, 108,000 bgs; on warrants, 144,209 bgs.; and total stock in Holland, 287,000 bgs., against 441,800 bgs. in 1864.

SUGAR.—There is a fair inquiry, prices of the last auction being firmly maintained. Holders, however, decline to operate without an advance, so that the sales were restricted. The business includes 2,000 kranj. Java, floating. The unsold stock of the Trading Company consisted of 21,647 kranji. and 3,439 bs. Java, against 18,076 kr. in 1864. Stock on warrants, 72,202 kr., against 68,815 in 1864. Private stock, 31,690 kr.

TEA.—There has been an almost total cessation of demand since the last mail, and although rather more inquiry has appeared within the last days the sales are only small. For China Congou was paid 100 to 105c., and 93 to 95c. for Java.

RICE.—Uncleaned, without stock; for cleaned there is a fair inquiry, and very moderate supply, prices being firmly maintained.

SPICES.—There is no improvement in the demand, and the sales are restricted to those for consumption. Nutmegs, No. 1, are paid with 84c.; No. 2, 74c.; No. 3, 53 to 54c.; Mace, D, 90 to 91c.; E, 85 to 87c.; Cloves, No. 2, 27c.; No. 3, 26c.

TIN.—The market ruled firm last month, and a large amount of business has been done, though the high value of money has somewhat checked speculation. Banca tin was quiet in the beginning of the month of Nov. at 57¼f., but after the advance of £3 in English tin improved to 58f. A quieter feeling followed, and a decline took place to 57¼f. At this price, however, buyers came forward, and the reduction in the Bank rate of discount in London to 6 per. cent., and the new advance of £2 in English tin, gave great strength to our market, which gradually recovered, closing at 58f., with considerable business doing—about 6,000 slabs were sold. In Billeton Tin, small transactions have taken place at 57½f., stocks being very light. 500 piculs Straits, afloat from Penang, were sold at private terms, probably, 56½f. ex ship here. Stock on warrants, 109,459 slabs; Trading Company, 90,300 slabs.

HIDES.—On the 28th the following parcels were sold by inscription—206 p. dam. Sowrabaya Rinder 5¼ kilo., at 31c.; 90 p. Samarang, do., 3⅝ kilo., 38¼c.; stock, 8,973 p. E.I., 11,928 Buffalo, Nov. 1864, against 25,776 p. E.I., 6,466 p. Buffalo, on that date in 1865.

RAW SILK.—The 393 bls. which were offered in auction by the Trading Company were sold as follows:—165 bn. Japan, Maibash, 37f. to 44f.; 43 bn. Japan, Sinchiu, 39½f. to 45f.; 28 bn. Japan, Sodai, 31½f. to 37¾f.; 15 bn. Japan, Oshui, 34½f. to 39½f.; 8 bn. Japan, Koshue, 35f. to 38½f.; 21 bn. Japan, Mashtah, 30f. to 32¾f.; 30 bn. Japan, Hatchojee, 30½f. to 34¼f.; 57 bn. China, Tsatlee, 36f. to 41f.; 25 bn. China, Taysaam, 31f. to 34¾f. The 80 bales Japan silk offered privately were sold as follows:—15 bls., at 43f. to 45f.; 49 bls. Maibash, 40¾f. to 44½f.; 12 bls. Mashtah, 33¼f. The auction was, notwithstanding there were but a few buyers, very animated. The greater part was sold for English account The Hadchojee were sold at 6f. to 7f.

COTTON.—Notwithstanding the reports from Liverpool were favourable, our market remained dull, and no transactions took place, in consequence of the high demands of the holders. To-morrow will be sold at auction by the Trading Company 1,375 b. Tinnevelly fair, valuation, 92½c.; 298 b. Japan good fair, valuation, 95 to 97½c.; 270 do. middling fair do., 90c.; 1,179 b. Dhollerah fair do., 92½ to 95c.; 119 b. Broach middling do., 80c.; 66 b. do. fair, valuation, 92½c. Stock of E.I., 2,400 b., against 4,400 b. in 1864.

JAVA INDIGO.—A moderate private business doing by want of supply. The parcels arrived within the last month will, however, soon be brought into the market, in consequence of the firm condition which prevails. The 151 cer. Caracas, which were offered in auction, were all sold at advanced prices, viz., from 165 to 400c.

ARRACK.—The market is firm, but the business passing is only small. Only 67 casks and 40 ½ casks Alcohol Batavia ex Lammina Elizabeth were sold.

TOBACCO.—There was a good business doing during the last month. The stock of Java tobacco was almost sold, and for some fine qualities there was much demand, but no supply; for ordinary qualities the market is cheaper. Manila tobacco is dull; the sales are trifling in extent. The 289 b. Java offered in auction were sold in average at 30c.; 99 b. ditto, trade mark Solo, at 23c.; and 21 b. M. L. S. at 19c. Stock: 14,051 b. Java, 4,302 b. Manila.

DRUGS.—The following parcels were sold:—Gummi Elasticum, 2,200 kilo.; Java, 2a at 124f.; 1,350 kilo. Padang 2a at 111f.; 300 kilo. Getah Gitang at 66½f. per 50 kilo. Gutta percha, 104,000 kilo. Macassar were sold at 104c. to 198c. per ½ kilo.; 16,100 kilo. imported from Sumatra at 56c. to 88c. per ½ kilo.; 9,000 kilo. Gummi Damar, Batavia, at 28c. to 28½c. per ½ kilo.; 275 kilo. Java Cocoa Nut Soap, 1a 157c. per ½ kilo. 13,000 kilo. Cassia Vera, 33½c. to 40½c. kilo. All was sold.

SHIPPING.—ARRIVALS.—Nov. 26, at Brouwershaven, from Batavia, Jacoba; at Texel, from Tjilatjap, Constance; Dec. 1, at Brouwershaven, from Samarang, Maria Magdalena; 3, at Brouwershaven, from Samarang, Andromede; at Texel, from Batavia, Drie Gezusters, Australie, Maria Catharina.

DEPARTURES.—Nov. 30, from Texel for Batavia, H.M. ship Heldin; China for Japan, Dec. 1, from Brouwershaven for Batavia, Johannes Athnonius, Otto, St. Jan; from Texel for Batavia, Quartet; 3, from Brouwershaven for Japan, Macassar; from Zierikzee for Singapore, Catharina Maria; 6, from Brouwershaven for Batavia, Stad Delft; 7, from Brouwershaven for Batavia, van der Palm.

LOADING.—At Rotterdam, for Batavia and Sourabaya, Lammina Elizabeth, Maria Anna; for Batavia, Noord-Brabant, Catharine Maria; for Kanagawa, Duo Decima; for Padang, Heimath; for Samarang, Nagasaki; for Singapore and Hong Kong, Henriette Elizabeth Suzanne. At Amsterdam, for Kanagawa and Decima, Gloria; for Padang, Henrietta; for Macassar, Ystroom; for Batavia, Tagal, Waterloo, Goede Verwatching Ymuiden; for Samarang, Stad Assen; for Sourabaya, Passaroeang, Sindbad, Laura and Adèle, Alcyone.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

To JAVA.—Per Quartet: Mr. Cavalje and family, Mrs. J. Wolf, and A. Ernstma. Per Stad Delft: Messrs. Kam and family, Meysenheym, van der Leeuw, Hisgen, Tap, van Eik, Groudhout, Dirkx, Mrs. Harmsen and family, Mrs. van Been and family, Messrs. Gerretson, van Bergen, John, Caar, Belle, Mertens, and Passius.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

From JAVA.—Per Australie: Messrs. Spengler and family, Vermandel and family, Romsedaal and family, Engelbrecht, Betz, Rrien, and Sicet. Per Drie Gezusters: Mr. A. Muller and family, Mrs. C. Grashuis and family. Per Maria Catharina: Mr. Blod and family.

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RUSSIA, GERMANY, &c.

HAMBURG, DECEMBER 7.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Full particulars of the result of the late Nijni-Novgorod have now been officially published in the Russian journals, from which it appears that the total of goods sold amounted to 98,270,320 roubles (being 6,045,870 rbls. more than last year), and goods unsold, 13,186,680 rbls.; so that the total value of the goods brought to the fair was 118,782,000 rbls., being 1,334,400 rbls. more than in 1864. Of this quantity 83,130,350 rbls. were of Russian produce, 9,858,000 rbls. European and Colonial, 3,823,000 rbls. drugs and drysalteries, 7,255,000 rbls. Chinese, 2,312,000 rbls. Bokhara and Khiva, 2,280,700 rbls. Persian, and 2,788,550 rbls. Trans-Caucasian. To this must be added 1,325,000 rbls. spent in the hotels; also for the sale of bread and other provisions; at the theatre, for seeing sights, sale of photographs, agio on gold charged by the money-changers, and various other minor items making up the above sum. Many of the regular buyers who received goods on credit at the last year's fair, and ought to have paid for them at this, did not make their appearance at all, being sufferers from the numerous conflagrations this last summer in various parts of the empire, and unable to meet their engagements. There was, however, no scarcity of money, and bills at 12 months' date were readily discounted at 6½, 7, and 8 per cent., according to the supposed solvency of the parties and the credit they enjoy.

The Siamese Government has appointed a Consul at Berlin, in the person of Herr Adolph Markwald, who has just received his *Exequatur*. This appointment is made by right of Art. 2 of the Commercial Treaty between Prussia and Siam, bearing date February 7, 1862.

Preparations are making at Leipzig to celebrate with great festivities the Easter Fair there next year, it being the 400th anniversary of its foundation, the original charter having been granted by the Emperor Frederick the Third, in the year 1466.

The Emperor of Austria, on the recommendation of Baron Wullerstorf, the new Minister for Trade, has just published an Imperial decree introducing the penny postage system on the 1st January next.

A report has been circulated that a portion of the little island of Heligoland (the smallest jewel in the British Crown) had been swept into the sea. Such, however, is not the case.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—Partly in consequence of the favourable result of the Dutch sales the market has been very lively, and a good deal has been taken on speculation. Within the last few days, however, the market is calmer, though the values of all descriptions are fully supported. Sales since last mail, 34,000 bags.

SUGAR.—Both Raw and Refined are quiet, without any material alteration in prices.

RICE.—Cleaned grain continues to realise high quotations, but the demand has not been so active as it was. In Rough, 4,500 bags of Moulmein, and 5,000 bags of Rangoon have been sold by importers by private contract, as well as 2,000 bags of Bassein, and 1,000 bags of Rangoon by public auction for what they would fetch, being damaged by sea-water.

SPICES.—Sales confined to small parcels for consumption at previous rates. Among the latest arrivals are 2,440 chests of Cassia Lignea per Jacob Levy.

TEA.—Market generally steady. Ordinary to good ordinary Congou in demand as well as fine Kaisow, Pakling and Moning Congou, and full prices paid. Of green teas some speculative purchases have been made in Canton-made gunpowder, since which the prices have risen 1 to 2 Sch. Bco. per lb. No alteration in Souchong and Pecco. The Moyune green teas mentioned in last report as having arrived sold rapidly at remunerating prices.

SPELTER.—At first this article was tightly held, with every appearance of an improvement taking place; but since then the demand has ceased, and prices show a tendency to decline. At all events the market closes in a depressed condition.

Money is more abundant than it has been for some time, and discount has fallen to 5¼ per cent.

SHIPPING.—ARRIVED.—November 27, Undine, from Calcutta; Boreas, from Batavia; Jacob Levy, from China.

SAILED.—November 29 (from Cuxhaven), Kamtschatka, to Sitka; December 1 (from Hamburg), Margaretha, to Hong Kong; 5, Jan Peter, to Singapore.

LOADING AT HAMBURG.—Manila IL, for Shanghai; Jessen, for Nicolayefsk (Amoor).

Naval and Military.

Vice-Admiral Sir Sydney Colpoys Dacres, K.C.B., the late Commander-in-Chief of the Channel Fleet, is, it is reported, about to take a seat at the Board of Admiralty. Vice-Admiral J. E. Erskine was offered the vacancy at the Board, but he has declined the proffered honour for the present.

In the year 1861 the Admiralty, being desirous that the punishment of the men should not depend upon the arbitrary will of a captain, directed that two tabulated forms should be arranged, and distributed throughout the service. Table I. gives an index of offences suggesting the maximum summary punishment that should in each case be awarded; and Table II. indicates the description of summary punishments that may be awarded to persons of and below the grade of petty officer and non-commissioned officer, subject to the Naval Discipline Act of 1861. Mr. Hickman, who is officially charged with the compilation of annual returns on the subject, and has just published the second of the series, thinks that it would be invidious to name any particular ships where offences had been more numurous than in others of equal size and complement, owing, as he very properly and naturally infers, to the want of governing capacity on the part of captains or commanders. "We do not share in this amiable feeling (remarks the *Army and Navy Gazette*), and we distinctly say that an officer like the commander of the Ringdove, on the China station, who punished the whole ship's company for the loss of a gong, which might have been caused by an individual and without the knowledge of the rest of the crew, was acting against the first principles of justice, and we only regret that the punishment to which the three seamen—Say, Carsons and Davis,—were subjected for the conduct they pursued on the occasion was not altogether remitted instead of having only been mitigated by the Admiralty. The commander of the Ringdove has been placed on half-pay, and is not likely to be disturbed from the place he occupies."

Captain Roderick Dew, late in command of H.M.S. *Encounter* on the China Station, is likely to be appointed to the command of the iron-cased ship *Lord Clyde*, now being brought forward at Plymouth. Captain Dew distinguished himself very much in China, and was made a C.B. for his services in that country.

Captain Edward Augustus Inglefield, who was lately so fortunate as to obtain a good service pension, will, we understand, go as Flag-Captain to Lord Clarence Paget.

Her Majesty's 20-gun screw corvette Tartar, 1,296 tons, 250-horse power, recently paid off at Sheerness by Capt. John M. Hayes, from China, has been brought up to Woolwich to make good defects and be prepared for recommission.

The Dutch transport St. Jane, from Schiedam, with 100 soldiers for Batavia, put into Plymouth Sound on the 7th, with water casks started in consequence of the late stormy weather.

Her Majesty's 6-gun paddle-sloop Spiteful, recently commissioned at Woolwich by Commander Achibald D. W. Fletcher for service on the Brazilian coast, again returned to Woolwich from Portsmouth, having been found unfit for foreign service.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment of Douglas Galton, Esq., late Captain in the Royal Engineers, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for the War Department, to be an Ordinary Member of the Civil Division of the Third Class, or Companions of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath.

According to the rumours afloat at the clubs and at the outports we may look for numerous changes at the Admiralty either before, or immediately after, the meeting of Parliament. The health of Rear Admiral Robinson is in such an unsatisfactory condition that it is fully expected he will, on the completion of his five years' service as Controller of the Navy, on the 1st of February, resign his appointment. Sir Frederick Grey is, it is reported, now a candidate, with Sir William F. Martin, for the command at Portsmouth, *vice* Sir Michael Seymour, whose time expires on the 28th of February. Nothing definite, however, can be known on this point until the pleasure of Her Majesty the Queen is taken. Lord Clarence Paget will hoist his flag and proceed to the Mediterranean to relieve Sir Robert Smart, and when Rear-Admiral Drummond takes charge of the Channel fleet the Duke of Somerset will have almost an entirely new set of colleagues, as Rear-Admiral Fanshawe has only lately joined, and Mr. Childers' vacancy has not been filled up.

The sailing frigate Calypso, 18, attached to the reserve squadron in Chatham harbour, having been surveyed by the officials connected with the shipwright department, and condemned as unfit for further service, has been brought up to the dockyard, where the whole of her fittings have been removed, and she has been stripped of her dockyard stores. On Saturday she was taken in tow by the Otter, paddle-wheel steamer, Mr. W. J. Blakey, Queen's pilot, in charge, and removed round to the Thames for the purpose of being docked at the shipbreaking yard of Messrs. Castle and Beech, Charlton, where she will be broken up. The Calypso was built and launched at Chatham Dockyard about twenty years age. Since then she has been actively employed, and was one of the last of the sailing ships put out of commission at Chatham. She is generally sound and seaworthy, and the reason why the Admiralty have decided on having her broken up is the unsuitableness of the class of vessels to which she belongs for the present requirements of the navy.

The Terpsichore, 18, having temporarily made good the injuries which she sustained on the occasion of the torpedo experiments in Chatham harbour, will be floated out of No. 4 dock at Chatham, and afterwards removed to Charlton, where she will be broken up. Nearly the whole of the smaller sailing vessels which for some years past have been rotting at Chatham, and impeding the navigation of the Medway, have disappeared, the Admiralty having either disposed of them to private firms or directed them to be broken up. There are still several of the larger class of 50-gun sailing and steam frigates and old line-of-battle ships attached to the squadron in the Medway, lying in what is known as "Rotton-row." They are perfectly useless, so far as any future service they can be put to is concerned, and only await an order from the Admiralty to be similarly disposed of.

WAR-OFFICE, DEC. 1.—11th Foot: Ensign George Vincent Meredith, to be Lieutenant, without purchase, vice Morres Guard, deceased, Sept. 10; Ensign Thomas Albert Kemble, to be Lieutenant, by purchase, vice Meredith, whose promotion, by purchase, Oct. 10, has been cancelled; Gentleman Cadet James Herbert Yule, from the Royal Military College, to be Ensign, without purchase, vice Kemble; Staff-Assistant Surgeon John William Purefoy, M.D., to be Assistant Surgeon, vice Alexander Macintyre, M.D., deceased. 25th Foot: Gentleman Cadet David Stanley Cunninghame, from the Royal Military College, to be Ensign, without purchase, vice Alfred James, deceased.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, MONDAY, DEC ,18 1865.

THE TAIPINGS AND PIRATES.

THE most satisfactory news we have yet received regarding the Taiping rebellion—we may now almost say the late Taiping rebellion—is that contained in our Hong Kong correspondent's letter of the 13th October. The long series of reverses which dated from the expulsion of the Taipings from Nanking has culminated in the retreat of the last remnant of their once formidable host into a mountain fastness in the interior of Kwangtung, where, we are told, their chiefs are negotiating for a surrender; pardon being promised them on condition of giving up their leader, who is said to be the last survivor of the "Coolie Kings" of Nanking. The pacification of Southern China being thus nearly completed, the Government will be in a better position (as our correspondent justly remarks) to cope with the disorders still prevailing in the northern provinces. In this quarter, however, the difficulties they will have to contend with are small as compared with those attending the reconquest of the vast territories but lately held by the Taipings. The Nienfei have already retreated from the province of Shantung, and appear to be completely held in check by the Tartar forces; while we hear of no further successes on the part of the Mahometan rebels in the north-west. Thus far the moral support, as well as the material aid afforded to the existing Government by England, has been attended with the happiest results; and now that our *proteges* have their hands comparatively free, the question not unnaturally arises, are we not entitled to ask for some return for these services? It is true we reap the benefit of the extermination of the Taipings to a certain extent, in the increased security and remunerativeness of our trade with the Yangtsze ports; but these advantages are nearly if not quite neutralised by the enormous increase lately manifested in the depredations of the pirates on the coast. That there is a connecting link between the decadence of the rebellion and the increase of piracy no one can doubt. Beaten and dispersed on land, the Taipings have taken refuge on the sea; well knowing the coast to be rich in plunder and abounding in secure retreats from pursuit. The Chinese Government possesses no fleet; our own China squadron is wretchedly ill-adapted for the service chiefly required of it, some of the gunboats being rotten and unseaworthy; and so these vermin of the sea increase and prosper exceedingly, growing bolder and more cruel in their depredations, and, owing to the peculiar configuration of the coast, enjoying absolute immunity from pursuit. It is quite clear that no good can be done except by gunboats, of great speed and light draft of water; and a small squadron of these should be in constant readiness, and devoted exclusively to the service. If they belonged entirely to the colony of Hong Kong, and could act under the orders of the Governor, independently of the Admiral on the station, then we might expect some good results. A considerable portion of the yearly expense might be defrayed by devoting the £20,000 now exacted from the colony as a military tax to this purpose; and the remainder, or at all events one-half of the annual outlay required, might fairly be demanded from the Chinese Government. The marauders, from whom we have helped to free their territory, are now feeding upon our commerce; and we trust that one of Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK'S first acts will be to urge upon Prince KUNG the necessity of a contribution from the Imperial treasury towards the removal of this incubus on both foreign and native trade. Such a contribution can surely be afforded out of the splendid revenues derived from the Customs establishments at the treaty ports, collected through foreign interests and ability, to the extent of £3,000,000 per annum.

A telegram from Canton, dated 15th November, states that a successful attack had been made on some pirates at Amoy. A single isolated case of success is however of little use; indeed, the very same telegram informs us that "piracy is increasing to "an alarming extent." A vigorous crusade must be organised, and the work continued steadily for a year or two before we can look for any permanent result. We believe that on Sir RICHARD MACDONNELL'S arrival in Hong Kong he will have some satisfactory intelligence to communicate on this point, his Excellency having been occupied in endeavouring to arrange for the appropriation of either the whole or a portion of the military-tax above alluded to, to the maintenance of a separate force to be employed in the suppression of piracy.

JAPAN

A telegram has been received from Shanghai dated 9th November, informing us that "the foreign Ministers had gone on an expedition to open Osseo Livywn (Ossaco) to foreign trade. The other murderers of Lieutenant Bird and Major Baldwin have been arrested at Jeddo. They confessed their crime and were executed." Many of the telegrams which now reach us *via* Galle are unintelligible, and we are left to guess at their real meaning; in this case Osaca is suggested as the port indicated, but we rather incline to a contrary opinion. Osaca, or more properly speaking, Hiogo, is not to be opened to foreign trade until the beginning of 1868, and it would be a truly marvellous manifestation of Sir Harry Parkes's influence if he had already prevailed upon the Gorogio, in the Tycoon's absence, to take on themselves the responsibility of anticipating so important an event by two entire years. If any expedition such as that alluded to in the telegram has taken place at all, it is much more likely to be for the purpose of examining some other port which the Japanese Government propose, perhaps, to substitute for Ne-e-gata. This latter port should have been opened in 1860, but was found unsuitable for purposes of trade, and no choice has yet been made of one to serve in its stead.

The Tycoon's envoys, who have been so long travelling on the Continent, have lately arrived in London, and are staying at the Langham Hotel. The Satsuma party are still in Paris, but are also expected to return to this country in a few days.

HONG KONG.

THE cry is again heard from this wonderful little island of fevers, malaria, dysentery and death. For the past few years Hong Kong has enjoyed an exemption from epidemics, and in fact it has been Hong Kong "up" and Shanghai "down." This revolution in the respective places has now given way, and the sun-burnt town lying under the mountains ranging from 500 to 1,800 feet in height, has again assumed the features of 1843-46. At that time, however, there was no doubt that the upturning of the earth, which had been undisturbed previous to our occupation of the island, imparted a miasma fatal to the European constitution. This, added to the want of proper drainage existing at that time, generated a fever so peculiar and so virulent that the medical profession were baffled either to meet the disease or even to name it, hence it was designated the "Hong Kong fever." With the completion of the public works, however, the health of the island improved for all civilians, but for the naval and military forces but little improvement has been or ever can be effected. The habits of this class are sufficient to kill them. The well-known poisonous "samshoo" no doubt sets them mad before it makes them even drunk; and when some of them lie in gutters and call out, "Pour it over me—I likes the smell of it!" no astonishment is felt at fever and death succeeding. Another fruitful cause of sickness among the poor soldiers and sailors is the virulent contagions from the Chinese women. A suggestion has been made in a letter which we give below, that barracks should be erected on the Kowloong side, or the opposite side of the harbour of Hong Kong. We have constantly urged this, and the decision of the War-office not to incur this outlay is very lamentable but possibly insurmountable. On the annexation of Kowloong, we believe, the first thing was a quarrel between the naval, military, and civil authorities as to "sites" which resulted in a dead lock. Kowloong is open to the south-west monsoon, which prevails

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during the summer, and is not immediately under the hills. In fact, during the summer the climate is quite endurable. To attempt to make Kowloong, however, a place of business. and to abandon Hong Kong, is simply absurd ; nor would it be proper to build the mint there, seeing that the specie would incur the risk of transit in boats across the harbour. The following is the letter alluded to :—

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE TIMES."

SIR,—As you have recently directed attention to the sickness and mortality among the English soldiers at Hong Kong, the following extract from the letter of a civilian officer of the Mint about to be established in that island may, perhaps, be suitable for your columns. The writer may be relied upon as an accurate and trustworthy observer : —

"Hong Kong, Oct. 13, 1865.

"I commenced a letter to you by the last mail, but could not finish it in time, as we have been in such a state almost ever since we landed, on the 20th of August, as to prevent our doing much in the way of letter-writing. The whole of Captain K——'s family have been down with sickness of one kind or other at the same time, except Miss K——. Captain A——, who came out with us, has had intermittent fever. The governess was knocked down by bilious fever, and Miss A. K—— died of fever on the 1st of October. This makes the third death among people connected with the Mint since June. The engineman and the wife of the engineer foreman died before our arrival. At the time of all this sickness in Captain K——'s family three of his servants were ill too. The Government have quartered us in a row of houses on Morrison-hill, one of the prettiest places here, 200 feet above the harbour level. We have a splendid view of Hong Kong, or rather Victoria, and from our position ought to enjoy good health. It is on a granite rock, very porous in places, from an advanced state of decomposition, the slopes being covered with trees, chiefly of a species of fir. In the verandahs at the back we overlook the racecourse, which has evidently been at no very remote period a small harbour surrounded by hills, except towards the sea. The grand-stand is immediately opposite the English cemetery—a good subject for a sermon ! It is called Happy Valley, and is certainly a very beautiful place. There is a good motto over the entrance to the Roman Catholic cemetery, '*Hodie mihi, cras tibi*,' which is more strikingly applicable here than, perhaps, in England. Almost every evening at six o'clock, since we have been quartered here, there have been echoed from hill to hill those dreadful three volleys. On one evening there were fifteen—that is, five funerals in the 11th Regiment, 2nd battalion, including the assistant-surgeon, M'Intyre. This regiment, which came here about four months since, I think 650 strong, has lost sixty men and two officers. They all look bleached, although they wear white uniforms, and yesterday some of them were sent on board ship as invalids for England. One poor fellow was carried on board, died, and was taken on shore to be buried."

The sickness prevalent at Hong Kong is obviously due to malaria, and it would be interesting to ascertain how far this condition may depend upon the disintegration of the granite. It is maintained by some persons intimately acquainted with Hong Kong, that the proper site for the permanent English settlement is on the adjacent mainland, Kowloong, which is a British possession. The following advantages are ascribed to it :—It is declared to be healthy; it is capable of being easily defended; there is ample space for military accommodation; it presents a secure harbour for shipping, which in certain winds is resorted to even by the shipping of Hong Kong; and it also affords good and sufficient ground for wharfage. It is further asserted that, as the land at present is only under cultivation, such as would be available for wharves might be purchased by the Government for a comparatively small sum, and resold to great advantage. If the foregoing statements be true, the Colonial Secretary would do well to reconsider the question of erecting such an establishment as the Mint, where Europeans must permanently reside day and night, in a locality exposed to deadly exhalations. The preservation of human lives in such a case should assuredly outweigh any argument founded either on mere expediency or economy in respect of money.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, Y.

Dec. 11.

THE LEGATION AT PEKING.

A NATION is said to be fortunate if it possess no history. Should this dictum apply equally to an embassy, our temporary representative at Peking must be considered a very fortunate individual, and he and his subordinates ought to be very happy. For many months—in fact from the time Mr. WADE was left in charge of the Legation—not a sound has been emitted from it ; and we are left uncertain whether Mr. WADE has been sedulously employed in cultivating friendly relations with the Chinese Government, and paving the way towards a good understanding between the Imperial Court and our new Minister, Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, or whether he has taken advantage of the lull in diplomatic affairs to amuse his leisure by translating TENNYSON'S last poem into the mellifluous tongue in which he is so accomplished a scholar. And yet, one would think that the stirring events of which the capital has been the scene—the Ministerial crisis, the threatened attack on Peking by the NIENFEI, and the change in the Board of Foreign Affairs, for instance—would have necessitated some action on the part of our Minister, to say nothing of another event which alone suffices to give a special interest to Mr. WADE'S *regime*, namely, the evacuation of the Taku Forts by the allied forces, described in our correspondent's letter. Although this has been effected in a quiet way, and has consequently not attracted much attention, it is nevertheless a noteworthy fact that the last hostage held by u for the due fulfilment of the Treaty of Tien-tsin has now passed from our hands. Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK enters upon his relations with the Chinese Government without any security whatever for their good behaviour, and, should any difficulties arise, will have to commence *de novo* whatever proceedings may be required to ensure due fulfilment of their treaty engagements. As long, however, as Prince KUNG has the management of foreign affairs there is good reason to anticipate a continuance of friendly relations.

THE MILITARY SCANDAL IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

(THE TIMES.)

A lamentable story of military mismanagement, if it be not of something worse, has reached us from Japan. It appears that about the middle of September last the troopship *Adventure* arrived at Yokohama from Hong Kong, having on board some detachments from the 11th and 12th Regiments, including officers, men, women, and children, to the number of about 300. The condition in which these troops were landed is described as pitiable in the extreme. Some of the men were so prostrated that upon landing they lay down on the ground, and several others, who attempted to march up to their barracks, fell out from sheer exhaustion, while every man among them appeared in a more or less weak and wasted condition. The women were, if possible, still more emaciated, and, burdened with their equally sick and helpless children, appeared wholly unable to reach their destination. Although the ship appears to have been in port for a day or two, and the condition of the troops might, therefore, have been communicated to the authorities on shore, no provision seems to have been made to assist them in reaching the barracks. Several of the women employed coolies to carry their children, and another was indebted to the kindness of a private person for a chair in which she and her four young children had to be carried up the hill.

The neglect, however, of proper provision for these sick persons on their arrival in Japan is the least part of the alleged complaint. It is a more important question to inquire what was the occasion of such serious and widespread sickness among a body of troops, and for an explanation on this point we are referred to the treatment of the regiments at the port from which they had been despatched. They had arrived, as we have said, from Hong Kong, an unhealthy station at all times, but which during the last summer has suffered under an unusual amount of sickness and mortality. The military hospitals have been quite full, the men have had to occupy the verandahs, many have even been treated in the barrack-rooms, and it has also been necessary to hire additional buildings to supply increased hospital accommodation. During the prevalence of this deadly malaria the 11th regt., which appears to have suffered the most severely, arrived at Hong Kong, and, so it is said, found that no arrangements had been made for its reception. At a moment when the healthiest situation and the greatest care in their encampment were vitally necessary, the troops were quartered on a piece of ground that had been a Chinese burial-place, the exhalations from which were most deadly. It was here that the sickness was contracted which brought them into the lamentable condition in which they arrived in Japan, and they may well have thought themselves doomed if, after being brought to the verge of destruction by the neglect of proper arrangements for their reception in one place, they found that no attempt had been made to provide some relief to their weakness on their arrival at the other.

It might well appear inexplicable how a regiment could be exposed to such gratuitous sufferings in the ordinary course of its movements in time of peace; but, if the remainder of the story be true, there is nothing in what we have described that will not readily be accounted for. It is further alleged that, in the midst of all this sickness, the medical staff at Hong Kong is wholly insufficient to perform the duties entailed upon it. The surgeon of the 2nd battalion of the 11th regiment had for three months not only performed his regimental duties, but had also to discharge those of the deputy inspector-general and principal medical officer of the garrison. At the time when this account was written he was actually without any assistant-surgeon, and it had only just been thought advisable to order one of the surgeons of another regiment to proceed to his assistance. It is said, indeed, that there are not enough medical officers in the whole China command to meet any emergency, but another statement is made in explanation of the deficiency which is far more unsatisfactory. We are told that during the prevalence of this sickness at Hong Kong nearly all the heads of departments have been absent from their posts, and have been enjoying the more congenial climate of Yokohama. Not only, in fact, was the General Commanding-in-Chief then present in Japan, but he was accompanied by the two senior medical officers in the China command, one of them being the principal medical and sanitary officer of Her Majesty's forces in China. Representations, it should be added, are made that these officers were at Yokohama in the ordinary course of duty; but the fact does not appear to be denied that in a period of extraordinary sickness one medical officer has been left without any assistance in his charge, and has ever been burdened with additional duties; nor does it seem to be disputed that, from whatever cause it may arise, some principal heads of departments were absent from Hong Kong during a season of great emergency.

We give these accounts as they have reached us, without making ourselves responsible for their accuracy. But it will, we think, be considered that they furnish ample grounds for a very careful inquiry. If they should be in the main authenticated, they would offer in some respects an aspect even worse than that of the notorious mismanagement at Mhow. That, at the worst, was a case of military blundering; this would bear the character of a gross neglect of duty. It is this, indeed, which will principally induce the public to withhold their judgment. Blundering, unhappily, is not uncommon in our army; but to leave the post of ordinary duty in a season of unusual danger is an offence almost unknown among our officers, whether medical or combatant. On the contrary, it has been a point of honour to hurry to such a post, even though the routine of duty might have furnished an occasion of absence. We hesitate, accordingly, before we can conclude that so unhappy an instance of the contrary conduct has at length occurred.

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SILK IN FRANCE AND ITALY.

The amount of raw silk which passed through the hands of the officials whose business it is to ascertain the condition of the material with respect to dryness, at Lyons last week was over fifty-nine tons; being fourteen tons less than during the preceding week, and just one ton more than in the corresponding week of last year. The diminution arose simply from the extreme rarity of certain kinds of silk which formerly were scarcely ever asked for. The word *rarity*, says the *Moniteur des Soies*, is far from fully expressing the situation; certain kinds of Bengal, Chinese, and Japanese silks are absolutely wanting. Eastern silk begins to fail at Marseilles, which is the chief market for that article, and sells easily at prices favourable to the holders. The price of manufactured silk at Lyons is rising with the scarcity of the article, while at Alais, Auleenas, and Valence, although there is no increase, the old rates are well maintained.

Accounts from Italy are highly satisfactory for the manufacturer and merchant; at Bergamo, Brescia, Milan, and Udine, business is brisk, and only restrained by the shortness of the stocks both of the raw material and manufactured goods.

CHINA STEAMSHIP AND LABUAN COAL COMPANY (LIMITED).

The special report which the directors of the China Steamship and Labuan Coal Company (Limited) have put forth on the occasion of the return of their Secretary from China and India cannot be regarded otherwise than satisfactory. The conditions for a more extended and successful development of operations depends on matters of mercantile arrangement, to be brought about by ability and discretion. Mr. Price (who, since his return, has been appointed general manager) has succeeded in selling one of the steamers found to be unsuitable, and has very considerably reduced the expenses of the fleet. There is no question as to the abundant supply of coal available, whilst additional labour is in course of being supplied by the shipment of coolies from Hong Kong, besides which there is every reason to believe that the Secretary of State will accede to the application made by the company for the concession of lands and other privileges in connection with a rail route to Victoria, which will supersede the necessity of shipping off in an open roadstead, as at present. The marine superintendent recently appointed writes:—

"The prejudice hitherto existing against the coal is gradually wearing away, and our coal is now taking its stand on much the same level as English coal; and I trust we shall be enabled to obtain sufficient coal from the mines to meet the increasing demand."

In addition to that limitation of labour now about to be corrected, the two circumstances that have impeded operations—the delivery of the coal in sufficient quantities, and its deterioration by being stored under a tropical sun—together with an insufficiency of shipping arrangements, will be obviated by the construction of a tramway, 7½ miles, to Victoria harbour, the route for which is under survey. The excellence of the coal is demonstrated by the improved demand, quantities having been latterly disposed of, after trial, at very remunerative rates, at Hong Kong; also at Amoy, Swatow, and Foochow; whilst applications for cargoes are coming in from Shanghai, Bombay, Manila, Java, and Point de Galle. The company's transactions in all these directions must shortly assume the character of a regular trade, giving enlarged profits.

With the increased employment of steam in our Eastern waters, the introduction of gas at Singapore and Hong Kong, and a mint also, the supply of good steam coal is a first necessity. Much is being done in the way of organisation to supplement and turn to account the outlay incurred. In all industrial undertakings, under proper management, an enlargement of operations is accompanied with the decrease of outlay relatively to the actual work done. The present enterprise has confessedly reached a point at which returns, as compared with outlay, must be very considerably increased. In view of the wide and enlarging circle of business opened out, and the more efficient and more economical organisation effected, for labour, shipment, and delivery, the prospect is certainly most encouraging; and we can come to no other conclusion than that the shares of the company after allowing for the influence of an adverse money market on all descriptions of foreign industrial enterprise, have been unduly depressed. The capital of the company is fully represented in property, and expenses are materially reduced. The representation by such houses in China as Messrs. Gibb, Livingston and Co., and Messrs. Smith, Kennedy and Co., should be a proof that the operations of the company are of a *bona fide* nature.

With such gentlemen on the board as the following—

Hon. T. C. Bruce, Sir J. D. Elphinstone, Bart., M. P., Reuben David Sassoon, Esq., Harry Borradaile, Esq., H. B. Loch, Esq., C.B., Henry Alers Hankey, Esq., William Miller, Esq., M.P., Hon. Francis Drummond—

each holding a stake in the company, we believe that the coming year will show very different results, and that the days of no dividends and general dissatisfaction among the shareholders are now things of the past.

The following is the report alluded to:—

The steamers of the company are being actively employed, and the directors have now before them valuable suggestions for augmenting their fleet and securing additional openings for profitable employment of the vessels. Mr. Price was enabled to dispose of the screw steamer *Elgin* in Japan upon favourable terms, and the board are in negotiation for replacing her at once with a vessel of larger carrying powers, more suitable for their present requirements. The marine superintendent, since his arrival in China, in inquiring into the working expenses of the vessels, to which his attention was particularly directed by the board, has succeeded in making material reduction in several instances. Mr. Pitman has visited the ports of Hong Kong, Amoy, and Swatow, and disposed of several quantities of coal after trial at very remunerative rates, and received offers to contract for certain periods; the result of his experience, however, is better summed up in his own words:—"You will perceive by this that the prejudice hitherto existing against the coal is gradually wearing away, and our coal now is taking its stand on much the same level as English coal, and I trust we shall be able to obtain sufficient coal from the mines to meet the increasing demand." Independently of these ports, and of Singapore, at which a trade was formerly established, the board have received application from Shanghai and Foochow, Manila, Java, Point de Galle, and Bombay for cargoes. The directors are assured that, by the pits now in operation, more coal has been won than the company can raise for many years with the amount of labour hitherto at their command, and, when found necessary, other pits can be sunk immediately. The attention of the directors has been, therefore, turned to every means possible for procuring an increased supply of coolies. Their superintendent has met with encouragement from the authorities at Hong Kong, and under date the 26th of September, he advises that he expected to have about one hundred coolies ready for despatching by the steamer *Stirling* to Labuan. It is the aim, however, of the board to introduce a steady and permanent supply of labour as soon as possible. With this view they are in correspondence with the Secretary for the Colonies for a grant of land, to enable the company to make free grants to married Chinese, by which means they may become actual settlers in the colonies. The directors have every reason to believe that Mr. Secretary Cardwell will comply with their wishes in this respect, as it will obviously be beneficial to the whole island. The board have further to report, that some time back they despatched an engineer of experience in colonial works to Labuan to make a survey for the proposed tramway from the mines to Victoria Harbour, as originally contemplated.

Some samples of coal lately received have been found to contain a large quantity of oil, and if experiments now in progress should turn out favourably, the company will have come into an immense source of wealth.

THE SURRENDER OF THE MO-WANG.

SOME months since the surrender of the Mo-wang by Mr. MERCER, the Acting-Governor at Hong Kong, caused considerable dissatisfaction. It is a pity that some officials have the misfortune to be always in the wrong in the estimate of others. Now for our part we are inclined to hold the scales equitably. There are points on which we have differed with Mr. MERCER, but by no means do we agree with the condemnation which has been poured out on him in reference to this subject. We expect the greatest possible caution to be exercised on the surrender of any Chinese, but by Article XXI. of the Treaty of Tien-tsin, we are bound to deliver up criminals subjects of China, who shall take refuge in Hong Kong or on board of any British ship. It appears that Mr. MERCER did take the most minute pains in the examination of this so-called Mo-wang, and the Acting Chief Justice and Chief Magistrate did, after proper consideration, deem the man a pirate, and that no good grounds could be adduced for disregarding the said Article in the Treaty. In refusing compliance to this demand we could hardly expect mercy or justice in the case of any unfortunate Englishman who chanced to fall into Chinese hands. It is not often the Chinese Government trouble us for such surrenders, although we suspect there are plenty of fit subjects located in Hong Kong. We have heard it echoed in some quarters that the Chief Justice and Chief Magistrate, being both Roman Catholics, used the opportunity of convicting the unfortunate man as a small revenge on the supposed Protestantism of the rebels. We have a great horror of the Roman creed that "the end justifies the means," but we are not so uncharitable as to believe this version. It is only natural that the people at Hong Kong should be horrified at

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the cruel fate in store at Canton for criminals surrendered, but we cannot expect compliance to our demands under the Treaty if we refuse those of the Chinese.

OWING to the increased price of provisions, the Messageries Imperiales have increased their rates of passage money to Calcutta £5, and to Madras £7.

ON the arrival of Sir Richard MacDonnell at Hong Kong Mr. Mercer will resume his post as Colonial Secretary, and not leave immediately for England.

WE understand that the post of Chief Justice at Hong Kong, vacant by the death of Mr. Adams, will be shortly filled up from the Bar here. The selection of a Bishop has not yet been finally decided on.

SIR RICHARD GRAVES MACDONNELL.

Sir R. G. MacDonnell, the newly-appointed Governor of Hong Kong, having completed his preparations for proceeding to the seat of his Government, intends taking a short tour on the Continent, reaching Suez in time to proceed to his destination, with Lady MacDonnell, by the first January mail. As any information regarding the previous career of the statesman now called on to preside over the destinies of Hong Kong must necessarily be of great interest to our subscribers, we append the following extracts from a sketch of his life, which appeared in the *Montreal Magazine* :—

Burke informs us that Sir Richard Graves MacDonnell, C.B., the present Lieut.-Governor of Nova Scotia, is the eldest surviving son of the Reverend Doctor MacDonnell, Provost of Trinity College, Dublin, by Jane, daughter of the Very Reverend Richard Graves, Dean of Ardagh, so well known to the Biblical student by his able and comprehensive commentary on the Pentateuch. Sir Richard's family, as his name suggests, was originally of Scottish origin. He is descended from the Antrim branch of that highland clan which acknowledges as its chieftain the "Lord of the Isles." His ancestors settled more than two centuries ago in the northern part of Ireland, where their descendants have continued to reside. His mother's family is descended from an ancient and still extant English stock, one of whose progenitors, a colonel in Cromwell's army, settled in Ireland in 1650. From this soldier of the Commonwealth have sprung numerous and distinguished ornaments of the Church, the army, and the learned professions.

Sir Richard was born at the close of 1815. In 1830 he entered Trinity College, Dublin, obtaining a high place at entrance. During his undergraduate course he won many honours, and in 1835 he became a Scholar of the House. In 1836 he received his B.A. degree, in 1838 his M.A. degree, and in 1844 the special honorary degree of LL.D. As a graduate, his Excellency distinguished himself not a little as a speaker in the University Historical Society, a society which has made itself famous from the crowd of illustrious orators, such as Grattan, Flood, Plunket, Burke and Burrowes, who there displayed the first evidence of their magical powers, and received the first training in that rare art, of which they afterwards became such perfect masters and such splendid examples. In 1839 he was called to the Irish bar, but having subsequently taken up his residence in London, he kept his stated Terms, or, more correctly, he ate the stated number of dinners, and was in 1841 admitted as a member of the Honorable Society of Lincoln's Inn.

The facts of Sir Richard's career are so richly veined with curious passages of experimental research in out-of-the-way places as to justify the supposition that his personal history must be crossed and recrossed with experiences alike startling and instructive. Indeed, there is a piece of unique adventure in his earlier life which will illustrate the point. A fete was to be celebrated in the neighbourhood of London, the profits of which were to be applied to some philanthropic or benevolent purpose. One of the attractions of the festival was a balloon ascension by the then celebrated æronaut, Mr. Green. The day fixed turned out to be unfavourable in the extreme. Wind and storm prevailed to such a degree that the balloon adventure was deemed to be hazardous. However, a large crowd had gathered, and Mr. Green possessed experience, and did not lack courage. He only stipulated for a companion. The subject of our sketch immediately answered the condition, and, having borrowed a great-coat from a spectator, took his seat in the car. That bit of experience, in one of the most violent wind storms on record, must have been noteworthy as well as exciting; that it was the former there can be no doubt, for the account of the adventure, written by the amateur æronaut, was so interesting and attractive that we believe we are not exaggerating when we say that it was translated and reproduced in every language of Europe.

In 1841, as we have stated, Sir Richard MacDonnell was admitted as a Barrister at Lincoln's Inn, and on the 1st April, 1843, he sailed for the West coast of Africa, having been appointed by the Queen Chief Justice of the British possessions at the Gambia. Why it was that Mr. MacDonnell was selected for this particular office we have no means of knowing. He had indeed during his sojourn in London made his mark on more than one page of life. As an accomplished gentleman of courage and address, he would necessarily and of course win his way in society. But beyond the attraction of a polished manner, he was known for his cultivated tastes and his literary talents. Contributions of marked ability had been made by him to several of the leading periodicals of the day, and these had attracted a more than usual share of notice. In this way, and in his capacity of Honorary Secretary of the Polish Association, where among other literary men he found in Thomas Campbell, the poet, an enthusiastic fellow-labourer and warm personal friend, he became acquainted with many of the leading statesman of England. Beyond the qualifications we have mentioned, Government probably recognised the presence of two recommendations, youth and capacity, the physical vitality necessary to encounter the climate, and the intellectual ability necessary to perform the work.

With a light heart and a strong constitution, a clear head on his shoulders, and the Royal Commission in his pocket, the new Chief Justice sailed to the scene of his allotted labour; and we are quite sure the determination of his mind was that the ebony subjects of the Crown in Africa should receive at his hands justice in colour the reverse of their complexions. It is probable that the duties of the new office were insufficient for the occupation of one who at the time, and ever since then, has been beset with an inordinate appetite for work. It was not enough for him to administer justice, for with characteristic earnestness he addressed himself to the task of consolidating the laws. Moreover, the duties of a Judge did not weaken his taste as a traveller, for we find him instructing himself while he benefited others by systematically pushing his way to the interior of Africa, to points and places theretofore deemed to be almost inaccessible to the white man. On one occasion, in the year 1845, the Chief Justice, attended only by a suite of native servants, penetrated as far as the dominions of the "Sultan of Bondou," to reach whom he had to ascend the Gambia 400 miles, and then to cross several provinces lying between that river and the Senegal. In the course of this adventurous trip, the Chief Justice encountered the common dangers from climate, and the not uncommon ones from banditti, but contrived to extricate himself from all, and to return alive—being one of the very few who had safely accomplished that perilous journey. One incident of travel may be mentioned; for, since the episode missed a fatal termination, it may be recalled as a somewhat amusing example of intellectual consciousness, accompanied by physical immobility. Death seems to have been kept at bay, apparently awed and intimidated by the strong and indomitable will of the man with whose body he grappled but by whose spirit he was foiled. During the journey the Chief Justice was seized with malignant tropical fever. Being his own physician, he met the assailant with the best remedies at his command. The attack, however, appeared to be too strong for the defence. The human citadel was apparently taken, for the Chief Justice was, to all appearance, dead. Preparations were made by his sable servants for his decent interment, and these preparations the Chief Justice was quite aware were being hurried forward with a haste which the climate might, but which he could not, excuse. Happily for his fame, and for our work, the proceedings were suspended by reason of an altercation on a knotty property question. Each member of the suite desired to constitute himself the residuary legatee of the deceased Chief Justice. The heated controversy acted like a cordial on the subject of it, and seemed to supply the physical animation which the case required. Unable to utter a syllable, the supposed corpse had strength to raise his hand. Unlike the sea captain, who, in answer to the dying sailor's objection to be thrown overboard before he was dead, angrily observed, "You need not be so jolly particular for a few minutes," the suite suspended their unseemly chattering. The silent hand sufficed to convince them that the white man was some sort of semi-divinity in whose presence speech should be hushed, and to whose person homage should be rendered. Partial recovery speedily took place, and the suite having naturally jumped to the conclusion that the the Chief Justice would return at once to the coast, were beyond measure surprised when on the very next day they were directed to go forward, being at the same time given to understand that as the journey was undertaken to see the "Sultan of Bondou," to that Potentate it was the intention of their master to go. Nor was the journey without material advantages, for a Treaty of Commerce was entered into with the Sultan which has proved to be highly beneficial to the nation.

Having accomplished at the Gambia even more than he had proposed to himself or than he was commissioned to perform, Mr. MacDonnell resigned his office and returned to his native country. While he held his appointment at the Gambia, Mr. MacDonnell availed himself of his leave of absence during the sickly season to make visits in two successive years to the British possessions in America, travelling through the Canadas, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, as well as over a large part of the United States. Curious adventures, and adventures more uncomfortable than curious, seem to follow some men with most perplexing constancy. The subject of our sketch might perhaps be cited by way of example. On one of these North American excursions, Mr. MacDonnell, when attempting to reach the Island of Prince Edward from the main land of Nova Scotia, was obliged to embark in a small, ill found boat. This boat was wrecked in mid-channel near the island of Pictou, and our traveller, after buffeting with the waves as best he could, found himself on shore more dead than alive, but kindly cared for by the fishermen of the island. With the heartiness which characterises his proceedings, Mr. MacDonnell inquired into the manner of life of his humble hosts, and naturally desired to do something for the people who had saved his life. Thus it was he learned that proceeding at law were on foot to dispossess those people of their holdings, and that they were too poor and too weak to resist the authority which could pay the lawyers and employ the Sheriff. Fortunately for the poor fishermen, the "waif" which had been washed on their shores, or which they had fished out of the sea, was by profession a lawyer and by habit a man of generous instincts. He heard enough of their story to discover in the narrative a strong ingredient of hardship, and he therefore sent the facts of the case with the necessary retaining fee to a lawyer of Halifax, whom he requested to take up their cause, leaving to the constituted Tribunals the responsibility of determining whether the Islanders had or had not the claims they advanced. We may state that the fishermen were not disturbed in their holdings, and we may add further that they did not know their deliverer until, to their great amazement, he appeared recently among them as the Queen's Representative in Nova Scotia.

Having seen much and travelled far, Mr. MacDonnell in 1847 returned home, precisely determining to settle in London and practice at the English bar. This plan of life was not destined to be carried out. Earl Grey was made aware of Mr. MacDonnell's arrival in England. His lordship had formed a very favourable opinion of his capacity in the comparatively subordinate office which he had filled at the Gambia. The office of Go-

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vernor of those settlements was then vacant, and it was offered to and accepted by the subject of our sketch. Thus it was that for the next three years Mr. MacDonnell found himself possessed of almost irresponsible power, and engaged in the duty of governing as a paternal despot about one million of people. The commercial policy he had sought to introduce in 1844-5 was the policy he endeavoured to foster and promote in 1847-8. The difficulty, however, was to check the marauding propensities of numerous warlike tribes, whose only idea of commerce seemed to be to possess themselves of other persons' gains. Thus it chanced that the cultivators of the soil, as well as the peaceful traders of the settlements, found themselves harassed and plundered by tribes to whom tillage and trading were alike distasteful. The new Governor, with instinctive courage, and in a summary way, determined, if possible, to put a stop to this state of things, and with this end in view he undertook to visit in person the "King of Keenung," who resided in a strongly fortified native town, and whose subjects had committed several robberies. This act of temerity very nearly cost the Governor his life, for he fell into an ambush treacherously laid for him, and with two friends by whom he was accompanied only just missed assassination; for his clothes were literally pierced and cut in a dozen places with spears and swords. Experience and an apt address on his part and the part of his friends, added to the gallantry of some local allies, saved him from being murdered. Should the natives, with their increased knowledge of manufactures, become acquainted with the qualities of Sheffield cutlery, it is probable that some future act of treachery will be less cheerfully remembered than the one under notice.

Such an affront to the Queen's Representative could not be borne. Retribution, sharp and peremptory, was at once decided on; and thus a new character came to be added to those already acquired by one who had successively been a Chief Justice, a Plenipotentiary and a Governor. The military was added to the civil character, or rather the latter was for the time merged in the former. His Excellency forthwith commenced warlike operations, and by great exertion, and with the cordial co-operation of the then commandant, Major Hill, of the 2nd West India Regiment, an efficient force was soon organised and ready for service. Government House under the circumstances was wholly foreign to the Governor's taste, for he had no disposition "to live at home at ease." Therefore it was his Excellency caused himself to be gazetted as captain of a company of volunteers to act under the orders of the Commandant. The fortified town of Barnbak lying directly in the route was besieged and taken, and afterwards the town of Keenung was assaulted. The fighting on both sides appears to have been creditable for gallantry and conspicuous for pluck. The King, however, was not satisfied with the state of affairs, for his comparatively-speaking large army, which had rushed confidently to the attack, was foiled and driven back by the small British force. Thereupon his Majesty added discretion to valour, and, having made restitution of all plunder, humbly sued for peace. This contest, which cost the British thirty soldiers in killed and wounded, resulted in measures of increased security to trade and commerce, and at the same time produced such a wholesome impression on the minds of the native chiefs with respect to the capacity of the new Governor, that no further disturbance arose in that part of the country during his Excellency's administration. We may mention that in his work on colonial policy Earl Grey has warmly eulogised the conduct of his Excellency for his rule at the Gambia. Before returning to England, Mr. MacDonnell determined to gratify afresh that relish for adventure which seemed to be inherent in his nature. He took two excursions into the interior of the Continent, in one of which we believe he penetrated further than any white traveller had previously accomplished, for he found himself in the region of those monstrous animal and vegetable productions for which equatorial Africa is famous. These explorations, while they yielded personal gratification to the explorer, were turned to beneficial account for the nation. The commerce of the Gambia was developed and so much increased that it recently employed inwards and outwards no less than seventy thousand tons of shipping. In 1851 Mr. MacDonnell returned to England on leave of absence, and in 1852 he was created a Companion of Bath. In the latter year, at the request of Government, he revisited the Gambia where he remained for a few months to perfect certain local arrangements and complete various commercial treaties with native chiefs.

While thus engaged he was gazetted to the Government of St. Lucia, and almost immediately afterwards to what in point of climate may be regarded as the more desirable one of St. Vincent. Disappointment met him on the threshold of his new Government, for St. Vincent, the most picturesque and ordinarily the most healthy of the West India Islands, was then ravaged with yellow fever, to which disease his predecessor in the Government, Sir John Campbell, had fallen a victim. In the second year of Mr. MacDonnell's administration the more terrible scourge of cholera, visited the island, and in a form so dreadful as to appal the stoutest hearts. The writer has in his possession a letter written by a gentleman, at that time a resident clergyman of St. Vincent, but now settled in Canada, which contains the maturely formed opinions of one thoroughly competent to judge of the qualities of the man who then represented the Queen at St. Vincent.

After administering the Government of St. Vincent for about two years, Mr. MacDonnell returned to England, when he received from Her Majesty the honour of knighthood. It so happened that he was in London, in the spring of the year, when, on the intervention of the House of Commons, the nomination of a gentleman to the Government of South Australia was revoked. The vacant office was, by the Queen's command, without any solicitation on his part, offered to Sir Richard MacDonnell, accompanied with the intimation that he would be invested with the superior title of "Captain-General and Governor in Chief." The offer was accepted and obeyed with such alacrity that, on the 7th of June following, we read of the arrival of Sir Richard and Lady MacDonnell at Adelaide, the seat of his new Government.

The colony seemed to have reached a critical point in its history. The questions of Parliamentary responsibility and local self-government were being discussed in the Australian as they had been in the British American possessions. The colonial policy of the empire favoured the popular views of the colonists, and it would seem that Sir Richard was instructed to carry out in Australia what Lord Sydenham had initiated in Canada, a system of popular Government based on ministerial responsibility. It might be instructive did our space permit, to note the political progress of that province from its state of tutelage to its condition of self-government, and compare it in its separate parts with the system which obtains in Canada. There are points of difference, not unworthy of note, with respect to which, the advantage may not altogether incline to the latter province.

The apparently irrepressible desire of Sir Richard MacDonnell to see everything and go everywhere, moved his Excellency to undertake long and frequent journeys to the interior and along the seaboard of his dominions. This practice was as fruitful in popularity as it was in personal gratification. The governed were brought into personal contact with the Governor, much to their mutual gratification, and perhaps to their mutual advantage. There were besides objects of natural curiosity as well as of local interest to examine which would attract one who, like Sir Richard, appears to be beset with an explorer's passion for adventure. His rule in Australia was marked with energy and originality, and his departure was accompanied with general regret.

On his return to England Sir Richard very earnestly addressed himself to the work of bringing under the notice of the Government the claims of Colonial Governors to retiring or superannuation allowances. The able enclosure which accompanied the following letter was, we have reason to believe, from the pen of Sir Richard himself. It must be satisfactory to him to know that his views have become embodied in the law of the land, and that a most meritorious and, at the same time, much slighted class of the public servants have reason to thank him for attracting attention to their claims, and for being instrumentally the means of securing for them substantial consideration. Many a high-minded representative of her Majesty will, by the passing of that Act, feel himself to be released from galling cares. His official career is now brightened with the prospect of a pension from Imperial funds, and cannot therefore be blemished with humiliating efforts to make a purse from colonial emoluments.

"To His Grace the Duke of Newcastle, K.G.

"London, March, 1863.

"MY LORD DUKE,—We, the undersigned, in common, we believe, with all others who have administered colonial government, as Her Majesty's representatives therein, have long felt the exceptional and peculiar hardship of being the only immediate servants of the Crown for whom no retiring allowances, under any circumstances, have hitherto been provided, whatever may be the merit or length of their services.

"We, therefore, respectfully solicit your Grace's attention to the enclosed printed statement, which, we believe, fairly illustrates the anomalous and painful position of governors of colonies in that respect, as compared with Her Majesty's other public servants.

"We request your Grace to consider favourably the arguments set forth in the enclosed paper; and trust that you may see fit to bring the subject under the consideration of Her Majesty's advisers, with a view to the introduction of some Parliamentary measure which may meet the case. The sketch of a Bill annexed to the within statement is intended only to illustrate our view of what such a measure might be.

"We are quite aware that it does not rest with us to suggest the proper means of carrying out the intentions of Her Majesty's Government, even though they may accord with our views.—We have, &c.,

(Signed) EDMUND HEAD.
C. H. DARLING,
RICHARD GRAVES MACDONNELL."

With his experience of the colonial service and his repute as a Governor, it was not probable that Sir Richard MacDonnell would remain long unemployed. On the succession of Earl Mulgrave to the title of his deceased father, the late Marquis of Normandy, a vacancy occurred in the office of Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia. The post was immediately given to the subject of our sketch, and thus Sir Richard for the third time found himself in the North American possessions, but on this occasion as the representative of his Sovereign.

The habit of governing had not been forgotten by his Excellency when he became the Governor of Nova Scotia. Without doubt he found himself called upon to rule in conformity with a system which, though perhaps rather experimental than established, did not necessarily reduce the Governor to the condition of a cypher. At least such appeared to be the opinion of Sir Richard MacDonnell; and there can be little doubt the opinion has its root in truth and experience. The representative of the Sovereign, being also a statesman of approved wisdom, must necessarily be a power in the State, whose influence, however, should rather be felt, than articulated; seen in the acts of Government, rather than heard in the words of the Governor. Any departure from the law of silence should be resorted to only on grave occasions when the reason is so transparent as to commend itself on its merits. At the very outset of his government, Sir Richard MacDonnell appeared to think there were reasons why the exception should be the rule, and when in the interests of morality and good government he should not keep silence. In replying to a congratulatory address of the inhabitants of Pictou, his Excellency took the opportunity to contrast the American Republic with the British Monarchy, to compare the confusion of the former with the serenity of the latter; and, in doing so, to point, as Lord Brougham had done before him, to a particular virus which, with ulcer-like malignity, was spreading itself through every channel and artery of the American system.

Under the system of colonial government which now obtains, the Viceroy may be said to cease personally to rule, and to begin personally to reign. If this view be correct, it follows that the social duties of the Crown cannot be satisfactorily discharged without some sacrifice being made to the obligations which those duties entail. Selfish privacy and systematic exclusiveness form no part of the Royal instructions, and cannot, we venture to think, be practised with advantage to the Royal authority. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor and the inhabitants of Nova Scotia seem to have been impressed with these convictions; and hence the regrets which mingle themselves with his Excellency's approaching departure, regrets which take their rise in social causes, and cluster like pleasant memories about Government House, and those graceful and frequent hospitalities, to which the first lady of the province has by her condescension given a more than usual charm. "Lady MacDonnell," writes an enthusiastic local authority, "has endeared

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herself to all;" and should any one have the temerity to question his statement, he adds amusingly, by way of challenge, "that the fact will be disputed by no person living." Having the advantage of some slight knowledge of our own, we unreservedly re-echo the sentiment of the chivalrous "Hallegonian," and add, by way of emphasis, that no dissentient therefrom will be discovered in Canada.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION.

The 25th annual general meeting of this company was held on the 5th instant at the offices, Leadenhall-street; A. ANDERSON, Esq., the chairman, presided.

Mr. HOWELL, the secretary, read the report, which stated that the total assets of the company in ships, in freehold and leasehold property in England and abroad, in stores, cash at bankers, investments, and debts due to the company, amounted to £3,706,987. The total capital received from the proprietors amounted to £2,200,000, and on debentures to £642,500, and the liabilities of the company in bills payable and otherwise to £405,836, making the total capital and liabilities £3,248,336, showing a surplus of £458,651. This surplus was represented by the balance at the credit of the general reserve fund. The gross revenue of the company from all sources amounted for the 12 months ending the 30th of September last to £2,136,076; and the expenditure including reserves for insurance, wear and tear, and depreciation for the same period, to £1,976,999—leaving a net profit of £159,077. From this was deducted the dividend of 3½ per cent. for the half-year ending the 31st of March last (£75,250), and the half-year's dividend of 3½ per cent. now recommended (£77,000), leaving a balance of £6,827. The proprietors' underwriting account showed that the annual premium of 5 per cent. on the estimated value of the floating property of the company amounted to £110,000; from which was deducted the value of the steamship *Corea*, lost in the China Seas in June last (less depreciation), £26,000; and damage to company's property at Calcutta by the cyclone in October, as far as ascertained, £17,075, leaving a balance of £66,924, out of which it was proposed to pay the proprietors £66,000, being at the rate of 3 per cent., leaving £924 to be carried to the general reserved fund, which would then amount to £458,651.

In the last half-yearly report the *Mongolia* and *Tanjore* stood under the head of ships building; both those vessels had been since completed, and had made very satisfactory voyages on the Southampton and Mediterranean lines. The *China* and *Nubia* were still under repair, the former in London and the latter in Bombay, but those two vessels would very shortly be ready for active service. The *Ceylon* was also undergoing a complete refit and receiving new engines in London. The *Vectis* and *Valetta* no longer appeared on the list, having been purchased by the Egyptian Government. Two new ships had been recently purchased—the *Niphon*, of 694 tons and 140-horse power, and the *Geelong*, of 1,500 tons and 250-horse power. The former was destined for the Japan service, and the latter for employment on the Australian or Indian and China lines, as might be required. The total number of persons on board the *Corea*, supposed to have foundered in a typhoon which visited the neighbourhood of Hong Kong during the night of the 29th of June, was 103. There were only three European passengers, and the European crew consisted of 17 persons, the remainder being natives and Chinese deck passengers. This unfortunate casualty had involved far greater sacrifice of life than had taken place during the 25 years the company had been at work. The directors, finding that the Mauritius line was being worked at a loss, notwithstanding the increase of £6,000 per annum in the subsidy, had exercised the right of giving 12 months' notice of their intention to terminate it. The receipts for the conveyance of specie alone for the 12 months ending the 30th of September, 1865, as compared with those for each of the two preceding years, exhibited a deficiency of about £100,000. It was satisfactory, on the other hand, to state that an increase had taken place in the passenger traffic, although in consequence of the present high price of provisions and the operation of the reduced fares adopted by the company, the balance of the profit and loss account had not yet been advantageously effected by that increase. The available balance, however, enabled the directors to recommend the usual dividend of 3½ per cent. for the past half-year, and 3 per cent. from the underwriting account, making together 6½ per cent. free of income-tax, payable on the 28th inst. The total number of ships employed by the company was 63, the Customs' measurement of them being in the aggregate 92,353 tons, and the horse-power 18,270.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the report, alluded to the extraordinary mortality that had taken place among some of their chief *employes* during the past year, and stated that it was far greater than in any previous similar period. They had lost four commanders, one superintendent, and two pursers, and four other officers, two clerks, seven junior engineers, three assistants and five stewards. This loss showed the advantage of the system of life assurance adopted by them, the company contributing a certain portion of the fund. The assurance-office had paid in claims the sum of £9,552 on that occasion, and the total claims paid by the assurance-office since its establishment amounted to £43,148. Those claims had not been paid out of the funds of the company, but had been provided for out of the provident and good-service fund established by the founders of the undertaking, and to which he need not further allude. The revenue of the company had been considerably diminished in consequence of the great cessation in specie shipments, owing to the stagnation in the cotton and silk trade in India and China, which also had operated injuriously on the return freights. There had been some deficiency in the receipts for passenger traffic on account of the company's fares being reduced in 1864. They had increased the number of passengers by 2,200 but without any benefit to the revenue, as there was a deficiency of £10,000 in the item of fares, and, on the other hand, they had incurred extra expense in the victualling department of £10,000 from the enhanced cost of stores. When they considered that the company had to fill 10,000 stomachs every day, any increase of price in provisions must tell upon the cost of stores. There had been an improvement in their receipts during the past two months, the specie freights had been considerably more, and he thought they might look forward to a revival of trade. Notwithstanding the deficiency in revenue, the result of the working showed how vigilantly the navigation of their ships had been superintended. With the loss of two ships, under circumstances beyond their control, they had been able to supplement the usual dividend by 3 per cent from the insurance fund. They had added considerably to the performances of their ships and had diminished the expenses. The navigation of their ships had been in the aggregate about 1,500,000 miles. The ordinary insurance against loss by sea risks would have been £5. 5s. per cent. at Lloyd's; but the actual loss incurred during the twenty years the proprietors had been their own underwriters was only 25s. per cent. (Hear, hear.) With regard to their expenses of navigation, the cost of coal and fuel had been £72,900 less than for the preceding year; this was partly effected in the quantity of coals consumed, and by the super-heating process adopted in their ships. Something had been said and written about the Australian postal service performed by the company, and there had latterly been loud complaints respecting delays both in Australia and here. In adverting to the history of that service he stated that the company had in the first instance lost £40,000 by it, and gave it up. The Government then gave the contract by public tender to another company, at a rate £45,000 higher than they paid their company, but they all knew, even with that addition to the subsidy, how ruinous that contract proved to the company who took it. The Peninsular and Oriental Company was again applied to on the subject, and they proposed that the Australian service should be worked as a branch from the Indian and China route from Point de Galle to Australia, and this was done at a cost of £60,000 less than before. He then explained how some irregularities would unavoidably arise in performing the branch service, notwithstanding the utmost efforts of thes company; and that the delays complained of would have been much greater had it not been for the large resources of the company. That service extended over 15,000 miles. There was at times rough weather in passing the Bay of Biscay, as well as other places in the route, and the coast of Australia was bad for navigation, and therefore delays would sometimes arise. A system of penalties had been adopted by the Postmaster-General for delays, and of premiums when the mails arrived before their specified time. The result of this arrangement was that in the course of the past five years their ships arrived 73 times within the time specified, and 26 times later than the time specified, so that on the whole he thought there was nothing very material to complain of in that respect.

Mr. HADOW (deputy-chairman) seconded the motion for the adoption of the report. After some observations by Mr. Gliddon on items in the accounts, and Mr. J. Jones in respect of facilitating the operations of shippers by the company adopting a system of insurance on goods.

The CHAIRMAN explained that the revenue of the company would be affected by the state of the trade. The French steamers had a subsidy of 2½. a mile for a monthly service, while their company had only a subsidy of 4s. 6d. a mile for a weekly service; and there could be no doubt they had their full share of the traffic to all the places served by the company. The report was unanimously adopted, the dividend of 3½ per cent. and the 3 per cent. from the insurance fund, making 6½ per cent., free of income-tax, was declared payable by warrant on the 28th inst. The retiring directors, Mr. P. D. Hadow and the Count de Torre Diaz, were unanimously re-elected; and also the retiring auditors, the Earl of Leven and Mr. Mackenzie.—Thanks were voted to the chairman and directors for their able and successful management of the company's affairs, and the proceedings terminated.

THE LABOUR QUESTION OF CEYLON, MAURITIUS, AND JAMAICA.

(EXAMINER.)

Every year the Legislature of Jamaica votes money for the importation of labour, because the negroes prefer to squat and live on cassava and yams to that continuous labour which would enable them to live in comfort. Some of the negroes have become proprietors themselves, and are well known, when in this capacity, often to employ the imported labourers, that is, the Indian coolies, in preference to the labourers iof their own blood. The island of Ceylon is greatly inferior to Jamaica n fertility, and is further away from the great market of the world. It has, in proportion to size, by 20 per cent. more inhabitants than Jamaica, but is in no starving or distressed condition—it is very flourishing. The wages of Ceylon labour are, moreover, lower than those of Jamaica, but Ceylon produces more of one of the staples of Jamaica—coffee, not only more, but also also better than all the British West Indies put together. We give one more example, but it is a very pertinent one. The little island of Mauritius, with an area of little more than 700 miles square, contains 310,000 inhabitants, or within 40,000 of those of Jamaica. It has, therefore, 437 inhabitants to every mile, which is better than fivefold the density of the population of Jamaica. But then the majority of the population is not negro, for no fewer than 230,000 are of Indian origin—imported Hindoos. Of the once renowned staple of Jamaica, sugar, the Mauritius produces not only more than does Jamaica, but within two-fifths of the produce of all the British West India Islands. The whole of this great quantity is the produce of imported Indian labour. The Indian labourers doing more and being far better paid than in their own country are consequently so satisfied that the majority become permanent settlers, and often landed proprietors. Not a hundredweight of their sugar is got by the labour of the emancipated negroes, who obstinately refuse to work in cane-fields or boiling-houses, and consequently are yearly declining in numbers. Philanthropy will never make black white, or change one race into another. The reader, however, may prefer having the facts stated in another form, and in more detail, and this we do from the Colonial Blue-books. In 1850, the value of the sugar exported from Jamaica was £585,096, of Barbados £596,551, and of the Mauritius £892,840. In 1861 the value of the Jamaica sugar was £595,084, or in twelve years' time it had increased by a good deal less than 2 per cent. The sugar exports in Barbados in 1861 were of the value of £751,170, or had increased by better than 25 per cent. The sugar export of the Mauritius in 1861 was of the value of £1,771,867, or had increased by better than 98 per cent. But this is not all. The returns for the two West Indian colonies come down only to 1861, while those of the Mauritius come to 1863, when the value of the sugar exported was £2,494,526, or above fourfold the value of the produce of Jamaica,

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which is seven times its size. The distress of Jamaica is partially ascribed to two years of extraordinary drought. But Jamaica is a well-watered land, and if it has been injured by unusual droughts, that is a calamity from which other countries have suffered, and this even in a far higher degree—as, for example, Australia; yet those countries make no bemoaning poverty-stricken cry on this account, but go on flourishing in spite of such ephemeral calamities. The misfortunes of Jamaica, according to Dr. Underhill, are coeval with the American Civil War, the very event which has benefited other countries similarly circumstanced. During that war the price of cotton increased at least threefold, and, in consequence, millions of English capital were poured into India, Egypt and Brazil; but money would not go to Jamaica, because in that island there was no effective labour to till an exuberant and plentiful soil. Dr. Underhill, in his bill of indictment against the authorities of Jamaica, insists that the taxes are onerous, but his own facts do not prove this. The only example he gives does not prove this. It is a tax on the cottons with which the negroes are clothed. This, he says, is 38 per cent. on the value. If it were so, that would be a great deal too high, but not a starvation tax, for the people of the Southern States of the American Union paid their brethren of the North one of 12 per cent. higher, and did not on that account go naked, as Dr. Underhill says that the negroes of Jamaica often do. But this statement is a blunder. The tax is, just as it used to be, 12½ per cent., but the cotton famine produced by the American civil war so raised the price of goods that the *ad valorem* duty became, like the price, as 38 to 12½ upon the former cost of the article. All the world shared that trouble of dear cotton with Jamaica. As to Dr. Underhill's empirical notions of governmental help by precept and example, we must take leave to tell him that they are obsolete. The worthy doctor does not, in fact, understand the first rudiments of the science in which he hazards to give advice. The truth is, that the Baptist and other over-zealous friends of the negro are mortified and disappointed at the utter failure of their predictions. They are hoping against hope for better results than have yet come in the elevation of the negro race after 32 years of emancipation. The negroes of our West Indies, free for a generation, and the negroes of Hayti, not only free but their own masters for two generations, are still, in despite of generous hopes and vaticinations to the contrary, barbarians of Africa who have but changed their sky.

Monetary and Commercial.

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At the meeting on the 5th of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Company a dividend of 3½ per cent., and of 3 per cent. from the underwriting account, were declared, making a total of 10 per cent. for the year. A report of the meeting will be found in another column. Some comments having been made in a letter published by a contemporary as to the inefficiency of the staff of assistant managing directors, owing to the death of Mr. Olding and the illness of Mr. Ritchie, we are authorised to state that the managing directors have now made arrangements for the full efficiency of that department.

The half-yearly report of the Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi Bank Corporation states that the late losses sustained from bad debts, owing to the direct contravention of orders by their local agents, will amount to about £2 per share in addition to the whole of the reserve fund. Arrangements are in course of negotiation for a satisfactory amalgamation with another bank.

It has been announced in some papers that a company has been formed which is to enter into an agreement to run a monthly steamer between Batavia and Sydney, calling at Kopang, Timor, Cape York, and Brisbane; leaving Batavia on the arrival of the English mail there, should the Governments of Netherlands India, Queensland, and New South Wales be willing to subsidise them for the service to the extent of £38,400 per annum. For this concession it is proposed to run paddle-steamers of sufficient power to average 12 miles an hour, and capable of carrying 600 to 800 tons of merchandise, with cabin accommodation for 40 to 50 passengers of the first-class, and 60 to 100 second and third class. We believe this announcement to be premature. When the matter has been decided on by the Dutch Government tenders will be invited for the service.

The biddings for £350,000 in bills on India took place at the Bank of England. The proportions allotted were—to Calcutta £223,300, to Madras £26,700, and to Bombay £100,000. The *minimum* price was as before, 1s. 11⅛d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11⅜d. on Bombay. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 1s. 11⅛d. will receive about 18 per cent., and on Bombay at 2s. 0⅛d. about 8 per cent. Above these prices in full. These terms show a slight diminution of the demand for means of remittance to Calcutta, and a slight further increase in that for Bombay to pay for cotton.

The Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China has announced a dividend of 5 per cent. for the half-year ending the 31st instant, making, together with the dividend of 8½ per cent. paid on the 1st July last, 13½ per cent. for the year.

It is stated that the governor and directors of the Union Bank of London, taking into consideration the representations recently made to them of the increased cost of houses and provisions, have permanently increased the salaries of the clerks 10 per cent. all round. No doubt this good example will be followed by the majority of the other establishments.

A memorial has been published from the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, showing that the mildew in shirtings has been equal in some cases to 21¾ per cent.

Thomas Baring, Esq., is the gentleman recommended by the Court of Directors of the Bank of England to fill the vacancy in the direction caused by the retirement of the Right Hon. George Joachim Goschen.

We had occasion a short time ago to announce that Mr. J. Mackrill Smith had joined the board of the London Provincial Marine Insurance Company. The directors have now added to their number by the election of Mr. George Lyall, of Messrs. Lyall, Still and Co., Hong Kong.

The half-yearly meeting of the Ceylon Company (Limited) will take place on the 19th instant to declare an *ad interim* dividend for the six months. A meeting of the Netherlands India Steam Company will be held at the Hague early in the ensuing year.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Pera*, from Southampton on the 4th inst., was:—In gold, to Madras, £4,751. In silver, to Calcutta, £1,350; to Singapore, £10,000; to Hong Kong, £15,110. Total, in gold, £4,751; in silver, £26,460. About half a million in silver has gone to Bombay,

The following Tea statistics are derived from the Board of Trade returns:—

The quantity of Tea entered for home consumption during the ten months ending October 31st, is 7,942,099 lbs. in excess of the quantity for the corresponding period in 1864, and 10,514,048 lbs. more than in the same part of the year 1863. So considerable an increase as this can only to a slight extent be accounted for by the wants of our increasing population; it must be, in the main, attributed to other causes, equally powerful and equally obvious. Of these, the gradual increase of material prosperity amongst all classes is a prime cause; for notwithstanding the pretty general outcry about high prices, it is beyond dispute that luxuries are now very generally placed within the reach of the masses. Another reason that may be assigned, and this is really the most important of all, is the reduction in the duty, the beneficial effects of which, though not at the time immediately apparent, cannot fail to be recognised and appreciated. Continuing our comparison of the home consumption for the preceding years, we find that the amount in the ten months of the years 1860, 1861, 1862, was 64,733,205 lbs., 65,521,336 lbs., 65, 874,935 lbs. respectively; that is to say, the excess in 1865 over that of 1860 amounts to nearly 18,000,000 lbs. In the case of our exports, the increase in the ten months of 1864 over the corresponding period of 1863 was 3,026,832 lbs.; but in the present year, as compared with 1864, this amounts to 4,843,060 lbs., or nearly five millions. In the first ten months of the year 1860, our exports were 7,118,191 lbs.; during the same period of the present year they are given as 28,992,885 lbs., so that in this period of the last six years our exports are actually quadrupled. The successive decrease in our imports from 102,347,685 lbs. in 1863, 87,680,959 lbs. in 1864, to 83,908,179 lbs. in 1865, will not awake any apprehension in the minds of those who remember that the imports of the year 1863 were heavily in excess of demand.

On the silkworm disease a correspondent writes:—

The silkworm disease, which made its appearance in France and Italy in 1857, continued its ravages in 1858, 1859, and 1860, when it appeared to decrease. Silk-growers then hoped that it would disappear altogether on importing fresh seed and paying more attention to the rearing of the worms. They were, however, disappointed. Its virulence increased in 1863, and the present year is said to be one of the worst. The Chamber of Commerce of Turin, commiserating the sufferings of the population who occupy themselves with the cultivation of silk, have presented to the Government a report on the silk trade in Italy during the present year. It contains ample information on the mode of breeding worms in Italy, on the efforts made to renew and improve the breed, and the means employed to arrest the spread of the malady, which for the last two years has threatened to destroy one of the richest branches of industry in the kingdom. Unfortunately the results hitherto obtained are not satisfactory, as may be seen by the produce of the last crop. Ten years since there were silk markets established in at least 100 towns in the north of Italy—at present the number is reduced to one-half. The quantity of cocoons formerly offered for sale in these markets amounted to upwards of 650,000 myriagrammes, but it fell in 1864 to 525,000 and in the present year to 283,000. The sales, of course, decreased in a similar proportion. From £1,600,000 they fell in 1864 to £1,160,000 and during the present year to £800,000 This sudden diminution within two years was too serious not to attract the attention of all engaged in the trade, and they consequently set about devising means to remedy the evil which threatens them with ruin. One method strongly recommended is a succession of crops during the year. By this plan if one crop fail the next one may succeed, and the breeder thus recover the first loss. An important fact is noticed in the report. The silk-growers of Lombardy provided themselves with seed from Japan, and they were more successful than their neighbours, who supplied themselves from Greece. There are two distinct breeds of the silkworm in Japan. One produces white cocoons, and the other green. Italian breeders have found by experience that the produce of the green cocoons is greater than that of the white; but, on the other hand, the silkworms require much more attention in the rearing.

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BANK AND MISCELLANEOUS SHARES.

Shares.	Joint Stock Banks.	Paid.	Closing Prices.	Prices Dec. 11.
[redacted]				
£20	Asiatic Bank Corporation, new shares	£5	17 to 19	17 to 19
50	Agra and Masterman's	25	56 to 57	56 to 57
20	Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China	All	23½ to 24½	24 to 24
25	Chartered Merc. of India and China	All	46 to 48	48 to 50
25	Commercial of India and the East	All	28 to 30	30 to 31
20	Eastern Exchange	5	1½ to ½ dis.	1½ to ¼ dis.
50	London Joint Stock	15	50 to 52	50 to 52
100	London and Westminster	20	96 to 98	96 to 98
25	Oriental Bank Corporation	All	50 to 52	51 to 53
50	Union of London	15	53 to 55	53 to 55
100	Hindustan, China, and Japan	25	17 to 19	17 to 19
100	Do. Issued at 2 pm.	25	17 to 19	16 to 18
100	Do. New	25	16 to 18	16 to 18
20	Scinde, Punjab, and Delhi	10	4½ to 4 dis.	4½ to 4 dis.
25	Bank of Egypt	All	29½ to 30½	29½ to 30½
100	Bank of London	50	138 to 140	139 to 141
20	Land Mortgage Bank of India	4	¼ to ½ pm.	¼ to ½ pm.
	MISCELLANEOUS.			
10	Mediterranean Extension Telegraph	All	3½ to 4½	3½ to 4½
50	P. and O. Steam Company	All	72 to 74 xd	74 to 76
50	Do. New	35	15 to 17pm.xd	17 to 19pm.
20	China Steamship & Labuan Coal Co	9	—	6 to 5 dis.
5	Bombay Gas	All	5¾ to 5¾	5¾ to 5¾ x. all
10	Hong Kong Gas	All	1½ to 2½ pm.	1½ to 2½ pm.
20	E. I. Irrigation and Canal	12	¼ to 3 dis.	¼ to 3 dis.
2	Indian Carrying Company	1½	¾ to ½ dis.	¾ to ½ dis.
20	Madras Irrigation and Canal	All	18 to 19	18 to 19
5	Oriental Gas	All	5¼ to 5¾	5¼ to 5¾ xd.
10	O. Inland Steam	All	1 to 2	1 to 2
100	West India Steam Company	60	109 to 112	110 to 113
—	Ceylon Debentures, Nov. 1868, 6 per cent.	100	100 to 102	100 to 102
—	Do. Do. 1878	100	106 to 108	106 to 108
20	Ceylon Company	7	3½ to 4 pm.	3½ to 3¾ pm.
20	Do. A shares	2	¾ to 1 pm.	¾ to 1 pm.
20	International Finance Society	5	½ to 1 pm.	¾ to 1 pm.
20	General Credit & Finance Company	4	1¾ to 2¼ pm.	2 to 2¾ pm.
20	Egyptian Com. & Trading Company	4	1½ to 1¾ dis.	1¾ to 1½ dis.
20	Société Financière d'Egypte	10	4½ to 3½ dis.	5 to 4 dis.
10	Upper Assam Tea	4½	1¾ to 2¼ pm.	1¾ to 2¼ pm.
10	Do.	All	13 to 15	13 to 15
50	Overend, Gurney, and Co.	15	5¾ to 6 pm.	6¼ to 6½pm.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—Our market during the past fortnight has been less active, the trade having bought very freely during the past two months, at the near approach of the close of the year have felt less inclination to add to their stocks, and thus the new arrivals have not been so eagerly competed for, and prices, both for Kaisows and Monings, show a decline of 1d. per lb. Old teas have, however, firmly maintained the late advance, owing to the much smaller quantities offering, and their still relative cheapness as compared with new teas. Broken-leaf and dusty kinds have sold readily, owing to their scarcity, at fully former prices. Fair to good common show no alteration. Fair to good flavory kinds of old import have been steady at previous rates. Further arrivals of medium to fine Kaisow, ex "Japanese," did not meet with so brisk a demand as previously, and prices must be quoted 1d. per lb. lower. Common to fair blackish-leaf kinds have been firmly held, and at public sale have sold rather higher. Medium sorts show no alteration. In new Monings and Wopaks sales have been more difficult to make, and prices have given way about 1d. per lb., especially for the medium sorts. New-make Cantons have been in request at fully previous rates. Oolongs have been eagerly taken at full prices for good to fine qualities. Souchongs of fair to good kind have sold 1d. per lb. higher; fine are firmly held for extreme rates. A few flowery Pekoes of new season's import have been sold at full prices; old remain without change. In the absence of further arrivals of scented tea of any moment, prices have been maintained, the demand having been somewhat better. Uncoloured Japans, in the absence of export orders, are only saleable at lower prices. In green teas business has been limited, the export orders have only been on a moderate scale, and prices in many cases must be again quoted in favour of buyers. Some coloured Japans have been realised at fair prices. Canton Gunpowders have been less active, but prices are firmly supported. The stock in the United Kingdom on the 30th ultimo was estimated at 77,000,000 lbs. against 91,000,000 lbs., last year, and the quantity afloat at 39,587,000 lbs. against 41,021,000 lbs. The quantity afloat and not included in stock is 42,513,967, against 44,638,116 in 1864. The quantity delivered to 31st Oct. by the Board of Trade returns was 111,089,307, against 98,304,147 in 1864.

SILK.—The deliveries for November are scarcely up to October. Still, so great is the confidence in the repeated reports of ultimate short export, that prices of Shanghai Silk have been further advanced—at one moment nearly 1s. per lb., but part of that has been again lost. As the season progresses there is a growing scarcity of the better qualities of almost all classes, the more unfortunate as consumers generally seem to have found, by experience, that at our present high range of prices it is especially desirable to pay increased attention to quality. In Japan Silk we have had little change of prices; some small parcels of best Silk have realised some little advance. In Canton Silk we have an increasing stock without any corresponding improvement in the deliveries—the more surprising as prices are considered comparatively moderate. During the last few days, however, buyers have paused, and at the moment there is little or nothing doing, but all holders are extremely firm, and quotations remain unaltered; it is very probable that the market will continue in this quiet state till the turn of the year. Piece Goods.—Transactions have been limited. Some arrivals have taken place, amongst others a parcel containing 300 pieces plain and 200 figured Pongee handkerchiefs, and 43 pieces crimson China damasks, baskets, and fine patterns; these last have been sold at full rates, but the Pongees have not yet found buyers.

CHINA.	Usual Imports.		
	s. d.		s. d.
CHINA:—Tsatlee, No. 1 & 2	31 6	to	33 0
„ No. 3 & 4	28 6	to	30 6
„ Hangchow	27 6	to	28 0
Yuenfa	30 0	to	28 6
Taysaam	19 0	to	26 0
„ Skeins	22 0	to	22 6
Long Reel	21 0	to	23 0
Canton	21 0	to	24 6
Thrown	None.		
JAPAN:—Mibash	30 0	to	33 0
Ida Bricks	24 6	to	27 6
Sodai	26 0	to	27 6
Oshu, re-reeled	26 6	to	27 6
Koshu, Selé	27 0	to	28 0
Aechezan slips	23 6	to	25 6
Mashtah do.	24 6	to	25 6

STATE OF THE WAREHOUSES.

	Sold Stock.		Unsold Stock.		Delivered.	
	Dec. 1, 1865.	Dec. 1, 1864.	Dec. 1, 1865.	Dec. 1, 1864.	Jan. 1 to Dec. 8, 1865.	Jan. 1 to Dec. 8, 1864
Bengal	2,480	2,122	2,098	3,265	9,321	8,903
China	8,693	6,136	7,788	4,362	28,593	28,740
Japan	1,772	2,456	1,494	474	11,614	16,779
Canton	756	347	1,019	24	956	2,261
Chinese Thrown	9	142	16	23	110	953

COTTON.—Large transactions have taken place for arrival, as well as on and spot, the prices are pretty generally ½d. to 1d. per lb. above those of last week, although the market closes with a quieter feeling, and at a slight decline from the late highest point. During the first week referred to we have to record sales of 170 bales of Japan, fully fair, at 16½d. to 17d., and 690 bales Tinnivelly, at 14d. to 17d. middling to good fair; and in the week ending the 8th, 190 bales Japan, 17d. to 17½d. fair to fully fair; and 1,750 bales Tinnivelly, 16½d. to 18d. fair to good fair; with sales to arrive, 2,850 bales Tinnivelly, 15½d. to 17½d., December to August, guaranteed good fair, closing at 16½d. for November. The total stock in London on the 7th was 45,559 bales, against 117,718 bales last year; of which 2,096 is China and Japan, against 19,486 last year. There is no China and Japan afloat to Europe. Of Ceylon and Tuticorin we hear of 25,250 bales, against 22,505 on the 8th December last year. The stock in Liverpool on the 8th December was 339,240 bales, against 495,000 at same period of 1864. The demand for East India was very extensive in the Liverpool market during the week just ended, especially for the better qualities, and an advance of 1d. per lb. was generally obtained, though closing at a partial reduction of ½d. per lb. from the highest point. The common qualities are still difficult of sale, but are about ½d. per lb. dearer. China and Japan are very scarce, at an advance of about ½d. per lb. The following are the official quotations:—Fair Orleans, 23d.; middling, 21½d.; fair Mobile, 22½d.; middling, 21¼d.; fine Uplands, 22½d.; middling, 21¼d. Opinions incline to the belief that the quantity to be expected from the United States, inclusive of the new crop, has been much overrated. Mr. McCulloch, the Secretary of the United States Treasury, writing on Oct. 27, considers that at the capture of Savannah there was not more than a million of bales in a condition to be sent to market, and that the new crop would not add more than 300,000 to this quantity.

SUGAR.—The market has been dull since our last report, but had a firmer tone towards the close of business on the 8th, closing with prices rather stiffer. We note a sale during the week ending the 1st of 1,064 bags Penang good brown, 32s.; low to good middling yellow, 34s. 6d. to 38s.; and 6,500 bags of clayed Manila at 33s. cash. During the week ending the 8th, 8,000 bags clayed Manila went by private contract at 33s. 6d. to 33s. 9d., partly for cash.

COFFEE.—The demand for colonial descriptions is only moderate, but prices remain without alteration. At auction on the 8th 160 casks Plantation Ceylon went off steadily; and 192 casks, 1,620 bags native sold as follows—small 63s. 6d. to 65s., good ordinary 68s. 6d. to 69s. 6d., superior 71s. 6d. During the week ending the 1st 320 bags fine ordinary Manila were taken at 72s.

RICE.—The dulness noticed in our last continues to exist, and there are no sales worthy of notice to report.

CARDAMOMS.—Steady. Auctions confined to a bag of good plump Aleppy, sold at 5s. 4d. per lb., and 16 bags low lean Madras, sold at 1s. 6d. Nothing of interest done privately.

CAMPHOR.—Market firmer, and more active, and sales to some extent effected in China up to £5 per cwt., and in Japan up to £5. 2s. 6d., and an upward tendency maintained.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Large arrivals have occasioned a reaction to the extent (at present) of fully 10s. per cwt.; fair 1st quality has been sold as low as 98s.; 179 chests at auction retired. Buds: Nothing of any moment doing.

CINNAMON (CEYLON).—We quote 1st sort, 2s. 2d. to 3s. per lb.; 2nd sort, 1s. 11d. to 2s. 10d.; 3rd sort, 1s. 10d. to 2s. 6d.; and 4th and Jungle, 1s. 5d. to 1s. 10d.; steady; and of 168 bales at auction, about half sold at about the last sales' rates.

DRUGS.—Cubebs: Very quiet: 16 bags at auction retired. Dragon's Blood: No auctions; limited business done privately upon former terms. Galangal Root: Nothing doing. Rhubarb: Cheaper; and a recent importation, 75 chests, at auction, sold irregularly at 8s. to 8s. 11d. per lb. for fair flat and round.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Not any business of importance doing. Damar: Scarce and firm, but quiet; 75 cases at auction all retired. Gamboge: Firm, but without transactions of interest.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Remains quiet, but firm; of 22 tons at auction three-fourths sold at 6½d. to 7½d. per lb. for ordinary reboiled; no transactions reported privately.

HEMP (MANILA).—This market was quiet up to very recently; but during the last day or two some quantity has been sold at £44 per ton for fair roping, and £42 for arrival.

HIDES AND HORNS.—The sales of East India Hides during the month of November have been 215,921 Hides. The quantity offering has been moderate, and met a fair demand for consumption, but only a limited export inquiry, and prices, except on the lower qualities, are generally ¼d. to ½d. per lb. under those current in October, the greatest reduction being on those of heavy average. Madras and Cochin Hides have met a ready sale at full prices. 11,417 Hides have been cleared. Cochin Best Light 9¾d. per lb; Seconds 8d. to 8¼d. per lb.; heavy 5d. to 5½d. per lb.; Thirds 6¼d. per lb. Batavia: 200 buffalo hides were offered in the last sales, but without find-

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ing buyers. Singapore, &c.: The arrivals have been large, and prices have receded ¼d. to ⅜d. per lb. from the extreme quotations of October. 1,417 cow hides and 6,370 buffalo hides have been cleared. Ox and Cow light, 6½d. to 7½d. per lb.; heavy, 5d. to 5½d. per lb.; buffalo best, 5¾d. to 6½d. per lb.; seconds, 5½d. to 6d. per lb.; light, 4d. to 5d. per lb.; thirds, 4½d. to 4¾d. per lb. Horns, &c.: The sales are confined to 32 tons buffalo horns, which realised advanced prices. Siam, 46s. to 47s. per cwt.; Cochin, 28s. 6d. to 29s. per cwt.; and Madras, 28s. to 35s. 6d. per cwt. At the sales of East India hides, on the 7th, a large proportion of those offered found buyers at prices showing no material change from those of the last sales. Of the Java, Singapore, and Rangoon buffalo hides offered none sold.

JAPAN WAX.—Firm: of 470 boxes at auction, half sold at 76s. to 88s. 6d. per cwt. for ordinary to fine saucers; and 76s. 6d. good block.

OILS—Anniseed: Did fall since our last to 7s. 3d. per lb., but has latterly advanced to 7s. 8d., with sales, and remains very firm; same price obtained for arrival. Cassia: Flat, and very little business doing upon former terms. Cinnamon, Mace, and Nutmeg: Nothing doing in either of these Oils.

PEPPER.—Black: Steady: of 1,722 bags Singapore at auction, two-thirds sold at 3⅛d. to 3⅜d. per lb., and 761 bags Penang sold at 3⅛d. to 3⅛d.; very little business privately upon corresponding terms. White: Is again ⅛d. to ¼d. per lb. dearer, and 210 bags Singapore sold at auction at 5⅝d. to 5¾d., and fair business done privately.

SPICES.—Cloves: Steady for all descriptions, but quiet; 10 cases of Penang at auction retired; and of 314 bags of Zanzibar a small portion only sold at 3d. to 3⅛d. for middling dark. Mace: Quiet; 10 cases of Batavia only at auction, and those retired. Nutmegs: Quiet; and of 21 cases of Penang at auction only one-third sold at 11d. to 1s. 3d. per lb. for low to middling small.

SAGO.—Small Pearl dearer, and 1,623 boxes and bags at auction mostly sold at 19s. 6d. to 23s. 6d. per cwt. for middling to fine small, and 20s. to 23s. fair to good large. Flour: Good business done privately at advanced prices—up to 15s. 4½d. per cwt. for fine Borneo: 210 bags at auction retired.

TAPIOCA.—At auction 125 boxes Singapore slightly stained were taken at 2¾d. per lb., and 203 boxes good pearl realized 25s. 6d. to 26s. per cwt.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Good quality again dearer; of 2,582 bags and cases at auction half sold at 29s. to 30s. per cwt. for fine Pegue. Gambier: Rather dearer, and the demand continues active both for arrival and on the spot; large business done within our quotations; 1,445 bales at auction, all retired; Cubes firm at 26s. to 28s. per cwt.

TIN.—This market has again been animated, and further large transactions have taken place in Straits up to £98 per ton, three months prompt; £97 cash; and £98 for arrival.

TOBACCO.—Manila Cheroots and Segars: In first hands stock quite exhausted. Manila Leaf: At public sale on the 2nd November the 250 bales offered found buyers at rather better rates than those realised in October. Japan: The recent arrival of 380 bales is in course of sampling, and will be included in the sale on the 20th inst. Java: The bulk of the recent imports, of good quality, being generally held above the views of buyers, but little had been done. Quotations—Java, 5½d. to 13d. per lb.; Manila, 6d. to 3s.; Japan, 4½d. to 7½d.; Manila Cheroots, 7s. to 8s.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Blacklead: Quiet; 210 barrels at auction all retired Galls: China and Japan more inquired for, and we quote them 65s. to 70s. per cwt. for China, and 60s. to 65s. Japan. Musk: No auctions; small sales. privately at firm prices. Sapan Wood: Unsaleable at the moment; no auctions. Soy: Quiet; 25 casks at auction retired. Star Anniseeds: Very scarce; nothing doing. Sticklac (Siam): Quiet, and no business doing. Vermilion: Very scarce and dear.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7 to £7. 5s.; nail rod, £8. 10s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10; sheets, single, £10. 10s. to £10. 15s.; Staffordshire bars, £8. 10s. to £9. 10s.; rails, £7 to £7. 5s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg. £15. 10s.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £109 to £121 per ton; yellow metal, 9½d. to 10d. per lb.

TIN.—102s. for block; 103s. for common bars. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 32s. to 32s. 6d.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, W.B., £22 5s.; shot, patent, £24; sheet, £21. 15s.; spelter, £22. 15s. to £23; zinc, English sheet, £27. 10s.; quicksilver, £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—Iron has been in good demand, but the prices have remained without alteration. In Scotch Pig iron the fluctuations have been inconsiderable. Copper: Owing to the news of the actual blockade of the Chilian ports, the Copper Smelters advanced their price on the 15th November £10 per ton, and a further advance on 16th £10 per ton; of course at this high rate they could not anticipate any orders of importance for the present, but it must be considered as a precautionary measure on their part to avoid taking large contracts, which the continuance of the blockade would prevent their fulfilling, except at very great loss. The great importance of the imports from Chili of copper in ore, regulus, and slab, equal to nearly 30,000 tons pure copper per annum, and the necessary great influence on prices which a stoppage of the production must exercise, is clear, when it is remembered that it represents about one half of the quantity required for our export trade and home consumption. The present prices are rather uncertain, as so many second-hand parcels are still offering by holders who bought before the great advance had taken place, and are anxious to realise their profit. Tin: English has been in steady inquiry; on the 28th ultimo an advance of 2s. per cwt. was declared; this, with the advance of 3s. per cwt. on the 3rd ultimo, making 5s. during the month. Foreign has been in active demand. Banca is firm at 97s. 6d. Straits, fine quality, 96s. 6d. to 97s., good merchantable quality only realising about 1s. per cwt. less. The quantity landed during the month is about 500 tons. The quantity of Straits Tin afloat for Europe is about 1,524 tons, against 864 tons in 1864, and 668 tons in 1863. Tin plates are firm, although the new orders are not so plentiful, but the makers' books are well filled. The quantity shipped to all parts for the past month was 95,000 boxes, against 58,000 in November, 1864. Lead continues to improve, and the price appears still on the advance; prompt delivery of special brands is difficult to obtain. Spelter also is higher; the stock is 6,300 tons, against 11,820 tons at the same period last year.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£172,082
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£5,500
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£2,296,169
Singapore	£3,007	£282,460
Penang	—	£20,440
Yokohama	—	£54,330

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	—	£57,96
Penang	—	£4 508
Hong Kong	—	£61,000
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£40,75
Yokohama	—	£14,298

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£176	£87,640
To Saigon	—	£115,910
To Batavia	£3,966	£8,360
To Hong Kong	—	£145,342
To Shanghai	£80	£154,991
To Yokhama	—	£4,604

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4
Silver in Bars	0 5 1¾
Mexican Dollars	0 5 0¾

MANCHESTER MARKETS.

The demand has been active, at advancing rates. Grey Shirtings 7 lbs at 15s. to 15s. 6d.; 8¼ lbs. 18s. to 18s. 6d.; Cotton Yarn at 2s. 2d. to 2s. 3d.; Maddapollams, 6s. 6d.; Long Cloths, 16s. 9d.; T-Cloths, 11s. 6d.; White Spot Shirtings, 18s. 6d.; Brocade ditto, 18s. 6d.; Damasks, 34s.

Shipping Intelligence.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Dec. 6	Deal	China	Weymouth	Norris.
— 6	Do.	Do.	Elizabeth Nicholson	Crosby.
— 3	Texel	Batavia	Maria Catharina	De Ba.
— 3	Do.	Do.	Three Gezusters	Fischer.
— 3	Do.	Do.	Australie	Lucas.
— 6	Deal	Colombo	Creswell	Aitcheson.
— 7	Do.	Macao	Valdivia	Kelly.
— 7	Do.	China	Pegasus	Penrice.
— 7	Do.	Do.	Devana	Thompson.
— 8	Do.	Do.	Golden Spur	
— 8	Off Mount Bay	Macao	Costa Rica	
— 8	Liverpool	China	Everest	Clarke.
— 9	Falmouth	Maulmain	Bremen	Mewien.
—	Off Portland	Shanghai	Isles of the South	
—	Off Penzance	Singapore	Caldew	Clarkson.
— 10	Off Mevagissey	Foo-chow-Foo	Chua Sze	Shewan.
— 12	Penzance	Batavia	Kon Willem III.*	
— 11	Gironde	Do.	Java	Changem.
—	Queenstown	Rangoon	Hindostan	
—	Off the Wight	Ceylon	Princess	Huntley.
Oct. 30	Callao	Canton	Fiore	Lafontaine.
— 30	Do.	Macao	Falcon	Sullivan.
Nov. 12	Do.	China	Afrique	Balsen.
Dec. 15	Deal	Do.	Star of China	Hodge.
—	Off Queenstown	Maulmain	Castiglione	

* Master sick.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Dec. 5	London	Shanghai	Guinevere	McLean.
— 5	Liverpool	Anjer	Patriot Queen	Williams.
— 5	Cardiff	Hong Kong	Island Queen	Dickson.
— 5	Rotterdam	Batavia	St. Jan	Lommere.
—	Rotterdam	Japan	Macassar	Bentveld.
— 7	Cardiff	Yokohama	Clara	Flower.
— 7	Liverpool	Manila	Alavesa	Dobaran.
— 10	Portsmouth	Colombo, &c.	Isabella	Wills.
— 9	Falmouth	Hong Kong	Amber Witch	Langlais.
— 11	Ramsgate	Sourabaya	Jeanette Cornelia	Romyn.
— 11	Portsmouth	Batavia	W. Cores de Vries (s.s.)	Fergast.
— 10	Plymouth	Do.	St. Jan	Lommerse.
— 8	Cardiff	Yokohama	Eclipse	Chevalier.
— 10	Liverpool	Shanghai	Tewkesbury	Fowler.
— 9	Shields	Do.	Wellington	
— 12	London	Yokohama	Challenger	Browne.
— 13	Do.	Hong Kong & Canton	Northfleet	Symington.
— 13	London	Galle	Colombo Dora	Milbanke.
—	Rotterdam	Batavia	Van der Palm	Van Katwyk.
—	Do.	Java	Cornelia	Comyn.
— 12	Falmouth	Amoor	Belle	Wayman.
— 13	Do.	Do.	Avonvale	Ogilvie.
—	Rotterdam	Galle	Elizabeth Cushing	Brown.
— 14	Sunderland	Hong Kong	Zingra	Pittendrick.

(*See Commercial Postscript.*)

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LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: James Longton, Isles of the South. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Broadwater. For Nagasaki: Eagle. For Shanghai: Lauderdale, Westminster, Hoang Ho, Gossamer. For Hong Kong: Devana. For Hong Kong and Canton: Punjaub, Valdivia. For Singapore: Dovercourt, Christian Rankin. For Singapore and Penang: Oribe. For Colombo: Frances Milly, Boyne, John Bright.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Vanda. For Shanghai: Chalgrove Prudhoe. For Hong Kong: Everest. For Singapore and Penang: Singapore. For Singapore: Falcon. For Batavia and Pekalongan: Edith Haviland. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Dagmar. For Manila: Eulalia, Espana. For Galle: Sultana, Scott.

At GLASGOW.—For Manila: Union. For Singapore: River Eden. For Batavia, Samarang and Sourabaya: County of Argyle.

SPOKEN.

MEMNON, Manila to New York, Oct. 8, 35 S., 20 E.
SCOTLAND, Singapore to Liverpool, Oct. 19, 29 S., 6 E.
OUDERKIRK AAN DEN AMSTEL, Rot. to Bat., 36 days, Nov. 12, 3 N., 25 W.
AUGUSTA, Batavia to Amsterdam, Oct. 17, 34 S., 26 E.
AGRA, Sourabaya to Amsterdam, Oct. 30, 26 S., 8 E.
HARVEST QUEEN (? Home), Bat. to Amsterdam, Nov. 1, 22 S., 4 E.
CHINA, Hamburg to Hong Kong, Sept. 15, 39 S., 13 E.
FIERY CROSS, London to Shanghai, Nov. 8, 7 N., 23 W.
ALMELS, Batavia to Amsterdam, Nov. 21, 36 N.. 39 W.
GRAAFSTROOM, Batavia to Rotterdam, Nov. 3. 12 S., 9 W.
SERICA, London to Shanghai, Nov. 8, 7 N., 23 W.
MARIA ADOLPHINA, Batavia to Amsterdam, Nov. 16, 15 N., 30 W.
WILHELMINA AND CLARA, Amsterdam to Batavia, Oct. 14, 5 S., 27 W.
ADMIRAL LYONS, Liverpool to Hong Kong, 41 S., 47 E.
CHINA, Hamburg to Hong Kong, Sept. 15, 39 S., 13 E.
MEDEA, Rotterdam to Batavia, Oct. 27, 7 N., 23 W.
MADURA, Norway to Hong Kong, Oct. 22. 14 N., 25 W.
GRANVILLE, Bordeaux to Saigon, Oct. 21, 25 S.. 37 W.
LORD RAGLAN, Singapore to London, Oct. 25. 21 S., 3 E.
No. 2,584, 3rd d.p. (Fr. ship), Cardiff to Hong Kong, Oct. 31, 7 S., 32 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

But little change has taken place in outward freights since our last impression, the recent arrivals having been only just sufficient to meet present requirements. Coal freights are not so firm, and rates are a shade easier.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 30s. to 35s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 30s. meast. To Singapore: 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 20s. measurement.

The current quotations for coal, &c., are as follows:—From Wear or Tyne per Keel. For Batavia: £30. For Hong Kong: £44. For Galle: £33 to £34. For Singapore: £32. For Shanghai: £52.—From Newport, Cardiff or Swansea, per ton. For Batavia: £1. 7s. For Hong Kong: £2. For Manila: £1. 11s. For Galle: £1. 7s. 6d. For Singapore: £1. 7s. 6d. For Shanghai: £2. 7s. 6d. to £2. 10s.

The Admiralty have invited tenders for the conveyance of 230 ton naval stores from the River Thames to Hong Kong.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At ST. HELENA.—Oct. 31, from Penang, Shantung, Webster, and sailed Nov. 1 for London; from Singapore, Lord Raglan, Law, and sailed for London; Nov. 1, from Foo-chow-Foo, Chaa-Sze, Shewan, and sailed 1st for London; from Batavia, J. C. Schotel, de Groot, and sailed 2 for Dordt; 2, from Penang, Edinburgh Castle, Inglis, and sailed for London; 3, from Batavia, Cornelia Mathilde, Wulp, and sailed for Schiedam; from Macao, &c., Boy Bendixen, Matthieson, and sailed 4th for Hamburg; 4, from Singapore, Else, Wesselhoet, and sailed 6th for Genoa; from Foo-chow-Foo, Bells, Turner, and sailed for London; from Batavia, Kron Prinsen, Bothen, and sailed 6th for Amsterdam; 5, from Tjilatjap, Dorothea Henrietta, Ortz, and sailed 6th for Rotterdam, from Batavia, Francina Willemina, v. Winkel, and sailed 6th for Rotterdam; from Colombo, Caldera, Johns, and sailed, 6, for London, from Foo-chow-foo; Whinfell, Whereat, and sailed, 7, for London; from Singapore, Hastings, Vincent, and sailed for London; from Sourabaya, Brandon, Jolly, and sailed, 7, for Amsterdam; from Batavia, Alletta Augusta, Tinholt, and sailed for Amsterdam; from Ceylon, Dreadnought, Henry, and sailed, 7, for London; 9, from Batavia, Neptunus, Lodewyk, and sailed for Rotterdam; 11, from Singapore, Ernst Merck, Muller, and sailed for London; 12, from Padang, Caduceus, Holton, and was detained in consequence of the illness of the master; 15, from Batavia, Dionysia Catharina, Sprinkel, and sailed, 16, for Amsterdam.

Off ST. HELENA.—Nov. 4, from Tjilatjap, Anna Maria Wilhelmina.

At SIMON'S BAY.—Oct. 30, from Batavia for Amsterdam, Maria Agnes (with damage).

At TABLE BAY.—Oct. 16, Cornelia Adolphina, Roever; sailed for Batavia.

The Henry Ellis arrived at Queenstown, Dec. 13, with 6,561 bags of cargo, ex Beejapore, from Rangoon.

At MADEIRA.—Nov. 15, from Plymouth, Sunda (s.), Bolck, and left 17, for Batavia.

At ST. HELENA.—Oct 25, from Batavia, Almelo, Tjebbes, and sailed 26, for Amsterdam; 27, Arrow, Hartley; 29, Adolfina, Blom.

At MAURITIUS.—Oct. 23, from Singapore, Olympia, Gardyne; 24, from Batavia, India, Eckdahl Nov. 4, from Singapore, Visir, Bregeon; 6, Ranger, Ovendon.

The Fire Queen, Captain Duggan, for Adelaide, and the Silver Eagle, Captain Ross, for Auckland, left London on the 3rd of December; from thence they proceed to Shanghai.

CASUALTIES.

The Maria Agnes, from Batavia, for Amsterdam, put into Simon's Bay, Oct. 30, with loss of fore main and mizen topmast.

The Haamstede, Marsch, from Batavia, which put into St. Helena, 22nd Oct., has been surveyed in consequence of having been in collision with the Devana (ship), of London. Parts of her stern planking, guard-board, poop covering board, &c., were found split and broken, and many of her seams requiring caulking.

Intelligence has been received at Lloyd's of the loss of the Helen Douglas, in the China seas, from Shanghai to Hong Kong.

The Peter Landberg (s.s.), Rawles, from Liverpool for Batavia, put into Whitehaven, Dec. 6, with loss of foretopmast.

THE "AGAMEMNON."—Messrs. Scott and Co., Greenock, have launched a large and handsome screw steamship, of 2,500 tons, for Alfred Holt, Esq., Liverpool. She was named the Agamemnon by Mrs. Holt, who cut away the daggers in man-of-war style. Her engines, which are of 300-horse power, are made by the Greenock Foundry Company. Messrs. Scott and Co. have two other steamers of 2,500 tons each building for Mr. Holt. It is announced that these vessels are intended for the direct China trade, but we believe it is quite doubtful as to their employment at present.

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DYSENTERY, CHOLERA, FEVER, AGUE, ETC.

CHLORODYNE.

CAUTION.—*Vice-Chancellor Wood affirmed in Court that Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE was undoubtedly the Discoverer of Chlorodyne; that the statements of the Defendant Freeman were deliberately untrue, and he regretted to say they had been sworn to (see "The Times" of July 13, 1864); all others must be spurious.*

Earl Russell has graciously favoured J. T. Davenport with the following extract of a despatch from Mr. Webb, H.B.M.'s Consul at Manila, dated Sept. 17, 1864:—"The remedy most efficacious in its effects (in Epidemic Cholera) has been found to be CHLORODYNE, and with a small quantity given to me by Dr. Burke I have saved several lives." Earl Russell communicated to the College of Physicians that he had received a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Manila, to the effect that Cholera had been raging fearfully, and that the ONLY remedy of any service was CHLORODYNE.—See *Lancet*, December 31, 1864. No home should be without it.

Eminent Hospital Physicians of London stated on oath that they prescribe CHLORODYNE largely, and mean no other than Dr. Browne's.

The General Board of Health, London, state as to its efficacy in Cholera and Dysentery:—"So strongly are we convinced of the efficacy of this remedy, that we cannot too forcibly urge the necessity of adopting it in all cases."

From A. Montgomery, Esq., late Inspector of Hospitals, Bombay:—"Chlorodyne is a most valuable remedy in Neuralgia, Asthma, and Dysentery. To it I fairly owe my restoration to health, after eighteen months' severe suffering, and when all other medicine had failed."

From W. Vesalius Pettigrew, M.D.:—"I have no hesitation in stating that I have never met with any medicine so efficacious as an antispasmodic and sedative. I have used it in Consumption, Asthma, Diarrhœa, and other diseases, and am most perfectly satisfied with the results."

Dr. M'Grigor Croft, late Army Staff, says:—"It is a most valuable medicine."

Dr. Gibson, Army Medical Staff, Calcutta:—"Two doses completely cured me of Diarrhœa"

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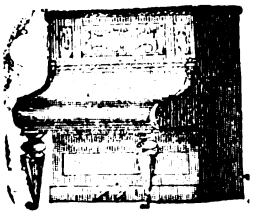

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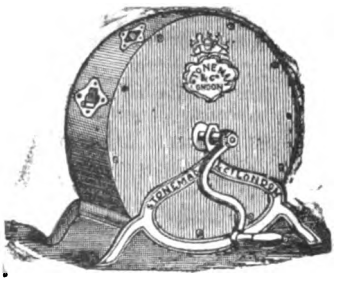

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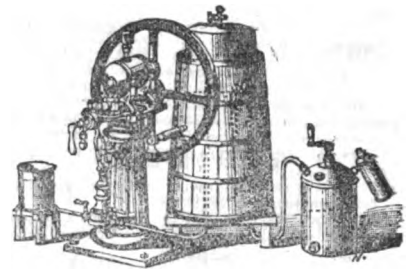

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Bangkok, 19th Sept., 1865.
Hong Kong, 20th Oct., 1865.

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Amoy, March, 1865.

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The London and China Telegraph.

JAPAN HERALD, AND JOURNAL OF THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO.

PUBLISHED ON ARRIVAL OF THE MAILS, about the 4th, 14th, and 28th, in connection with the "LONDON AND CHINA EXPRESS,"
A SUMMARY OF NEWS FOR THE OUTWARD MAILS OF 10th, 17th, and 26th.

VOL. VII.—No. 195.] LONDON, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27, 1865. [Price 9d., with Sup., 1s. 3d.—Sub. 30s. per ann., postage included, Sup. 12s. extra.

Latest Advices.

	From London.	Arrived out.	Homeward. Arrived in London this day.
JAPAN—			
Yokohama	Aug. 26	Oct. 23	Nov. 1
Nagasaki			„ 4
Hakodadi			
CHINA—Peking			
Tien-tsin			Oct. 30
Chefoo			„ 31
New-chwang			„ 23
Hankow			Nov. 2
Kiu-kiang			
Chin-kiang			
Shanghai	Sept. 17	Nov. 6	„ 9
Ningpo			
Foo-Chow			„ 9
Formosa—Tamsuy			
Amoy			„ 10
Swatow			
Hong Kong	Sept. 26	Nov. 15	„ 15
Canton			
Macao			
PHILIPPINES—			
Manila	Aug. 26	„ 11	No m il.
COCHIN-CHINA—			
Saigon			Nov. 7
SIAM— Bangkok			„ 16
BORNEO—			
Labuan			„ 12
Sarawak			„ 17
JAVA—			
Batavia			„ 16
MALACCA STRAITS—			„ 22
Singapore			„ 24
Penang	Oct. 10	Nov. 9	

The P. and O. steamer Salsette met with heavy weather, and was 12 days from Singapore to Hong Kong. The P. and O. steamer Behar, with mail of 10th Oct., put into Penang with broken shaft. Telegrams to the 1st Dec., from Hong Kong, were received on the 25th inst.

List of Passengers.

PASSENGERS INWARD.

By this mail, per P. and O. Company's steamer Pera, arrived at Marseilles, Dec. 25.—From Yokohama: Mr. Bon. From Shanghai: Mr. Haarbleicher. From Kong Kong: Messrs. Scholefield and Newman. From Singapore: Mr. Crane and two second-class passengers.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.

Per P. and O. steamer Nyanza, from Southampton, Dec. 20.—To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Evans, infant, and European servant. To Hong Kong: Major Peebles, Mr. W. R. Browne, Staff Assistant-Surgeon Thorpe. To Ceylon: Mr. Macan, Lieut. B. S. and Mrs. du Jardin, and Miss Hugo, Mr. Harper, Mr. C. Murray, Mr. and Mrs. Trotter and five children, and ayah, and four second-class passengers. To Calcutta: Mrs. T. J. Walker, infant, and European servant, Miss Hill, Mrs. C. F. Browne, Miss Nicholay, Mrs. Galbraith, Mrs. A. R. McMahon, two children, and European servant, Lieut. Warner, Major and Mrs. Cochrane, Miss MacDonald, Mrs. Stannus, Staff Asst.-Surgeons, Duhy, J. P. Foster, J. McCreery, and G. White, Mrs. Smith and two infants, Ensign Rimington, Mr. Kennedy, Captain Pearson and European male servant, Mr. and Mrs. Gavin Jones, Captain Browne Mr. Safford, and four second-class passengers. To Madras: Captain and Mrs. Dyer, Major and Mrs. Buck, Mrs. H. Irvine, Major C. W. and Mrs. Dun, Mrs Petley and child, and three second-class passengers. To Suez: Mr. Lyons and one second-class passenger. To Alexandria: Mr. J. Mitchell and one second-class passenger.

From Marseilles, Dec. 28.—To Hong Kong: Mrs. Hunter, two Misses Hunter, Miss Hutton and European servant, Capt. J. L. Phelps, Surgeon West, and one second-class passenger. To Calcutta: Captain Pemberton, Mr. and Mrs. R. Saunders and infant, Mr. E. Lawrence, Mrs. J Harrison, Mr. P. D. Nichol, Mr. Lapsley, Captain and Mrs. F. W. Stubbs, Lieut.-col. and Mrs. Carter and child, Miss Turner, Rev. J. E. Marks, Major Bonamy, Mr. H. du Smidt, Miss Umbers, Lieut. Cowper. To Madras: Captain T. G. Clarke, Lieut. R. T. Chapman, Mr. R. S. Ellis, Mr. W. Robertson.

From Suez.—To Calcutta: Mr and Mrs. J. Dennis, Major Harrison.

Per P. and O. steamer from Marseilles, Jan. 4, 1866.—To Shanghai via Bombay: Mr W. H. Carter.

Per P. and O. steamer, from Southampton, Jan. 4, 1866.—To Singapore: Rev. C. A. Kock, Mr. H. C. Prinsep. To Ceylon: Surgeon W. S. Roche, R.N. To Hong Kong: Lieut. Stewart, A.D.C. to the Governor of Hong Kong, Dr. A. Cochrane To Shanghai: Mr. E. McKean, Mr. A. Harvey, Mr. F. R. Porter, Mr. Steel, Mr. Jerdein, Mr. Cunangham.

From Marseilles, Jan. 12.—To Hong Kong: Rev. F. S. Turner, Mr. A. W. Glenie, Mr F. J. Greene, Mr. J. A. Sitwell. To Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Grant Gordon, Mr. R. S. Gundry, Mr. E. Pickwood, Mr. Brunst. To Singapore: Mr. E. L. Hedden, Mr. G. J. Buchanan To Ceylon: Mr. J. T. Mohson, Mr. McLachlan, Mr. A. Sinclair, Mr. Todd, Mr. and Miss Wall.

From Suez, Jan. 19.—To Hong Kong: Sir Richard and Lady MacDonnell.

Summary of News from the Far East.

JAPAN

YOKOHAMA.

From this port we have files of the *Japan Herald* to the 31st Oct., and private advices one day later. The London mails of 26th Aug. arrived out on the 23rd Oct. On the 22nd Oct. the *Princess Royal* returned from Hakodadi with Sir Harry Parkes on board.

The principal item of news is the departure on the 1st Nov. of a portion of the allied fleets for the Inland Sea, consisting of the following vessels:—H.B.M. S.S. *Princess Royal*, *Pelorus*, *Leopard*, *Argus*, and *Bouncer* (gun-boat), H.I.M.SS. *Gueirriere*, *Dupleix*, and *Kienchang* (gun-boat), and H.N.M.S. *Zoutman*. The British, French, and Netherlands Ministers accompanied the expedition. The precise object of the expedition had not been officially announced, but a rumour was current to the effect that the object is to endeavour to arrange for the opening of the port of Hiogo to foreign trade at an earlier period than was previously intended; and also to obtain the Mikado's sanction and ratification to the treaties. At all events (says the *Japan Herald*) the business that takes our Ministers up is of very considerable importance, and such as, in the absence of the Tycoon from Yedo, can best be accomplished by our Ministers paying a personal visit to Osaka. Too much importance can hardly be attached to the movement, as it will show to the Japanese rulers the determination of the Western Powers to insist on fulfilment of treaties entered into with the Tycoon; and if the Mikado confirm them, as there can be little doubt he will, a very large amount of opposition to foreigners will cease. It is expected that the fleet will be absent about a month.

Another of the murderers of Major Baldwin and Lieut. Bird had been taken in Yedo, had confessed his crime, and been executed. The name of this culprit is Mamiya Hajimei, and he is not the man who was taken on suspicion some time ago. He stated that he cut down the second officer; and when he was arrested he had on him the sword with which he committed the murder, some of the blood being still visible upon the blade. All the circumstances confessed by, and known of, the man, confirm the Japanese authorities in their conviction that he is the veritable murderer; in addition to which, he himself boastfully acknowledges not only that he is the man who actually cut down Lieut. Bird, but that he gave him numerous wounds when lying helpless on the ground.

The *Japan Herald* gives the following account of the execution, which took place on the same spot as that of the other assassin:—The murderer, who appeared to be only about 18 years of age, was brought up precisely at one o'clock. The Japanese officers were already there; but the British authorities, whose presence was necessary, did not arrive until fully half an hour after. The poor boy—for he was little more—had been drugged, and was quite, or apparently, unconscious. He was laid upon the ground, his legs covered with a mat, and his body supported in a half sitting half recumbent position by two gaolers, who between them held an umbrella over him to keep off the rain. Only twice did he open his eyes and raise his head, and then only to stare vacantly, and immediately relapse into unconsciousness. When at length all the officials arrived, and the time had come for his execution, he

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was aroused sufficiently to walk, with support, to the spot where he was to kneel for decapitation, but he was too unconscious to know how or where to place himself; and when he was blindfolded, which in his case was left undone until he had been put in position, three men were obliged to support his body to prevent its falling, and one to hold his head until the very moment before the blow was struck. The work was done by the old and well-known executioner, who walked about whilst the criminal was being prepared, laughing, and appearing to exult over his work. His manner, and the unconscious helplessness of the victim, gave to this execution a repulsiveness far greater than that of Shimidzu—although the executioner on that occasion had to strike three times before the head fell, and this was severed in an instant. Immediately on the head falling, it was seized, put into a mat, and carried, accompanied by a mounted Yakonin, to the place on this side of Yoshida Bashi, where it is to be exhibited for three days. A board is in front of it with his crimes and sentence written upon it. And so ends this dreadful tragedy. We cannot hazard an opinion as to whether the youth who thus suffered is the real culprit or not. He declared he was, and gloried in the deed; and there we must leave it.

A most unjustifiable outrage on the person of a French subject was committed on the 20th October by a number of Japanese officials. The following particulars are given by the *Japan Herald*:—A gentleman, who was about leaving by the steamer *Dupleix*, arrived at the new Hatoba, accompanied by several friends. He had with him some deal boxes containing apparel, nailed up, as they would not be required on the voyage. The officials at the Custom-house were about to open them, when one of the friends told the Custom-house man that there was nothing but clothes, as he had himself witnessed, and as the opening, examining, and nailing up again would occupy some time, it might render them late for the steamer. Appealing to a higher official, leave was granted for immediate shipment without examination, and the gentleman who had acted as spokesman took the lesser official by the sleeve gently—to call attention to the orders of the higher—when the man indignantly pushed the gentleman violently away, and grasping the handle of his sword drew it a short way out of its sheath. The gentleman seeing this put his hand forward to prevent the sword being drawn, when the yakonin struck his hand violently upward, so that it came in contact with the yakonin's face. In a moment all the officials and Japanese coolies rushed upon the gentleman—and, throwing him down, beat him severely all over the body. When at length he succeeded in regaining his feet he was still held by the arms, and the man who had originally grasped his sword came forward and gave him several blows in the face with his fist. The higher official, who had given his assent to the boxes going on board without examination, stood in the doorway, and encouraged the aggressors, and another seized a coolie's bow, and was rushing in to deal a sweeping blow at the victim, but was met by the gentleman who was going by the steamer and prevented. The various Europeans present did what they could, but that was little against so many. The affair having been represented at the French Legation, an inquiry was made, but had been postponed for further evidence. Complaints of incivility and obstruction on the part of the Custom-house officials have lately been very numerous, and it is to be hoped the French authorities will insist on ample satisfaction for this gross case of misconduct.

A rumour had gained ground that several Ronins had left Yedo with the avowed purpose of attacking foreigners. It was stated that the Japanese had sent the foreign Consuls a notice to that effect, but at the time of the mails leaving it had been ascertained that there was no foundation for the report, which had probably been a ruse of the Japanese to frighten foreigners from the Tokaido, and keep them within the boundaries of the new road and the ordinary rides immediately in the neighbourhood.

The formation of a rifle club was progressing. There had been a meeting at the British Consular court-room on the subject, the result of which was favourable to its speedy accomplishment.

On the 26th October, H.M.'s ship *Perseus* arrived from Nagasaki. The same day H.M.'s gunboat *Bouncer* went up to Yedo to bring down Mr. and Mrs. Eusden. On her way she got aground on a bank near Yedo, and the *Kestrel* gunboat and the pinnace of the *Princess Royal* were sent, with plenty of men, to aid in getting her off.

NAGASAKI.

The correspondent of the *North China Herald*, writing on the 3rd instant, says that the Kinlin has been sold to the Prince of Satsuma for $56,000 in cash, and the steamer Sarah. The latter vessel was bought some time ago, but is so badly injured that the owners were glad to get rid of her. There is also a rumour that the Ayrshire Lass, Union, and Wild Wave have been sold. Business was at a standstill in consequence of the Japanese holidays, or Matzuri, which were observed from the 27th to the 30th ultimo. The Japanese who attacked the officers of H.M.S. Rattler, and was subsequently shot by Mr. French, as reported in our last, died three days after he was wounded. The authorities seem to have changed their tone, for they now express their satisfaction at the punishment inflicted on the offender, as it will deter others from drawing their swords on foreigners. The fellow who was guilty in this instance was not, as was at first supposed, a retainer of Satsuma's. He was a Nagasaki man employed at the time by Satsuma to purchase coals. He leaves a widow and two children. Just before his death he made a full confession, but said he was drunk at the time, and did not know what he was doing.

CHINA.

HANKOW.

A public meeting was held at Hankow on the 23rd Oct., for the purpose of confirming what had been agreed to at the meetings of the 4th and 21st September. The cash or short credit system may now be considered as virtually established, in spite of Chinese duplicity and obstructiveness. We hail this measure as the first step towards the dethronement of the tyrants who have for so many years held undisputed sway over the business transactions of merchants. A few years may see the compradores reduced to their proper position as servants and not masters.

KIUKIANG.

From this port we learn that the Englishman Mansfield, who, with Rohde, gave himself up to the Imperialists after the fall of Changchow and was subsequently imprisoned at Kanchowfu, in the Kiangse province, was handed over to H.B.M. Consul on the 31st. Oct. He was dressed in Chinese clothes when he was brought to the Consulate, and had evidently suffered severely. He reports that Rohde was drowned by the upsetting of a boat while crossing a river, but, so far as we know, there is no reason to believe that the occurrence was not purely accidental.

CHINKIANG.

The *North China Herald* writes:—From Chinkiang we are informed that the native troops which have been there for some time are all to be moved off to the Yellow River. A large portion have already departed, and the whole are said to be under orders to leave before the week is out. Their departure will greatly add to the security of the foreign merchants, as an end will be put to the disturbances which have so frequently occurred with the Imperial troops.

We hear that a missionary gentleman has arrived in Shanghai, who has penetrated into the Szechuen Province and to the frontiers of Thibet, some thousand miles further than Hankow, distributing Bibles on his track. It is stated that he met at some place with bad treatment from the natives; but as yet we have not been able to obtain full particulars.

SHANGHAI.

The English mail of the 11th Sept. arrived out on the 2nd Nov. The French mail of 17th on the 6th. The dates are now down to the morning of the 9th Nov.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

SHANGHAI, Nov. 8, 1865.

In my last letter I incorrectly wrote, "currente calami," the 2nd Nov. for the 1st, as the date on which the Autumn Race Meeting here was to be commenced. To the majority of the dwellers on this malignant mud flat it has formed the principal event of interest of the past fortnight, and has passed off quietly, with very enjoyable weather. I could not help remarking the absence of that eager bustling excitement and hot jovial rivalry which used to warm up former meetings, I remember, into such pleasant and animated pictures. The attendance was not as full as in previous years, and I was told that many had betaken themselves into the country on shooting excursions; but whether because of a pecuniary inability to enjoy the races with zest by giving them a betting flavour, and a dislike to take them without, or because of a preference to a chance (?) of knocking over a brace of pheasants, I was left, and so have

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you, to conclude. Though the races were well contested, the betting was anything but brisk; however agreeable a reflection it might have been to regard this as the effect, or productive of a reformed and higher morality, the conviction forced itself that "bad times" and the changed condition of trade were the real causes.

Sir Rutherford Alcock, K.C.B., arrived by the mail steamer *Ganges* on the 2nd November, accompanied by Lady Alcock and her daughter, and left here on the 7th instant in H.M.S *Barossa*, for Tientsin, *en route* to Peking. It is expected that an improvement in our relations with the Chinese Government will be effected by his Excellency, whose appointment as Minister is very generally hailed with satisfaction, and from whom very much is hoped. There is little doubt that a strict and faithful observance of the treaty will be enforced on the Chinese, who have heretofore persistently disregarded it, and the stipulations of which it appears their fixed policy to evade.

During Sir R. Alcock's stay here a deputation from the Municipal Council submitted to him the necessity that exists for modifications in the present Code of Land Regulations, and requested his assistance to obtain the agreement and co-operation of the Chinese Government, and of the representatives at Peking of the other Treaty Powers concerned, to a new and uniform Code, better adapted to the wants and changed condition of the settlement. His Excellency has promised to use his influence to obtain and legalise this much-needed revision.

The Municipal Council have organised an office for the registration of Chinese servants. The present system of employing Chinese has long been felt to be full of danger, and has always been a fruitful source of trouble and annoyance. The fees are sufficiently low to enable Chinamen to register themselves, and with registration of name, previous employment, abode, &c., photographs will be received. It is to be hoped that foreigners will at once determine on availing of the advantages and protection which this new system must without doubt afford, and cease carelessly engaging the first Chinaman presenting himself, through butler or comprador, for employment. The lying, absenting, and "kleptomaniacal" propensities of the China boy will then be checked, as the carefully registered records of his misdoings, peculiarities and perversities of character, together with the incontrovertible *carte de visite*, will at once make him "lose facey," and render his finding re-employment at foreigners' hands rather "dubisome."

This model settlement has during the past few years of its existence grown most amazingly. In wealth, in importance, and in size, it has developed into a big city. It has its numerous banking establishments, its imposing buildings, its majestic bund, its workshops, factories, and docks, its Supreme Court of Justice, its energetic Municipal Council, and intelligent, active police; its lawyers, doctors, merchants, and brokers; its regattas, race-course, and Rotten-row; its cricket, rackets, and croquet. But it has now reached a further development. Not the least good thing it possesses is its hospital, with 80 beds, for which, with advice, medicine, attendance, and food, patients pay a small daily sum, according to the accommodation given them. It is self-supporting, and, during the past year, I understand, has proved a profitable investment to the shareholders. The object now desired is to open a free ward, of six or eight beds, for patients too poor to pay any one of the present scale of charges, and it is to collect funds for accomplishing this that Shanghai makes a new step in civilisation by the ladies holding a "Fancy Bazaar" on New Year's Day.

The British barque *Helen Douglas*, which left this port on the 16th Sept., bound to Singapore, was lost off Foochow on the 22nd inst., by the shifting of mud and shingle ballast during a severe gale. The vessel was thrown on her beam-ends, and, when she capsized, threw all hands into the sea. Several clung to floating bits of wreck and boats which had been smashed in lowering; and two of the crew, James Campbell, steward, and Charles Lamborn, A.B., after drifting about on a sort of raft for two nights and days were ultimately picked up by a Chinese boat, and, after receiving very kind treatment, reached Ningpo on the 31st October.

NINGPO.

Mr. Fittock, H.B.M. Consul, has issued a notification calling on British Renters of Land at that port to forward particulars of their lots for registration at the Consulate. These particulars are to include the date of renting, the person from whom rented, the quantity rented, the boundries of the lot, the portion surrendered to public use, and a plan. The object of this notification is to obtain the basis of legal title-deeds which will for the future be demanded from the Chinese Government. This is a step in the right direction, and if followed up will prove most beneficial to the land renters. It has long been discussed, but up to the present there has either been a lack of energy or a lack of opportunity to carry it out. Three years ago, when large quantities of land were changing hands, it would have proved highly valuable, but "better late than never," Mr. Fittock has initiated the movement, and will no doubt take care that it does not fail from lack of pushing.

We hear that Mr. Fittock went over to Shanghai to congratulate Sir R. Alcock, and at the same time to obtain leave of absence next spring.

SWATOW.

On the 1st Nov. Mr. Consul Caine paid an official visit to the Mandarins at the city of Chaochow. He found the authorities perfectly willing but unable to conform to the treaty; the people, however, were turbulent to a degree, and there is no chance of the matter being settled satisfactorily without an appeal to arms.

HONG KONG.

The mail of 26th Sept. had not arrived out, but the private steamer *Asia*, which left Singapore on the 2nd Nov., arrived on the 10th and took on a few letters and a copy of the *London and China Express* of 26th Sept. The *Salsette* (P. and O. str.) with the mail on board, was to leave Singapore on the 3rd Nov., and as she had not arrived on the 15th it was presumed that she had broken down in the China sea. [We have since ascertained that the steamer with the present mails met the *Salsette* going in on the 15th.]

The chief item of interest is the deputation of the Railway Committee to Sir R. Alcock, which we notice at length for future reference. Our report is taken from the *China Mail* The following members formed the deputation:—

Mr. Booth, Bourjau Hubener and Co.; Mr. Cheverton, Johnson and Co.; Mr. Forbes, Russell and Co.; Mr. Gibb, Gibb, Livingston and Co.; Mr. Kresser, Hong Kong and Shanghae Banking Company; the Rev. Mr. Lobscheid; Mr. Maclean, Lyall, Still and Co.; Mr. Nissen, Siemssen and Co.; Mr. Parry, Birley and Co.; Mr. Ryrie, Turner and Co.; Mr. Schutte, Margesson and Co.; Mr. Turing, Dent and Co.; Mr. Walker, Rob. S. Walker and Co.; Mr. Wood, The Borneo Company (Limited).

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. W. Delano, jun., Mr. R. S. Walker, the hon. secretary, informed Sir Rutherford Alcock that the deputation had sought the interview in consequence of a resolution arrived at by the local committee of the China Railways Company (Limited) that all further action in regard to the objects of the company should be suspended till his Excellency's arrived at Hong Kong. The secretary informed Sir Rutherford that in February of last year Sir Macdonald Stephenson, as he might be aware, visited Hong Kong and Canton, and collected the views of the merchants and others, native and foreign, as to the advantages that would accrue to China from a system of railways. He also obtained much valuable information connected with the facilities for constructing railways in China, and published the result in a pamphlet, accompanied by a map, copies of which were freely distributed here and elsewhere. A company was formed in London, and it was thought advisable by the directors that a local committee should be constituted in Hong Kong to co-operate with the London board, this system having been found to work well on the first introduction of railways in India and elsewhere.

The line which the Board recommended to the special notice of the local committee was a short one of about 12 miles, from Canton to Fatshan, capable of being quickly and cheaply laid down, and likely to be remunerative. A committee was accordingly formed, who, at their first meeting, resolved that the views of the Viceroy of Canton should be, if possible, obtained unofficially in a private interview, for the purpose of ascertaining whether he would lend his countenance and co-operation towards effecting the objects of the company.

Mr. D. B. Robertson, H.B.M. Consul at Canton, was therefore consulted as to the feasibility of carrying out the committee's suggestion; but Mr. Robertson's reply was not favourable, as his Excellency would see from the report of the interview, from which he would now trouble him with an extract.

"Report of the proceedings at an interview between D. B. Robertson, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul at Canton, and Messrs. W. Delano, Jun., and Robert S. Walker, Chairman and Honorary Secretary to the Local Committee of the China Railways Company (Limited), held on the 5th July, 1865.

Mr. Delano explained to Mr. Robertson that he and Mr. Walker had called upon him consequent upon the following resolution passed by the Committee of the China Railways Company (Limited):—

"Resolved that a sub-Committee be appointed to ascertain unofficially the views of the Governor-General of Canton as to the objects of the company. That the committee so appointed shall invite the Consuls of all nations to accompany them at the interview, and that a public meeting be convened to receive the report of the Committee, and to consult upon what further steps it may be desirable to take."

Mr. Delano then informed Mr. Robertson that the object of the visit was to make preliminary arrangements for carrying out the Committee's resolution.

Mr. Robertson here mentioned, for the information of the committee, that on receipt from Mr. Walker of certain papers relating to the subject

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of railways in China and to the company which had been formed for carrying out the scheme, he had previous to his visiting Hong Kong taken an opportunity during an interview with his Excellency the Governor-General of the Two Qwang Provinces, of mentioning privately the subject of the introduction of railways into China, and that a meeting had been held in Hong Kong to discuss the question. During the conversation he did not fail to impress upon his Excellency the great and numerous benefits that would result to China from a system of railways. He found that the subject was by no means a new one to the Viceroy, and that his Excellency had heard and read a good deal on the matter; in fact, he was perfectly aware that the scheme was on foot.

His Excellency listened most attentively and courteously to all that he urged upon his notice, but commissioned him to inform the Committee that he had no power whatever to grant permission for the prosecution of any such object, as that proposed. As regarded the particular line suggested, viz., from Canton to Fatshan, H.E. reminded him that such a line must pass through a district inhabited by a most turbulent and independent people, the land in and surrounding which was owned by men most jealous of their territorial rights.

Mr. Robertson, upon being applied to by Mr. Delano as to what he would recommend to be done under circumstances, replied that he would with pleasure ask for an audience with the Viceroy, and he had no doubt that His Excellency would grant the interview; but with reference to that portion of the resolution of the local committee, which provided for the deputation being accompanied by the consuls of all nations, he must remind Mr. Delano that such a course would entirely deprive the meeting of that unofficial character which the committee considered it desirable to attach to it. In regard, however, to the utility of a nominally unofficial interview, he had the gravest doubt on his mind, as the committee might depend upon his Excellency's reply being unfavourable, and if so he (Mr. Robertson) did not clearly see what could be gained by it, more particularly as it would be impossible to divest from the minds of the Chinese present the fact of its being anything but an official visit. He was of opinion, therefore, that anything the Viceroy might say at the interview would be tantamount to an official refusal, and he (Mr. Robertson) thought that such was not a position in which it would be advisable at the very outset to place the committee.

As regarded the line of country through which it was proposed to carry the experimental line, he would beg to remark that a railway from Canton to Fatshan would traverse through a portion of what is termed the Ninety-six Villages, which everyone who has been long resident in Canton well knows to be inhabited by a people the most independent, and the most inimical to foreigners; and as he considered that everything depended upon the success attending the preliminary steps taken, he would strongly advise a very serious consideration of the circumstances he had mentioned.

Mr. Robertson concluded by stating that, in his opinion, the Governor-General had not the power to give the necessary authority for any undertaking of the kind; nor did he think, without an Imperial order from Peking, that any official in Canton would incur the risk of an *emeute* on the part of the people which the prosecution of such a scheme would in all probability involve. He, however, requested Mr. Delano and Mr. Walker to convey to the committee the assurance of his readiness to assist them to the very utmost of his power."

The committee thereupon held another meeting, at which, as already mentioned, it was determined to suspend all further proceedings till His Excellency's arrival, and it was resolved that a deputation should wait upon His Excellency during his stay at this port.

The secretary concluded by expressing a hope that Sir Rutherford would favour them with his best advice, and that he would extend to them his assistance in carrying out the object of the company, which was in the first instance to establish an experimental line intended to ultimately form part of a grand system of railways extending from Hankow N.E.S. and W., connecting that important and central city with Peking, Shanghai, Canton, and the confines of our Indian possessions.

His Excellency replied to the effect that there could be no doubt railways would be a great boon and blessing to the people of China, by tending to their civilisation and improvement and to the facilitating, by means of quicker communication, the Government of the country. It was clear, however, to his mind, and would be doubtless to the minds of those present and of all associated with China, that every measure which tended to remove and annihilate distance between the Central Seat of Government and the Provincial Governors, would be very unpopular with the latter, as it must necessarily diminish their authority and create a close supervision of their proceedings. Great opposition must therefore be naturally looked for from the Local Authorities. There would also be difficulties connected with the compulsory sale of land which was contrary to all the ideas of the Chinese. These difficulties, however, he did not look upon as so hard to overcome as the mandarin obstructiveness. As regarded the physical difficulties of the country he could conceive none that an engineer would not easily overcome. In reference to the particular line most suitable for an experimental one, he was inclined to agree with Mr. Robertson that the selection of that from Canton to Fatshan was an unfortunate one, owing to the objections described by Mr. Robertson, but without reference to these obstacles he thought that a line as near as possible to the Central seat of Government would be preferable, as coming more under the immediate notice of those whose attention it should be to draw to the desirability of railways. He must remind the deputation, however, of the mighty innovation which railways would be upon all the preconceived notions of the Chinese. He could scarcely, taking all the probable impediments into consideration, hold out much hope of a speedy realisation of their wishes; nevertheless, they might depend upon his support, and he would not fail to use his best influence with his colleagues in favour of the measure. The deputation then retired, after thanking his Excellency for the kind and courteous manner in which he had received them.

The *Daily Press*, in reference to the Mint, states that Mr Mercer, the acting Governor, being alarmed that the establishment would not pay, has notified that all the bullion sent in during the first three months will be coined free! We cannot believe this statement.

On the mortality in the garrison, the same paper states:—

We regret that from information we have received we have reason to believe that sickness is not on the decrease in the Military Hospital, notwithstanding the alteration in the temperature that we have lately enjoyed. As no doubt the culpability that has led to the annihilation of the 2nd Battalion of the 11th (as far as military purposes go), will be sought to be screened by ascribing the mortality and sickness solely to the deadly character of the climate of Hong Kong, we would mention as an item to be taken into consideration in forming an opinion upon the subject, that whilst over 50 men out of 600 have died in three to four months, in the 2nd of the 11th, at the Victoria Gaol, with an average of about 130 European prisoners there has only been one death during the past summer. Whilst the military have one half of a battalion invalided, the convicts have at present four men in hospital. It appears to us either that the gaol itself, the management of the convicts (or both) must possess an immense superiority over the treatment our poor soldiers are receiving in this colony. Another fact—out of 11,500 men stationed in North Western India (including cholera cases) there have been in the second quarter of the present year but 150 deaths.

The Postmaster has at last completed his arrangements for closing the mail for England at 9 A.M. on the day of departure, instead of 6 P.M. the previous day, as heretofore.

The following are the bank returns for the average amount of notes in circulation:—

Oriental Bank	$509,247
Mercantile Bank	456,611
Chartered Bank	455,486
Agra and Masterman's Bank	374 648
H.K. and S. Banking Company ..	612,656
	$2,406,648

With the exception of a destructive fire, attended with loss of life, we have nothing to report from Canton. Everything is quiet there, and nothing has been heard of the rebels. From Pok-lo and the Christian villages thereabout we have nothing further to communicate.

At Macao the Coolie trade is still rampant, with all its abominations. The enquiries instituted, or said to have been instituted, by Governor Amaral, have ended in smoke. Day after day, some additional iniquity comes to light in connection with this horrible traffic. Coolies kidnapped, imprisoned in barracoons, flogged to make them consent to sign the iniquitous contract that binds them to a life of slavery, marched with a strong guard to testify at the Government Offices to their signature as given voluntarily and freely, half-starved, exposed to blindness and disease on board ship in transit to the place of their exile tossed overboard or left on some barren isle to die, if loss of sight or sickness renders them useless to their masters. Such are the grand features of the Macao Coolie Trade, supported by the Governor in his official acts and in the semi-official paper he edits. Such are the horrors of a slave trade, worse than that of the poor African negro, which all nations ought to unite to put an end to.

The lighthouse, noticed in a former number as having been erected on the Guia Fort, has not been in use lately, having been injured by fire.

The *Mail* says:—The Imperial Maritime Customs, with its foreign inspectorate, seems to be working very smoothly and pleasantly just at present. We have heard no complaints of late, and the Chinese authorities at the open ports, acting under the advice of the heads of the Custom-house, and through them, have of late manifested some little energy in the matter of light-houses, harbour-lights, buoys, &c.

The delightful weather still continues, though slightly warmer than usual at this season of the year. One of the largest fires which has occurred for some years took place at West Point, whereby some thirty houses were burned down, and the great need of some organisation against a like emergency was clearly evidenced.

Piracy has at last received a check of some importance by the joint action of two or three of the gunboats of H.M.'s navy: some nine or ten piratical craft have been destroyed, and a lorcha taken, and it is supposed some evidence has been secured regarding the lorcha which lately committed the outrage upon the *Henry Darling*. Such services are very satisfactory—only they would require to be repeated every other week, in order effectually to clear the coast of these pests of the seas. It is gratifying that the vampires have had to give way once more before the pluck and daring of British sailors, still it would be even more pleasing to know that they had been effectually and permanently prepared for and checkmated by some able move on the part of our naval officers in these waters. The gunboats engaged were the *Cormorant*, *Opossum*, and *Leven*, Captain Knevitt, by whom the largest portion of

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work was accomplished. This is the same officer who rendered such efficient service to the French mail steamer *Hydaspe*, for which he was presented with a gold watch by the French Government.

The Rev. Dr. Legge has returned from Japan, and given at the Union Chapel an interesting account of his visit, with which he has been much charmed. The scenery especially at the entrance of Nagasaki.

MALACCA STRAITS.

SINGAPORE.

The English mail of 10th Oct., per Peninsular and Oriental steamer *Behar*, broke down off Pulo Jara, and was towed back to Penang on the 11th Nov. Dates are down to the 22nd.

We (*Free Press*) believe the Government is about to appoint a committee, composed of the following gentlemen, viz., the Hon. the Resident Councillor, Mr. W. W. Willans, and Mr. W. H. Read, to inquire into the charges brought against certain members of the police force in the petition. The above names guarantee an impartial investigation. On the 13th Nov. the Marine Magistrate investigated the charge of mutinous conduct brought by Captain Thomson, of the barque *Thomas Drgden*, against three or four of his seamen, and sentenced Palmer, the man who, it will be remembered, was shot in the neck by the captain, to four months' imprisonment in the House of Correction, with hard labour, and the others to a fortnight's incarceration. The charge against the captain of shooting with intent of course falls to the ground, and he will be released from his bail.

A passenger for Suez by the steamer *Shaftesbury*, part owner of that vessel, got into a slight fracas with another passenger between China and this port, and in the heat of passion struck his opponent once or twice. It was a case that could have been easily disposed of by the police magistrate without causing any unnecessary delay to the defendant; but although the vessel lay in the harbour two days no steps were taken to prosecute the case at the police court; the plaintiff electing to bring an action of damages against the defendant in the Civil Court. A warrant was obtained accordingly, and the defendant was detained until the case could be disposed of. The latter admitted his fault and offered to pay $150 to the plaintiff as compensation, so that he might prosecute his voyage as he was in charge of a valuable cargo of silkworms' eggs, and did not like being left behind. The offer was indignantly refused, and an absurdly exorbitant sum demanded. The defendant refused to comply, and as he was anxious to proceed by the French mail to Galle to intercept the *Shaftesbury*, his honor the judge was moved to take the case as soon as possible, and he at once with his usual courtesy and kindness, heard it on Monday, and the result was, as was generally anticipated, the plaintiff got a farthing damages. The defendant left by the *Cambodge* for Galle.

On the Prince of Wales' birthday the flagstaffs were gaily decorated with flags, and the Royal standard hoisted at Fort Canning and Mount Faber, and at noon a salute of 17 guns was fired from Fort Canning.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

(Announcements for subscribers are made free of charge.)

BIRTHS.

BIELFELD—On the 12th Nov., at Hong Kong, the wife of Mr. Alexander Bielfeld, of a son.

BLAKISTON—On the 20th Dec., at 130, Marina, St. Leonard's-on-Sea, the wife of Commander Peyton Blakiston, R.N., of a son.

HELBLING—On the 13th Dec., at Caenwood House, Grove-road, Clapham-park, the wife of Frederick Helbling, Esq., of a daughter.

LESSLER—On the 4th Nov., at Bangkok, the wife of Paul Lessler, Esq., of a son.

PERCEVAL—On the 11th Dec., at Temple House, county Sligo, the wife of Alexander Perceval, Esq., of a son.

PROBST—On the 20th Dec., at 2, Victoria-road, Clapham-common, the wife of Peter E. Probst, Esq., of a son.

VACHER—On the 15th Dec., at Belmont House, Lee, the wife of W. H. Vacher, Esq., Agent Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank, of a son.

WEST—On the 25th Dec., at 15, Frampton Bark-villas, Hackney, the wife of James West, late of China, of a son.

WIESE—On the 19th Dec., at Berkely Lodge, Sydenham-hill, the wife of Ludwig Wiese, Esq., late of Hong Kong, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BRENIER—MORTMORAND.—On the 28th Oct., at the French Catholic Church, Shanghai Monsieur Georges Brenier, Agent of the Messageries Imperiales Company, to Isabelle, daughter of Vicomte Brenier de Mortmorand, Consul-General for France.

MICHIE—ROBINSON.—On the 16th Dec., at St. Stephen's, Coleman-street, by the Rev. Josiah Pratt, vicar, Alexander Michie, Esq., of Shanghai, to Ann, daughter of C. M. Robinson, Esq. No cards.

MILLER—TOWNSEND:—On the 14th Dec., at Christ Church, Clifton, by the Rev. T. N. Irwin, rector of Charlynch, Somerset, assisted by the Rev. J. J. Irwin, D.D., of Hong Kong, and the Rev. M. Brock, incumbent of Christ Church, the Rev. Thomas Miller, Fellow and Lecturer, of Queen's College, Cambridge, second son of the late Rev. J. Miller, rector of Tamlaght O'Crilly, Londonderry, to Caroline Charlotte, fourth daughter of the late Rev. C. C. Townsend, of Derry, Ross Carbery, county Cork, and granddaughter of the late Major-General Oliver, Colonel Commandant of the Royal Artillery. No cards.

DEATHS.

COOK—On the 2nd Nov., at Hong Kong, of dysentery, John H. Cook, aged 24 years.

DUNLOP—On the 31st Oct., at 19, Hollywood-road, Hong Kong, Ludovic G. Dunlop, of the firm of Birley, Worthington, and Co., Shanghai, in his 33rd year.

GAILLARD—On the 5th Nov., at Canton, aged 8 years, Charles A., only son of the late Charles W Gaillard, Missionary of the Southern Baptist Convention.

GOEDE—On the 1st Nov., on board the Hamburg barque Sarah and Maria, Julius, eldest son of Captain Lorenz Goede, aged 6 years.

GOODBAN—On the 29th Oct., at Yokehama, Alfred Charles Goodban, Deputy Assistant Superintendent of Stores.

HOORN—On the 15th Nov., at Belvedere, Tanglin, Singapore, Hendrik Jacob Van Hoorn Esq., aged 46 years.

INGRAM—On the 27th Oct., at the General Hospital, John Ingram, late Chief Officer of the Lightship, Langshan Crossing.

KNOTT—On the 8th Oct., at Chinkiang, by drowning in the Yang-tsze, John D. S. Knott, aged 20 years, a native of London.

NIXON—On the 5th Oct., at Shanghai, suddenly, Captain Nixon, of the British barque Alice.

PENNEY—On the 29th Oct., at Shanghai, Captain J. F. Penney, Superintendent of the Shanghai Brick and Saw Mill Company, aged 46 years and four months. Deceased was a native of Long Island, N.Y., U.S.A.

PRESTON—On the 5th Nov., at Shanghai, Georgiana Cumming, the beloved wife of George Frederick Preston.

SAMSON—On the 6th Oct., at Shanghai, from dysentery, Robert Samson, a native of Dundee, Scotland, late Master of British barque Elizabeth.

SPROUL—On the 6th Nov., at the Seaman's Hospital, Hong Kong, W. Sproul, late Engineer S.S. Feloong.

THOMSON—On the 25th Oct., Capt. W. Thomson, of the Br. barque Seaton, aged 55 years. The deceased was a native of Workington, Cumberland.

EXPORT OF TEA AND SILK TO GREAT BRITAIN.

1865-66.

	From Kanagawa.	From Shanghai.	From Foochow.	From Amoy.	From Canton, Macao, &c.	Total lbs.	SILK. Total Bales.
From June 1 to Oct 31, 1865	1722939	34358515	33940800	747284	7769973	78539511	44458
Corresponding period last season	682976	40835871	33969626	453017	7098470	83039960	17419

SAILED SINCE.

	Ship.	From.		
Nov. 6 ...	Emue (mail str.) ...	Shanghai, &c.... ...	—	1,757
— — ...	Prince Alfred	Do.	923,630	
— — ...	Spanker	Canton	826,868	
— 1 ...	Esperanza	Foochow	960,200	
— 4 ...	Alexandrina	Do.	853,300	

TO UNITED STATES.

							Piculs.
From June 1 to Oct. 31, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	8401389	1913
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	6185852	...

SINCE SAILED.

Nov. 8 ...	Mandarin	Foochow	268,400	
— 9 ...	Gazelle	Do. (not reported).		

TO THE CONTINENT.

							Bales
From June 1 to Oct. 31, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	1986640	...
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	38900	...

SAILED SINCE.

None.

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

						Tea pkgs	Boxes.
From June 1 to Oct. 31, 1865	...	...	...	...	...	17595	405
Corresponding period last season	...	...	...	...	...	12636	61

SHIPMENTS SINCE.

None.

TO AUSTRALIA.

From June 1 to Oct. 31, 1865	4,650,935
Corresponding period last year	6,479,450

SAILED SINCE.

Nov. 1 ...	Ashburton	Foochow...	668,700	

TO GREAT BRITAIN.

From 1843 to 1844.....	...	...	...	51,022,600	...
,, 1845 to 1846.....	...	...	...	57,334,200	18,604
,, 1850 to 1851.....	...	...	...	63,972,000	22,143
,, 1853 to 1854.....	...	...	...	77,327,800	61,280
,, 1855 to 1856.....	...	...	...	92,240,300	50,480
,, 1857 to 1858.....	...	...	...	76,990,255	68,311
,, 1858 to 1859.....	...	...	...	65,789,792	83,136
,, 1859 to 1860.....	...	...	...	85,560,452	64,163
,, 1860 to 1861.....	...	...	...	90,066,160	70,644
,, 1861 to 1862.....	...	...	...	109,854,040	79,199
,, 1862 to 1863.....	...	...	...	121,273,580	72,848
,, 1863 to 1864.....	...	...	...	117,463,586	46,605
,, 1864 to 1865.....	...	...	...	121,236,870	32317

EXPORT OF SUNDRIES TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	Cotton Piculs.	Wool Piculs.	Camphor Piculs.	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Japan Wax Piculs.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865.	...	...	...	2375	133	...

TO THE CONTINENT.

	Cassia Piculs.	Aniseed Oil Boxes.	Camphor Piculs.	Preserves Boxes.	Galangal Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1 to Oct. 31, 1865 ..	15260	30	...	19	...	530

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TO THE UNITED STATES.

	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Fans Boxes.	Cassia Piculs.	Silk Pongees Pieces.	Wool Piculs.
From June 1 to Sept. 30, 1865..	36125	16123	900	3030	...	...

TO SAN FRANCISCO.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Rice Piculs.	Crackers Boxes.	Matting Rolls.	Opium Prepared Taels.
From June 1 to Oct. 31, 1865..	43	5883	107124	1700	640	175300

SHIPMENTS SINCE.

None.

TO AUSTRALIA.

	Emigrants Number.	Sugar Piculs.	Oil Piculs.	Matting Rolls.	Prepared Opium Taels.	Crackers Boxes.
From June 1 to Oct. 31, 1865..	...	...	415	1603	...	...

The picul is 133⅓ lbs. weight; the tael at Shanghai is equal to 1 dollar and 40 cents and is divided into decimal parts of ten.

EXCHANGES ON LONDON.

[For dates, see first page.]

		Bank.	Private.
At Yokohama	6 months sight.	4s. 4d.	4s. 5d. to 4s. 5¼d.
At Shanghai (per Tael.)	6 ditto	6s. 1¼d.	6s. 2d. to 6s. 3d.
At Canton, At Hong Kong, At Macao	6 ditto	4s. 7d.	4s. 7¾d. to 4s. 8¼d.
At Singapore	6 ditto	4s. 6¾d. to 4s. 7d.	4s. 7d. to 4s. 8d.
At Manila	6 ditto		

At Shanghai, Bills on India, Rs. 298 to 299 per 100 taels. At Hong Kong, Rs. 217 per $100. Bar Silver at Shanghai, 111 taels; at Hong Kong, 10 per cent. prem. Mexican dollars at Shanghai, taels 72 per 100, and Exchange on Hong Kong, 27 to 27½ discount. Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank shares, 6 prem.; Gas Company, 30 prem.; Hong Kong and Whampoa Docks, 40 prem.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

CHINA IMPORTS.

HONG KONG.

COTTON YARN.—A very material advance has been established in the value of this important article during the past fortnight, and we quote it from $25 to 45 per bale higher than under date of last circular; the transactions of the fortnight amount to about 550 bales, and there is now hardly any stock in first hands. Grey Shirtings: Since the departure of the last mail steamer the market for these goods has been extremely active, and large purchases have been made by both the native dealers and foreign speculators at an advance of from 40 to 50 cents per piece upon the prices current under date of last report. The market is now extremely bare of stocks, and there seems no immediate prospect of rates giving way. White Shirtings: Have also met with a fair amount of inquiry since the beginning of the month, but the extreme smallness of stocks has tended to restrict the actual business transacted. The prices now demanded by holders are very high, and the Chinese are unwilling to purchase largely at present. Sales for the fortnight, 11,000 pieces, which consist, in a great measure, of goods "to arrive." T-Cloths: The sales effected of these goods have been much restricted by the very short supplies now held by importers; prices show a material advance, and the dealers are willing buyers at the quotations. Settlements, 2,750 pieces. American Drills: The market continues quite bare of these manufactures. White Spotted Shirtings, Dyed do., Brocades, White and Coloured: There have not been any sales of these goods reported. Damasks and Chintzes: 500 pieces of the latter have found buyers during the fortnight. Handkerchiefs: There are not any sales reported. Raw Cotton: The receipts of this staple upon the market have reached a moderate average during the past fortnight, and the settlements reported amount to about 11,000 bales of all kinds. Prices show an advance equal to $2.50 per picul upon Indian staple, and to $3 upon cotton of native growth. There are moderate supplies known to be on the way from India, but it is not probable that these will be continued with the high quotations which are obtainable on the home side, while the price of the staple in the north of China is now quite as high as with us. The settlements on the Canton market amount to 4,500 bales, principally Bengal cotton.

WOOLLENS.—Spanish Stripes, Medium Cloths, Ladies' and Habit Cloths: The sales reported amount to about 950 pieces of the first named, which have been purchased at slightly higher prices than were obtainable last month. Long Ells: Are very firmly maintained in value, and have met with a fair amount of inquiry, the sales reported are 1,500 pieces. Camlets: 340 pieces have found buyers at previous rates. Lastings: Sales of 400 pieces are reported. Blankets: 500 pairs have found buyers.

METALS.—Iron Nail Rod, &c.: The quotations in this colony for the various qualities of iron imported show but little alteration when compared with those given under date of last report, while the large purchases then advised appear to have fully satisfied the immediate requirements of the dealers. Settlements, which are limited to nail rod, amount to 820 piculs. In the Canton market the value is slightly higher, and the settlements are put at 930 piculs. Lead: This article is slowly advancing in price, and sales of 1,200 piculs are reported from Canton. Tin: 1,500 slabs have found buyers during the fortnight. Tin Plates: 1,600 boxes have been sold. Steel: Nothing doing.

COALS.—HONG KONG.—One cargo only has arrived since the date of last report, but it has not been placed on the market. There are no transactions to report. Holders to arrive are firm, and the prospects for the next few cargoes that may come to market are decidedly favourable. Meanwhile the price of English may be called $12, Welsh $12.50, Australian $8 to $9. Shanghai: Since the 25th ultimo, the rates for coals have continued firm for all descriptions, and as purchasers have been more willing to accede to the prices demanded, there has been greater activity in the market than heretofore. English Steam Coals have been sold from ship at 9.7.5 tls. per ton, and Cardiffs at 10.7.5 tls. per ton; from godown the last current rates have been paid. American Coals have been in good request for Chinese account, and sales have been effected at 1.2.5 tls. to 13.5.0 tls. per ton from godown. Sydney Coals remain as per our last, all the stocks afloat having been cleared at 8 tls. per ton.

CHINA EXPORTS.

TEA.—CANTON.—There has been a quiet market during the past fortnight, and transactions have been limited owing to the scarcity of the finer sorts, which buyers seem rather inclined towards. Five chops of country Congous have been taken at full prices, leaving only two in stock, one of which arrived in the early part of the fortnight. Country Greens: Some 1,400 half-chests have been settled at about former rates, which closes the season with the exception of one chop for which the holder is asking an extreme price. Canton Greens: 1,000 boxes Imperial and 100 half-chests Hyson have been taken for the Continent at full prices. Canton-made Teas: A few parcels of Congou have been taken, and a moderate business done in Scented kinds, consisting principally of the common to medium grades at former prices.

AMOY.—During the early part of last month this market was tolerably quiet, and continued so with gradually drooping rates, but during the last few days the teamen have been firm for an advance, and purchases cannot now be made except at a rise of $1 to $2 from the lowest point of the market.

FOOCHOW.—Congou: For a few days after the last mail left, settlements continued to be made at last quotations; but on the receipt of the English mail, bringing more favourable news of the state of the home market, numerous buyers came forward, and a large business has since been done at higher prices: say 5 mace on dusty and common, and 1 to 2 taels on flavory kinds. Supplies are coming in freely, and are expected to be in excess of last season at least 50,000 chests. Souchong: The market has been nearly cleared of these; the commoner grades being taken for America, whilst a few chops of 1st crop teas held over by the teamen, have been settled for the Continent at prices showing an advance on opening rates. Oolongs are taken as soon as they arrive, and may be quoted 1 to 2 taels dearer. The fourth crop as anticipated, has offered a better selection, and a few chops extra fine have been secured at 26 to 30 taels.

SHANGHAI.—Black: During the fortnight there has been an active business in Black Tea, and prices have advanced from one to two taels since the date of our last. The advices from London are considered very satisfactory. Our stocks are now so much reduced as to show clearly that the season's supply is coming to an end, and our advices from Hankow and Kiukiang lead us to accept little more from these ports. Settlements have been as under:—7 chops third crop Oopack, at 22 to 27.50 taels; 30 chops third crop Ningchow, at 28 to 29 taels; 6 chops third crop Oonahm, at 20 to 24 taels; 3 chops third crop Hohow, at 16 to 18.5 taels. Green: A large business has again been doing in Country Teas, and there has been considerable competition for finest chops; on these classes we can report an advance of two taels. Sun sun-mow-kee has fetched 45 taels proportion, and other known chops 42 to 43 taels. Pingsueys are now becoming scarce, and command full rates, five chops are reported as settled at 32 to 37½ taels. Shanghai-packed kinds remain neglected, but are in small supply.

YOKOHAMA.—We have to report considerable activity in our tea market during the past fortnight, and every parcel of good quality has been bought up eagerly for the American market. Prices have continued to advance, and they now show a rise of fully $3 per picul on our quotations of the 15th inst.

NAGASAKI.—The article has continued in fair demand at a slight reduction on former rates; settlements for the month amount to about 3,500 piculs of good medium to fine kinds. Stocks of fine description are very light, and of finest only a few trifling parcels have as yet been received.

RAW SILK.—SHANGHAI.—This steamer takes 1,484 bales silk for Southampton, 291 do. for Marseilles, and 839 cases silkworms' eggs for Suez and Marseilles. During the past fortnight business has been on a reduced scale, and settlements are limited to 300 to 400 bales; buyers apparently finding little in the later European advices to encourage them in paying 1s. 6d. to 2s. per lb. in advance of last London qutations. Supplies from the interior, on the other hand, have been arriving pretty freely, giving us an unsold stock of at least 2,500 bales, representing nearly every description of silk. The settlements since the date of our last issue are estimated at only 2,700 bales, giving a total from the 1st June to date of 43,200 bales (viz.: 36,250 bales Chinas, and 6,950 bales Japans), against a total of 23,500 for the corresponding period of last season. Quotations:—Tsatlees, No. 1, nominal; No. 3, 550 to 570 tls.; No. 4, 515 to 535 tls.; No. 5, 460 to 505 tls.

YOKOHAMA.—After the departure of the last mail steamer from hence business in Silk remained quiet and prices without alteration until the arrival of the Singapore, with the 26th of August mail. The demand then became more active, and prices rose gradually up to $880, which was paid for a lot of fine Mybash. The market closes very firm indeed, and a further advance seems anything but improbable. The settlements for the fortnight amount to 250 bales, making a total for the season of 5,050 bales, against 4,400 bales at the same time last year.

DRUGS, &c.—CANTON.—In consequence of further extensive and high-rated settlements, amounting in all to 1,700 pls. at $17.50 per picul, and

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leaving but a moderate stock of 1,500 pls. on the market, holders are firmer again in their demands, and the article must be quoted at fully $17.10 to 17.40 per picul. Cassia Buds: None of the new crop has been brought to market, though the port of Macao has been favoured with supplies. Judging from samples to hand, the quality of this season's yield is very fair—it is asserted that supplies will be scant. China Galls: No alteration in value of stock, and no sales for export reported. Vermilion: $37.50 per box of 50 catties—demand for export small. Galangal continues in heavy stock, and is offered at $2. Rhubarb: No supplies, and nothing doing. Musk: The high rates paid for native demand check settlements for export. Essential Oils: Nothing offering, and further supplies of Anniseed Oil not expected before the beginning of next year.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.

At YOKOHAMA.—From London: Oct. 19, Castleton; 17, from Shields, Manchester.

At SHANGHAI.—From Cardiff: Oct. 24, John Stanton, jun.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—From London: Nov. 7, James Russell; from Cardiff, 11, Agincourt; from Rotterdam, 1, Nova Zembla.

At SINGAPORE.—From Glasgow: Nov. 13, Foam.

At PENANG.—None.

At BATAVIA.—From London: William Simpson, Zeenymph; from Glasgow, County of Lanark.

DEPARTURES.

From YOKOHAMA.—For London: Oct. 24, Simon Hobley.

From KIU-KIANG.—For London: Oct. 30, Emperor.

From SHANGHAI.—For London: Oct. 27, Wild Deer; 28, Queen of the Ocean; 31, Ensign; Nov. 1, Helen Nicholson, Prince Alfred; for Liverpool, Oct. 27, Patna.

From FOOCHOW.—For London: Oct. 25, Caractacus, Lord Macaulay; 29, Banian; 30, Esperanza; Nov. 6, Alexandrina; for New York: Tavistock.

From HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Nov. 4, Spanker; for Hamburg, Oct. 22, Overmann (via Macao); 26, Gustav Adolph; Nov. 9, Woizlava; for New York, Oct. 18, Powhattan; 19, Sea Serpent.

From MACAO.—For London: Oct. 23, Yaratilda; 28, Tamerlane; Nov. 9, Annie Archbell.

From SINGAPORE—For Liverpool: 21, Lochleven Castle.

From PENANG.—For London: Nov. 7, Balnaguith; 22, Nyassa.

LOADING.

At YOKOHAMA.—For London: Cleveland. For New York: Raphael, Vinco, Onita, and Sam Russell.

At NAGASAKI.—For London: Chanticleer.

At SHANGHAI.—Glencoe, City of Quebec, Horsa, Robin Hood, Invincible, Whitehall.

At FOOCHOW.—For London: Bemah.

At HONG KONG and CANTON.—For London: Arab Steed, Seaton, Stirlingshire, Layard.

At MANILA.—For London: Lottie Warren, Monsoon. For Liverpool: Labrador, Tetuan. For New York: Madagascar.

At SINGAPORE.—For London: Winterthur Rosella. For Liverpool: Excelsior. For Falmouth: Hermeline, Wazen Krchr. For New York: Atilla. For Boston: Alexander.

At PENANG.—For London: Mariquita.

At BATAVIA.—For Channel: Rifleman. For Continent: Grootmeester, Nationaal, Batavia, Minister Thorbecke, Glenforth, Sir John Moore, H. I. Ambacht, Lobelia, Jacob Roggeveen, S. Van Heel, Nyverheib, Constantia, Doelwyk, Philips Van Marnix, Bezoekie, Admiral de Ruyter, Nederland and Oranje.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

YOHOHAMA.—To London: Cotton and tea, £2. to £2. 10s. per ton; silk, £4 to £4. 10s.

SHANGHAI.—To London: £1. 5s. to £1. 10s. per ton, of 50 cubic feet. To New York: £1. 15s. to £2 per ton, of 40 cubic feet.

FOOCHOW.—To London: Rates have temporarily advanced to £2. 10s., owing to a scarcity of suitable vessels. To New York: $9.

HONG KONG AND CANTON.—The freight market maintains a slight improvement, though no fresh direct home charter has taken place. The following charters are from the circular of George Holmes:—Cambalu, 536; Foochow to London, at £2. 5s.; Bacchanter (716), do. at £1. 17s. 6d.; Jessie Beazley (457); Iloilo to Great Britain or Continent, £2. 10s. per ton; Condor (373), do. £1. 15s. to £2. There are several charters from rice ports to Great Britain, at £2. 12s. 6d.; Continent, £2. 15s., or if back to Hong Kong 50c. per picul. Estimated number and tonnage of disengaged vessels in Hong Kong, 106; 43,204 tons.

SINGAPORE.—To London: Dead weight, £1. 2s. 6d.; measurement, £1. 12s. 6d.

PENANG.—To United Kingdom: Dead weight, £1. 2s. 6d.; light freight, £1. 10s. per ton.

BATAVIA.—To London: Sugar, £2 per ton.

CASUALTIES.

SHANGHAI.

The Helen Douglas, on her voyage from Shanghai to Singapore, foundered in the vicinity of Foochow on the 22nd December; part of crew saved.

The Qualee went ashore in thick weather on the north side of the Shantung Promontory, and at once bilged. The master and crew, after spending twenty-four hours in their boats, were picked up by a junk and taken to Chefoo, whence they were brought to Shanghai per steamer.

FOOCHOW.

The British barque Shakespear, Captain Thomas, which left Hong Kong bound to Foochow, was totally lost off the White Dogs on the night of the 3rd November. She had made the island to the northward during the morning, and shaped a course for the White Dogs. The weather being very thick, the rocks to the northward and westward of Middle Dog were mistaken for the breakwater rocks, and the vessel being rounded to, she was on the reefs almost immediately. At high water she floated off, and was brought to anchor to the southward of Tongshan; but as she rapidly filled, the assistance of boats, &c., was requested of the Dumbarton, at anchor in the vicinity. The vessel was at once abandoned, nothing being saved but the personal effects of the crew and officers.

VESSELS PASSED STRAITS OF SUNDA.

From ENGLAND and CONTINENT to CHINA, &c.—None reported.

From CHINA, &c., to ENGLAND and CONTINENT.—November 2, Philip Nelson, Shanghai to London; 3, Eliza Thornton, Singapore to London; 3, Gresham, Hong Kong to London; 4, Douglas, —— to London; Peerless, Manila to Liverpool; V. de Paul, Saigon to Toulon; 5, Constance, Hong Kong to London; 5, Bengal to London, Aurora Australis, Foochow to London; 6, Melita, Manila to London; Herald, Macao to London; 8, Hydra, Foochow to Cowes; Iron Crown, Shanghai to London.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

CHINA, SOUTH COAST—REVOLVING LIGHT AT FORT GUIA, MACAO.

Information has been received at the Admiralty that the Portuguese Government have established a light at Fort Guia, on the peninsular of Macao, South Coast of China. The light is a revolving white light, placed at an elevation of about 330 feet above the mean level of the sea, and, in clear weather, should be seen from a distance of 20 miles. The tower stands in about lat. 22 deg. 12 min. N., lon. 113 deg. 33 min. 30 sec. East of Greenwich.

This notice affects the following Admiralty charts:—China, general, No. 1262, sheets 1, 3, 4; Nos. 2212, 2660, 2661; Canton River sheet, 5, No. 1739; Macao, No. 1290; Hainan Island to Macao, No. 1246; Canton River and Western Branches, No. 2562; and China Sea Index, No. 1270.

ARRIVALS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TABLES.—Dec., from Hong Kong, Seawfell; at Liverpool, from Singapore, Vigil; 23, at London, from Penang, Shantung; from Colombo, Frances Banfield; from Singapore, Lord Raglan; 19, off Scilly, from Singapore, Unicorn; from Rangoon, Hindostan; 23, at Queenstown, from Maulmain, City of Quebec; 23, off Portland, from Sourabaya, Brandon; 26, at London, from Colombo, Acacia; 26, at Deal, from Singapore, Ernst Merck; at London, from China, Fychow; 25, at Deal, from Penang, Edinburgh Castle; at Queenstown, from Bassein, Star of the Teign; off Portland, from Sourabaya Brandon.

SPOKEN.—Huntress (ship), from Singapore Oct. 29, 31 S., 13 E.

LAID ON AT LIVERPOOL.—For Galle, Gabrielle Alice, Duc de Malakoff.

LAUNCHES, &c.

On the 19th inst. there was lauched from the shipbuilding yard at Ladyburn, belonging to the Marine Investment Company (Limited), the composite China clipper ship *John R. Worcester*, 844 tons register, but in consequence of some slight mishap on the ways the final floating of the ship is not yet accomplished. This clipper is the property of J. R. Worcester, Esq., of Messrs. Wilson, Worcester and Co., London, was designed by William Rennie, Esq., of London, the draughtsman of the famed *Fiery Cross*, and will proceed direct to China from the Clyde early in January. The dimensions of the *John R. Worcester* are:—Length 191·5 feet; breadth, 32·4 feet; depth, 19·9 feet. She is fitted with all the modern improvements, and has been built by Mr. James Paterson under contract with the Marine Investment Company (Limited).

A very handsome paddle-wheel steamer named the *Eagle* has been despatched to Nagasaki by Messrs. Thomas Walsh and E. M. de Bussche. She is commanded by Captain Lobnitz, who commanded the *Lotus* in China.

Her Majesty has been pleased to advance Sir Roderick Murchison, President Royal Geographical Society, to the dignity of a Baronet, "in recognition of distinguished merit and attainments."

MR. MARQUIS CHISHOLM AT GLASGOW.—On the 7th instant Mr. Marquis Chisholm gave an entertainment at the City-hall, Glasgow. The following is from the *Glasgow Morning Journal*:—"We venture to think that there are not many musical amateurs in our city but will have pleasant recollections of Mr. Marquis Chisholm, who enjoyed such a highly respectable reputation in Glasgow several years ago as an accomplished pianist. It is now a considerable time since he sailed for Australia along with Miss Edith Aitken, the renowned tragedienne and reader, and since his departure he has sojourned in many a distant and curious corner of the world, as well as undergone countless stirring adventures. Recently he has returned to his native country, and bids fair to regain his former well-won popularity. Yesterday evening he gave in the City-hall a literary and musical entertainment, which was well patronised by his old friends and admirers. He described his travels and experiences in a manner that afforded no little amusement, while it presented much interesting information concerning men and manners in Australia, Tasmania, China, Japan, and sundry other far lands. This portion of the entertainment was vocally illustrated in admirable style by Miss Matilda Dunsmore, Miss Jane Ray, Mr. Norman Kirby, and Mr. Stembridge Ray. It is well nigh needless to add that, with such assistance, the programme was rendered most enjoyable. Alike in a literary and musical point of view, the performances were excellent, and met with very general appreciation on the part of the audience, as was evinced by the frequent and warm applause. We should not omit to mention that the entertainments were further agreeably reinforced by the fine playing of the Glasgow Orchestra, conducted by Mr. Richard Adams. This efficient company of instrumentalists gave several pieces with much ability and taste. As notable among their selections we would name 'The Return Home,'

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a Japanese symphony and valse by Mr. Chisholm. This only formed portion of quite a Japanese concert that was effectively given in the course of the evening."

CHINESE ELEGANCIES.—A valuable collection of Chinese works of art, including many rare and important examples of the porcelain and enamels so peculiar to the country, the whole selected with good judgment by a gentleman long resident in China, was disposed of by Mr. Phillips, at his great rooms in New Bond-street. Among the more interesting specimens the subjoined merit notice:—Lot 25. A large and fine white font, with raised flowers around the belt; 24in. diameter and 20in deep—25 guineas (Wareham). 64. A finely-formed porcelain vase, on delicate blue ground, with red flowers and gold pencilling—32 guineas (Nixon and Rhodes). 66. A pair of noble cisterns of fine old Nankin china, richly decorated outside with various fish and sea plants—70 guineas (Captain Watts). 67. Another pair, formed of enamel, on metal, beautifully decorated in brilliant colours—20 guineas (Mellier). 68. A pair of large Nankin flower vases, of sexagonal form, the sides decorated with figures and rich borders of flowers—27 guineas (Marks). 76. A superb incense suite, comprising an oblong centre vase, with cover and handles, a pair of vases, and a pair of candlesticks, decorated with purple and yellow emblematical clouds and gold dragons—20 guineas (Russell). 79. A pair of very elegant jars, the bells richly painted in a great variety of figures—20 guineas (Nixon and Rhodes). 85. A magnificent temple, in Cloisonné enamel, of every grand design and elaborate decoration, enriched with figures, birds, animals, &c.—54 guineas (ditto). 91. A very fine old Nankin font, decorated with landscapes and figures, 25in. diameter and 21in. deep—40 guineas (Mellior.) 92. Another font, nearly similar—70 guineas (ditto). 191. A small suite Cloissonné enamels, of very elegant forms, including a centre and two side vases and pair of candlesticks—20 guineas (Captain Watts). 194. A noble font of Nankin china, richly ornamented with flowers, &c., on the surface—35 guineas (Wilson). 195. Another font, nearly similar—20 guineas (ditto). 202. A very fine Nankin circular bottle of great size, decorated with blue devices, with lip, double handles and foot. A very fine specimen—20 guineas (Nixon and Rhodes). 209. An elegant turquoise bottle, of the richest colour and quality, on a corresponding stand—25 guineas (ditto). 212. A pair of enamelled garden seats, exquisitely pencilled with flowers, after nature, with open sides, 20in. high—20 guineas (Durlacher). 215. A noble font of Nankin china, curiously decorated with horses, &c., in relief. 25in. by 19in.—30 guineas (Wareham). 216. A pair of Cloissonné enamel flower stand with groups of flowers issuing therefrom, designed after nature in jade and other stones—40 guineas (Captain Watts). 217. A very fine Cloissouné enamel incense burner and cover, richly decorated, on four legs, on carved wood stand—35 guineas (Mellier). 219. A large font, with raised exterior and panels in blue, enriched with landscapes and borders in compartments, 19in. deep—25 guineas (Nixon and Rhodes). 221. A pair of magnificent vases and covers, of the rarest enamel work on elephants' heads, with deep open palisade, to receive the cover, surmounted by an enamelled kylin; unique specimens of Chinese art, and the gems of the collection—450 guineas (Durlacher). 228. A pair of tablets, in stone, with raised Cloissonné ornaments of buildings, figures, &c., and carved wood frames 40in. high—25 guineas (Wareham). 233-4. A noble Nankin cistern, decorated all over with blue flowers, 21in. high and 18in. deep; and a smaller one equally fine—45 guineas (Nixon and Rhodes). The whole realised upwards of £2,400.

FRENCH TRADE IN CHINA. The *Monit ur* has the following notice of the concession reported in our last in reference to vessels trading between Saigon and China:—"According to the terms of a convention recently concluded between the Chinese Government and M. Berthemy, the French plenipotentiary in China, the voyages of French trading vessels between China, Japan, and Cochin-China will hereafter be considered in respect of the payment of tonnage dues as simple coasting voyages. Consequently, all vessels bearing the French flag will be allowed to trade between the ports of those countries without being called upon to pay tonnage dues oftener than once in four months, whatever may have been the number of voyages they may have made. This measure is also applicable to French vessels trading between one Chinese port and another without touching at any foreign port, and also to junks and other vessels employed by French merchants in coasting operations, which hitherto have been exempt from all tonnage dues under the 22nd article of the treaty of Tien-tsin."

IRISH STEAMER LOST.—The screw steamer *Ibis* was totally lost on the 21st off Cork Harbour. She left London on Monday, and yesterday she broke the crank of her engine and lay at anchor off Ballicroneen during a tremendous gale last night. She was taken in tow by the *Sabrina*, but the tow rope broke, and the *Ibis* went on the rocks and broke up. Her crew numbered 26, passengers 15. The captain and one seaman known to be saved.

Continental Intelligence.

RUSSIA, GERMANY, &c.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

HAMBURG, DEC. 13.

In the last number of the proceedings of the Russian Imperial Geographical Society are some interesting particulars concerning the Russian trade in the interior of China, communicated by Mr. N. Ivanoff, the agent of the corporation of merchants at Kiachta. That gentleman was sent in 1861 on a mercantile mission to the town of Hankow, on the banks of the Yang-tse-Kiang, and resided there four years, during which period he had full opportunities of studying the mode in which the Chinese gather the tea leaves and the way they cure and prepare them for the market. In conjunction with his associates, the merchants, J. J. Okuloff and I. F. Totmakoff, he established a commercial house at Hankow, and opened there a tea manufactory, which was subsequently increased to five, the operations being performed by the aid of Chinese workmen. They placed themselves in direct communication with the owners of the tea plantations in the vicinity, and bought from them all their tea leaves in the raw state. In this manner they manufactured, during the season of 1863, no less than 1,700 chests of black tea, 11,000 chests of brick, and 540 of flowery. They could afford to sell their produce cheaper than the Chinese, and the quality of their teas found great favour in Russia.

This Mr. Ivanoff, his associates, and other merchants of Kiachta, have since begun to trade with the Chinese in other articles of Russian merchandise, which they get partly by land from Kiachta, and import them partly by sea. The experience they have made in this branch of business has led to the conviction that cloth and other woollen manufactures imported into China from the West of Europe cannot compete with the same description of goods made in Russia. Thus he states that cases have come under his own observation where the same qualities of cloth manufactured in Belgium and England are deficient in weight of materials as compared to the Russian, and mentions an instance where a piece of European cloth, of 30 arschines in length, weighed only 23lb., where a piece of Russian, though only 25 arschines long, weighed 38lbs. For many years past European merchants are in the habit of importing into China, for sale to the natives, cheap woollen manufactures, such as long ells, Spanish stripes, and blankets, the annual sale of which amounts to more than five millions of roubles. In examining the samples of such goods, which have been forwarded to the manufacturers at Moscow, it has been ascertained that they are made of Russian wool, in consequence of which orders from Kiachta merchants have now been given to Moscow manufacturers for considerable quantities of long ells and other woollen goods at London prices.

The *Trieste Zeitung* states that Mr. R. Heinsen, partner in the house of Messrs. Siemssen and Co., of Shanghai, who was lately appointed to the post of Austrian Consul at that port, has not been recognised in that capacity by the Chinese Government, on the grounds that there is no treaty existing between Austria and China, and that only consuls appointed by Governments having commercial relations with the Celestial Empire receive the Imperial Exequatur. "It is fortunate," adds the above-named journal, "that the Prussian Consuls good-naturedly, and with great zeal, take under their protection the Austrian captains that are wandering about in the Chinese waters without any claim to assistance, and almost repudiated by their own Government." This is no doubt perfectly true, but it shows a culpable neglect on the part of Austria to subject their national flag to the indignity of having to seek aid and protection from the Consul of any other Power, instead of taking measures to secure the right by treaty of appointing recognised Consuls of their own in China.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—No alteration in values. The demand has been comparatively slack, and the sales of the week did not exceed 10,000 bags.

SUGAR.—Neither in Raw nor Refined has there been much done, but the prices of both are well supported.

RICE.—Cleaned grain attracts more attention, and considerable parcels have been taken for immediate shipment to the North of Europe. More business has also been done in rough, and 6,000 bags of Bassein ex Helvetia, and 6,200 bags of Rangoon ex Carl realised full prices.

SPICES.—Pepper is again in favour, and there has been a lively demand, prices ruling firm. The business in other descriptions was confined to the execution of small orders for local consumption and immediate shipment at previous rates.

SPELTER is neglected, purchasers affirming that prices are too high here as compared with other markets; and they therefore demand concessions which holders are by no means inclined to comply with. The only sales reported this week are 5,000 centners for spring delivery at 14.14 and 500 centners, CGH mark, ex warehouse at 14.11. The arrivals this year have amounted to 307,000 centners, against 496,000 at the corresponding period of 1864. The present stock here is 25,000 centners, against 50,000 centners last year.

DISCOUNT 5 per cent.

SHIPPING.—Sailed, Dec. 12 (from Cuxhaven), Patria, to Hong Kong.

HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ROTTERDAM, DECEMBER 20.

The most important political incident since my last letter is the motion of Count van Zuylen, to inquire into the influence exercised by the Cabinet upon the elections in Limburg (by the letters of which you have before heard),

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which was rejected by 53 votes to 18—the latter belonging to the regular Opposition.

The First Chamber is working in the sections, and will, within a few days, begin to discuss the budgets.

At the election in Limburg, Mr. Maesen de Sombreff was elected Member of the Second Chamber by 1,033 of the 1,6 1 votes. This is the member who was obliged to resign his seat ecause he had been the means of giving publicity to a private letter, addressed to him by Mr. Betz, through which fact the Minister was so compromised that he also was compelled to send in his resignation.

From the outbreak of the rinderpest in this country to the 26th November, 11,348 beasts have been attacked, of whom 3,343 died, 3,174 were slaughtered, and 3,205 recovered.

The supervision of the Culture Bill, in the sections of the Second Chamber, is finished. The report has not yet been printed.

Our eminent novelist, Mr. J. van Lennep, has just published a novel in five volumes—"Klaasje Zevenster." Mr. v. Lennep is now seventy years old, but he has not yet lost the youthful animation of the period when he wrote his "Ferdinand Huych," which has been translated into the English, French, and German languages.

The death of the King of the Belgians has caused but little sensation here. The press in general has spoken of him as he merited—as a good officer, who showed himself a skilful administrator in State affairs, an adroit diplomatist, and perhaps the most sagacious of constitutional sovereigns. Not one bitter word has been uttered regarding the events of 1830. Justice was done to his memory, and the past was forgotten. No one supposed here that the Duke of Brabant would meet with the slightest obstacle to his succession. The rumours that France would attempt to annex the kingdom, as well as the supposed plans of Count von Bismark, &c., were laughed at. The notion that we also were to become a part of Belgium is happily only a *canard* hatched by the *Siecle;* we certainly should decline to annex any part of that kingdom; we would rather abandon the rotten part of our own State, the province of Limburg, which is and always has been ill-disposed to our Government. Nothing is heard of any approaching agitation in Belgium. All parties seem to be vying with each other in expressions of loyalty. Perhaps it is the threatened loss of national independence which has induced them to forget party differences and to warn them that they must rally around the throne.

P.S.—The First Chamber is voting the Budget, and will have finished its business by the new year. The Second Chamber has adjourned for the Christmas recess, and will probably not re-assemble till the middle of February. It is thought there will be a majority of 25 in favour of the Culture Bill. The Order of the Netherlands Lion has been conferred upon Mr. J. des Amorie van der Hoeven, Consul in China. Markets:—Coffee: Unaltered, but firm. Sugar (Raw): About ¾fl. to 1fl. above the November prices. Tobacco (Java leaf): Very firm. Tin: Dear money has produced a decline, in Banca, from 58fl. to 57½fl.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—The market is firm, but the business passing is only small. 1,500 bags green Java ex Maria Magdalena were sold at 49¼. The 535 mats and bags Manila (dam.) were partly sold in auction at 20c. to 38c.

TEA.—The market continues very quiet, and the sales are very trifling in extent.

SUGAR.—The market is firm, and the sales include 3,000 kr. Java at November prices.

RICE.—Of cleaned sorts no supply. The nominal quotation is: Arracan 9¼f. to ¾f.; Bassein, 9f. to ½f.; *Voorloop*, 11½f. to 13f.; *Voorloop* Java and table 13f. to 19f.

SPICES.—Firm, with an increased inquiry for some sorts. Nutmegs: No. 1, 84c. to 85c.; No. 2, 74c. to 76c.; No. 3, 53c. to 56c.; No. 4, 34c. to 36c. Mace: D, 90c. to 92c., E, 85c. to 87c. Cloves: No. 2, 27c.; No. 3, 26c. Cinnamon: No. 3 and 4, without stock.

COTTON.—In the first days of the week there was an animated inquiry, but the market closed duller. The 3,307 bales offered in auction by the Trading Company were sold as follows:—1,375 bales Tinnevelly fair, 91c. to 93c.; 298 bales Japan good fair, 101½c. to 102½c.; 279 bales Japan middling fair, 98c. to 99c.; 1,179 bales Dhollerah fair, 94c. to 95½c.; 19 bales Broach middling, 78c. to 80¾c.; 66 bales broach fair, 91c. to 91¼c.

HIDES.—Without transactions by want of stock. The 1,900 parcels Java Rinder, imported for Noord-Brakant were sold by inscription at prices which did not transpire.

INDIGO.—The market is firm, but the business passing is only small, the sales being 70 chests Java, which were sold at firm prices.

SAPANWOOD.—1,000 piculs, floating per Veritas, were sold at very high prices.

BANCA TIN.—1,000 slabs were sold at 58f. The market is very firm.

ARRACK.—45 casks Batavia, ex Ocean Pearl, were sold at secret offer. The article is in good condition.

DRUGS.—Notwithstanding the transactions are unimportant, the market remains firm. Camphor: Via London, some lots were imported from Japan, but they are still unsold, because holders ask too high prices. Cassia Vera: High prices are offered for the parcels afloat; 500 piculs were sold at a firm quotation. Gum Damar: Prime cannot be bought under 30c. Gum Elasticum cannot be bought under 125f. Japan Wax: Scarce, and high in price.

TOBACCO.—In auction to-day were offered 85 b. Manila Cagayan, which were partly sold at 22½c. to 72½c., besides the following parcels Java tobacco:—

194	bales	Java	CPZ	Sold in average at	36¾c.
518	do	do	DBG	„ „	36⅞c.
333	do	do	EB	„ „	36¼c.
22	do	do	DP	„ „	
158	do	do	Karang	„ „	24c.
368	do	do	MTT	„ „	37⅜c.
70	do	do	S	„ „	15½c.
152	do	do	Modjo	„ „	26c.
419	do	do	L	„ „	18½c.
563	do	do	DS	„ „	49¾c.
76	do	do	P	„ „	43¼c.
137	do	do	TFSA	„ „	82½c.
49	do	do	CM	„ „	26½c.
1670	do	do	VDS	„ „	38½c.
182	do	do	WM	„ „	13½c.
299	do	do	IV/M	„ „	29⅞c.
96	do	do	SFR/T	„ „	17⅛c.
103	do	do	GB	„ „	69½c.
453	do	do	Temoeloes	„ „	28¼c.
360	do	do	MDP	„ „	59c.
64	do	do	EFJ	„ „	24c.

STOCK MARKET.—For the last few days there has been much depression, with a further fall in prices, and the tendency throughout was very unsettled. A partial recovery in values, however, took place after it was known that the Bank directors had only raised the discount for foreign stock, and a few purchases followed in home securities after this rise. Dutch Two-and-a-half per Cents., 60½; Three per Cents., 71⅛; Four per Cents., 95 5-16; Trading Company, 147½; Dutch-Rhenish Railway Company, 361f.; Dutch Cred. and Deposit Bank, 193½; Central Railway Company, 124; Rotterdam Bank, 98.

MONEY.—Bank rate: Discount for bills, 6 per cent.; acceptances, 6½; open market, 7 to 8.

CHANGE.—London: 3 months, f.11.67; 2 months, f.11.73; short, f.11.85; Paris: 3 months, f.46.70; 2 months, f.46.87½; short, f.47.30; Hambro': 3 months, 35f.; 2 months, f.35.15; short, f.35.45; St. Petersburg: 3 months, 148f.; short, —; Vienna: 2 months, f.107.50; Italy: 2 months, f.46.30.

SHIPPING.—DEPARTURES.—Dec. 11, from Texel, for Batavia, Aria and Betsy; for Sourabaya, Sourabaya Packet; 12, from Helvoet, for Padang, Heimath; from Texel, for Batavia, H.M.'s corvet Van Speyk.

PASSENGERS OUTWARD.—For Java: per Aria and Betsy, Messrs. van Dolder and family, C. Tjebbes, J. Argament and family, C. Rapart; per Sourabaya Packet, Messrs. K. Veenstra and family, Boudier, A. J. Voorhenl, G. Dumpel, Mrs. van Delden, Weineri and family.

RUSSIA, GERMANY, &c,

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

HAMBURG, DEC. 23.

With regard to the question of the free exportation of silkworms' eggs from Japan, the *Trieste Zeitung* contains the following remarks:—

"It is well known that the hopes of all the silk producers in those countries that have suffered for many years from the mortality among their own breed of silkworms are now concentrated on receiving their supplies of 'grains' from Japan. It is true that experience teaches us that even the Japan breed, that was at first supposed to be proof against the disease, when transported to other countries degenerates in quality and becomes liable in some degree to the disease and mortality after a few generations; but they are not so much affected as the breeds from China and other parts of Asia, which have all been tried in succession and found lamentably wanting. It is, therefore, no wonder the sale of silkworms' eggs should now have become an important branch of trade, not only at Yokohama but also at Hong Kong.

"Hitherto there was a prohibition against the exportation of these 'grains from Japan, the contravention of which was both difficult and dangerous, and thus purchasers had to take all that they could find—the good and the bad together—without any legal claim for compensation or redress; for there are some sorts in Japan that produce continuous generations *(polivoltini)* and others that only give one (the *annuali*). Only the green, the yellow, and the white of the latter sort can be depended on, and are successful when bred in other countries.

"In making purchases even in Japan no guarantee could be obtained for the genuineness of the goods, and the high premiums paid to smugglers gave rise to the most atrocious falsifications in China and even in Europe, cases having been detected where real Japan eggs have been detached from the original paper, and spurious ones substituted.

"Under these circumstances it is pleasant to know that the Government of Japan has abolished the prohibition and thrown open the export trade in silkworms' eggs to general competition, placing them on the same footing as the other articles of export permitted by the treaties. The obtaining this valuable commodity is thus greatly facilitated, and Italian, French, and Austrian experts may now be sent out as special agents to Yokohama to make purchases of silkworms' eggs, which is the more desirable as the Japanese are not acquainted with the mode of packing them for a long sea voyage, and the purchaser has to run the risk of their arriving in a spoiled or defective state.

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"Austrians are recommended to apply in the first instance to Mr. Consul Overbeck, their energetic representative at Hong Kong, who will with pleasure advise them how to proceed, and the overland route is specially pointed out as the best and quickest, both for the conveyance of the persons and the silkworms' eggs which take up but little space and less weight. Those who go out in March may arrive in Japan *via* Hong Kong before the period of egg crop—which is from August to October—and may apply to Mr. Fraser, the managing partner of the Liverpool house of Messrs. Charles Saunders and Co. The English maintain, and this is important for those who have no special agent in Japan, that the silkworms' eggs can be obtained by way of Liverpool for half the price they would cost by the usual route to Marseilles or Genoa. It may here be mentioned that the Austrian Consuls at Liverpool and Hong Kong, as well as the one at Shanghai, have received special instructions from the Minister at Vienna to pay every attention to the execution of orders for silkworms' eggs, and give their best advice and assistance to Austrian subjects applying to them for information no the subject."

Another joint-stock company is in course of formation at Trieste, planned and projected by Mr. Revoltella, a large shipowner of that port. Its object is to build and sail vessels under the Austrian flag to China and the East. It is to be called the "Austrian Company of Shipowners," with their head-quarters at Trieste. The capital is nominally to be 3,000,000 florins, but for the present only one-third of that amount will be paid up, it being deemed more prudent to begin in a comparatively small way and extend their operations if successful. When the provisional committee applied to the new Minister for Trade to ask for his protection and support of the undertaking, that practical officer not only cheerfully promised it, but pointing out the great development that must accrue to the trade of Austria on the opening and completion of the Suez Canal, expressed his hope that the Company's ships would frequent it often. "But," added the Minister, "we must be prepared to meet the emergency when we see an extension of trade so near: the port of Trieste cannot contain more than 250 vessels, and has no accommodation even for them to load and discharge at quays." And then he concluded by promising that the long projected plan of improving and enlarging the harbour of Trieste should be commenced next spring, so as to be ready for increased traffic by the time the Suez Canal is opened.

A letter from Kiachta in the (Russian) *Moscow Gazette* states that a rich and extensive gold mine has been discovered in the mountains between Lake Baikal and the Chinese frontiers.

M. Alexis Kormazoff, Bachelor of the Imperial University of St. Petersburg, has been appointed Secretary and dragoman of the Russian Consulate at Ourga, in China.

COMMERCIAL.

COFFEE.—There has been a fair seasonable demand for this article, and prices are fully supported. Sales 10,000 bags, 4,000 of which for arrival were bought on speculation.

SUGAR.—The raw market is quiet, but refined has had an active sale, which would have been much greater if holders had been more willing to do business by somewhat relaxing their pretensions.

RICE.—But little has been done this week either in rough or cleaned grain, and there is no alteration in values. Market closes firm.

SPICES.—No change in Cassia Lignea. Of Flores: 123 chests lately to hand per Jacob Levy, sold at 24 Sch. Bco. by private contract. Vera is higher and scarce. Pepper maintains its position.

SPELTER.—No alteration in value for this metal on the spot, but it may be purchased for spring delivery at a rather cheaper rate. The only sales were 1,000 centners (special marks) at 14.11, and 1,000 centners (WH) at 14.13.

SHIPPING.—ARRIVED.—Dec. 19 (at Cuxhaven), Costa Rica, from Canton. SAILED.—Dec. 20 (from Cuxhaven), Jan Peter, to Singapore.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The following is an extract:—

RELATIONS WITH RUSSIA AND CHINA.

I have dwelt thus fully on our domestic affairs because of their transcendent importance. Under any circumstances, our great extent of territory and variety of climate, producing almost everything that is necessary for the wants and even the comforts of man, make us singularly independent of the varying policy of foreign Powers, and protect us against every temptation to "entangling alliances," while at the present moment the re-establishment of harmony, and the strength that comes from harmony, will be our best security against "nations who feel power and forget rights." For myself, it has been and it will be my constant aim to promote peace and amity with all foreign nations and Powers; and I have every reason to believe that they all, without exception, are animated by the same disposition. Our relations with the Emperor of China, so recent in their origin, are most friendly. Our commerce with his dominions is receiving new developments; and it is very pleasant to find that the Government of that great empire manifests satisfaction with our policy, and reposes just confidence in the fairness which marks our intercourse. The unbroken harmony between the United States and the Emperor of Russia is receiving a new support from an enterprise designed to carry telegraphic lines across the continent of Asia, through his dominions, and so to connect us with all Europe by a new channel of intercourse. Our commerce with South America is about to receive encouragement by a direct line of mail steam ships to the rising empire of Brazil. The distinguished party of men of science who have recently left our country to make a scientific exploration of the natural history and rivers and mountain ranges of that region have received from the Emperor that generous welcome which was to have been expected from his constant friendship for the United States, and his well-known zeal in promoting the advancement of knowledge. A hope is entertained that our commerce with the rich and populous countries that border the Mediterranean sea may be largely increased. Nothing will be wanting on the part of this Government to extend the protection of our flag over the enterprise of our fellow-citizens. We receive from the Powers in that region assurances of goodwill; and it is worthy of note that a special envoy has brought us messages of condolence on the death of our late chief magistrate from the Bey of Tunis, whose rule includes the old dominions of Carthage, on the African coast.

MORTALITY OF TROOPS AT HONG KONG.

The following letters have been published in *The Times*:—

SIR,—With reference to your leading article of to-day on the subject of sickness in Hong Kong, it is only right your readers should know the reasons which led to the addition of a second European regiment to the garrison there at such a period of the season as June. Up to April, 1865, one European regiment and one Madras native regiment shared the duties of the garrison; the European regiment occupied the Murray Barracks, than which there are not finer in the East; the native regiment occupied mat sheds, neither wind-tight nor water-tight, the floorings of which were raised only a few feet from the common soil—a highly objectionable style of residence in a sanitary point of view, and quite unsuited for Europeans. From the motives of economy, to save "Indian allowances" granted to staff and regimental officers while they served in the same garrison with Indian troops, it was recommended from the War-office and ordered from home that the native regiment (22nd Madras) should be withdrawn and replaced by the 2nd battalion of the 11th Regiment, from the Cape.

This was done, and the results detailed by you have been unfortunately arrived at; a state of things which everyone on the spot predicted when it was known that Europeans had to live in such shed huts and would have all the duties to perform, many of the guard-rooms, designed for natives, being quite unfit from locality and construction for other use.

Urgent representations were made in April and May by the principal medical authority to have the 2nd battalion of the 11th Regiment stopped at Singapore, where capacious barracks existed unoccupied, and so prevent their arriving in Hong Kong till the winter, or until proper and suitable barrack accommodation was provided. Had this been attended to much life would have been spared; but, with three years' experience of Hong Kong, I think it only fair to say that European troops, setting aside the philanthropic or humane view of the case, are too costly materials to be put to all the drudgery of every duty in such a climate, and it will only be when native troops are again employed to save the Europeans from fatigue and exposure that we shall hear no more of the revived unhealthiness of Hong Kong, which island for years past up to the present has been earning for itself by its improved salubrity quite an opposite title.

To save about £3,000 a year in "Indian allowances" the country will have to pay £12,000 as expenses consequent on the mortality and sickness that have already taken place, which should be a severe lesson to the cutting-down policy of the present day, whereby life, as in this instance, has been recklessly sacrificed to bring about some paltry saving. The same parsimonious system also reduced the number of medical officers on the island, leaving no margin for increased work, sickness, or mortality among them.—I remain, your obedient servant, CHINENSIS.

Junior United Service Club, London, Dec. 18.

SIR,—I see it stated in the letter signed "Chinensis," in *The Times* of this morning, that the 2nd battalion of the 11th Regiment arrived at Hong Kong in the month of June. It is, indeed, astonishing that such an arrangement could have been made in the present day, experience having shown the danger of sending troops to commence their service there at an improper period of the year. I was for many years at Hong Kong, and have had much experience of the place. On the 17th of June of one of the years I passed in China a detachment arrived from England in perfect health. It consisted of 5 sergeants, 5 corporals, and 144 men. On the 22nd August following, of this detachment, there were effective only 4 sergeants, 4 corporals, and 77 men; 11 were dead. One sergeant and 13 men were in hospital ashore, and 1 corporal and 43 men were invalids on board ship, The 11th Regiment has exemplified the same mistake on a larger scale.

Your correspondent adds that the Murray Barracks are fine ones, and so they are, and ought to be from the amount they cost the country; but, unfortunately, they are placed in a locality where malaria abounds, some years to a more fatal extent than at others. The Murray Barracks consist of three parallel ranges of buildings; the first line, near the sea, is occupied by the officers, the second and third ranges by the soldiers. At one time the third range had to be abandoned, it was so fatally unhealthy to the men stationed in it; and it was unoccupied, except as stores, for a considerable period. There is a small swamp a short distance from the rear or third range of building which had the character of engendering the malaria.

The impropriety of the site chosen for the barracks was pointed out before they were built by one of much experience in eastern climates, but, unfortunately, his suggestions were unheeded, and much loss of valuable life and great suffering have been the result.

The first year I was at Hong Kong the garrison consisted of 45 commissioned officers, including staff, and 1,028 men of all other ranks. The deaths in that period amounted to 4 officers and 184 men. The admissions into hospital were 5,935 among the soldiers, and 114 among the officers. Thus, on the average, each man was nearly six times and each officer three times under medical treatment in the year.

Now that the question is before the public, it is to be hoped that the condition of the soldier may be improved in China. He should have as little night duty and guard mounting as possible. He might be employed at the Naval-yard, the Ordnance stores, in keeping roads in repair, &c., by which he would earn an addition to his pay, to be partly expended on a

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superior style of messing, which the climate requires. No bad result would attend out-door occupation with proper covering for the head. The Sappers were the most healthy part of the force; their minds were employed, and their amount of pay enabled them to live better than the other soldiers, and they had not the wearisome duty of standing sentry night after night, in an unhealthy tropical climate over stores and other places that might have been made equally secure with good locks and a native policeman; and, above all, the men should not be kept more than two years on the island. CIVIS.

Dec. 19.

SIR,—You have lately exposed the terrible sickness of the troops at Hong Kong, and your correspondents have shown the cause of it—mistaken economy on the part of the authorities, who send Europeans to do duty in a climate which Orientals alone can stand. The Indian native troops have been removed because of the expense entailed by their being there, and Englishmen have taken their place, but I would beg to suggest that efficiency and economy might both be obtained by raising for service in Hong Kong and elsewhere a few regiments of the natives of China. I venture to assert, from having seen the Coolie Corps in 1857-8, that the natives of China are the makings of better soldiers than those of India. They are strong, hardy, willing—can stand heat and cold, and, having no religious prejudices, will eat anything they can get, from beef and plum-pudding, to rice and rats.

Ask Major Temple, who commanded the Coolie Corps, or ask Lieut.-Colonel C. Gordon, Royal Engineers, who have both had to do with Chinamen, of what sort they are, and whether under British officers they would not be very hard to beat.—Your obedient servant, D.

SIR,—The officers and soldiers of the English army cannot but feel grateful to *The Times* for the manner in which the losses sustained by the 11th Regiment at Hong Kong have been brought to the notice of the public.

Those who have served in the East, whether in India or China, will recognise the old story of bad accommodation combined with unhealthy sites. That the tropical climate of the East is unfavourable to European constitutions is undoubtedly true, but it is no less true that in most cases a judicious selection of stations for our troops, guided solely by strategical and sanitary considerations, would greatly mitigate the evils under which our army is suffering in China and in India. This I know to be the opinion of eminent military men who have had opportunities of judging for themselves, and it cannot but strike any one that radical reform in that direction is becoming absolutely necessary.

We have the startling fact before us that the English army is now 6,000 men below its strength, and such is the severe strain upon our army in the East that our infantry of the line contribute 4,600 men to the above number.

The 54 regiments and battalions of infantry in India are 3,000 men below their strength, leaving only 1,600 men wanting to complete the remaining 87 regiments and battalions of our service. It should be remembered that we are at peace, and that every exertion has been made to raise recruits; but the public will observe from these figures where the shoe pinches.

It appears usual at home to judge of the strain on our forces by the number of deaths which take place in India per 1,000 men in each year; but this hardly shows the true amount of suffering and loss to the service and to England.

I cannot say what China has contributed to the list of deaths and invalids in the years 1863 and 1864; but, as far as India is concerned, perhaps a little information may be useful to the public. It must be borne in mind that those two years were very healthy years in India. I shall first take the year 1863. The total strength of the English army in India was 67,525 men; there were 110,357 admissions to hospital; 1,446 men died, and 2,422 were invalided to England; of these invalids 150 died during the passage home, making up the deaths to 1,596, and 1,366 were discharged at home, as unfit for further service. This shows a loss from 67,525 men of 2,962, or, to make it plainer, about 44 men per 1,000. It will thus be seen that in estimating the drain on our army in the East, care should be taken to follow the effects of the tropical climate on our invalids, and to mark that the discharging of so many poor fellows cannot but have a bad effect on recruiting, when they mix in their helpless condition with the class whence they were drawn.

I cannot enter so fully into what took place in the year 1864, but the information, as far as it extends, may not be without interest. It appears that, notwithstanding the number of recruits sent out from home, the 67,525 men of the year before had declined to 66,175 in 1864, showing a difference of 1,350 men. The year, however, was very healthy, for out of the 66,175 men 1,232 died and 3,000 were invalided. How many of these invalids died during their passage home, and how many others were discharged as unfit for service, I cannot tell; but it will be observed that 4,292 men appears a great many to lose from 66,000 soldiers, and the total number who died and were invalided in those two healthy years deserves attention, and will prepare us for what may be expected when the returns for the unhealthy year of 1865 are laid before the public. Most of the regiments have been from six to eight years in the country, so that the invaliding, at least, will be very heavy, every year after six years' Indian service adding largely to the number of broken-down constitutions. Cholera has been busy this year, but the accounts from India, except from private sources, are, to say the least, misty; it has, however, been ascertained that a wing of the 45th Regiment, or about 400 men, have lost 60 men and 31 women and children from that disease at Neemuch; this, numbers considered, almost rivals the losses of the 11th Regiment at Hong Kong, and creates the desire to know if our army in the East is distributed on strategical and sanitary considerations. We have now three able generals at home who could give the necessary information. Have Sir Hugh Rose, Sir Hope Grant, and Sir Edward Lugard ever been consulted?—Your obedient servant, OBSERVER.

SIR,—The decimation by sickness of one whole regiment, and in a great measure that of another, during the past year in our colony of Hong Kong—viz., the 2nd Battalions of the 11th and 9th Regiments, gives rise to the question if British troops cannot be dispensed with, or, are they positively required there for the maintenance and support of our interests in China?

Those who are most interested on this point are, doubtless, the mercantile community, and yet they have given their opinion that there is no necessity whatever for a military establishment being kept up in China—nay more, they have protested against the burden and tax thus imposed upon them for no earthly use whatsoever. Our troops for some time past have been entirely removed from Shanghai, which in every way is a far more important and rising settlement, being situated at the mouth of the great Yangtze-Kiang River, which, throughout its immense long winding course, collects more than half the produce of the whole of China, and were double our English capital, interests, and shipping is concerned, and yet everything proceeds in perfect regularity, both life and property are in far greater security than in Hong Kong, where two English regiments, together with a considerable body of artillery, engineers, and a brilliant staff, consisting of a general, assistant, and deputy-assistant, adjutant and quartermaster-general, *et hoc genus omne*, are to be met with at every corner of the town. The great secret of all this is that the Chinese are daily becoming more and more convinced that it is to their interest to keep on good terms without the European element. Volunteer corps have been introduced everywhere with the greatest success, and now there only remains the establishment of a good police corps,—where Shanghai, again, most conspicuously shines out in opposition to its elder sister—and there is positively no further need of our sending out regiment after regiment of good and valuable British troops to be annihilated yearly from the pestiferous miasmas by night, and the equally dangerous effects of the sun by day. The faulty system and the want of proper barrack accommodation, together with the injudicious supplanting a black regiment by a white one, has no doubt caused part of the disaster; but the standing fact must always remain apparent to our military authorities, viz., that white troops are unable to bear up against the sun in China; nor are they better adapted for the duties of nightwork, during six months in the year at any rate. But "such vast interests as we possess in China cannot be left unprotected." It is true the political horizon looks calm enough; but our experience, dearly bought in that country, has taught us to put but little faith in John Chinaman. His paper is valueless, and so forth, many people will argue, with a considerable amount of plausibility on their side. "Very well, then, if troops be required, they shall always be forthcoming and ready for any work they are put to." We have two excellent stations within a week's easy steam of any part of the China coast—one in the north, Japan, where the climate is as bracing as in England; the other in the south, Singapore, it is true, with a highly tropical temperature, but equally salubrious, judging from the official returns hitherto transmitted to the War-office, and, being about equidistant between Calcutta and China, it would have the additional advantage of being always able to send troops in either direction, as they might be wanted. In addition to all this the local Government, a short time back, built a fine range of barracks, sufficient for the accommodation of two whole regiments; these hitherto remained unoccupied, but would be admirably adapted for the present circumstances. Hong Kong is valuable as a dockyard for our navy, and affords an excellent harbour for our mercantile shipping passing up and down the coast of China; but for no other possible purpose. When Canton was a place of trading importance, which it continues no longer to be, owing to the opening of so many better ports up the coast, and the great river mentioned above, and when the supremacy of British arms was not thoroughly recognised by the Chinese, it was considered advisable to have a large standing force to keep them in awe, and from time to time bring them to reason; but there is no further necessity for that now. Our occupation of Canton, and the march on to Peking settled the question for ever.

Why should the navy not look after its own property? We have a large fleet on the China station lying idle the greater part of the year, and ill adapted, on account of so many of its vessels being of such great draught of water, to cope with the ever-increasing piracy on the coast. Surely on the same principle as the French carry out in Japan, a sufficient number might be landed to watch over our dockyard, arsenal, and magazines, at any rate, assisted by the native watchmen, who have not only hitherto proved themselves to be more vigilant and sharp in every way than our British sentries, but are to be thoroughly depended upon on all occasions, and enjoy a perfect immunity from the evil effects of that treacherous climate; these can and have been kept up at a trifling expense to Government, which is exerting itself in reducing army expenditure in China, only unfortunately its latest experiment of substituting for the Indian scale a newly-hatched chimera of the War-office has resulted, as everybody knew beforehand, in a decided failure. Let us hope, then, that the authorities will set themselves to their task once more, and benefiting by past experience bring forward another scheme which will bear some good fruit in its result, instead of the present one, which is loathed by the soldier and ridiculed by the civilian.—Yours, &c., TELEMACHUS.

Hong Kong, Nov. 13.

Strength on arrival of the 2nd Battalion, 11th Regiment, 704. Average of men in hospital,—August, 156; September, 166; October, 143. Died, 50; invalided, 128; probabable future number soon, 50—60. Women—died, 3; invalided, about 17. Children—died, 26 here—Stanley, unknown, 15; invalided, about 30. A ship is being taken up again to sail about the first week in December with those the Medical Board have passed as unfit for further service. This will make the second vessel employed by Government for that purpose within the last four months. This does not include the Royal Artillery stationed in Hong Kong, nor the Engineers, who have also suffered considerably.

Strength of the 2nd Battalion, 9th Regiment.—Average number in hospital—August, 83·90; September, 107·73; October, 102·56. Number of deaths—August, 9; September, 4; October, 3; total, 16. Invalided—August, 4; October, 55; total, 59. Probable future number soon, about 30. Women—died, 6; invalided, 28. Children—invalided, 29. Total number of deaths (men) since arrival, 38; total number of children died since arrival, 27. Since receiving this return the average number in hospital for the 2nd Battalion, 9th Regiment, has risen to 130, and the amount to be invalided to 50. Several deaths have occurred since—viz., to November, 13.

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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The London & China Telegraph.

LONDON, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27, 1865.

JAPAN.

IN our last issue we had occasion to comment on a partially unintelligible telegram received from Shanghai, which announced, or seemed to announce, that the Foreign Ministers had gone on an expedition to open Osaka to foreign trade. The obscureness of the message, and the apparently hopeless nature of such an expedition as that indicated, induced us for the moment to believe that a mistake had been made in the destination of the expedition, and that some other port was meant, perhaps one intended to serve as a substitute for Nee-e-gata. Our doubts are, however, now at an end, the mail just received having brought intelligence of the actual departure of the allied squadrons, with the British, French, and Dutch Ministers, for Hiogo. Although the objects of this movement were not officially announced, they were confidently believed to be, firstly, the opening of Hiogo at an early period, and, secondly, the MIKADO'S ratification to the treaties. The expedition sailed from Yokohama on the 1st November, and the result has been—if there be any truth in telegrams—a complete failure.

We have not been kept long in suspense, a message just received from Shanghai, dated 25th of November, stating that "The MIKADO had refused to open the ports. The "Foreign Ministers had referred the question to their "respective Governments. The fleets had returned to "Yokohama." And thus ingloriously ends the first attempt to bring foreign intercourse directly under the notice of the MIKADO. We fear the attempt has been made with somewhat injudicious haste. Energy and promptitude are certainly necessary in a high degree in dealing with such a Government as that of Japan, and we would be the last to undervalue such important qualifications. But has not this step been taken a little too suddenly? We think so. Diplomacy has often been likened to a game at chess; and, to adopt that simile, Sir HARRY PARKES is in the position of a player who is commencing a fresh game with a new adversary; and he has met with a serious check almost at the first move. A little more deliberation—a few preliminary moves of lesser importance, might have so strengthened his position as to have not only justified a vigorous attack, but materially increased its chance of success.

THE JAPANESE VISITORS.

MAJOR BRINE, Royal Engineers, has been appointed by the Earl of Clarendon to take charge of the Japanese party (ten), reported in our last as having arrived from France. Amongst other novelties in this country, they have visited the Woolwich Dockyard, Lloyd's, the Royal Exchange, the Mint, the Tower, *The Times'* office, Blakely ordnance factory, the London Docks, Royal Hospital Chelsea, and the Bank of England. On the 21st they started for an inspection of the dockyards, &c., at Portsmouth and Plymouth. They will give a banquet at the Langham Hotel on the 29th.

JAVA *VERSUS* CEYLON.

No one who regards the nature of those influences that conspire to colonial development can feel surprise that the Colonial Government of the Dutch Netherlands India, no less than the Home Government, should feel more than ever disposed to revise those conditions under which produce is raised in Java and the neighbouring islands. We had recently occasion to remark that no island has been the subject of so many experiments as Java, experiments directed to the utilising as much as possible that native labour on which production has heretofore relied. The terms of labour and the conditions of culture have been again and again revised, but always to the disappointment of official calculation. Even if the assessment of labour were more equitable, no sufficient allowance has been made for failing crops. In the proposed change of system the obligatory clauses as to extension of coffee and spice plants are more stringent than ever. So far, the Colonial Government, even though guaranteeing a given price on a forced delivery, has not succeeded in inducing the natives voluntarily to extend the area of cultivation. The principle which underlies any truly economic system of labour is, that the labourer whoever he may be, and however far he may be brought, shall receive an equitable renumeration for his services. The rich open valleys of Java now lying neglected testify that the motives to increased energy and the impulse to the exercise of intelligence are diminished and crippled by an oppressive system of rule. The natives are seized on as instruments to be handled and worked at pleasure; and we are not surprised that in the present, as in former schemes, peremptory and pre-determined acts of the Government are presented in the light of gratuitous indulgencies. What has to be taken into consideration is that Java, particularly in the article of coffee, does not exhibit that progressive rate of increase that might fairly have been calculated on; that the quality does not tend to improve; and, further, that the culture on the present system is not sufficiently remunerative. Individual enterprise on the Continent is probably in a state of just as great incipient activity as among ourselves, wanting only that encouragement which a free system of trade, accompanied with the absence of these restrictions which Government competition, whether in agriculture or trade, never fails to bring about. But even these restrictions cannot be tolerated in the face of increasing competition. In addition to the new solution of the long standing problem of how to turn Javanese labour to best advantage, there remains the proposal we recently noticed of certain private capitalists to take over and work the Crown coffee lands, and, to some extent, the Government rice plantations of Western Java.

Incited by the example of Ceylon, which, unable to avail herself to any great extent of native labour, and compelled to import Indian coolies, is yet advancing rapidly in the culture of coffee, and gaining year by year on the Java yield—these capitalists have proposed a scheme which, without setting Java labour free, would yet remove many drawbacks to successful culture, sweeping a host of Government agents from the field, who have hitherto found it their interest to compound with natives, relieving them of imposed obligations for deliveries to a given amount, or, looking to their percentages on the quantity raised, regarding this point rather than quality. Instead of Government agents intent only on securing their percentages on quantity with little reference to quality and driving their private bargains of exemption, there would be experienced the order and regularity of mercantile management, but combined with even greater avidity. Unquestionably, under this arrangement, which would clothe this body of capitalists with powers hitherto exercised by the Government in controlling or portioning out the labour of the natives, the latter will not be gainers; and the yield of coffee can hardly fail, under favouring seasons, to be considerably increased We are far, however, from being so sanguine as the promoters. A certain amount of additional activity will be available, but without any influence at work to stimulate intelligence. Government experience has hitherto been disappointing. The cardinal error of Holland has been in imposing terms disadvantageous to native progress, shown as well in the conditions of labour imposed, as in the restrictions thrown upon trade. In a spirit of monopoly, she seeks to extend her possessions in Sumatra, violating, as usual, individual rights; but the very act of appropriating an independent sovereignty for the purpose of securing the gains of trade, and establishing her rule of compelling colonists to sell cheap and buy dear, she

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must find that, in seeking to divert the channel of existing trade, she will for years to come be financially the loser. Holland has little to be proud of in its colonial history; in the Dutch East India possessions capital has been repelled by the assumption of the taskmasters' vocation by the Government, and that progress which incites to reciprocity of interchange been seriously impeded. The Government balance-sheets, which even Java exhibits, are delusive, and the items, fairly distributed, would present a very different character from that usually assigned to the account of income and expenditure. At the same time, the value of Java to Holland is not, any more than in the case of our own colonies, to be estimated by direct returns. Java has aided in swelling many domestic channels of Dutch industry, presented an outlet for the employment of redundant capital, and given rise to many auxilliary branches of traffic, mistaken by political writers for a detached spirit of enterprise, but which sprang from circumstances, and were dependent solely on colonial progress. A system so artificial must prove essentially defective in facing free competition. Ceylon has little to apprehend from the movement, even if carried out. The supervision by agents of a private company, and the terms it will be authorised to impose, will not stimulate the Javans to superior skill, and it will be long before encouragement will exist for an extended importation of Indian coolies. Meanwhile, capital will flow into Ceylon, and the economic and efficient agency of organisation, with its special and characteristic advantages, will enable her to maintain that high vantage ground she is intent on reaching. Nor will freedom and security prove inimical to our putting hereafter the services of Ceylon natives to better account, for already, in many parts, they have been aroused from their accustomed apathy.

GROWTH OF TEA IN THE NEILGHERRIES.

IN *Travers' Circular* of the 16th inst., reference is made in detail to our remarks in the *London and China Telegraph* respecting the probable success of the tea plantations in the Neilgherries. The article states that a conclusion, based upon imperfect data, has been arrived at by us to the effect that the attempt to grow tea in some of the higher districts of the Himalayan range has been unsuccessful; so, too, a similar result would necessarily attend the project in the Neilgherry district. We confess that our information on this subject is both imperfect and limited; but with the knowledge before us that tea plantations commenced above a certain altitude have failed to realise the anticipations formed of them by those who have embarked capital in them, we do not consider our remarks the less important to the public, if they suggest caution in not too readily adopting the conclusion that because tea grows readily and flourishes at a considerable height above the sea, that it will do so sufficiently luxuriantly to prove remunerating to shareholders in tea-growing companies. This is all we say, having no doubt whatever respecting the success which has attended the rearing of the tea plant in the Neilgherries, so far as the experiment has been made. The objection which we take to altitude (limiting the same to 2,000 feet in the Himalayas) is met in the article in question by a reference to FORTUNE'S experience in China, where, at an elevation of between 2,000 and 3,000 feet he found the black tea district. This, we will only remark, tends rather to confirm than refute the view we take in abstaining from at once endorsing the highly favourable estimate formed of the ultimate commercial success of tea plantations, formed, probably, at from two to three times the altitude quoted by FORTUNE. In conclusion, we may observe, that the writer of the remarks under comment considers that the geographical position of Ootacamund (the portion of the Neilgherries where we presume the tea plantations are) will, from being so much nearer the Equator than the tea-growing districts in the lower Himalayas, counteract the influence of altitude. This opinion may prove quite correct, but until we see results similar to those now established in Assam, we are only erring on the side of prudence if we refrain from a too speedy adoption of a theory the correctness of which time has not yet admitted of being practically proved.

The following is the article alluded to:—

"A comparison between the Neilgherries and the Himalayas, considered in reference to their tea-producing capabilities, was recently made in the columns of the *London and China Telegraph*, and a conclusion, based upon imperfect data, was arrived at, that as the attempt to grow tea in some of the higher districts of the Himalayan range had been unsuccessful, so, too, a similar result would necessarily attend the project in the Neilgherry district. The writer of the article in question states, that, "to secure growth of commercially remunerative character, the formation of plantations must not be attempted at a greater height than from one to two thousand feet; and the success of the Neilgherry experiment must necessarily depend upon the possibility of adhering to this rule." Now tea, like all other necessaries of life, such as corn, potatoes, &c., is of an extremely hardy character, and grows readily in the open air in all latitudes, from the Equator to the 45th parallel. It is capable of being cultivated both in the lowlands and in the highlands; but so far from its range being limited to a distance of 1,000 or even 2,000 feet above the level of the sea, the fact is, that the places where its cultivation is most successfully carried on are considerably above that level. Readers of Mr. Fortune's interesting travels in China must have frequently noticed how extensively the cultivation of this plant is carried on in mountainous districts. "I have ascended hills," says Mr. Fortune ("The Tea-districts of China and India," vol. i., p. 224), "near the mouth of the Min, at least 3,000 feet above the level of the sea, which were under cultivation to the summit." And again, speaking of the tea districts, the same authority states: "Among these mountains, and at a height of 2,000 and 3,000 feet above the level of the sea, I found the black tea district" (vol. i. p. 291). One more quotation from the same work, and we have done:—"The whole of the land on these hills" (Mr. Fortune is here speaking of the Bohea range) "seems to belong to the priests; the tea-shrub is cultivated everywhere, and often in the most inaccessible situations, such as on the summits and ledges of precipitous rocks" (vol. ii. p. 199). Many similar passages might be quoted in confirmation of what we have stated above, but a reference to the geographical position of Assam and Ootacamund will perhaps set the matter in a still clearer light. The properties of Assam, as a tea-producing country, both in respect to quality and quantity, are established beyond a doubt, as is shown by the position held by Assam produce in our tea sales; but Ootacamund, which is celebrated for its temperate and salubrious climate, is fourteen degrees nearer to the Equator, so that whatever difference there might be in the respective altitudes of the tea-fields, this is more than made up for by its warmer latitude. Every geographical student is aware of the fact that, although temperature is affected by altitude above the sea level, latitude is a far more important agent in producing differences of climate. The snow line, which in the northern regions of Lapland is about 3,000 feet above the level of the sea, in the Alps reaches a limit of 8,000, and in the Himalayan range is found to be between 15,000 and 18,000 feet.

Whilst on the subject of India, it may not be out of place to call attention to a matter that has always appeared to us one of considerable moment—and that is, the want of all reliable information on the subject of Indian tea-fields and tea-crops. The ordinary trade circulars issued from the Chinese free ports give all particulars as to the nature of present, and estimates of future crops, besides statistics having reference to the supplies of former years, so that a complete body of information is at once available for all purposes of inquiry, prospective as well as retrospective. The importance of such statistics, considered in their bearing on commercial dealings, cannot be over-estimated, but from India the only facts to be gleaned on the subject of the crops are found scattered up and down the journals; no merchants seem to think it worth their time or expense to issue either reports or circulars to indicate the state of the trade. Had the positions been reversed, that is, had a deficiency of the requisite information been observable amongst the Chinese, the circumstance would not have been so surprising; since, self-debarred from all European intercourse, they might be presumed to be, to some extent, unaware of the relative importance of such matters for British commerce; but in the case of our own countrymen in India, such neglect is attended with as much injury to their own interests as inconvenience to us. From a recent number of the *Neilgherry Excelsior* we learn that measures have been taken by several of the planters in that district to form an associated body under the name of "The South of India Planters' Association." The object of this society is, of course, the protection of the landed planters' interests in this quarter, and from the unanimity with which this project was welcomed, there is no doubt of its becoming a permanent establishment. As soon as the society shall have been in existence long enough to get into working order, there will be no lack of topics requiring their attention: amongst these topics we beg to suggest the present deficiency of proper trade information, as ordinarily conveyed by circulars.

BANKING IN FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

(FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.)

SECOND NOTICE.

M. Durand, banker, said in his examination, that previous to 1848 the Bank of France kept its rate of discount within certain limits, because industry and commerce were not developed as they are now; but that if, under present circumstances, a maximum were attempted to be imposed on the Bank, the directors would be forced to have recourse to expedients such as restrictions concerning the run of bills and the refusal of certain classes of paper—expedients far more injurious to commerce than the increasing of the rate of interest. As regards the value of bank-notes, M. Durand considers the new fifty-franc note to be rather a forced step. He attributes the recent elevation of the rate of discount to "certain anonymous societies which have undertaken too many affairs at the same time."

Baron James, the head of the Paris house of Rothschild, declared that there had really been no crisis during the last few years, and the monetary difficulties caused by the want of specie would, he argued, grow less as we advanced in commercial matters. He declared not only that the increase of the rate of discount was right and even necessary, but that such a rise was highly valuable as a warning to the commercial world not to go too far and thus run out of cash. Any attempt to fix the rate of discount in advance, he declared, would be a grave error. The baron's evidence respecting the comparative merits of the Banks of England and France is interesting, and we therefore extract the following passages entire:—

"The Bank of England is perfectly well organised for the country in which it operates, but any attempt to introduce the same system into France would be to try and realise an impossibility. We are in a different condition from England. We should take great precautions respecting everything which touches credit. Ten years ago one could not travel in France with bank-notes; no one would receive or change them. New habits must have time to develop and consolidate themselves."

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"The adoption of the system of a plurality of banks of issue should be regarded as an evil. France is in a very good situation. There is no country in the world in which commerce is more firmly established, where the failures are less numerous, or business better."

Again:—"If the discovery of the mines of Australia and California had not occurred, we could not have accomplished what we have of late years. This discovery has happily substituted the gold of those countries for the silver which we have sent to China and Cochin-China, and which does not come back, or at any rate comes back slowly."

Respecting the question of foreign loans and other financial operations, the baron said that France could not and should not isolate herself; and in reply to those who lament the drain of her resources by such means, he says:—

"Moreover the operations of France with foreign countries are not all carried on in cash, but to a large extent by merchandise, and, it may be added also, that in a short space of time a large portion of certain foreign securities pass into the hands of the natives of the countries to which they refer. This was proved in the cases of the loans to the late Government of the Two Sicilies and to that of Spain; in a short time five-sixths of the stock of these loans had passed into the hands of Italians and Spaniards. There would be no inconvenience in allowing foreign securities of all kinds to be quoted on the Bourse. The greater the liberty allowed to capitalists the more business is facilitated. The *agents de change* should be forced to inscribe all securities which are dealt in, without exception, in the prices current."

M. Alphonse de Rothschild was also examined, and said, amongst other things, that the complaint made against the Bank of France by some persons of lending money on public securities was unfounded, and that if this were not done commerce would suffer and well founded complaints arise. Merchants, he said, often seek this kind of loan, many holding public securities for the special purpose of obtaining capital at moments of pressure; and the Bank of France, in order to check speculation, charged a rather higher rate on these securities than on commercial paper. The Bank, he added, never refuses the latter, so that the rise in the rate of discount cannot be attributed to the loans on public securities.

Literature.

Christmas time has brought out a large number of very elegant drawing-room and children's books. Messrs. Ward, Lock, and Tyler have produced one of the most handsome volumes—*Dalziel's Illustrated Arabian Nights*. This magnificent book contains no less than 200 illustrations, and the subjects cover some 800 pages. This edition gives a fresh zest to these well-known fables. The same firm also give us *A Book of Modern Ballads*, prettily illustrated, and including "The Village Blacksmith," "Rupert's March," "The Inchcape Rock," "The Vicar," &c.—Messrs. Jackson, Walford, and Hodder publish *Old Merry's Annual*, with a very suitable address to young people. The stories are well chosen, instructive, and amusing, and the volume, handsomely bound, runs to over 500 pages.—Mr. S. W. Partridge's best production is *Our Children's Pets*, including stories appealing to the minds of the young on behalf of birds, beasts, and fish.—Messrs. Sampson Low and Co. have utilised Dr. Watts's well-known hymns, by applying them to special cases for the benefit of children, accompanied with illustrations.—Messrs. Johnstone, Hunter, and Co., of Edinburgh, have added to the enjoyment of youth by a very neat and inexpensive volume, detailing the troubles and joys of a boy, entitled *Little Harry's Troubles*.

In works of a more standard character, intended for the library, we must notice the first volume of Sir James Fergusson's *History of Architecture*, to be completed in three volumes, which is no doubt destined to become the text-book on the subject it treats of. Mr. Charles Winsor has brought out a beautiful volume on a kindred subject, in his *Memoirs Illustrative of the Art of Glass Painting*, illustrated with engravings from the author's original drawings by Philip H. Delamotte. In History and Biography Mrs. Charles Tennant gives to the world her grandfather's (Sir George Collier's) notes on life in France on the eve of the Great Revolution; which, with Mr. Charles Knight's *Shadows of the Old Booksellers*; Mr. Carter's *Historical Record of the Forty-Fourth Regiment of Foot*; Major General Sir Thos. Seaton's narrative of a life of active service *from Cadet to Colonel*; and a similar narrative of military adventure, chiefly in Spain, Portugal, and India, entitled *The Soldier of Three Queens*, by R. Henderson—will leave the reader well contented with his supply of this class of literature for some time. Of books of mere amusement, just to while away a vacant half-hour, Barnum's *Humbugs of the World* will probably be the first picked out; but the stories are old and trivial, and possibly of all the author's tricks on the public the present book may be set down as the most deceptive humbug of the lot.—*Macmillan's Magazine* for December closes the series for the year in first rate style, and 1866 begins with the first portion of a new tale by the Hon. Mrs. Norton, called "Old Sir Douglas," which is a very first-class thing.

Memorials of Service in India, from the Correspondence of the late Major Samuel Charters Macpherson, C.B. Edited by his brother, WILLIAM MACPHERSON. John Murray, Albemarle-street.—The man whose official life is here recorded was distinguished for his civil and not for his military career; and in that capacity he will go down to fame as one of those few who have had it in their power to effect a moral and religious revolution which entitles their names to rank high in the list of benefactors to the human race. To Major Macpherson belongs the renown of having been the chief instrument in putting an end to human sacrifices among the Khonds—in extinguishing an immolation of our fellow-beings not perpetrated by the deaths of single victims, but sometimes by the slaughter of hecatombs at once. The narrative of how this was done is laid before us principally in extracts from the Major's own most interesting letters; and we see that, in the words of the editor, "it was effected not by accident, nor by knack, nor by hysterical humanity rushing in and seizing one victim, to be saved at the expense of another: 'Who overcomes by force hath overcome but half his foe.' The result was obtained by making the abolition a Khond movement; by sapping the religious conviction of the necessity of human sacrifice, and showing that all the material interests of the tribes, and those which had most weight with the best men, would be promoted by abolition." Nor, admirable as was the result already mentioned, was it the only triumph for humanity, in the widest sense of that word, achieved by Major Macpherson. The Khonds were divided in their ceremonial ritual by a remarkable distinction. One portion worshipped the God of Light, and abjured the practice of human sacrifice, but were guilty of female infanticide to an extent horrible to hear of; while the other portion rejoiced to offer up human victims, but did not adopt the other sanguinary custom. Having been successful in dealing with one iniquity, the Major attacked the other, and had the happiness to report in 1844 that "above 170 female infants had certainly been saved in the period of two years, through our influence." It is a curious fact, too, that he made use of the girls saved from sacrifice to effect the abolition of infanticide, by constituting them wards of Government, and giving them in marriage to the chiefs and men of influence in the infanticidal districts. He writes—"Our justice, producing order everywhere, and the influence derived from the invaluable device of wiving the chief men with the honoured daughters of the State—our rescued victim-girls—have given us complete mastery over these tribes, considered the most intractable division of the Khond population in this quarter." The Government, however, which had never supported him in the suppression of human sacrifice, though glad enough to take the credit of a success won in spite of their apathy, stepped in and ruined all that had been done. In the old spirit, a certain district he wished to have added to his jurisdiction so as to strengthen his hands in the task of saving infant life, was withheld from him. The consequence was, he tells us—"The people believe it will not be given; do not at all understand a 'to be, or not to be' authority; and have to a great extent broken loose from me, and taken to infanticide again." The last great service Major Macpherson performed prior to his death was as Political Agent at the Court of Scindia, during the great rebellion, when, assisted by that potentate's Prime Minister, he managed to retain him faithful to the British cause, though sorely tempted, and at times hard pressed by his mutinous contingent. We could wish that the extracts from the Major's letters of this period had been more abundant. One pithy sentence is worth reproducing at the present moment, when we have a "nigger" insurrection in another quarter to debate upon. He writes from Agra:—"India, ruled *here* by bayonet power, and *there* [at home] by platform and hustings power, will be a wretched work to have a hand in." We are sorry to say that a good deal of the volume is taken up in bickering with Major-General John Campbell, C.B., whose estimate of Major Macpherson's services differs from that entertained by his brother. Sorry, we repeat, that there should be any necessity for recriminations on such a subject as the benefits conferred by Major Macpherson on the Khond tribes, and on the value of his exertions in accomplishing them. The reader will, however, find his sympathies so entirely enlisted by the delightful straight-forward letters of the latter that he will be very much inclined to pay but cursory attention to all that refers to the Major-General. The book has sketch-maps which enable one thoroughly to follow the narrative, some very pleas-

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ing wood-cut illustrations, and a capital portrait of its hero, and altogether is sure to find favour with every class, whether mere seekers for amusement, or thoughtful students of an immense change, speedily effected, in the religion and customs of a numerous race of the governed solely by the interference of the governors, without missionary intervention. Such an incident, happening in our own days, and by our own instrumentality, is not without a lesson as to those wholesale national conversions that we read of in the annals of the days of old.

The publication of the *Chinese and Japanese Repository*, lately conducted by Mr. Summers, has been given up. We understand that Mr. Summers is now engaged in publishing a paper in Chinese for English houses to advertise in that language.

Naval and Military.

SPEAKING of the sad fatality of the garrison at Hong Kong, the *Army and Navy Gazette* declares that no Government has a right to expose men's lives to such awful danger—worse tenfold than that of a battle. The remedy is a change of cantonment to a more healthy site, and the employment of native regiments to do the night work, guard-mounting, and similar duty during the hot weather. Sir Richard MacDonnell, who is on his way to the seat of his new government, is a man of energy and humanity, and will doubtless recommend such measures as may tend to diminish the dreadful mortality to which our poor fellows and their families have been subjected.

We have to record the death of Lieut.-Col. Alexander Murray, commanding the 8th (Royal Irish Fusileers) Regiment, quartered at Portsmouth, on the 24th inst., after a short illness. Col. Murray served in the 18th on the China Expedition (medal), and was present at Canton, Amoy, Chusan, Chinhae, Ningpo, Segoan, Chapoo (wounded), Shanghai Woosung, and Chin-Kiang-Foo. The deceased officer will be buried at Portsmouth, and the funeral, it is anticipated, will be conducted with military honours.

The Racoon, 22, screw steam corvette, under the temporary command of Commander H. M. Miller, arrived at Madeira on the 13th November, having left Portland on the 1st. On the 9th, after a few hours' lull, she met with a stormy adverse gale from the S. W., evidently a revolving storm. It tried the ship very much for eight or ten hours, and then passed over. She found the Basilisk at Madeira, from Plymouth *en route* to China via Teneriffe, Ascension, and the Cape. The Basilisk was in the same gale, and was making good defects. She was to sail on the 20th November. The Racoon reached Gibraltar on the 25th, where Count Gleichen and H.R.H. Prince Alfred were awaiting her.

The following flag promotions, dated the 2nd instant, have been made in consequence of the removal of the name of Admiral Henry Smith, C.B., from the Active to the Reserved Flag List, on his being granted a Service Pension:—Vice-Admiral Sir Stephen Lushington, K.C.B., on the Reserved List, to be Admiral on the same list. Vice-Admiral John Alexander Duntze to be Admiral in Her Majesty's Fleet. Rear-Admirals: Francis Decimus Hastings, George Hathorn, on the Reserved List, to be Vice-Admirals on the same list. Rear-Admiral Sir Lewis Tobias Jones, K.C.B., to be Vice-Admiral in Her Majesty's Fleet. Captains: James Crawford Caffin, C.B., and Robert Tryon, to be Rear-Admirals on the Reserved List. Captain Thomas Harvey to be Rear-Admiral in Her Majesty's Fleet. Retired Rear-Admiral Wm. Shepheard to be Retired Vice-Admiral. Retired Captains: William Clark, Thomas Lewis Gooch, George Anthony Halsted, Robert Sharpe, to be Retired Rear-Admirals, under the provisions of Her Majesty's Order in Council of 1851.

ROYAL MARINES.—Major-General John Tatton Brown to be Lieutenant-General, vice Philips, deceased; November 28, Colonel-Commandant Henry Carr Tate to be Major-General, vice Brown; November 28. Royal Marine Artillery.—Colonel Second Commandant George Gardiner Alexander, C.B., to be Colonel-Commandant, vice Tate; November 28. Lieutenant-Colonel George Augustus Schomberg to be Colonel Second Commandant, vice Alexander; November 28. Captain Henry Adair to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Schomberg; November 28. First Lieutenant Henry Brasnell Tuson, to be Captain, vice Adair; November 28.

Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Grant, of the Royal Engineers, succeeds Major Ewart, of the same corps, as Assistant-Quartermaster-General at the Horse Guards. Major Ewart is to be a member of the Commission which is to proceed to Algeria to inquire into the sanitary condition of the French army. Captain J. S. Swann, 2nd battalion 22nd Regiment, and Brigade-Major at Malta, has been appointed Deputy-Assistant Quartermaster-General at Cork, Lieutenant Colonel Lane Fox, late Assistant-Quartermaster General, having rejoined his regiment, the Grenadier Guards.

Another addition has been made to the English iron-clad squadron by the floating out of dock of the *Royal Alfred*, a line-of-battle ship razed to her lower deck, and converted into an iron-clad frigate, piereed for 35 guns. The work has been completed in Portsmouth Dockyard, and there can be no question that, so far at least as outward appearances indicate, she does credit to the establishment. The *Royal Alfred* has been subjected to several alterations from the original designs, and we believe that it has not yet been determined exactly what her armament shall be; this question being dependent upon the result of experiments not yet completed. Her dimensions are as follows:—Extreme length, 273 feet; length of keel for tonnage, 232 feet 8½ inches; extreme breadth, 58 feet 7 inches; breadth for tonnage, 57 feet 4 inches; breadth moulded 56 feet 6 inches; depth in hold, 19 feet 10 inches; burthen in tons (o.m.), 4,067 59-94 tons. The event did not excite more than ordinary interest.

The following changes have taken place in the corps of Royal Engineers at Woolwich:—Lieutenant-Colonel and Brevet-Colonel Ord, from leave, appointed Governor of Bermuda; Lieutenants R. N. Buckle, at Gibraltar, ordered to China; A. G. Begbie, at Pembroke, ordered to the Mauritius.

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE—THEIR RIGHTS.

(THE TIMES.)

A strong natural instinct prompts those who are acting in the same pursuit or for the same purpose to carry their co-operation beyond its original object. A natural instinct also induces them to make to themselves some sort of government, and to seek to gain strength by acting in some respects in their collective instead of in their individual capacity. We presume that the existence of Chambers of Commerce is due to some such instinct as that we have been describing—an instinct so far to be respected as it springs from that social element in human nature which distinguishes it most completely from the lower animals; but we have never been able yet exactly to learn what a Chamber of Commerce is, what is its constitution, what functions it exercises, what right it has to represent the trade and commerce of any particular district, and whence it derives whatever power it may possess. Chambers of Commerce are not, we believe, generally elective bodies, nor would it be very easy to create a suitable constituency for such an assembly. They have, as far as we are aware, no legal functions of any kind, and we believe it is not the habit of the mercantile public to call in their aid very extensively as arbiters of private disputes. They seem to be little more than voluntary meetings of gentlemen carrying on business in the same place, and therefore believed to be the depositaries of some amount of knowledge with respect to its business, and to be able to give a fair account of the opinions entertained there. Regarded from this point of view, there is no possible harm in a Chamber of Commerce, and there may sometimes be considerable advantage. But we confess that such experience as the public have had of these bodies has not tended to give any very lofty idea of their usefulness and efficiency. We live in an age when a great advance has been made in the theory as well as the practice of commerce, and when something, though by no means all that can be wished, has been effected towards the simplification of our law. We have failed to trace these improvements to the action of Chambers of Commerce; nay, we have not unfrequently found them enlisted on the side of prejudice and exclusiveness. We know not whether it may be from a fault in their constitution, or in the elements of which they are composed, but it has certainly always appeared to us that the public has not received from them the benefit upon which it might seem it had a right to count.

When, therefore, we found that Lord Stanley was to be entertained at dinner by the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, we felt a natural anxiety to know what a man who never speaks on a subject of which he has not made himself wholly master would have to say of the achievements of these bodies, and what topics he would use in order suitably to acknowledge the compliment he was receiving. The Chairman, Mr. Rathbone, not very happily, we think, mentioned two subjects as requiring amendment—the present state of our railways, and the amount of pauperism that exists among us. Now, this is just a specimen of the point of view from which Chambers of Commerce are apt to consider national questions. They never seem to reflect how much evil there is in the world which is entirely without the province of legislation. It is hardly too much to say that Government can check very little evil except that which it has itself in the first instance created. If Government has interfered too far with the discretion of individuals, as in the instance of protective duties, Government can certainly do great good by retracing its faulty steps. But what can Government do in a case like pauperism which is not the result of any mistake on its own part, but of the inherent improvidence and folly of mankind? As long as people choose to marry without having the means of supporting a family, as long as they choose to expend their money to the enormous extent to which our revenue returns show it is expended in stimulants, how can Government prevent the natural consequence of improvidence and vice which manifests itself in the form of pauperism? Lord Stanley rejoices in the union of all classes in this country, and the explosion of that theory which represented trade, manufactures, and agriculture as having interests opposed to each other. So far he was on safe ground, but his position became a little more difficult when he came to propose the health of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce. It is not in the nature of Lord Stanley to content himself with vague generalities. When he makes a statement he will at least endeavour to prove it, and his indefatigable industry may be fully relied on to collect all the facts which bear on the subject. Lord Stanley states that Chambers of Commerce have only lately been introduced into England—the Chamber of Commerce at Liverpool itself, it seems, is only 15 years old; that they are only about 48 in number, and that of these only a few have occupied a prominent position. He expresses a hope that the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce may be more actively supported than hitherto, and states the obtaining of such support as a principal object of the meeting. All this is something like an admission that hitherto our estimate of the utility of Chambers of Commerce has been a pretty correct one. Everyone must join with Lord Stanley in the hope that they may be made more useful for the future. What, he asks, are Chambers of Commerce intended to do? His answer is—to serve as authoritative exponents of commercial opinion. Their discussions serve to form local opinion. They can do many things which everybody in trade wants done, but which nobody likes to do in his individual capacity. Thus, Lord Stanley tells us that Chambers of Commerce have made complaints of railway management before the Commission now sitting in London—complaints which it might be invidious for any individual to make. He approves their forming in London every year a sort of Parliament of their own, and suggests their inviting the co-operation of similar bodies on the Continent. He notices the suggestion of the institution of Tribunals of Commerce, but declines to give an opinion how far Chambers of Commerce are adapted for the performance of that function, or how far such tribunals ought to be created.

Now, if Chambers of Commerce are to be authoritative exponents of local commercial opinion, it is quite necessary in the first instance that they should have some organisation which clothes them with that authority. The meeting together of a few gentlemen of old standing in trade or of great wealth does not invest them with the right to speak authoritatively in behalf of the trade of the place at which their business is carried on. If it is desirable to have such an exponent, it is desirable to adopt the machinery by which that exponent can alone be created, and that

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machinery must be either popular election or selection by some one quite impartial, and yet possessing the means of information necessary to enable him to make a good choice. The advocacy of the commercial interests of a town seems to devolve, as far as public measures are concerned, on its representatives in Parliament, and, as far as local business affects them, on its municipal corporation. We fail to see the exact place which is left for such a body as a Chamber of Commerce. If Liverpool is ill-treated by the railways, for instance, in any matter over which Government has any control, she has her members to represent her case in the proper quarter, and her Town Council to remonstrate with the company and petition the Legislature. When this is done we fail to see what is left for the Chamber of Commerce. Lord Stanley does not claim for Chambers of Commerce that they are in a peculiar degree the depositaries of any local or general knowledge, and he has done wisely, for such a claim it would be found very difficult to substantiate by facts. It is certainly open to him to applaud the annual meeting of Chambers of Commerce in London, but those who took the trouble to read their debates could not, we think, fail to be struck with the very slight amount of information which was to be gleaned from them on the subjects which they discussed themselves, and in support of which they appeared before ministers. Lord Stanley does wisely to pause before recommending that these bodies should be intrusted with judicial functions. Their constitution must obviously be entirely altered before this could be done. We could not force men to carry their disputes for adjudication before a body fixed by no definite constitution, got together nobody knows how, and more capable, therefore, of being packed than any other that can be conceived. In order to make Chambers of Commerce judicial tribunals it would be necessary utterly to destroy their present nature. As optional tribunals, as arbitrators in commercial disputes, we certainly should have expected that they would be much resorted to and be of great service. But this, we apprehend, is not the case, and the cry for Tribunals of Commerce, inconsiderate as it seems to us to be, is still a proof that the existing bodies do not enjoy the confidence of the communities among which they have sprung up.

We are far from saying that it is not possible that there may at some time arise among us a sound and sensible commercial opinion different from the opinions of lawyers and from the opinions of statesmen—the two classes whose convictions have hitherto moulded our commercial laws. At present the popular view is to leave commerce alone, but this, like other general principles, may possibly be found to require exceptions in practice. When it shall become important to the commercial class that such an opinion should find expression in a duly organised body, we do not doubt that that body will be called into existence; but till then we must confess that we see little hope of any important benefit to be realised by the community from the establishment of Chambers of Commerce, which seem to have become naturalised in England rather from an imitation of foreign countries than to satisfy any clearly felt and generally expressed want. The first step to improvement is the consciousness of our defects, and nothing would be more fatal to the attainment of a really efficient representation of the commercial classes than their contentment with such representation as they have at present.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.—At the last meeting of this society a large number of Indo-Chinese alphabets, both ancient and modern, collected by Dr. A. Bastian during his sojourn in Burmah, Siam, Kambodja, and other parts of Transgengetic India, was laid upon the table. In the paper eludicating the same, Dr. Bastian divided the languages of the Indo-Chinese nations into five main branches, viz. 1, *The Thai*, comprising the language of the different tribes called Shans by the Burmese, and Laos by the Siamese, and that of the Siamese themselves, who are only a subdivision of the Laos; 2, *The Myamma*, represented by the Burmese and Arracanese, which idioms are akin to those of the Singpho, the Kachars, the Manissurians and many other tribes that inhabit the countries extending to Bengal and North-Western India; 3, *The Tunquinese* and *Cochin Chinese*, including the rude dialects of the various mountain tribes designated by the general name of Kha in Siamese and of Prom in Kambodjan; 4, The language of *the Mons* or *Talains* who line the coast opposite to Kalinga or Telingana; and 5, that of *the Kambodjans*, also called Khem or Khmer. With the sole exception of the Cochin-Chinese or Annamites, who have conformed to the Chinese system of writing, the Indo-Chinese nations make use of alphabets received from India, which they have adapted to their several monosyllabic tongues, combining with them the tones or accents which, as in Chinese, gain prominence in the same proportion as vocalic quantity becomes indistinct. Most of these alphabets follow the same arrangement as the Devanagari, and bear a close family likeness to those of Southern India, especially the Singalhese. The Cambodjans claim for their alphabet great antiquity, and aspire, as do also the Arracanese, to the honour of having received it by direct importation from Ceylon through the famous Bhuddist apostle Bhuddaghosa (A.D. 420). Even at the present day the characters in use for writing the religious books in Siam and Laos are known by the name of *Nongsu Khom*, as having been introduced by the earliest missionaries who issued from the convents of Cambodja. A curious palæographical fact mentioned by Dr. Bastian is, that in the oldest Siamese stone inscription, that of Sukkhothay, all the vowels are written in a line with the consonants, instead of, at least some of them, being placed above or below them. The writer then entered into details concerning the nature and development of the Siamese tones, and the laws by which they are regulated, and he further explained the various methods of occult writing, by cipher or otherwise, in use among the Burmese and Siamese. In conclusion, he adverted to the important historical results which are likely to be obtained from a deciphering of the ancient inscriptions. The number of alphabets exhibited in addition to many fac-similes of inscriptions, &c., was twenty-five.

PRESENTATION TO CAPTAIN ENGLEDUE.—A beautiful silver dinner service, manufactured by Messrs. Emanuel and Sons, for presentation to Captain Engledue (late superintendent of the P. and O. Company), the result of a subscription of 400 guineas amongst the gentry and merchants of Southampton, in order to pay a lasting mark of respect to that gentleman on his leaving the town, was last week presented to him at his town residence by a deputation of the committee, who proceeded to London for that purpose. The deputation consisted of the Mayor, Mr. Deacon, town clerk, Dr. Bullar, Mr. G. N. Cooksey, and several other members of the committee, who were most hospitably entertained after the presentation. The plate consisted of a full dinner service for twenty persons, and on the soup tureen was engraved the following inscription, and the captain's crest, &c., and on every other article:—"This tureen, with a service of plate, was presented to J. R. Engledue, Esq., J.P., by the town of Southampton, in testimony of his valuable services to the port, and of the high esteem and respect entertained for him by all classes of the inhabitants. 1865." Peter Rolt, Esq., M.P., Captain Peacock, and other friends of the captain, were present, and joined the Southampton party at dinner.

OFFICIAL GOSSIP.—The *Observer* states:—Earl Cowley is to have the vacant Garter. The Hon. Julian Fane, now Secretary at Vienna, will succeed the Hon. W. Grey as Secretary of Embassy at Paris. Mr. George Brackenbury, Her Majesty's Consul at Manila, is appointed to the Consulate at Lisbon. Mr. Pennell, of the Colonial-office, is appointed to act as private secretary to Mr. Forster, Under-Secretary of State.

BANKS AND COMPANIES CONNECTED WITH THE FAR EAST.

Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, 122, Leadenhall-street.

Messageries Imperiales, Head office in Paris, R. W. and H. Horne, agents, 4, Moorgate-street.

China Steamship and Labuan Coal Company, Ethelburga House, 70, Bishopsgate-street.

Netherlands India Steam Navigation Company, 12, Leadenhall-street.

Hong Kong and China Gas Company, 11, Old Jewry Chambers, J. H. Walduck, secretary.

Singapore Gas Company, 25, Poultry, Robert King, secretary.

Pacific Saw Mills, Hakodadi, Armitstead and Co., agents, 21, Old Broad-street.

Amoy Dock Company, Zulueta and Co., agents, 22, Moorgate-street.

Shanghai Wharf Company, D. and G. Latimer and Co., agents, St. Swithin's-lane.

Hong Kong and Whampoa Dock, Morrison and Co., agents, Crown-court, Philpot-lane.

North China Insurance Company, Ashton and Co., agents, Hatton court, Threadneedle-street.

Canton Insurance Company, Matheson and Co., agents, 3, Lombard st.

Union Insurance Company of Canton, Dent, Palmer and Co agents, King's Arms Yard, Moorgate-street.

Hong Kong Insurance Company, Gledstanes and Co., agents, 26, Austin Friars.

Hong Kong Marine Insurance Company, Farbridge, Holliday and Co., agents, Manchester.

Ceylon Company, 7, East India Avenue, J. Anderson, secretary.

Borneo Company, 7, Mincing-lane, R. Harvey, manager.

Matella Coffee Company, 70 Cannon-street.

Ouvah Coffee Company, do.

Ceylon Coffee Estates, do.

Hungaserian Coffee Company, do.

Tanjong Pagar Dock Company (Limited) of Singapore, Mactaggart, Tidman, and Co., agents, 5, Lime-staeet.

BANKS.

Asiatic Bank Corporation, 4, Lombard-street, F. Lawrence, manager.

Agra and Masterman's Bank, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street, Mackintosh Balfour, general manager.

Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, 21, Threadneedle-street, G. N. Adam, manager.

Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China, 52, Threadneedle-street, D. T. Robertson, general manager.

Commercial Bank Corporation of India and the East, 64, Moorgate-street, Robert Angus, chief manager.

Central Bank of Western India, 22, Old Broad-street, R. Davidson, agent.

Comptoir d'Escompte de Paris, Union Bank of London, agents.

Hindustan, China, and Japan, 1, Bank-buildings, Lothbury, J. Ouseley, general manager.

Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Company, W. H. Vacher, agent, Gresham House, Old Broad-street.

Oriental Bank Corporation, Threadneedle-street, C. J. F. Stuart, chief manager.

*** Companies omitted in the above list will be included if the particulars are forwarded.

Monetary and Commercial.

The biddings for 35,00,000 rupees in bills on India were allotted—To Calcutta, 22,58,000 rs.; to Madras, 2,42,000 rs.; and to Bombay, 10,00,000 rs. The minimum price was as before, viz., 1s. 11½d. on Calcutta and Madras, and 1s. 11¾d. on Bombay. Tenders on Calcutta and Madras at 1s. 11½d. will receive about 62 per cent., and on Bombay at 2s. 0¼d. about 13 per cent.—above these prices in full. These results show little change as compared with the last biddings.

The half-yearly meeting of the Ceylon Company was held on the 19th instant, at the company's offices, 7, East India-avenue, Leadenhall-street, Mr. L. Acland in the chair. The following report was presented:—"The directors have the pleasure of informing the shareholders that profits resulting from the operations of the company during the half-year ended the 30th September are estimated at £13,551. 10s. 7d., which being

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added to £3,905. 11s. 8d. brought forward from the last accounts, produces the sum of £17,457. 2s. 3d., out of which the directors recommend that an interim dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum and a bonus of 2½ per cent. on the capital represented by the old shares, amounting together to 10s. 6d. per share, be declared and made payable, free from income-tax, on the 21st instant. This will absorb £13,125, and leave £4,332. 2s. 3d. to be carried forward." Mr. Acland observed that this dividend was at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum, which he hoped would be a satisfactory indication of the prosperity of the company. The valuable estates to which he had referred at the last meeting had since been purchased, and had been transferred to the company. He believed that those estates included some of the finest in Ceylon, and from what the directors heard of them they would no doubt prove a very profitable investment. In consequence of those purchases, it was proposed to call up £2 of the £3 yet outstanding on the old shares. The remaining pound per share might possibly be called for in July; certainly it would not be required before then. It might also be determined to make a call for £3 upon the new shares, but nothing on that subject had yet been decided upon. A formal resolution, declaring an *ad interim* dividend as recommended was then agreed to, and a vote of thanks to the chairman and directors concluded the business of the day.

The amount of bullion by the P. and O. Company's steamer *Nyanza*, from Southampton on the 20th inst., was in gold, to Alexandria, £52,000; to Madras, £1,071. In silver, to Hong Kong, £28,000; to Foo-chow-foo, £500; to Shanghai, £25,000; to Sydney, £1,000. Total, in gold, £53,071, in silver, £54,500.

ARTICLES OF IMPORT.

TEA.—We have had a fair amount of business transacted during the past fortnight. The arrivals of new teas have been to a fair extent, and the samples freely offered, and as importers have shown a disposition to make some concession in prices, a large proportion of the teas have been sold at a decline of 1d. per lb. on fine to finest, and 2d. to 3d. per lb. on the second-class fine, which until this time had commanded exceptionally high prices, quite out of proportion to the finer qualities. Old teas have continued quiet, and at the public sales this week some parcels were realised at a decline of ½d. to 1d. per lb. on previous current rates. Broken leaf and dusty kind of Congou continue in limited supply, and prices consequently have been firmly maintained. Fair to good common show no change, the quotation remaining 1s. 1d. to 1s. 1½d. per lb. Fair to good flavory kinds of old import have sold ½d. per lb. lower. Those of new import have been taken at a decline of about 3d. per lb. from the highest point of the market. Fine to finest, although less readily saleable, show a smaller reduction, owing to the firmness of importers. Common to fair blackish-leaf of old import have been sold without reserve ½d. to 1d. per lb. lower. in medium kinds but little has been done. In new import large sales have been made at a decline of about 3d. per lb. on good qualities, and 1d. to 2d. on fine; the finest chops, from their scarcity, are very firmly held, but at present are difficult of sale at former prices. Further supplies of new-make Congou from Canton have realised 1d. to 1½d. per lb. advance for the medium qualities. Oolongs have been readily taken at former prices. Fine Souchongs have been sold at very high rates, as much as 3s. 4d. per lb. having been paid for one chop; fair to good show no alteration. In Flowery Pekoes there is no new feature; a few of new season have been sold at full prices. Scented Teas have been sold at rather lower prices, both for Canton and Foo-chow kinds, especially those ranging over 2s. per lb., the commoner kinds being comparatively firm. Uncoloured Japans remain without inquiry. In Green Teas there has been a fair amount of business, the quantity now offering being moderate, the Trade having taken such kind as they require at fully previous prices; the commoner kinds are, however, neglected, and for these prices are somewhat nominal. Colored Japans remain much as before. Canton-made kinds have been quiet, but prices are unchanged. Messrs. Sillar and Bateman estimate the supply and demand as follows:—

SUPPLY.	
Vessels due by 31st January	lbs. 26,665,125
Do. 28th February .. .. } Including shipments advised by telegraph, Nov. 15 }	20,430,358
Total supply	lbs. 47,095,483
DEMAND.	
Six Weeks' Deliveries	18,000,000
Four Weeks' Deliveries	12,000,000
Total demand	lbs. 30,000,000

SILK.—We have had no alteration in the silk market since last mail; business has remained exceedingly quiet, and we cannot point to a single transaction of importance either in China or Japan silk. Prices on the whole have been well maintained, though occasional small parcels are offered in second hands at some reduction. As the accounts from the Continent are good, it is generally thought that we shall have a renewal of activity after the turn of the year. Deliveries from the 1st to the 22nd, inclusive—China, 2,121 bales; Japan, 675 do.: total, 2,796 bales. The quotations are—Tsatlee, No. 1, 32s. 6d. to 33s.; No. 2, 31s. 6d. to 32s.; No. 3, 30s. 6d. to 31s. Mibash and Sinchew, No. 1, 34s. 6d. to 36s.; No. 2, 33s. 6d. to 34s. 6d.: No. 3, 32s. 6d. to 33s. 6d.; No. 4, and inferior, 30s. to 31s. 6d.

COTTON.—The London market was quiet in tone throughout the business week ending the 22nd. Very firm prices prevailed, more especially for floating parcels. 1,060 bales of Tinnivelly sold at 16½d. to 18d. for mid fair to good fair. No sales of China or Japan. 1,000 bales Tinnivelly sold to arrive at 16⅝d. to 17½d., November to August, guaranteed good fair. The total stock in London on the 21st was 99,677 bales, against 115,704 last year. There is no China and Japan afloat to Europe, but there are 24,462 bales of Ceylon and Tuticorin, against 23,794 on the 21st December, 1864. The Jeddo and Evelyn Wood arrived in London from Tuticorin during the week, the former with 1,792 and the latter with 1,425 bales. The total stock of cotton in Liverpool on the 22nd December was 352,750 bales, against 466,160 bales at same date last year. The quantity of East India offering in that market has been rather limited, especially in the good qualities, which become every day scarcer; there is, however, only a very partial advance in price, while the lower grades barely support previous quotations. China and Japan are in fair demand at rather higher rates. The following are the official quotations for American:—Fair Orleans, 23d.; ditto, middling, 21½d.; fair Mobile, 22¾d.; ditto, middling, 21d.; fair Upland, 22½d.; ditto, middling, 21d.

SUGAR.—The total transactions effected have been of greater importance than for several weeks past, but the demand was freely met by holders. A former tone, however, prevailed at the close, and in some instances prices were rather higher than on the 15th. 300 bags Penang went at 33s. 6d. to 34s.; 6,800 bags Clayed Manila realised 34s. to 34s. 3d.; and privately, on the 22nd, 100 tons Clayed Manila went at 34s.

RUM.—A small quantity of Penang has been sold at 1s. 6d., which is rather dearer.

COFFEE.—The demand for colonial sorts is only moderately active, but prices remain without noticeable alteration. 950 casks 1,900 barrels and bags Plantation Ceylon, at public sale, went off with but little spirit at about the former value—fine ordinary to low middling, 76s. to 82s.; middling to good middling, 83s. to 85s. 6d. 90 casks 1,030 bags Native were mostly sold—good ordinary, 69s. to 70s.; superior, 72s. to 72s. 6d.

RICE.—At auction, on the 22nd, 1,364 bags White Bengal were all sold at and afterwards at rather stiffer prices—low middling at 13s. 9d. to 13s. 10½d. 682 bags Ballam were withdrawn above the value.

CARDAMOMS.—Had sold with irregularity, and on the average at lower prices; of 132 cases Malabar at auction, one-half sold at 4s. 7d. to 6s. 1d. per lb. for middling to good, and 3s. 6d. to 4s. 1d. inferior dark; and of 116 bags Madras, one-fourth sold at 4s. to 5s. 6d. for fair to fine Aleppy.

CAMPHOR.—Prices have further risen, considerable transactions on the spot and for arrival, accompanying the advance; and the market remains very firm.

CASSIA LIGNEA.—Rates have further given way 2s. to 3s., and of 4,349 boxes brought to auction one-third sold at 89s. to 97s. per cwt. for 3rd to 1st pile. Buds: Nothing of any moment doing.

CINNAMON (CEYLON).—We quote 1st sort, 2s. 2d. to 3s. per lb.; 2nd sort, 1s. 11d. to 2s. 10d.; 3rd sort, 1s. 10d. to 2s. 6d.; and 4th and Jungle, 1s. 5d. to 1s. 10d. Quiet; and of 220 bales at auction, half sold at about the previous rates.

COCOA-NUT OIL.—This market remains in much the same state as when we last wrote; quotations are nominally unchanged, but there is scarcely any demand at them, and the business doing is very restricted. 106 casks Cochin, and 96 casks Ceylon at auction, all retired.

DRUGS.—Cubebs, Dragon's Blood, Galangal Root: Nothing doing of any interest in any of these drugs. Rhubarb: Recent importations, 35 chests, at auction, partly sold at 6s. 7d. at 6s. 8d. per lb. for middling flat, and 5s. 10d. to 6s. 1d. round; of 25 chests old import, one-third sold at 8s. 5d. for fair flat.

GUMS.—Benjamin: Quiet; 50 cases Sumatra at auction retired. Damar: Steady; 91 cases at auction sold at 52s. 6d. per cwt. for fair. Gamboge: Scarce, and very firm, but without transactions.

GUTTA PERCHA.—Remains quiet; only 3 tons at auction retired.

HEMP (MANILA).—Market very firm, at £42 to £45 per ton; higher prices demanded, and business checked thereby.

HORNS (Buffalo) continue firm, and 22 tons Madras and 3 tons Siam at auction sold at 46s. to 46s. 6d. per cwt. for 4 lb. average, and 37s. to 38s. for 2¼ lb. average.

INDIA RUBBER.—Sales to a fair extent have been made of Java at 1s. 10d. per lb., and the market is very firm; 21 baskets middling Singapore sold at auction at 1s. 8½d. per lb.

JAPAN WAX.—Firm, but quiet; 50 boxes at auction all retired.

OILS.—Anniseed has been the subject of considerable speculation; numerous sales made, attended with constantly advancing prices, the latest rates being 8s. 4d. per lb. on the spot, and 8s. 8d. for arrival. Cajaputa: Nothing doing; twelve cases at auction retired. Cassia: Flat, and very little business doing; only five cases at auction, and those retired. Cinnamon, Mace, and Nutmegs: Nothing doing in either of these oils; two cases nutmeg paste sold at auction at ⅜d. per oz.

SAGO.—Quiet: of 549 boxes at auction, one-third sold at 22s. 6d. per cwt. for good small. Flour: Dearer: large business done privately up to 15s. 6d. per cwt. for fine: no auctions.

TAPIOCA.—132 bags middling Penang went at 3½d. per lb.

SPICES.—Cloves: Penang not in present demand, and 22 cases at auction were all retired; Zanzibar firm, and of 2,843 bags offered, two-thirds sold at 3d. to 3⅛d. per lb. for ordinary to fair. Mace: Quiet; nothing of any moment doing. Nutmegs: Good and fine qualities rather dearer; small, the turn cheaper; 65 cases Penang sold at auction at 2s. 9d. to 4s. 2d. per lb. for middling to fine bold, and 1s. to 2s. 1d. for ordinary small to fine medium.

PEPPER.—Black: Firm, but business not large; 2,460 bags Penang at auction, mostly sold at 3¼d. per lb. White: Is again ¼d. per lb. dearer, and 253 bags Penang and 154 bags Singapore sold at auction at 5⅜d. to 6⅛d. for middling to very good.

TERRA JAPONICA.—Cutch, Pegue: Good quality again rather dearer: of 863 bags at auction, three-fourths sold at 30s. to 30s. 6d. per cwt. for fine Pegue. Gambier: Has become much more quiet, with reduced business, and a slight yielding in value. 882 bales at auction, all retired.

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TIN.—This market has lost much of its animation; limited business has been done in Straits at £96. 10s. cash, up to £98 with full prompt; but to effect sales now, 10s. per ton reduction would have to be submitted to.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Blacklead: Remains quiet, but 1,155 barrels at auction mostly sold at 15s. 6d. to 17s. per cwt. for fair to good lump; 13s. chips, and 9s. 9d. to 10s. 3d. dust, being rather cheaper. Galls: All descriptions flat, with little trade. We quote China 65s. to 70s. per cwt., and Japan 60s. to 65s. Ebony Wood: Firm; 27 tons Ceylon sold at auction at £7. 10s. to £10. 7s. 6d. per cwt. Musk: Rather cheaper; and of 38 caddies Tonquin at auction half sold at 35s. to 35s. 6d. per oz. for fine selected, 14s. to 15s. inferior, and 10s. pickings. 19 caddies of Cabardine retired. Of 16 tins grain one-fourth sold at 20s. for inferior. Fair sales made privately. Rattans: Cheaper; 2,577 bundles Singapore sold at auction at 2s. 10d. to 3s. 6d. per 100. Sapanwood: No auctions; small sales effected privately upon previous terms. Soy: Quiet; 50 casks at auction retired. Star Anniseeds: Remain very scarce; nothing doing. Sticklac (Siam); Quiet, and no business doing. Tortoise-shell: Of 7 cases Sydney at auction, four sold at 11s. to 14s. per lb., and 4 cases Penang sold at 11s. 6d. to 12s., being the previous value. Vermilion: Very scarce, and dear; 10 boxes at auction retired at 4s. per lb.

ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

IRON.—The quotations in London are for Welsh bars, £7 to £7. 5s.; nail rod, £8. 10s. to £9; hoops, £9. 15s. to £10; sheets, single, £10. 10s. to £10. 15s.; Staffordshire bars, £8. 10s. to £9. 10s.; rails, £7 to £7. 5s.

STEEL.—Swedish keg, £15. 10s. to £16. 10s.

COPPER.—Sheet and Sheathing, £111 per ton; yellow metal, 9¼d. to 10d. per lb.

TIN.—£102 for block; £103 for common bars. Tin plates, best charcoal, I.C. 32s. to 33s.

LEAD, &c.—English pig, W.B., £22. 5s. to £22s. 10s.; shot, patent, £24. 5s.; sheet, £22. 5s.; spelter, £22. 10s. to £23; zinc, English sheet, £27. 10s. to £28; quicksilver, £8.

The following is from the Circular of Messrs. French and Smith:—In Iron, excepting an advance in Pig Iron warrants, there is no change to notice. Copper: The price continues to improve, and a large quantity has changed hands at higher rates; at our quotations the market is very firm. Tin maintains its price, 97s. is reported to have been paid for fine Straits, but some parcels are still to be bought at 96s. 6s. Lead is in active demand, and the quotation is from 5s. to 10s. per ton higher than a week since. £21 has been paid for soft Spanish. Spelter without alteration.

EXPORT OF BULLION TO CHINA, &c.

The following return shows the shipments of bullion from Southampton from the 1st January by the P. and O. Company's mail steamers.

	Gold.	Silver.
Shanghai	—	£240,227
Foo-chow-Foo	—	£6,000
Amoy	—	—
Hong Kong	—	£323,799
Singapore	£2,000	£278,880
Penang	—	£20,140
Yokohama	—	£9,170

FROM MARSEILLES.

(BY THE P. AND O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS.)

	Gold.	Silver.
Singapore	£1,007	£32,466
Penang	—	£4 568
Hong Kong	—	£61,000
Foo-chow-Foo	—	—
Shanghai	—	£15,459
Yokohama	—	£15,418

PER FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

	Gold.	Silver.
To Singapore	£176	£149,961
To Saigon	—	£125,990
To Batavia	£6,082	£3,840
To Hong Kong	—	£164,659
To Shanghai	£669	£163,276
To Yokhama	—	£4,614

GOLD AND SILVER.

Bar Gold (per ounce)	£3 17 9
Spanish Doubloon	3 16 0 to 3 17
United States Gold Coin	3 16 4
Silver in Bars	0 5 1½
Mexican Dollars	0 4 11½

Shipping Intelligence.

DEPARTURES.

Date.	From	For	Ship.	Captain.
Dec.	Amsterdam	Batavia	Sourabaya Packet	Olivier.
—	Bremen	Hong Kong	Congress	Wayman.
— 15	Aberdeen	Do.	Ada	Jones.
— 16	London	Nagasaki	Eagle (s)	Lobnitz.
— 16	Portsmouth	Batavia	*Dordrecht	Loos.
— 16	Dartmouth	Japan	Macassar	Bentveld.
— 15	Cardiff	Singapore	Immac. Conception	Raffott.
— 16	Sunderland	Shanghai	Knight of Snowdon	Richardson.
—	Do.	China	Zingra	
—	Shields	Singapore	Hollandia	de Jonge.
— 16	Cardiff	Do.	Brederode	Kramad (?).
— 13	Broomielaw	Do.	Helen Baird	Harris.
— 17	Newport	Galle	Codan	Kirschstein.
— 18	Sunderland	Do.	St. Albans	Pitte.
— 21	London	Shanghai	Lauderdale	Hutchins.
— 22	Do.	Singapore	Dovercourt	Heigho.
— 22	Do.	Colombo	Francis Milly	Gunton.
— 22	Do.	Do.	Boyne	Jones.

* After repairing.

ARRIVALS.

Date.	At	From	Ship.	Captain.
Dec. 11	Falmouth	Bassein	Johanna	Lauer.
— 15	Do.	Do.	T. D. Marshall	Preston.
— 17	Deal	China	Dunmail	Birkett.
— 15	Off the Start	Singapore	Blue Jacket	Lusby.
Oct.	Cadiz	Shanghai	Madge Wildfire	
Dec. 18	Deal	Colombo	Evelyn Wood	
— 18	Queenstown	Maulmain	Natolia	Manley.
— 18	Off Mounts Bay	Batavia	Maria Adolphina	Blom.
— 19	Liverpool	Singapore	Scotland	Manley.
— 19	Do.	Rangoon	Tippoo Sahib	
—	Queenstown	Maulmain	Lucy A. Nickel	
— 17	Texel	Batavia	Almelo	Tjebbes.
— 17	Do.	Do.	Sop. K. der Nederlndn.	Klein.
Nov. 7	Buenos Ayres	Do.	Johannes	Zeteler.
Dec. 21	Deal	Singapore	Lord Raglan	
— 18	Polais Roads	Manila	Isaure	Daveaud.
— 22	Deal	Do.	Zealandia	
— 19	Off Penzance	Batavia	Admiral de Winter	
— 22	Brouwershaven	Samarang	Loopuyt	Hidde.
— 22	Do.	Bassein	Scandia	Falkenberg.
— 22	London	China	Whinfell	
— 22	Do.	Colombo	Francis Banfield	

(See Commercial Postscript.)

LOADING.

At LONDON.—For Yokohama: James Longton, Isles of the South. For Yokohama and Nagasaki: Broadwater, Chaa-sze. For Shanghai: Westminster, Hoang Ho, Gossamer, Star of China. For Hong Kong: Devana. For Hong Kong and Canton: Punjaub, Valdivia. For Singapore: Dunmail, Christian Rankin. For Singapore and Penang: Oribe. For Batavia and Sourabaya, Petronella, Johanna, Zephyr. For Colombo: John Bright.

At LIVERPOOL.—For Yokohama: Vanda. For Shanghai: Chalgrove, Prudhoe. For Hong Kong: Everest. For Singapore and Penang: Singapore. For Singapore: Falcon, Egmond v. Hoom. For Batavia and Pekalongan: Edith Haviland. For Batavia and Sourabaya: Dagmar. For Manila: Eulalia, Espana. For Galle: Sultana, Scott.

At GLASGOW.—For Manila: Union. For Singapore: River Eden. For Batavia, Samarang and Sourabaya: County of Argyle.

SPOKEN.

CORNELIA GERTRUIDA, Samarang to Amsterdam, Sept. 20, 31 S., 41 E.
EDINBURGH CASTLE, Penang to London, Nov. 10, 4 S., 18 W.
HELIOS, Cardiff to Galle, Nov. 21, 27 W.
SHALLETT, Colombo to New York, Oct. 16, 34 S., 27 E.
FIERY CROSS, London to Hong Kong, Nov. 9, 6 N., 21 W.
SERICA, London to Shanghai, Nov. 9, 6 N., 21 W.
JUPITER, Rotterdam to Batavia, Oct. 25, 7 N., 23 W.
QUEEN OF THE PACIFIC, Singapore to Genoa, Oct. 27, 26 S., 7 E.
ALCHYMIST, Colombo to London, Nov. 9, 2 S., 18 W.
ARROW, Batavia to Amsterdam, Nov. 26, 28 N., 39 W.
FORT REGENT, Swansea to Hong Kong, Oct. 27. 5 N., 24 W.
HUNTRESS, Singapore to Falmouth, Oct. 27, 34 S., 18 E.
ADVANCE (ship), for Batavia, Oct. 15, 12 N., 112 E.
ELLEN RODGER, Shanghai to London, Nov. 17, off Paulo Supata.
NIVARIA, Colombo to London, Oct. 7, 28 S., 44 E.
ALCOR, Batavia to Rotterdam, Oct. 25, 29 S., 10 E.
BOY BENDIXEN, Macao to Hamburg.
No. 0,831, 2nd d.p (ship), Jamaica to Shanghai, Nov. 16, 14 S., 3 W
MAY (?), Batavia to Zuyder Zee, Dec. 18, 49 N., 17 W.
KAAP HOORN, London to Batavia, Nov. 15, 11 N., 23 W.

FREIGHTS AND CHARTERS.

In outward freights we have but to confirm our last advices, all the berths for China being well supplied with shipping, and a fair amount of goods still offering. Homewards we have no improvement to report.

Current Rates of Freight for Vessels on the Berth:—To Yokohama: 50s. weight, 40s. to 50s. meast. To Nagasaki: The same. To Shanghai: 40s. weight, 30s. to 35s. meast. To Hong Kong: 40s. weight, 30s. meast. To Singapore: 30s. weight or measurement. To Penang: 40s. weight or measurement. To Ceylon: 40s. weight, 20s. measurement.

The current quotations for coal, &c., are as follows:—From Wear or Tyne per Keel. For Batavia: £30. For Hong Kong: £44. For Galle: £33 to £34. For Singapore: £32. For Shanghai: £52.—From Newport, Cardiff or Swansea, per ton. For Batavia: £1. 7s. For Hong Kong: £2. For Manila: £1. 11s. For Galle: £1. 7s. 0d. For Singapore: £1. 10s. 0d. For Shanghai: £2. 7s. 6d. to £2. 10s.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At MAURITIUS.—Nov. 11, from Singapore, Gemini, Pallot.

Off ASCENSION.—Nov. 4, from Manila for Havre, Isaure; 6, from Colombo for London, Alchymist; 11, Dreadnought, 25, from Batavia for Amsterdam, Theodore Dill.

At ST. HELENA.—Nov. 19, from Batavia, Kosmopoliet, Bouten; from Padang, Susanne, Vonck; from Hong Kong, Seawfell; 20, from Singapore, Ernte, Bradhering; from Batavia, Hendrika, Bas; 21, from Padang, Veritas, Gimmels; from Foo-chow-Foo, William Mitchell; from Hong Kong, Nordstern, Sohst; from Hankow, Fychow, Mathers; 22, from Macao, Mary Nicholson; from Batavia, Jeddo, v. Rosser.

At TABLE BAY.—November 11, from Batavia, for Marseilles, Triton. Lindstrom; 14, from Clyde, for Batavia, Konigin Sophia, de Wilde.

Bremen letters announce the opening of a new dock at Bremerhaven, 400 feet long by 110 feet wide. It will be able to receive the large American ships employed on the American lines.

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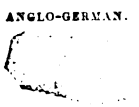

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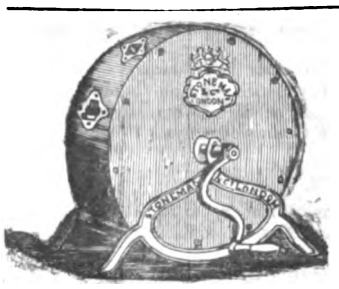

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1st Size, to Clean	9	Knives & 1 Carver—High Stands	£9	9	6th Size, to Clean	4	Knives & 1 Carver—High Stands	£4	—
2nd	„	8	„	„	8	8	7th	„	4	„	Low Stands	3	3
3rd	„	7	„	„	7	7	8th	„	3	„	„	2	2
4th	„	6	„	„	6	6	9th	„	2	„	„	1	10
5th	„	5	„	„	5	5							

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BEGS to call the attention of Residents abroad to his IMMENSE STOCK, which is now replete with all the most Modern and Classic Designs in China, Glass, Earthenware, Parian Statuary, and Bohemian Glass, suitable for Exportation.

PARIAN STATUARY AND BOHEMIAN GLASS.

Dinner Services, to dine twelve persons ... from	£2	2	0
Ditto richly gilt ... ... „	3	13	6
Handsomely painted and gilt ... ... „	5	15	6
Rich coloured Bands, handsomely gilt ... „	7	7	0
Porcelain Service, in rich coloured bands, handsomely gilt ... ... from	28	guineas.	
A variety of patterns, expressly for China, India, and the Colonies.			

Dessert Services.

For twelve persons, in neat coloured borders, from	£1	1	0
Ditto antique borders and coloured wreath „	1	8	0
A variety, coloured borders, with gold and, flowers on the finest Porcelain ... ... „	0	15	0
Ditto ditto from 5 to 10 guineas and upwards.			
China Breakfast Set, gold edge, viz., 6 breakfast cups and saucers, 2 plates, 1 slop, 1 sugar basin, 1 milk jug ... ... from	0	12	6

Tea Services.

White china, gold edge ... ... from	£0	17	0
Neat painted band and flowers ... ... „	1	8	0
Elegant pattern, handsomely painted and gilt „	2	2	0
Splendid Services, of the most elaborate workmanship & design, rich painted & gilt, £8 8s. to	14	14	0

Glass Department.

Particularly neat cut Wine Glasses ...	£0	5	6 per doz
Handsome cut ditto from ... 12s. 6d. to	1	1	0 „
Neat good strong Tumblers...	0	4	6 „
A large variety of patterns ... 10s. 6d. to	1	4	0 „
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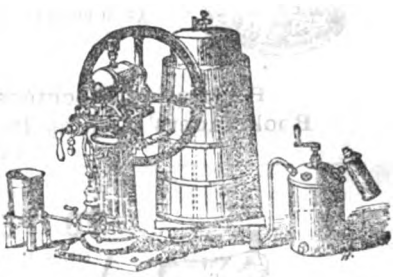

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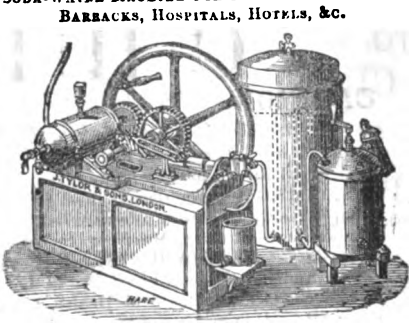

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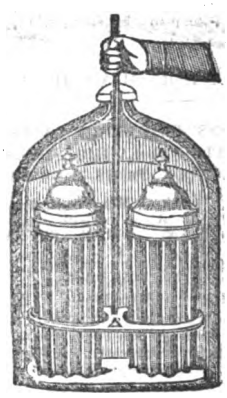

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CAUTION.—*Vice-Chancellor Wood affirmed in Court that Dr. J. COLLIS BROWNE was undoubtedly the Discoverer of Chlorodyne; that the statements of the Defendant Freeman were deliberately untrue, and he regretted to say they had been sworn to (see "The Times" of July 13, 1864); all others must be spurious.*

Earl Russell has graciously favoured J. T. Davenport with the following extract of a despatch from Mr. Webb, H.B.M.'s Consul at Manila, dated Sept. 17, 1864:—"The remedy most efficacious in its effects (in Epidemic Cholera) has been found to be CHLORODYNE, and with a small quantity given to me by Dr. Burke I have saved several lives." Earl Russell communicated to the College of Physicians that he had received a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul at Manila, to the effect that Cholera had been raging fearfully, and that the ONLY remedy of any service was CHLORODYNE.—See *Lancet*, December 31, 1864. No home should be without it.

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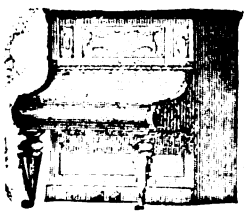

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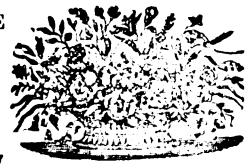

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JOHN BUSH, Managing Director.

Bangkok, 18th Sept., 1865.
Hong Kong, 20th Oct., 1865.

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I am, Gentlemen,
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Hong Kong, Sept. 7, 1865.

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THE LONDON AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

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